

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade  
(Human Rights Division)**

**Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions**

The death penalty was abolished in the State of Mauritius by way of the enactment of the Abolition of Death Penalty Act 1995. All death sentences imposed prior to the said enactment have been commuted to sentences of penal servitude for life. The Supreme Court may now inflict sentences of penal servitude for life or sentences for terms not exceeding 60 years where the law so provides. It is noted that the last execution of death penalty was on 10 October 1987.

Section 4 (1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius provides that “*No person shall be deprived of his life intentionally save in the execution of the sentence of a Court in respect of a criminal offence of which he has been convicted*”. This section has not yet been amended to prohibit the imposition of death sentences.

An amendment to Section 4(1) of the Constitution would need to be supported at the final voting in the Assembly by the votes of not less than three quarters of all members of the Assembly. This is currently not available.

Mauritius is not a party to Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

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