

I was writing to express my grave concern on Christian Asia Bibi who was sentenced to death for blasphemy in 2010 and has had her appeal rejected by the Lahore High Court of Appeal on 16 October.

I would like to call on you and the other authorities to release Asia Bibi immediately and unconditionally, and take effective steps to guarantee her safety and that of her family.

I would also urge you and the authorities to reform the blasphemy laws as a matter of urgency and to provide effective safeguards against their abuse, with a view to eventual repeal of the laws/

Lastly I need to call on you to establish an immediate moratorium on all executions and commute all death sentences with a view to abolishing the death penalty, emphasizing that the death penalty is a violation of the right to life and the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment.

Your attention would be highly appreciated.

Yours respectfully,