

Prime Minister and Minister of National Security
Freundel Stuart
Public Service and Urban Development Government Headquarters
Bay Street, St. Michael
Bridgetown, BB11121
Barbados

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

I urge you to keep to your promises and abolish the mandatory imposition of the death penalty from national legislation. It is extremely important that all factors relevant to the circumstances of the crime and of the person being tried, can be taken into consideration at sentencing. More than two-thirds of the countries in the world have abolished the death penalty in law or practice. There is no convincing evidence that capital punishment has a unique deterrent effect on crime.

As first steps towards abolishing the death penalty, I urge your government to: abolish the mandatory death penalty and commute all death sentences to life sentences.

Yours sincerely,