The global campaign against the death penalty is gaining momentum

Statement by Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Strasbourg, 16.11.2007 - The campaign for a worldwide moratorium and the abolition of the death penalty is gaining momentum. The approval of a draft resolution in the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly marks a turning point in the effort to eradicate executions throughout the world. As a continent free of the death penalty, Europe as a whole is clearly in favour of this initiative, but the broad support for the draft resolution in the Third Committee shows that this is not only a European point of view. The text, which will be put to a vote in the General Assembly in December, is a collective effort of a global coalition of countries who reject this inhuman and barbaric form of punishment.