



United Nations General Assembly

Resolutions

Agenda Item 60

Statement of the Secretary-General

Delivered by

Legal Adviser, Harmon

New York, 3 April 1963

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Chair,

1. Ireland has considered with interest the communique set out in draft articles 13 to 15 and the Annex to the draft articles, and will continue to work on draft article 13 as a matter of priority.
2. Ireland is strongly opposed to the use of the death penalty in any circumstances. The final and irreversible nature of the penalty, and the inappropriateness of its use as a criminal punishment, are the reasons for Ireland's support for universal abolition. We support an explicit provision in the Convention that states that the death penalty would not be used in the case of the person being examined.
3. We are grateful for the views expressed in the communique on draft articles 14 and 15 and the Annex, and for the views that we are now being asked to express on the precise content of these provisions. It is our view that the views of the members of the Commission on the elaboration of a convention on the abolition of the death penalty, which are being expressed in the communique, can be resolved through the negotiation of a convention at an early stage as soon as possible.

Thank you.