



P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local EU Statement on pardon granted to Moses Akatugba by outgoing Delta State Governor

The European Union Delegation issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Nigeria:

" The pardon of Moses Akatugba - sentenced to death for an offence committed when he was 16 years old - by outgoing Governor Delta State Emmanuel Uduaghan, is a commendable decision and significant step forward for Nigerian justice and the human rights of its citizens.

The EU and its Member States oppose the death penalty. We commend the Governor of Delta State for his actions in this case; and appeal to the Nigerian authorities to commute or, where appropriate, to pardon the death sentences of the many death row prisoners across the country. This would enhance the respect for human life, and avoid the harsh and irreversible consequences if there was later found to have been a miscarriage of justice."

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