



International Commission
against the Death Penalty

President

Federico Mayor

Members

Giuliano Amato

Louise Arbour

Robert Badinter

Mohammed Bedjaoui

Ruth Dreifuss

Michèle Duvivier

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Asma Jilani Jahangir

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Oslo, 16 April 2013

Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: 7th meeting in Oslo.

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) held its 7th meeting in Oslo on 15 and 16 of April 2013.

During the meeting, ICDP released its report "*How States abolish the death penalty*". The report reviews the processes towards abolition of capital punishment by studying the experiences of 13 countries representing all the regions in the world. ICDP's goal is universal abolition of the death penalty and this report contributes to that goal by outlining steps that states can take to abolish the death penalty. The report included a foreword by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway Mr. Espen Barth Eide.

On 15 April, members of the ICDP met with the Foreign Minister Eide prior the report's launch for an exchange of views on abolition of the death penalty.

The launch of the report took place at the Oslo City Hall. At the launch, the Mayor of Oslo Mr. Fabian Stang welcomed members of ICDP and the Secretary of State Ms. Gry Larsen endorsed the publication and reiterated Norway's commitment to the fight against the death penalty.

At their 7th meeting, the Commissioners also considered how to pursue abolition of the death penalty in complex country situations. They also discussed the situation of the death penalty in Indonesia after resumption of executions in March 2013.

It was agreed that ICDP would be an official supporter of the Campaign to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at abolition of the death penalty. The Campaign is led by the World Coalition against the Death Penalty.

ICDP confirmed its participation in the 5th World Congress against the Death Penalty that will take place in Madrid from 12 to 15 June 2013.

Ms. Hanne Sophie Greve, a judge and Vice President of the High Court in Bergen, Norway and former judge on the European Court of Human Rights, joined as a new member of ICDP and participated in the meeting.

Federico Mayor

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BACKGROUND

ICDP was founded in Madrid in October 2010. ICDP is composed of 15 personalities of high international standing from all regions of the world who act with total independence and neutrality and work under its President Mr. Federico Mayor.

ICDP opposes the death penalty under any circumstances believing that it violates the right to life enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. ICDP promotes the abolition of capital punishment in law in those states that observe a de facto moratorium on the use of the death penalty and promotes moratoriums on executions in states that rarely use the death penalty. In states that continue to carry out executions ICDP urges strict adherence to international standards.

ICDP works with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations to further the abolition of capital punishment worldwide.

The work of the ICDP is supported by a diverse group of 16 states from all regions of the world that are committed to abolition of the death penalty. Its secretariat is based in Geneva.