

URGENT ACTION

MACAU RESIDENT EXECUTED IN CHINA

According to his family, Lau Fat-wai was executed at the end of February after China's Supreme People's Court (SPC) approved his sentence.

Lau Fat-wai was a resident of Macau, a partly autonomous special administrative region of China. He was arrested in mainland China in April 2006 accused of transporting and manufacturing drugs and the illegal trading in materials for manufacturing drugs. He was sentenced to death by the Guangzhou City Intermediate People's Court, south-east China, on 16 March 2009.

Guangdong Provincial Higher People's Court upheld Lau Fat-wai's death sentence on 28 September 2011, and his death sentence was sent to the SPC to review and approve. The SPC has the power to approve a death sentence or send the case for a re-trial, and as of January 2013, following amendments to China's Criminal Procedure Law, also change the sentence. Under Chinese law, there is no procedure for prisoners under the sentence of death to seek pardon or commutation of their sentence.

The death penalty is applicable to at least 55 offences in China, including non-violent ones, such as drug-related crimes. Statistics on the death penalty are a state secret but Amnesty International estimates that China executes thousands of people every year and certainly more than the rest of the world combined.

There is no need to take further action on this case. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 10/12. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA17/003/2012/en>

Name: Lau Fat-wai
Gender: m/f: Male

Further information on UA: 10/12 Index: ASA 17/026/2013 Issue Date: 22 July 2013

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