



International Conference “Death Penalty: Transcending the Divide”

10 March, 2016, Minsk

(Renaissance Minsk Hotel, Dzerzhinsky Ave. 1E)

PROGRAMME

9.00-9.30 - Registration of participants

9.30-10.00 - **Welcoming remarks by:**

Mr Valentin Rybakov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus

Mr Sanaka Samarasinha, UN Resident Coordinator

Ms Fiona Gibb, British Ambassador to Belarus

10.00-11.20

Keynote speeches: Perspectives on death penalty

Mr Stavros Lambrinidis, EU Special Representative for Human Rights

Mr Andrea Rigoni, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

Mr Nikolai Samoseiko, member of House of Representatives, Chairman of the Working group on death penalty of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus

Mr Karel Schwarzenberg, Head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

11:20-11:40

Coffee break

11.40-13.00 - **Presentation on transition period of the countries that moved to the moratorium/abolition of the death penalty**

Mr Zaved Mahmood, OHCHR Expert on the Abolition of Death Penalty

Ms Nicole Wyrsh, Ambassador, Special Envoy for Human Rights, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland

Mr Igor Miroshnichenko, Director of division of National Preventive Mechanism for prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment under the Ombudsman in Almaty city and Almaty Oblast, former Chief of Operative Department of the Prison Service of Kazakhstan, former Governor of maximum security prison for high security prisoners including those sentenced to life, Kazakhstan

Representative of the UK Parliament

Mr Grigory Vasilevich, J.D., Ph.D, Professor, Head of the Constitutional Law Chair, Law Faculty of the Belarusian State University, former Prosecutor General, former Chairman of the Constitutional Court of Belarus

Experts Uzbekistan, United Arab Emirates (TBC)

Discussion, Q&A

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14.00-15.45

Multidisciplinary approach towards application of the capital punishment

Mr Robert Dunham, Executive Director, Death Penalty Information Center, Washington, USA

Mr Parvais Jabbar, Co-Executive Director, The Death Penalty Project, UK

Mr Yakov Gilinsky, J.D., Ph.D, Professor, St. Petersburg's Juridical Institute of the General Prosecutor's Office, Russian Federation

Mr Sergey Lepin, Archpriest, Head of the Synodal Information Department, Belarusian Orthodox Church

Discussion, Q&A

15:45-16:00

Coffee break



16:00-17.30

Overview of legal standards to protect the rights of those facing the death penalty

Mr Omer Fisher, Deputy Head, Human Rights Department, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE

Mr. Zaved Mahmood, OHCHR Expert on the Abolition of Death Penalty

Mr. Marat Kogamov, J.D., Ph.D, Professor, Kazakh Humanitarian and Juridical University, Director of the Institute of criminal procedure and anti-corruption investigations, Kazakhstan

Discussion, Q&A

17.30-18.00

Wrap-up

Closing remarks

Reception