

I am writing to express my grave concern on the court rule by the Maldives Supreme Court that upheld the conviction and death sentence against 22 year old Hussain Humaam Ahmed for the murder of a member of Parliament in 2012, despite serious concerns about fair trial proceedings in his case.

I am urging the authorities to immediately halt any plans to resume executions and establish an official moratorium on all executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

I am also calling on the Maldivian authorities to immediately commute the death sentences imposed on Hussain Humaam Ahmed and all other prisoners, including those imposed for crimes committed when they were below 18 years of age, against international law.

I am lastly expressing concerns about Hussain Humaam Ahmed's retracted statement and mental disability claims and urging the authorities to consider whether he should be given a retrial that fully complies with international law and standards, without resort to the death penalty.

Your attention on this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,