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News Flash

Lebanon: Amnesty International welcomes repeal of death penalty law

Amnesty International today welcomed the Lebanese Parliament's repeal of Law 302 which expanded the scope of the death penalty in Lebanon in 1994, abolished judges' discretion to consider mitigating factors and made capital punishment mandatory for certain offences.

"The abolition of the death penalty in Lebanon would be a major historical step to ensure one of the fundamental human rights for future generations in Lebanon" said Amnesty International.

At least 17 people were executed, two publicly, in Lebanon between 1994 and 1998. Salim al-Huss Prime Minister from 1998 until 2000, refused to sign any death sentences. Many Lebanese human rights groups have campaigned vigorously against the death penalty in Lebanon.

While warmly welcoming this important decision, Amnesty International calls on the Lebanese authorities to abolish the death penalty, the ultimate form of cruel and inhumane punishment.

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