



Asamblea General

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Consejo de Derechos Humanos

26º período de sesiones

Temas 2 y 3 de la agenda

Informe anual del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos e informes de la Oficina del Alto Comisionado y del Secretario General

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

Nota verbal de 25 de junio de 2014 dirigida a la Secretaría del Consejo de Derechos Humanos por la Misión Permanente de la República de Singapur ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra y otras organizaciones internacionales en Suiza

La Misión Permanente de la República de Singapur ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra y otras organizaciones internacionales en Suiza saluda atentamente a la Secretaría del Consejo de Derechos Humanos y tiene el honor de referirse a la declaración conjunta que fue emitida el 18 de junio de 2014 durante el debate general sobre los temas 2 y 3 de la agenda en el 26º período de sesiones del Consejo de Derechos Humanos (véase el anexo).

La Misión tiene además el honor de solicitar, en nombre de las Misiones Permanentes de Barbados, Brunei Darussalam, los Emiratos Árabes Unidos, el Estado de Kuwait, el Estado de Qatar, la India, Jamaica, Malasia, el Reino de Bahrein, el Reino de la Arabia Saudita, la República Árabe de Egipto, la República Árabe Siria, la República de Indonesia, la República de la Unión de Myanmar, la República de Singapur, la República de Uganda, la República de Zimbabwe, la República del Sudán, la República del Yemen, la República Democrática Federal de Etiopía, la República Democrática Popular Lao, la República Islámica de Pakistán, la República Islámica del Irán, la República Popular China, la República Popular Democrática de Corea, la República Socialista de Viet Nam y el Sultanato de Omán, que la declaración conjunta que figura en el anexo se distribuya como documento del 26º período de sesiones del Consejo de Derechos Humanos en relación con los temas 2 y 3 de la agenda.

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Anexo

[Inglés únicamente]

Joint statement delivered at the General Debate on promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Draft resolution on the question of death penalty

Mr President

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of a group of countries (as indicated at the end of this statement) to express our concern on the proposed draft resolution on the question of the death penalty.

The draft resolution is severely unbalanced and overly simplistic. It portrays the death penalty as a violation of the rights of the convicted prisoners, and ignores the rights of the victims and the right of the community to live in peace and security. Every country has the sovereign right to decide its own criminal justice system. Whether to maintain or abolish the death penalty is a question that should be determined by each country based on its national circumstances and its legal system.

The draft resolution's proposal that the Human Rights Council establish a biennial high level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty, disregards last year's vote on HRC Decision 22/117 entitled "High-level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty" which clearly reflected the disagreement on whether a high-level panel discussion on this topic should be held. The insistence to advance this controversial proposal is a violation of the agreed principles, including universality, constructive international dialogue and cooperation that should guide the work of the Council. Given the annual presentation of the Secretary General's report on the question of the death penalty to the Council which is followed by a General Debate, the biennial high-level panel discussion is also an unnecessary duplication of the existing channel to provide views on the issue and will exacerbate the Council's already overstretched resources.

Mr President

In the clear absence of international agreement on the question of the death penalty, including its prohibition, States on one side of the argument have no right to impose their beliefs on others, as if those beliefs were universal. We thus call for States to refrain from polarising the Human Rights Council further with this issue as it will undermine the Council's credibility and impede its ability to promote genuine and constructive dialogue on human rights.

List of co-sponsors

1. Kingdom of Bahrain
2. Barbados
3. Brunei Darussalam
4. People's Republic of China

5. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 6. Arab Republic of Egypt
 7. Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
 8. India
 9. Republic of Indonesia
 10. Islamic Republic of Iran
 11. Jamaica
 12. State of Kuwait
 13. Lao People's Democratic Republic
 14. Malaysia
 15. Republic of the Union of Myanmar
 16. Sultanate of Oman
 17. Islamic Republic of Pakistan
 18. State of Qatar
 19. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
 20. Republic of Singapore
 21. Republic of Sudan
 22. Syrian Arab Republic
 23. United Arab Emirates
 24. Republic of Uganda
 25. Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
 26. Republic of Yemen
 27. Republic of Zimbabwe
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