

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 309/94 (ASA 36/09/94, 23 August 1994) - Death Penalty

SINGAPORE Angel Mou Puipeng (f), aged 25, Portuguese citizen, resident of Hong Kong

Amnesty International has learned that Angel Mou Puipeng's appeal for clemency against her death sentence has been rejected by President Ong Teng Cheong and that she is scheduled to be executed on 23 December 1994.

Angel Mou Puipeng was arrested on 29 August 1991 in Changi airport, in possession of 5.6 kilograms of heroin. Her initial trial took place in the Singapore High Court between March and April 1993. She was found guilty of trafficking heroin.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Ah Hung (m), a Triad member responsible for recruiting Angel Mou Puipeng as a courier, was imprisoned for 4 years in Hong Kong for committing acts "... preparatory to trafficking in dangerous drugs". This illustrates the disparity between sentencing for drugs-related crime between countries, whereby the organizer of a drugs ring receives 4 years' imprisonment in Hong Kong, while in Singapore a courier is sentenced to death.

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 or degrading treatment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The death penalty was employed in Singapore during the colonial period and was retained after the country became an independent republic in August 1965. Anyone found in possession of more than 15 grams of heroin, 30 grams of morphine, 30 grams of cocaine or 500 grams of cannabis is presumed guilty of drug trafficking and is liable to a mandatory death sentence.

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

- expressing deep concern that Angel Mou Puipeng is scheduled to be executed on 23 December 1994;
- urging President Ong Teng Cheong to reconsider his decision and to grant Angel Mou Puipeng clemency by commuting her death sentence;
- stating Amnesty International's unconditional opposition to the death penalty.

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

Minister of Law

Professor Shanmugham Jayakumar
Ministry of Law

250 North Bridge Road
Raffles City Tower 21-00
Republic of Singapore 0617

and to diplomatic representatives of Singapore accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.