



## General Assembly

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/HRC/10/67  
26 February 2009

Original: ENGLISH

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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL  
Tenth session  
Agenda item 2

### **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND REPORTS OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

#### **Question of the death penalty\***

##### **Note by the Secretariat**

1. The Human Rights Council, in its decision 2/102, requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue with the fulfilment of their activities, in accordance with all previous decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, and to update the relevant reports and studies. On the basis of that decision, and in accordance with Commission resolution 2005/59, the Secretary-General submitted a report on the question of the death penalty to the Council at its eighth session (A/HRC/8/11). The report was an interim update to the quinquennial report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council on capital punishment and implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty.
2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 62/149, requested the Secretary-General to submit another report on the death penalty (A/63/293), which included an update on developments in the use of the death penalty to the period ending 1 July 2008. Furthermore, the Assembly, in its resolution 63/168, requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Assembly on the implementation of resolutions 62/149 and 63/168 at its sixty-fifth session.
3. In the light of the above, the Secretary-General will submit a report on the question of the death penalty to the Council at its twelfth session with a view to providing regular information on the latest developments.

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\* Late submission.