



Asamblea General

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Consejo de Derechos Humanos

34º período de sesiones

27 de febrero a 24 de marzo de 2017

Tema 3 de la agenda

**Promoción y protección de todos los derechos humanos,
civiles, políticos, económicos, sociales y culturales,
incluido el derecho al desarrollo**

Nota verbal de fecha 22 de marzo de 2017 dirigida a la secretaria del Consejo de Derechos Humanos por la Misión Permanente de Singapur ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y otras organizaciones internacionales en Ginebra

La Misión Permanente de la República de Singapur ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y otras organizaciones internacionales en Ginebra saluda atentamente a la secretaria del Consejo de Derechos Humanos y tiene el honor de referirse a la declaración conjunta que se formuló en la mesa redonda bienal de alto nivel sobre la cuestión de la pena de muerte, celebrada durante el 34º período de sesiones del Consejo, el 1 de marzo de 2017.

La Misión Permanente también tiene el honor de solicitar, en nombre de las Misiones Permanentes del Reino de la Arabia Saudita, el Commonwealth de las Bahamas, el Reino de Bahrein, la República Popular de Bangladesh, Barbados, Brunei Darussalam, la República Popular China, la República Popular Democrática de Corea, la República Árabe de Egipto, los Emiratos Árabes Unidos, la República Democrática Federal de Etiopía, la India, la República de Indonesia, la República Islámica del Irán, la República del Iraq, Jamaica, el Estado de Kuwait, la República Democrática Popular Lao, Malasia, la República de la Unión de Myanmar, la Sultanía de Omán, la República Islámica del Pakistán, el Estado de Qatar, la República de Singapur, la República del Sudán, la República de Uganda, y la República del Yemen, que la presente nota verbal y su anexo* se distribuyan como documento del 34º período de sesiones del Consejo de Derechos Humanos.

* Se reproduce tal como se recibió, en el idioma en que se presentó únicamente.



[Inglés únicamente]

Annex to the note verbale dated 22 March 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council

Joint statement at the biennial high-level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty on 1 March 2017, at the thirty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council

Mr President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of a group of 27 countries.

Ensuring our people's fundamental human right to safety and security is of paramount importance to us. Our view is that the rights of the offenders must always be weighed against the rights of their victims and their families, and the broader rights of the community and society to be able to live in peace and security. For many countries, the death penalty remains an important component of their criminal justice system and deterrent against what their societies regard as the most serious crimes.

The death penalty is only applied after adhering to the full due process of law, pursuant to a final judgment rendered by a competent court, and with the right to seek pardon or appeal for commutation.

There is no international consensus for or against the death penalty when imposed according to the due process of the law. This has repeatedly been affirmed by the votes on past UNGA resolutions on the death penalty. As reported by the UNSG in 2015, the death penalty remains lawful in 97 countries and territories.

There is also no international consensus that the death penalty, when applied in accordance with due process of law and judicial safeguards, violates the prohibition against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Diversity of States and the right of States to exercise their sovereignty in pursuit of their people's welfare are recognized principles, including in the UN. Every State thus has the inalienable sovereign right to choose its legal and criminal justice systems, without interference by other States. The adoption of OP1 in the 71st UNGA resolution "Moratorium on the use of the death penalty" clearly and explicitly reaffirms the sovereign right of all countries to develop their own legal system.

The issue of capital punishment and the types of crimes for which the death penalty is applied to, is therefore a question that every State has the sovereign right to decide for itself, taking into account its own circumstances.

Thank you Mr President.

List of co-sponsors

1. Commonwealth of the Bahamas
 2. Kingdom of Bahrain
 3. People's Republic of Bangladesh
 4. Barbados
 5. Brunei Darussalam
 6. People's Republic of China
 7. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 8. Arab Republic of Egypt
 9. Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
 10. India
 11. Republic of Indonesia
 12. Islamic Republic of Iran
 13. Republic of Iraq
 14. Jamaica
 15. State of Kuwait
 16. Lao People's Democratic Republic
 17. Malaysia
 18. Republic of the Union of Myanmar
 19. Sultanate of Oman
 20. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
 21. State of Qatar
 22. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
 23. Republic of Singapore
 24. Republic of the Sudan
 25. Republic of Uganda
 26. United Arab Emirates
 27. Republic of Yemen
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