

Hiroshi Hiraguchi
Minister of Justice
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Chiyoda-ku
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JAPAN

Matsumoto Kenji

Dear Minister,

It deeply concerns me that **Matsumoto Kenji** has been on death row for more than 30 years. He was born disabled and this alone should have been reason enough not to sentence him to death.

With great respect I urge you to stop the plan to execute Matsumoto Kenji and to commute all death sentences into prison sentences. A death sentence is a violation of the right to life and should therefore never be passed.

Please introduce an official moratorium on executions as a first step to abolish the death penalty in Japan. Also, please, see to it that the treatment of death row inmates is improved, including an end to solitary confinement.

I urge you to promote debate on the abolition of the death penalty in Japan.

Yours sincerely,