

International Association of Democratic Lawyers, IADL
NGO in Special Consultation Status with ECOSOC

Human Rights Council
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Item 6. Consideration of UPR—reports

- **Japan**

Death Penalty

Speaker: Yorio SHIOKAWA

Thank you, Chairperson

On behalf of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, Indian Council of South America and Interfaith International, I'd like to make a short comment about the death penalty issue of Japan.

We fully support the recommendation, that Japan should “review urgently the use of death penalty with view to join the large number of States that have a moratorium and abolition.”

Perhaps, many Japanese people do not know about the content of the second protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the resolution adopted by the General Assembly seeking a moratorium on executions as a precedent leading to the abolition of the death penalty.

It is needed for the United Nations to advise and to cooperate with the Government of Japan so that the Japanese people will become aware about the international tendency, to make a society without death penalty and also about the essential theory of the need for death penalty abolition.

The Constitution of Japan says “We believe that no nation is responsible to itself alone, but that laws of political morality are universal; and that obedience to such laws is incumbent upon all nations who would sustain their own sovereignty and justify their sovereign relationship with other nations.” We hope that the Japanese people would follow these words, and that Japan will abolish the death penalty.

Thank you, Chairperson

