

Geneva, October 30th, 2012



Information note on the 49th session of the Committee against Torture of the United Nations for the SOS torture network, October 29th -November 23rd 2012

- States under examination:

The Committee against Torture will meet at the Palais Wilson in Geneva from 29 October to 23 November to examine measures adopted by **Peru, Mexico, Norway, Qatar, Senegal, Tajikistan, Gabon, Russian Federation and Togo** with regard to their compliance under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

- Alternative reports submitted by the OMCT and network members:

OMCT submitted alternative reports to the Committee on anti-torture laws, policies and practices in **Mexico** and in **Togo**:



Mexico: Consideration of the report, 31 October 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 1 November 2012, 3PM.

The OMCT submitted **three alternative reports** to the Committee Against Torture jointly with its partner organisations in Mexico.

The **report** submitted jointly with the **National Network of Human Rights Civil Society Organisations "All the rights for all"** (Red Nacional de Organismos Civiles de Derechos Humanos « Todos los Derechos para Todas y Todos ») documents the increasing escalation of violence, including acts of torture, that are committed in a climate of impunity.

The **report** submitted jointly with the **Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights** (Comisión Mexicana para la Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos) focuses on the arraigo.

The **report**, submitted jointly with the **Human Rights Centre Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez** (Centro de Derechos Humanos Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez) describes the paradigmatic case of IsraelArzate, a young man from Ciudad Juárez who is being tried based solely on his confession obtained by torture.

See the three alternative reports on Mexico here: <http://bit.ly/TpSMme>

- **Public Event:** Join the Civil society briefing « **Countering Torture in Mexico** » at the occasion of the submission of alternative reports to the United Nations Committee Against Torture. More information on the event : <http://on.fb.me/XLZVyH>



Togo: Consideration of the report, 12 November 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 13 November 2012, 3PM.

This report on implementation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in Togo is submitted jointly by the Organisation Mondiale Contre la Torture (OMCT/World Organization Against Torture), the **Fédération internationale de l'Action des chrétiens pour l'abolition de la torture** (FIACAT/ International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture) and their member organisations in Togo, **ACAT Togo** and **CACIT**.

See the alternative report on Togo: <http://bit.ly/YdFBpj>

- Other States Parties under consideration:



Gabon: Consideration of the report, 8 November 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 9 November 2012, 3PM.



Norway: Consideration of the report, 1 November 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 2 November 2012, 3PM.



Peru: Consideration of the report, 30 October 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 31 October 2012, 3PM.



Qatar: Consideration of the report, 5 November 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 6 November 2012, 3PM.



Russian Federation: Consideration of the report, 9 November 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 12 November 2012, 3PM.



Senegal: Consideration of the report, 6 November 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 7 November 2012, 3PM.



Tajikistan: Consideration of the report, 7 November 2012, 10 AM / Replies on the 8 November 2012, 3PM.

Reporting procedure for the [50th session \(May 6 to May 31st 2013\) of the CAT:](#)

- **States parties reporting under the new optional reporting procedure (List of issues prior to reporting):** Estonia, Guatemala, Japan, Netherlands.

- **States parties reporting under the classical reporting procedure (List of issues and written replies prior to examination):** Bolivia, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan.

More information on the reporting procedure of the Committee Against Torture: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/reporting-procedure.htm>

- General Comment n°3:

During its 49th session the UN Committee Against Torture will also continue its discussion on the draft **General Comment n°3** of the Committee against Torture, on **article 14** of the Convention.

It is expected that the draft General Comment be adopted at the end of this session. The General Comment is significant as it lays out the measures states have to adopt in order to comply with article 14 of the Convention Against Torture providing for the right of victims to a remedy and reparation. Earlier the OMCT had participated in the consultation of the general comment and provided a written submission in November 2011 (<http://bit.ly/UYY9Lg>).

At the **end of the session**, OMCT will release a new edition of the E-Bulletin [OMCT@CAT](#), announcing and analyzing the recommendations and concluding observations made by the Experts of the Committee and reporting the most salient facts observed during the session.

Visit our website www.omct.org or send us an email requesting subscription to **OMCT@CAT** to omct@omct.org.

- OMCT and GMEDIA – Launch of a new initiative on media empowerment and torture

The OMCT jointly with the GMEDIA Centre launches at this session a new initiative of training journalists from reporting countries in parallel to the sessions of their country at the UN Committee Against Torture. A group of journalists from Mexico is the first to being trained on anti-torture standards and the UN Convention Against Torture from October 29th to November 3rd.

More information: www.gmediacenter.net

- **WEBCAST** – Live Webcast of the CAT session

A dedicated website for the webcast of the CAT sessions and archives of past sessions is now available at:

<http://www.treatybodywebcast.org/>

- **LIVE TWEETING**

Follow us on [Twitter](#) @omctorg for live tweets during the consideration of **Mexico, Norway, Senegal, Russian Federation and Togo**.

For more information about the activities of OMCT concerning the CAT, follow us online!

-  Website at: www.omct.org or contact us: omct@omct.org
 -  Follow us on **Twitter** @ OMCTorg
 -  Like us on **Facebook**: OMCT Genève (<http://on.fb.me/SVpTwg>) / OMCT MENA (<http://on.fb.me/Q3eZjS>)
 - **Vimeo** channel : **OMCT SOS/Torture Network** : <http://bit.ly/Pp3qoz>
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- **Support the fight of OMCT against torture and make a [donation](#) !**
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