



Comunità di
SANT'EGIDIO



European Union



Comune di
ROMA

Rome, October 19, 2008

Dear Mr. Mayor,

We are now preparing the 7th Edition of Cities for Life – Cities against the Death Penalty, which is celebrated every 30th November. It will be the first since the approval of the Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations for a moratorium of capital punishment on December 18th, 2007, which Your Country contributed to by voting in favour. We would therefore be glad to bring prestige to Your Municipality by including it in a List of Honour of cities engaged in this battle for civilisation that have joined the Campaign "Cities for Life – Cities against the Death Penalty". Your Capital City has already joined this initiative

The approval of the Resolution for a Universal Moratorium on Capital Punishment undoubtedly constitutes one of the most important events of 2007, a historical passage of enormous moral value. This marks a decisive stage for the assertion of a justice capable of always respecting life, of a justice without death. The vote of the United Nations is a victory for the dignity of man and for the defence of his fundamental rights. The Community of Sant'Egidio worked hard for years to attain this result, together with other historical protagonists of the world Campaign gathered by or flanking the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP). Nevertheless, the road towards the abolition of capital punishment remains long and difficult, and it necessitates a firm long-term action in view of the implementation of the Resolution and of the final definitive abolition of the death penalty.

The World Day of the "Cities for Life/Cities Against Death Penalty" (celebrated every November, in memory of the first abolition of the death penalty by a State, the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, in 1786) is an

*Mrs Sharon Shepherd
Mayor of Kelowna
City of Kelowna
1435 Water Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4*

important initiative which has brought together in one network local administrations and civil society to present and promote universally this struggle, so decisive for all of humanity. The World Day of the "Cities for Life/Cities Against Death Penalty" on November 30th, 2007 involved 760 cities, with more than 35 capitals, therefore representing the greatest international mobilization to stop all executions throughout the world.

All the "Cities for Life" will be listed in a specific page of our web site (www.citiesforlife.net) with links to the official website of your city. In this respect, we would appreciate it if the logo "Cities for Life" linked to the webpage of this initiative, could appear on your homepage. A sort of "web community" will come into being, where one could circulate at an international level all the initiatives of "Cities for Life."

We are attaching to this letter a note on the procedure for participating in this initiative, along with a draft of a town council resolution for joining it. We would appreciate it if you would kindly send us your confirmation of receipt of this letter as soon as possible, and we would also appreciate it if you would indicate to us other municipalities which you deem might be interested in this initiative.

Very truly yours,

Comunità di
SANT'EGIDIO



Contact for further information:

ALBERTO QUATTRUCCI

a.quattrucci@tiscali.it

Community of Sant'Egidio – Piazza di Sant'Egidio 3/A – 00153 Rome, Italy

www.santegidio.org Tel: +3906 585661 – Fax: +3906 5883625

ANNEX A

How to support the World Campaign of the Community of Sant'Egidio "Cities for life – Cities against the death penalty"

- ? **THE FIRST WAY TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT IS TO AGREE TO ENTER YOUR CITY AS A MEMBER OF "CITIES FOR LIFE – CITIES AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY", WITHOUT ANY ENGAGEMENT OTHER THAN THE MORAL COMMITMENT TO SHARE THE CONTENT AND INTENTIONS OF THE PROJECT.**
- ? **EACH CITY CAN FREELY CHOOSE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:**
- ? **Appoint one person, or an agency to be the reference point for the Community of Sant'Egidio for all the projects of the world campaign, and support the appeal for a universal moratorium with a decision of the City Council and the signatures of the elected members and administrators of the city.**
- ? **Select a monument, a building, or a place of significance in your city, and arrange for its lighting up or decoration from 28th to 30th November 2008. This can be done also on other significant occasions connected with the defence of life (e.g.: if a State declares the abolition of the death penalty, establishes a moratorium on executions or commutes the death penalty).**
- ? **Declare the 30th November a "Day for life/against the death penalty" and, if you accept, insert under the name of the City, or on its symbol or its website, the sentence: "Cities for life – Cities against the death penalty".**
- ? **Link the Homepage of the City's website to the website of the Community of Sant'Egidio (www.santegidio.org). A part of its website is devoted to the World Campaign against the Death Penalty www.santegidio.org/pdm/logo_cities.htm, and shows a complete list of the cities supporting the campaign.**
- ? **Invite the citizens to sign the Appeal for a Universal moratorium on the death penalty, which has already collected 5,500,000 signatures throughout the world, and appoint certain places such as public buildings and museums where copies of the appeal can be signed.**

- ? **Work to turn the public opinion in favour of a moratorium in preparation for the International Day for the Defence of Human Rights in the world on 30th November or some other date. (This could be supported and organised in conjunction with the Community of Sant'Egidio and its associates in Italy or in other countries).**
- ? **'Adopt' a person sentenced to death in different ways, in agreement with the promoters – (by advertising the case, correspondence, public demonstrations).**
- ? **Take part in an International Fund for the legal defence of people sentenced to death, already set up by the Community of Sant'Egidio. Cities are not bound to give financial support. However, contributions used to guarantee the right to defence of the most disadvantaged are a concrete instrument of international justice. Many capital cities and other cities of Europe have contributed in different ways to the establishment of this Fund. Contributions can be sent to:**

Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena spa
Agenzia Roma 2 – via Arenula, 9 – 00186 Rome, Italy
ABI 01030 – CAB 03202 – CC n. 11868/22
OR: Community of Sant'Egidio – ACAP Onlus
Piazza di Sant'Egidio 3/ A – 00153 Rome, Italy
Purpose: Contribution to the International Fund for the Defence of People
Sentenced to Death

FOR SUPPORT IN THE PROJECT AND FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Alberto Quattrucci – a.quattrucci@tiscali.it
Community of Sant'Egidio
Piazza di S Egidio 3/A – 00153 Roma – Italia
www.santegidio.org
e-mail: com@santegidio.org
Tel + 3906 585661 – Fa +3906 5883625

ANNEX B

FACSIMILE AGREEMENT

(TO BE ADAPTED TO THE FORM OF SUPPORT SELECTED BY THE CITY: SEE ANNEX A)

Decision of the City Council of

In the year 2007, on the ofat o'clock, during the ordinary /extraordinary Council meeting

The Council agrees as follows:

The Community of Sant'Egidio, based in Rome in Piazza Sant'Egidio 3/a, is the spokesperson of the World Campaign: "Cities for Life/Cities against the Death Penalty". The Community has invited this City to participate in a project for the abolition of the death penalty throughout the world. Support of the project involves a series of commitments as follows:

- ? supporting the appeal, promoted by the Community of Sant'Egidio, for a worldwide moratorium on the death penalty;
- ? arranging a powerful symbolic gesture showing the local commitment to justice, such as the lighting up of an important building, commemorating the first abolition ever of the death penalty on 30th November 1786, by decree of the Grand Duke of Tuscany;
- ? collaborating with projects organised by other agencies or associations with the purpose of making people aware of the need to suspend the capital punishment;

With the unanimous (or majority) vote according to the law;

IT RESOLVES

1. to support the “World Day Cities for life – Cities against the death penalty”:
 - ? by supporting the appeal, promoted by the Sant’Egidio Community, for a moratorium on the death penalty;
 - ? by providing for the lighting up of a building representing the city;
 - ? by collaborating to carry out of the initiatives promoted by the Community of Sant’Egidio or by other associated organisations in the area, with the aim of making the citizens aware of the need to abolish the death penalty in the world.
2. The City will connect the homepage of its website to the website of the Community of Sant’Egidio linking it directly to the web page of the “Worldwide Campaign against the death penalty”. Moreover, this administration wishes to place under the symbol of the City, or on its information site, the sentence “Cities for Life – Cities against the Death Penalty”.
3. The office to contact is and the referral person is