

Media Statement

MS# 1506 29 April 2015

Condolences from the Australian legal profession

The following statement can be attributed to Mr Duncan McConnel, President, Law Council of Australia:

- Law Council expresses its condolences following the tragic execution of Australian citizens.
- The Law Council is saddened to learn of the execution of Australian citizens Mr Andrew Chan and Mr Myuran Sukumaran in Indonesia on 29 April 2015.
- On behalf of the Australian legal profession, I extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mr Chan and Mr Sukumaran. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time.
- Both Mr Chan and Mr Sukumaran expressed remorse for their crimes and were exemplars of successful rehabilitation. They will be remembered for their positive contributions, which ultimately gained the respect of the Australian community for their courage and commitment to the rehabilitation of themselves and other prisoners.
- I also acknowledge the considerable work undertaken by the Australian Government at a
 diplomatic level in support of its citizens, and to the lawyers who worked tirelessly to
 support these two young men.
- The Law Council has a <u>long-standing policy</u> opposing capital punishment and considers that no person should be subjected to the death penalty irrespective of their nationality, the nature of the crime they are alleged to have committed or the time and place of its commission.
- Our deepest sympathies are with the family and friends of Mr Chan and Mr Sukumaran.

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