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FOR RESPONSE

## *Hoffmann case*

*The Guardian*, a UK newspaper, published today 14 June 2000 an article, "Britain's executioners" criticising rulings by Lord Hoffmann, who sits as a judge in the Privy Council, on death penalty cases from states in the Caribbean.

Lord Hoffmann is a Director of Amnesty International Charity Ltd, the activities of which are charitable and exclude most of the campaigning work undertaken by Amnesty International, such as work for the release of "prisoners of conscience", against unfair trials and against the death penalty and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment.

Lord Hoffmann sits as a judge in the Privy Council in a capacity completely independent of Amnesty International. As a matter of fact, Amnesty International has campaigned against some of the ways the Privy Council has interpreted the obligations of states in the Caribbean under the Inter-American system for the protection of human rights on issues related to the death penalty.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty without reservation and under all circumstances, and campaigns for its abolition throughout the world. ENDS.../

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