



Permanent Mission of Italy
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of the
Argentine Republic
United Nations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship



INVITATION

The Death Penalty and Victims

Side event at the 71th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Wednesday, 21 September 2016, 11 am-1 pm, Conference Room 2,
United Nations Headquarters, New York

PROGRAMME

Welcome

- ◆ Mr. **Ban Ki-moon**, United Nations Secretary-General

Keynote Speakers

- ◆ H.E. Ms. **Susana Malcorra**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Argentina
- ◆ H.E. Mr. **Paolo Gentiloni**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Italy

Panelists

- ◆ **Edward Mpagi**, Ugandan national, wrongfully convicted.
- ◆ **Susannah Sheffer**, author of several books and articles, most recently *Fighting for Their Lives: Inside the Experience of Capital Defense Attorneys*
- ◆ **Ron McAndrew**, former Florida Prison Warden.

Moderator

- ◆ Mr. **Ivan Šimonović**, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights

Discussion

- ◆ Speakers from the floor

Concluding Remarks

- ◆ H.E. Mr. **Jean-Marc Ayrault**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, France
- ◆ Mr. **Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein**, High Commissioner for Human Rights

Background

Member States representing a variety of legal systems, traditions, cultures and religious backgrounds have taken a position in favour of abolition of the death penalty. Some States that opposed the abolition of the death penalty in the recent past have moved to abolish it; others have imposed a moratorium on its use. Currently, more than 160 Members States of the United Nations have either abolished the death penalty or do not practice it.

The High-level event is intended to inform discussion among Member States, with a particular focus on the impact capital punishment has on a broad array of victims, including murder victims' families, the wrongfully convicted and the 'hidden' third parties, including the children of the condemned, legal actors and prison personnel who oversee executions. The event will also see the launch of an OHCHR new publication on the death penalty, *Moving Away from the Death Penalty – Victims and the Death Penalty*.

Interest in participating in the discussion is high and delegations wishing to take the floor are requested to contact OHCHR, specifying the level of speaker (see contact below). Please note that there will be interpretation into English, French and Spanish.

For further information please contact:

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