



30th March 2020

To:

Ms Nathalie Prouvez
Chief
Rule of Law and Democratic Section
Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch

Reference: NP/EA

Dear Madam

Death Penalty Status in Mauritius

I wish to report the following on behalf of our NGO:

That since 1st June 2018 there has been no positive development to abolish death penalty in Mauritius. On the contrary each time there is an atrocious murder in Mauritius the spectre of death penalty looms back in the speeches of politicians and a section of the public on social media. For example, leading politicians have been known for stating: *‘these kinds of people do not deserve to live’* when referring to alleged child murderers and drug traffickers in the sole intention of scoring political marks.

That although the application of death penalty has been suspended in Mauritius, the irresponsible discourses described above can have dramatic consequences in gathering the political momentum for its application.

That it is therefore essential that the state of Mauritius be called upon in ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming to the abolition of the death penalty.

Erickson Mooneapillay

DIS-MOI (MAURICE)