URGENT ACTION

TWO MEN HANGED IN SECRETIVE EXECUTIONS

Yong Kar Mun was executed at 5.30 am on 24 May 2017 at Sungai Buloh Prison in Selangor, Malaysia. Contrary to international standards, Yong Kar Mun's family was not provided adequate notice of the scheduled execution. An unnamed man was also executed on the same day.

Yong Kar Mun, a 48-year-old former mineral water seller, was convicted of discharging a firearm in the course of a robbery, under Section 3 of the Firearms (Increased Penalties) Act, 1971. In violation of international law, he was sentenced to the mandatory death penalty. He was executed at 5:30am on 24 May 2017.

Yong Kar Mun's family was handed a letter from the Sungai Buloh Prison authorities on 22 May 2017, informing them that they should pay their last visit the following day, on 23 May, and that his death sentence will be carried out 'soon', with no specific date. It was only during their final visit were they informed that the execution was scheduled to be carried out the very next day, on 24 May. His family was advised to make funeral arrangements after only being given a 24 hour notice of the execution.

Another man, convicted of murder, was also executed on 24 May at Sungai Buloh Prison at 5:30am. No further information has been made available about the other individual.

The executions were carried out in a secretive manner. This practice has been observed by Amnesty International in other cases of imminent executions in Malaysia the organization has been alerted to since 2014. The Human Rights Committee and other UN bodies and independent experts have identified the lack of transparency in relation to the notice of the date of the scheduled execution as a factor increasing the mental trauma of persons sentenced to death.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 113/17. Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa28/6321/2017/en/

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