

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 36/19/95

19 September 1995

Further information (1) on UA 143/95 (ASA 36/18/95, 20 June 1995) - Death Penalty

SINGAPORE

Navarat Maykha (f), aged 32, Thai

Amnesty International has learned that the President of Singapore has just rejected Navarat Maykha's petition for clemency. Her lawyer now fears that she is likely to be executed on Friday 22 September 1995.

Navarat Maykha was sentenced to death in July 1994 for importing 3.2 kg of heroin into Singapore. She continues to protest her innocence, claiming that she was tricked by a Nigerian acquaintance into carrying the drugs from Bangkok to Singapore. In a recent letter to her lawyer she maintained once again that she had no idea there was heroin concealed inside the lining of the bag the man had given her.

Amnesty International is aware of at least 37 executions which have taken place since the beginning of 1995, the majority for drugs-related offences. However, the organization fears that the real figure may be much higher as many executions are not publicized.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes in English or in your own language:

- urging President Ong Teng Cheong to reconsider Navarat Maykha's case and grant her clemency by commuting her death sentence;
- expressing Amnesty International's opposition to the death penalty as the ultimate form of cruel punishment and a violation of the most basic of human rights - the right to life;
- urging that all pending death sentences be commuted.

APPEALS TO:

The President

His Excellency Ong Teng Cheong
Office of the President
Istana, Orchard Road
Republic of Singapore 0922

Telegrams: President Ong Teng Cheong, Singapore

Faxes: +65 738 4673

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Prime Minister

The Honourable Goh Chok Tong
Office of the Prime Minister
Istana Annexe, Istana
Republic of Singapore 0923

Faxes: +65 732 4627

Telegrams: Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, Singapore

Minister of Law

Professor Shanmugham Jayakumar

2

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and to diplomatic representatives of Singapore accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.