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### Globalizing the fight against the death penalty

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Amnesty International (AI) is to play a major role in the globalization of the fight for a death penalty-free world in Paris this week.

The use of the death penalty is declining around the globe. AI believes the 3rd World Congress Against the Death Penalty in Paris will help pool the enormous amount of global knowledge to help convince more countries to abolish the death penalty. AI hopes the Congress will invigorate the movement for the final push to end capital punishment worldwide.

Paris will host the Congress from 1 to 3 February, following on from meetings in Strasbourg in 2001 and Montreal in 2004. "Paris 2007" will bring together abolitionists and decision-makers from all over the world, who will discuss current strategies and other matters relevant to the goal of worldwide abolition of the death penalty.

The meeting has been organized by Ensemble Contre la Peine de Mort (ECPM - Coalition Against the Death Penalty), which works in close cooperation with the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty and numerous other partners. Over 600 campaigners, including members from the Anti Death Penalty Asia Network (ADPAN), from every part of the globe are expected to attend, ~~including members from the Anti Death Penalty Asia Network (ADPAN)~~ what will be a vibrant and dynamic event. AI is sending numerous delegates from its national sections and staff from the International Secretariat to gather and impart information.

The meeting will give the world abolitionist movement the opportunity to exchange ideas, discuss strategies and strengthen their work to halt judicial killings. Delegates will focus particularly on the prospects for abolition in North Africa, the Asia Pacific region and the Middle East, including reforms on the political and legal process in those ~~countries~~regions.

Other debates include "Islam and the death penalty" and "China and the Olympic Games". The Congress will also hear from those profoundly affected by the death penalty, including exonerated former death row inmates, the families of condemned prisoners and relatives of murder victims who campaign against killing in their names.

The event will end on Saturday with a march through the streets of Paris.

#### For further information, please see:

Media Advisory: Amnesty International at the 3rd World Congress Against the Death Penalty (<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGPOL300032007>)

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Official Site: The 3rd World Congress Against the Death Penalty**For further information:**

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The 3rd World Congress Against the Death Penalty Official Site  
<http://www.abolition.fr/ecpm/english/congres.php>

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