



**Republic of Angola
Joint Stakeholder Report for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review**

Submitted by

The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty

and

The Advocates for Human Rights,
a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

**For the 34th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
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Founded in 1983, **The Advocates for Human Rights** (The Advocates) is a volunteer-based non-governmental organization committed to the impartial promotion and protection of international human rights standards and the rule of law. The Advocates conducts a range of programs to promote human rights in the United States and around the world, including monitoring and fact finding, direct legal representation, education and training, and publication. In 1991, The Advocates adopted a formal commitment to oppose the death penalty worldwide and organized the Death Penalty Project to provide pro bono assistance on post-conviction appeals, as well as education and advocacy to end capital punishment. The Advocates currently holds a seat on the Steering Committee of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty.

The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty, an alliance of more than 150 NGOs, bar associations, local authorities and unions, was created in Rome on May 13, 2002. The aim of the World Coalition is to strengthen the international dimension of the fight against the death penalty. Its ultimate objective is to obtain the universal abolition of the death penalty. To achieve its goal, the World Coalition advocates for a definitive end to death sentences and executions in those countries where the death penalty is in force. In some countries, it is seeking to obtain a reduction in the use of capital punishment as a first step towards abolition.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. In view of the 34th upcoming session of the Universal Periodic Review of the United Nations Human Rights Council, the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP), would like to communicate several points concerning the situation of the death penalty in the Republic of Angola (Angola).
2. Angola has been an abolitionist State since 1992. In 2010, it became a *de jure* abolitionist State when the Angolan Parliament approved a new Constitution in which Article 59 explicitly prohibits the death penalty. On 24 September 2013, Angola signed the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, but it has not yet ratified the Protocol. Angola has demonstrated its commitment to abolition by voting in favor of and co-sponsoring the seven resolutions (2007, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, and 2018) of the United Nations General Assembly for a moratorium on the use of the death penalty.

II. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

A. 2010 and 2014 Universal Period Review

3. Angola participated in its second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council in October 2014 and accepted the recommendations made by Portugal to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR. In Angola's first cycle of the Universal Periodic Review in 2010, it accepted the same recommendations made by Brazil, Belgium, Portugal, the Philippines and Spain.

B. Legal Framework

4. Angola signed the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR on 24 September 2013. However as of 28 March 2019 still has not ratified it. Angola acceded to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in 1992 and signed its Second Optional Protocol in 2013. It is therefore competent to ratify this Protocol.
5. Among the obligations incumbent upon Angola following ratification of the Protocol are the prohibition of executions and withdrawal of the death penalty from internal criminal law. These two obligations have already been fulfilled by the country. It may therefore now unreservedly ratify the Protocol.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

6. The replies of Angola to the list of issues in relation to the second periodic report of Angola by the Human Rights Committee received on 30 October 2018, stated: "As mentioned in paragraph 20 above, the State of Angola has signed the Second Optional Protocol and the relevant process is under way in accordance with the Treaties Act (No. 4/11); the process involves a public consultation, after which the text is endorsed by the executive branch and, finally, approved by the National Assembly." The WCADP thus urges Angola to quickly ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.