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**CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE QUESTIONS OF:
DISAPPEARANCES AND SUMMARY EXECUTIONS**

**Letter dated 21 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative
of Singapore to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to
the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary
executions of the Commission on Human Rights**

I refer to addendum 1 to your report to the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2003/3/Add.1, dated 12 February 2003).

In paragraph 451, you had quoted very selectively from our reply to you dated 11 January 2002. While you had correctly reflected our point that you had once again transgressed your mandate, you failed however to list the reasons we gave in our letter. Let me re-state the relevant section of our reply, which sets out clearly the reasons why we felt that you had transgressed your mandate:

“As Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, you have once again transgressed your mandate in writing to us in your official capacity regarding this case. Your mandate only allows you to intervene when there is a possibility that due process and safeguards have not been observed. By merely listing the safeguards stated in United Nations documents, you have failed to explain how the

sentencing of the above-mentioned persons falls within your mandate. The case is neither extrajudicial, nor summary, nor arbitrary, but in accordance with due legal process and accompanied by judicial safeguards. By repeatedly exceeding your mandate, you degrade the credibility of your office.”

Your selective presentation of our reply might mislead readers into thinking that the Singapore Government had made a sweeping and unfounded assertion against your office, which is not the case. We would therefore appreciate it if you would publish this letter as an official document of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

(Signed): Vanu Gopala MENON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
