



Cameroon: call for project for civil society participation during the 81st session of the United Nations Committee against Torture

(Open until 25 May 2024)

I. INFORMATION ON THE ORGANISATION AND THE PROJECT

A. The OMCT

The World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) was created in 1985. Based in Geneva, it relies on its extensive and active SOS-Torture Network, which operates in more than 90 countries, and is one of the largest coalitions of civil society organisations who fight against torture and all other forms of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. The OMCT's mission is to contribute to the eradication of torture, summary executions, disappearances, arbitrary detentions and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment and to protect victims and people at risk through its vast network of civil society groups. The OMCT coordinates the participation of civil society organisations before the United Nations Committee against Torture (hereafter CAT) and provides support to civil society organisations linked to the CAT.

You can find more information about the OMCT and its activities on the website of the [United Nations Committee against Torture](#), as well as on the [OMCT CAT blog](#) or through our accounts on [Facebook](#) and [X](#).

B. THE PROJECT

The OMCT benefits from the financial support of the European Union (EU), of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, the Irish government, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland (FDFA) to support the initiatives of Cameroonian actors aimed at fighting against torture and willing to contribute to the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee against Torture (CAT). The objective is to support civil society actors to submit an alternative report and participate to the 81st session of the CAT during which the sixth periodic report of Cameroon will be reviewed.

The total amount available for this project is 8.000 EUR.

II. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT AND METHODOLOGY

States which have ratified the Convention against Torture, like Cameroon, are required, in accordance with the provisions of Article 19, to submit periodic reports on the measures (legislative, administrative, judicial, other) adopted to implement the rights and obligations enshrined in the Convention against

Torture. These reports serve as the basis for the assessment of States parties by the Committee against Torture, which results in the publication of its "Concluding Observations", a report containing the main concerns and recommendations. In the case of Cameroon, the State will present its sixth report to the CAT at the 81st session (October - November 2024).

OMCT wishes to support the organisation of a workshop bringing together civil society in order to discuss priority issues that will be the subject of dialogue with CAT members. Submitting Organisations should make innovative proposals which include the following actions (other actions may be added):

- 1) The organisation of a broad national consultation for civil society organisations, academic experts, the Cameroon Human Rights Commission (CDHC), diplomatic representatives and / or international cooperation agencies to discuss the measures taken within the legal and institutional framework to implement the provisions of the Convention against torture.
- 2) The drafting of one civil society alternative report on the implementation of the Convention against Torture in Cameroun and validation with all stakeholders;
- 3) The organisation of advocacy activities and visits to places of deprivation of liberty;
- 4) The selection and organisation of a training for a group of 10 journalists from various news platforms (online, printed and audiovisual) on international standards in the fight against torture, the Convention against Torture and the workings of the UN Committee against Torture;
- 5) The public webcast of the 81st CAT session and raising awareness of this session among human rights defenders, actors in the criminal justice system and the prison system;
- 6) Setting up a national coalition of CSOs fighting against torture.

The proposed activities must be completed by December 15, 2024. The timetable for the implementation of activities will be discussed and agreed with OMCT. The OMCT may provide technical advice and / or participate in the preparation of reports to the CAT and in the design and implementation of the proposed activities. All tasks and activities should:

- > Encourage participatory and inclusive methodology and participatory decision-making.
- > Evaluate the appropriate security guarantees of the participating people / organisations.

III. DURATION AND LOCATION

The proposed activities must be completed by December 15, 2024. The chosen organisation or group of organisations must submit a narrative and financial report of all activities carried out.

IV. REQUIREMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY

Organisations with the following profile and skills are invited to express their interest:

- Cameroonian civil society organisations that have already submitted an alternative report at previous sessions of the CAT or other United Nations treaty bodies;
- Organisations working at national level on the prohibition of torture and other forms of ill-treatment, including against vulnerable groups.

V. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications from members of the SOS-Torture network and consortia of organisations will be an asset. In this case, it will be necessary to identify which organisation is the lead applicant. The lead applicant organisation will be responsible for managing financial resources and submitting narrative and financial reports on time. The division of tasks between the applicant organisations must be specified in the application. Staff of the organisation(s) may be hired or consultants may be hired for the implementation of the activities defined in this call.

A single application (individual or joint) will be selected and supported, based on an evaluation with indicators taking into account the eligibility criteria, as well as the content, scope and methodology of the proposal.

Applications should be sent only by email to Isidore Ngueuleu, OMCT Head of Africa Desk (icnd@omct.org) and Charlotte Mancini, Human Rights Adviser (cma@omct.org). The deadline is **May 25, 2024**.

To have your request taken into account, send an email with "CAT contribution - Cameroun" in the subject header, with the following attachments:

- A brief description identifying the activities, methodology, objectives and expected results in each area of action specified in this call. The justification should also indicate how the sustainability or continuity of the objectives of this call will be ensured in the future activities of the organisation(s);
- A budget which specifies the various expenses foreseen per field of action. The estimated cost of each action is indicative and the budget may be modified, but the total amount of support is that mentioned in point I.
- A timetable including the implementation of the activities set out in point II.

This call is made possible with the financial support of the European Union, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Irish government, and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the OMCT and can in no way be taken to reflect the position of the European Union, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Irish Government, or the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland.