

Press Release

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Reaction of the Secretary General to three executions in Japan

Strasbourg, 23.08.2007 - "I deplore these sudden executions in Japan. They have come after a long period without any executions and have put Japan at odds with all those civilised countries which have already abolished this inhuman and barbaric form of punishment," said Terry Davis, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, today.

"As an observer State to the Council of Europe, Japan is deemed to share our fundamental values and principles. These standards are clearly expressed through the rejection of the death penalty as contained in Protocols n° 6 and 13 to the European Convention on Human Rights. There has not been a single execution in any of the member States of the Council of Europe for 10 years", added the Secretary General.

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