

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 25/01/97

9 January 1997

Further information (2) on EXTRA 178/96 (MDE 25/12/96, 14 November 1996) and follow-up MDE 25/14/96, 25 November 1996 - Death Penalty

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES John Aquino, Filipino worker, aged 33

Amnesty International has learned that the death sentence against John Aquino was quashed by the Federal Supreme Court in Abu Dhabi on 28 December 1996. The sentence, which had been affirmed by a Court of Appeal on 15 August 1996, is reported to have been declared null and void.

John Aquino will now be re-tried by the Supreme Court.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send letters or faxes may be sent in English, Arabic or your own language:

- welcoming the decision to quash the death sentence against John Aquino;
- urging that any further review of his case rule out the death penalty as a punishment;
- urging that all other death sentences in the UAE be commuted;
- drawing attention to world trends to abolish or reduce the use of the death penalty, the desirability of which was reaffirmed in Resolution 32/61 of 8 December 1977 of the United Nations General Assembly.

APPEALS TO:

His Highness
al-Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan
President of the United Arab Emirates
Ruler of Abu Dhabi
Manhal Palace
PO Box 280, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Faxes: +971 266 4799
Salutation: Your Highness

COPIES TO:

His Excellency
Dr Abdulla bin Omran Taryam
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
PO Box 753
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Faxes: +9712 664 944

His Excellency
General Dr Mohd Saeed al-Badi
Minister of Interior
PO Box 398
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Faxes: +9712 461 621; 415 688

and to diplomatic representatives of UAE accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 6 February 1997.