

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 29/95 (ASA 36/04/95, 10 March 1995) and follow-up (ASA 36/06/95, 15 March) - Death Penalty

SINGAPORE Flor Contemplacion (female), aged 42, domestic worker

new names: Don Promphinit, aged 31, Thai national  
Krishna Maikham, aged 32, Thai national  
Nasrul Esyam bin Shamsudin, aged 21, Malaysian landscape artist

Amnesty International has learned with deep regret that Flor Contemplacion was hanged, as scheduled, on 17 March 1995 in Changi Prison, Singapore. The organization is particularly dismayed in view of new evidence casting doubt on Flor Contemplacion's guilt. Amnesty International had called for, at the very least, a clemency hearing for this new evidence to be considered.

On 16 March, the Chairperson on the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women made the following statement regarding the scheduled execution of Flor Contemplacion:

"CONSIDERING that the Commission on the Status of Women, the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights have expressed concern regarding the situation of migrant women workers worldwide;

IN THE LIGHT OF the claims of new information regarding the appropriateness of the sentence of death passed in the case of Flor Contemplacion, especially in the context of the severity and finality of an execution of the sentence of death;

THEREFORE, the Chair wishes to express the grave concern of the Commission of the Status of Women regarding the scheduled execution of Flor Contemplacion on 17 March 1995, in Singapore."

Amnesty International has also learned that Don Promphinit and Krishna Maikham, two Thai nationals arrested for drug trafficking on 10 January 1993 and Nasrul Esyam bin Shamsudin, a Malaysian national arrested on 30 September 1993 were executed on the same day.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The risk of error in applying the death penalty is inescapable, yet the penalty is irrevocable.

Letters, faxes and telegrams expressing regret at these four executions in Singapore may be sent to the addresses in the original action. Thank you to all who sent appeals on behalf of Flor Contemplacion.