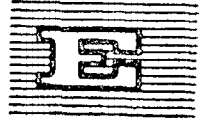


UN LIBRARY

APR 16 1980



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/1980/9/Add.2
11 April 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

First regular session of 1980
Item 6 of the provisional agenda

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Capital punishment

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. An additional response has been received by the Secretariat from the United Arab Emirates, which is a retentionist country, reporting no legal changes for the period 1974-1978.
2. The following offences are subject to the death penalty: wilful murder, incitement to wilful murder, offences against the honour (for example, adultery), offences against State internal security, endangering the public (for example, taking possession of property by force, armed highway robbery and piracy which result in death), high treason, offences against the Government (for example, incitement to invasion, using or attempting to use force against the Government, changing or attempting to change the Government).
3. The number of persons sentenced or executed was not given; however, it was mentioned that capital sentences are imposed by the courts and are executed in accordance with the law.
4. Modes of execution were not described, with the exception of the offence of adultery, which may result in lapidation. Executions are carried out publicly and privately.
5. Execution can be prevented on the grounds of age (18 years), mental disability and pregnancy. In the case of pregnancy, however, the execution is postponed until the child is born.
6. As far as the legal safeguards against the death penalty are concerned, it is possible to appeal to the Head of the Judiciary, which has the power to review the case. There is no automatic appeal or mandatory waiting period between sentencing and execution. However, the approval from the Ruler must be obtained before carrying out the execution.

7. The right to appeal covers both question of fact and law. The offender concerned or his family have the right to petition for pardon or commutation.

8. A special committee has prepared a draft bill recommending the expansion of the number of offences subject to capital punishment, especially those against internal and external State security and the national economy.
