

INVITATION

Effective drugs policies without the death penalty

18 April 2016 (11:30 AM - 12:30 PM)

UN conference building, CR 11

Organized by the Delegation of the European Union, the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Philippines and the Permanent Mission of the Argentine Republic.

Opening remarks:

- > H.E. Neven Mimica, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, EU
- > H.E. Martin van Rijn, Minister for Health, Welfare and Sport, the Netherlands
- > H.E. Lourdes O. Yparraguirre, Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations

Panelists:

- Ivan Šimonović, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights
- Dr. Rick Lines, Executive Director, Harm Reduction International
- Kasia Malinowska, Director Global Drug Policy program, Open Society Foundations

Moderator: Chiara Sangiorgio, Death Penalty Researcher at Amnesty International

Event description:

More than four out of five countries have either abolished the death penalty or do not practice it. On a global scale, there is a firm trend towards abolition, with progress in all regions of the world, which is very encouraging. However, in at least 33 countries the death penalty can still be applied for drug related offenses and an even smaller number of countries are responsible for the bulk of around 1000 people executed in 2014 for drug-related offences. The death penalty for drug- related crimes is not in line with international law, nor is it proportionate or effective. In this side-event, the organizers will seek to demonstrate that there are viable and effective alternatives to capital punishment, and that these alternatives offer a much better perspective for successful drug control policy.

All are invited. For further information please contact: <u>Moana.GENEVEY@eeas.europa.eu</u> The event will be held in English, no interpretation will be provided.