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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

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Item 4 (a)

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Lebanon: Proposed text for Article 5

1. Human life is sacred from the moment of conception.
2. Everyone's right to life shall be protected by law.
3. Intentional deprivation of life may not be effected save as capital punishment in countries where such punishment exists, and then only in execution of a law and in virtue of the sentence of ~~an~~ independent and competent court.
4. Deprivation of life by officials of the state shall not be regarded as intentional when it results from the use of force which is no more than absolutely necessary for the performance of their official duties;
  - (i) in defense of any person from unlawful violence;
  - (ii) in effecting a lawful arrest or to prevent an escape from lawful custody; or
  - (iii) in action lawfully taken for the purpose of quelling a riot or insurrection, or for prohibiting entry to a clearly defined place to which access is forbidden on grounds of national security.
5. Anyone sentenced to death shall have the right to seek amnesty, or pardon, or commutation of the sentence. Amnesty, pardon, or commutation of the sentence of death may be granted in all cases.

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