



## UPDATE N°4 CAMPAIGN FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE UN PROTOCOL

*This document presents the recent evolution of the campaign. This update will be published every other month to give information about the campaign development (status of ratifications, actions taken by the World Coalition and its members) and suggest taking action in the target countries.*

*For more details please refer to our website: <http://www.worldcoalition.org/protocol>*

As of 1 April 2010, 72 States are parties to the Protocol, and 3 States have signed the Protocol but have not ratified it yet.

### SUMMARY OF THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF THE CAMPAIGN

#### **New Accession:**

- Brazil acceded with a reservation to the Protocol on 25 September 2009

#### **Significant step taken in the campaign:**

- Kyrgyzstan's Parliament passed a law for the ratification of the Protocol on February 11, 2010.

#### **'Friends of the Protocol' (countries officially supporting the campaign):**

- Belgium
- Chile
- France
- Spain
- Switzerland

#### **Actions taken regarding target countries:**

- **Armenia:** The FIDH made recommendations to the Armenian President for the ratification of the Protocol at the opening ceremony of their General Assembly in Armenia in April 2010.
- **Ivory Coast:** Mission of Pr Speedy Rice on 28 November. He met with the **Director for Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice**. No ratification may happen before the elections planned in March 2010. Meeting with representatives of **Ivory Coast** during the 6th session of the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council.
- **Kazakhstan:** mission of the FIDH in November 2010; meeting with representatives of **Kazakhstan** during the 7th session of the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council.
- **Kyrgyzstan:** Letters were sent to **Kyrgyz authorities** following the introduction of a bill for the ratification of the Protocol in. This bill was defeated but introduced again in February and adopted by the Parliament. The WCAPD send new letters to congratulate the **Kyrgyz authorities** and ask them to quickly accede to the Protocol.

- **Latvia:** a letter was sent to the President of the Parliament following a meeting with a representative of the Latvian Permanent Mission to the UN in Geneva.
- **Poland:** a letter was sent to the President following a meeting with a representative of the Polish Permanent Mission to the UN in Geneva.

### **Lobbying with International Human Rights Institutions:**

#### **→ Universal Periodic Review:**

- Reports from the WCADP were submitted to the Human Rights Council for the Universal Periodic Review of **Kazakhstan, El Salvador, Armenia** and **Kyrgyzstan**.
- The WCADP attended the Universal Periodic Review of **Ivory Coast, Dominican Republic, El Salvador** and **Kazakhstan**. Most Friends of the Protocol have followed the WCADP's recommendations and have asked those target countries to ratify the Protocol.

#### **→ United Nations Human Rights Council:**

- The WCADP attended the Human Rights Council where the UN members adopted the report of the UPR of **Ivory Coast and Dominican Republic**

#### **→ United Nations Human Rights Committee:**

- List of issues for **El Salvador** was submitted for the review of its 4<sup>th</sup> Periodical Review.
- Report from the WCADP was submitted for the review of **Poland**.

#### **→ Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe**

- Campaign documents handed over to representatives of **Latvia, Armenia, Poland** and **Kazakhstan** during the September session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France

#### **→ OSCE**

- PRI distributed the campaign toolkit during the ODIHR meeting in Warsaw, Poland in November 2009.
- Campaign documents were distributed by PRI during the event organized in Washington about «**Kazakhstan: Problems with Rule of Law and Basic Freedoms Ahead of the OSCE Chairmanship**» on 18 November 2009

#### **→ European Union**

- Presentation of the campaign to human rights delegates of the EU member states at the COHOM meeting in January 2010.

#### **→ African Commission for Human and People's Rights:**

- The WCADP respected the boycott initiated by its members in Africa of the 46<sup>th</sup> session of the **African Commission for Human and People's Rights** in November. The Coalition could not use this forum for the campaign. The next session will take place in May 2010



## Act now!

Target Countries for April and May 2010:

- [Armenia](#)
- [Kyrgyzstan](#)

We encourage you to send letters *to their embassy in your country*. You will find advice and model letters in the [Lobbying Kit](#).

You may download it online:

<http://www.worldcoalition.org/modules/news/article.php?storyid=94>.

## Agenda for April and May 2010:

- **12 - 15 April:** Regional Conference on the Death Penalty in Africa (West and North Africa), African Commission on People and Human's Rights, Cotonou, Republic of Benin
- **26 -30 April:** Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France
- **3 - 15 May:** 8<sup>th</sup> UPR Session, United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. Review of Armenia and Kyrgyzstan.
- **10 - 26 May:** 47<sup>th</sup> Session of the African Commission on People and Human's Rights, Banjul, Gambia