



AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES
France

« Là où la défense n'a plus la parole »



7TH WORLD CONGRESS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

BRUSSELS, MARCH 1, 2019

‘Practical tools and tips for advocacy, possible alliances and links between the abolitionist movement and the women's rights movement’

By **Angela UWANDU**, Head of Office ASF France, Nigeria
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7th World Congress Against the Death Penalty - Brussels, March 1, 2019

Introduction



Why engage with the women rights movement?



Practical ways of engaging with women's rights movement

1. **Advocacy visits** to women rights organizations in our various countries to present specific conditions of women on death row.
 - Important to dissuade calls for DP as punishment for GBV.
 - Tools: Global reports, pamphlets, country reports and data.

2. **Legislative advocacy:** leveraging on experience and mechanisms adopted by women's rights groups in legislative advocacy.

- The GTU example in Nigeria.
- Monitoring bills prescribing the death penalty or relating to the death penalty in general at the parliament.

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Public hearing on the 'Violence Against Persons Prohibition bill', Abuja 2015

3. Collaboration on legal aid Legislative advocacy

- Using strategic litigation on symbolic cases to advocate for abolition.
- Examples from Nigeria:
 - Cases involving child brides/early forced marriages and minors facing the death penalty (Wasilu Tasiu 14, Maimuna Abdulmumin 13). Both accused of killing their husbands.
 - Amina lawal's case: sentenced to death by stoning in 2002 for adultery.
- Partnering on effective legal representation for women facing the death penalty.

4. Involvement in international women's days/campaigns

- Participation of abolitionists in 16 days of activism against GBV: 25 November – 10 December.
- Involvement of women's rights groups in world day against the death penalty or future world and regional congresses against the death penalty.

5. Social media engagements

6. Capacity building for women's rights groups

“If we believe that murder is wrong and not admissible in our society, then it has to be wrong for everyone, not just individuals but governments as well.

- Helen Prejean

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION**