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## 1m signatures may seal the death penalty

A ONE million-signature campaign asking the Government to enforce the death penalty is being planned amid reports that Whitehall is to define its policy this week.

The campaign is the latest in a movement which has been sparked by this year's soaring crime rate.

The Anti-Crime Committee of the Civic Association yesterday announced the decision to collect one million signatures from all walks of life requesting the Government to enforce the death penalty as one of the measures to curb crime.

Earlier, the chairman of the committee, Mr Wilson Tuet, had sent a cable to the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, while he was in London for top-level talks last month on the issue.

Mr Tuet yesterday said that the death penalty is being used out in nearly all countries in Asia.

approached and have agreed to work closely in launching the campaign.

He said the signatures will be presented to the Governor and to Whitehall.

He said that details of the campaign will be finished soon.

"We are confident that we can achieve one million because it is a common feeling held among the Chinese people that the Government should do something drastic to deter the criminals, especially for those living in the resettlement estates. These people are under an ever-existing threat from gangsters and other violent criminals," he said.

### ASIAN WAY

"It shows only one fact that, in Asia, you have to solve a problem the Asian way.

"And the wish of the majority of the people cannot be grossly ignored," he said.

He said that London should refrain from interfering too much with Hongkong's ways of solving problems.

"Whitehall must respect the view of the Governor who is deeply respected by the four million residents in Hongkong," he said.

He said that a large number of organisations have been