



Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

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Committee against Torture

List of issues prior to submission of the sixth periodic report of Cyprus*

Specific information on the implementation of articles 1–16 of the Convention, including with regard to the Committee's previous recommendations

Issues identified for follow-up in the concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of the State party

1. In its concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of the State party,¹ the Committee requested the State party to provide information on the following: follow-up taken with regard to the Committee's recommendations on measures to combat the problem of police abuse, in particular abuse perpetuated during investigations; ensuring legal recourse for asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation who have lost the protection of the suspensive effect of appeals against deportation orders or decisions; and improving the screening system to ensure the early identification and referral of, and assistance and support for, vulnerable asylum-seekers, in particular victims of torture and ill-treatment. Noting that replies concerning the information sought by the Committee were provided on 4 December 2020,² and with reference to the letter dated 29 March 2021 from the Committee's Rapporteur for follow-up to concluding observations, the Committee considers that the recommendations included in paragraphs 11 (b), 19 (b) and 33 (c) of the concluding observations have been partially implemented. However, regarding the recommendation included in paragraph 19 (b), the Committee considers that the State party has adopted measures that are contrary or that have results contrary to the recommendation of the Committee.

Articles 1 and 4

2. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendations,³ please indicate the measures taken to include torture and ill-treatment as separate and specific crimes in the State party's legislation and to ensure that all acts of torture, as defined in article 1 of the Convention, are punishable by appropriate penalties which take into account their grave nature, in accordance with article 4 (2) of the Convention. Please also provide information on the steps taken to ensure that no exceptional circumstances whatsoever may be used as a justification for torture and that acts of torture are not subject to any statute of limitations. Please describe the measures taken to ensure that Law No. 235/90 is adequately enforced and that sections 3 and 5 of that law are effectively applied by domestic courts, including by providing State officials, in particular judges, prosecutors, lawyers and law enforcement officers, with training on the strict application of the relevant criminal law provisions.

* Adopted by the Committee at its seventy-fifth session (31 October–25 November 2022).

¹ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 11 (b), 19 (b), 33 (c) and 46.

² CAT/C/CYP/FCO/5.

³ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 8–9.



Article 2⁴

3. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendations,⁵ and taking note of the State party's follow-up replies,⁶ please provide information on any new measures taken by the State party since the consideration of the State party's previous periodic report to ensure that all persons who are arrested or detained are afforded, in law and in practice, all fundamental legal safeguards against torture from the very outset of their deprivation of liberty. Please indicate the measures taken to monitor compliance by law enforcement officials with fundamental legal safeguards. Please provide information on any criminal or disciplinary measures taken during the reporting period against law enforcement officials who did not immediately allow persons deprived of their liberty to benefit from those safeguards. Please describe the steps taken to amend article 30 of Law No. 163(I)/2005 on the rights of persons who are arrested and detained, in order to remove the provision for the criminal sanction of detainees who abuse the right to medical examination or treatment. Please explain the measures taken to ensure that detainees undergo a routine, confidential and free-of-charge medical examination by an independent doctor when they arrive at a detention facility. Please provide information on further measures taken to combat the problem of police abuse, in particular abuse perpetrated during investigations. Please indicate the measures taken to establish a central registry which would include information on all detainees, disaggregated by name, sex, age, ethnic origin, nationality and location, while applying relevant data protection and confidentiality measures.

4. With regard to the Committee's previous recommendations,⁷ please describe the measures taken to ensure that all detained persons are informed orally and in writing of their rights, in a language that they understand, including specific information on how to submit a confidential complaint, on other legal remedies for challenging the lawfulness of their detention, on the rights of persons under national immigration laws and on the right to have the free-of-charge assistance of an interpreter. Please indicate the steps taken to ensure that the right to legal aid from the very outset of the deprivation of liberty is fully implemented in practice and is upheld at all stages of the legal process and that such aid is made available to all eligible candidates by taking such measures as eliminating overly restrictive procedural and judicial criteria. Please provide information on the number of detainees who have applied for legal aid each year since the consideration of the State party's previous periodic report, the number of applications granted and rejected, and the reasons for such rejections, and the average time frame between the beginning of the detention and when the detainee may have access to his or her legal counsel.

5. Recalling the Committee's previous recommendations,⁸ please report on the measures taken to ensure that a medical examination of asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation who have allegedly been victims of torture or ill-treatment is performed in a timely manner by independent doctors who have been trained in the use of the Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Istanbul Protocol) and with the support of professional interpreters. Please indicate the measures in place to ensure that the medical file is made available to the detainee or the detainee's counsel upon request. Please provide statistical data on the number of asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation who have been referred to a medical examination due to allegations or signs of torture or ill-treatment, the outcome of such medical examinations and the next steps taken in those cases, the number

⁴ The issues raised under article 2 could also touch on issues raised under other articles of the Convention, including article 16. As stated in paragraph 3 of the Committee's general comment No. 2 (2007) on the implementation of article 2, the obligation to prevent torture in article 2 is wide-ranging. The obligations to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment under article 16 (1) are indivisible, interdependent and interrelated. The obligation to prevent ill-treatment in practice overlaps with and is largely congruent with the obligation to prevent torture. In practice, the definitional threshold between ill-treatment and torture is often not clear. See also section V of the same general comment.

⁵ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 10–11.

⁶ CAT/C/CYP/FCO/5, paras. 3–19.

⁷ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 14–15.

⁸ Ibid., paras. 16–17.

of asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation referred to rehabilitation services owing to torture and the specialized nature and content of the rehabilitation provided.

6. Bearing in mind the Committee's previous recommendations,⁹ please provide information on measures taken by the State party to combat all forms of violence against women, in particular with regard to the cases involving the actions or the omissions of the State authorities or other entities that engage the State party's international responsibilities under the Convention. Please describe the measures taken to ensure that the Violence in the Family (Prevention and Protection of Victims) (Amendment) Law is effectively enforced, and indicate whether the bill criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence against women and the bill on harassment and stalking have been adopted. Please report on measures taken to: (a) encourage and facilitate reporting of cases of gender-based violence, including domestic violence; (b) address the root causes of the low prosecution and conviction rates and the ensuing lenient penalties for cases involving domestic violence; (c) provide sufficient and adequate protection and assistance to victims of gender-based violence, including by increasing the number and geographical coverage of shelters and sexual violence support centres and by ensuring the availability of psychosocial rehabilitation and reintegration programmes; and (d) strengthen training programmes for State officials, in particular judges, prosecutors, police officers and other law enforcement officials, on the strict application of the relevant criminal law provisions and on the gender-sensitive investigation of such cases. Please include statistical data, disaggregated by the age and ethnic origin or nationality of the victim, on the number of complaints of gender-based violence received by the relevant authorities, the investigations, prosecutions, convictions and sentences resulting from those complaints, as well as on the redress, including compensation, provided to victims since the consideration of the State party's previous periodic report.¹⁰ Please indicate whether the State party has adopted specific protective measures to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence against refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant women and girls, especially those held in reception centres and other immigration detention facilities.

7. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendations,¹¹ please provide information on the measures taken during the reporting period to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and the impact of such measures. Please include statistical data, disaggregated by the age, sex and ethnic origin or nationality of the victim, on the number of complaints of trafficking in persons received, the investigations conducted and their results, including the sentences handed down to the perpetrators, and the number of trafficking victims identified, indicating how many of them received some form of assistance and redress. Please also provide updated information on the measures taken to: (a) ensure the effective enforcement of anti-trafficking legislation, including by providing judges, prosecutors, border police, immigration authorities and other law enforcement officials with mandatory training on the effective investigation and prosecution of acts of trafficking; (b) investigate and prosecute all cases of trafficking in persons, punish the perpetrators and ensure that the sentences imposed on perpetrators are commensurate with the gravity of the crime; (c) ensure, through its national referral mechanism, the early identification and referral of victims of trafficking, so that they receive adequate support and protection; (d) ensure that victims of trafficking, irrespective of their ethnic, national or social background or legal status, are exempted from any liability and obtain effective protection and redress, including rehabilitation and compensation, regardless of their ability or willingness to cooperate in the legal proceedings against traffickers; and (e) pursue international, regional and bilateral cooperation efforts with countries of origin, transit and destination, including through information-sharing and the harmonization of procedures, to prevent trafficking and bring perpetrators to justice.¹²

⁹ Ibid., paras. 24–27.

¹⁰ CEDAW/C/CYP/CO/8, paras. 26–27; and CCPR/C/CYP/QPR/5, para. 8.

¹¹ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 28–29.

¹² CEDAW/C/CYP/CO/8, paras. 28–29; and CCPR/C/CYP/QPR/5, para. 13.

Article 3

8. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendations,¹³ please provide updated information on the measures taken to ensure that, in practice, no person is returned to a country where he or she is at risk of being tortured and on the results of such measures. Please indicate what steps are being taken to guarantee effective access to the procedure for determining refugee status. Please indicate what measures the State party has put in place to avoid pushback operations and collective expulsions and to ensure that all expulsion orders are based on an individual assessment and are in strict compliance with the principle of non-refoulement.¹⁴ Please include detailed information on the results of the investigations into allegations of pushback operations from Cyprus to Lebanon and Turkey carried out at sea by the Republic of Cyprus Port and Marine Police. Please comment on allegations of excessive use of force against asylum-seekers and migrants in some of those pushback operations.¹⁵ Please indicate the steps taken to ensure that the beneficiaries of subsidiary protection who are at risk of losing that status are able to have their cases re-examined before the subsidiary protection ceases through provisions for a clear and effective appeals procedure. Please clarify whether, under the legislation currently in force, a person who is granted subsidiary protection and who appeals a decision of rejection of his or her asylum application would be at risk of deportation while the appeal is pending. Please provide statistical data on the number of individuals granted subsidiary protection per year, those whose subsidiary protection was discontinued or ceased, cases re-examined or appealed owing to the risk of serious damage and individuals who, as a result of re-examination or appeal, were granted continuation of their protection status.¹⁶

9. With regard to the Committee's previous recommendations,¹⁷ and taking note of the State party's follow-up replies,¹⁸ please describe the measures in place to ensure that individuals facing expulsion, return or extradition are informed that they have the right to seek asylum and to appeal a deportation decision, including through a judicial procedure. Please indicate how the State party guarantees access to free legal assistance and interpretation from the beginning of asylum determination procedures, including during the administrative stages, to all asylum-seekers, including unaccompanied minors. Please describe the measures taken to provide for an effective judicial remedy with automatic suspensive effect in the context of the deportation of asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation. In this regard, please provide information on the steps taken to ensure the independence of the Administrative Court and the International Protection Administrative Court from the Executive branch of the Government, including procedural independence from law enforcement and immigration and asylum officers, and to ensure that legal recourse is available to asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation who have lost the protection of the suspensive effect of appeals against deportation orders or decisions. Please indicate whether the State party envisages revising the Establishment and Functioning of the International Protection Administrative Court (Amendment) (No. 2) Law of 2020, which reduced the time limit for lodging an appeal before the Supreme Court against a decision of the International Protection Administrative Court from 42 days to 14 days.

10. Please provide information on the number of asylum applications received during the period under review, the number of successful applications and the number of asylum-seekers whose applications were accepted because they had been tortured or because there were substantial grounds for believing that they would be in danger of being subjected to torture if returned to their country of origin. Please provide updated information on the type of appeal mechanisms that exist, on any appeals that have been made and on their outcome. Please include information, disaggregated by sex, age and country of origin or receiving country, on the number of persons who have been returned, extradited or expelled since the consideration of the State party's previous periodic report. Please provide details on the grounds on which

¹³ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 22–23.

¹⁴ See CYP 2/2021. Available from <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/Tmsearch/TMDocuments>. See also [A/HRC/46/23](#) and [A/HRC/49/22](#).

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ CCPR/C/CYP/QPR/5, para. 12.

¹⁷ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 18–19.

¹⁸ CAT/C/CYP/FCO/5, paras. 20–21.

such persons were sent back, including the list of countries to which the individuals were returned. Please indicate whether the State party has put in place mechanisms to monitor the situation of vulnerable individuals and groups in receiving countries after their deportation. Please also indicate the number of returns, extraditions and expulsions carried out by the State party on the basis of the acceptance of diplomatic assurances or the equivalent thereof and provide information regarding the content of such assurances. Please provide information on any instances in which the State party has offered such diplomatic assurances or guarantees and the measures that have been taken in such cases with regard to subsequent monitoring.

11. Bearing in mind the Committee's previous recommendations,¹⁹ and taking note of the State party's follow-up replies,²⁰ please provide detailed information on further measures taken to improve the screening process to ensure the early identification and referral of, and assistance and support for, vulnerable persons seeking asylum, including victims of torture or ill-treatment, trauma or trafficking. Please indicate whether the vulnerability assessment procedure is used consistently for all asylum-seekers, including during the procedure for determining refugee status, and provide data on the number of asylum-seekers who have been identified as having special reception needs and the nature of those needs. Please indicate the steps taken to ensure that their specific needs are taken into consideration and addressed in a timely manner, including by providing priority access to medical and rehabilitation services, and the procedure for determining refugee status. Please specify the number of asylum-seekers who have been referred to rehabilitation centres due to torture or ill-treatment, and elaborate on the specialized nature and content of the rehabilitation services provided.

Articles 5–9

12. Please provide information on any new legislation or measures that have been adopted to implement article 5 of the Convention. Please inform the Committee of any extradition treaties concluded with other States parties, and indicate whether the offences referred to in article 4 of the Convention are included as extraditable offences in such treaties. Please describe the administrative and legislative measures taken by the State party to ensure that the Convention may be invoked as a legal basis for extradition in respect of the offences referred to in article 4 of the Convention when it receives an extradition request from a State with which it has no extradition agreement or treaty. Please indicate what measures have been adopted by the State party to ensure compliance with its obligation to extradite or prosecute. Please clarify what treaties or agreements on mutual legal and judicial assistance the State party has entered into and whether such treaties or agreements have led in practice to the transfer of any evidence in connection with prosecutions concerning torture or ill-treatment. If so, please provide examples.

Article 10

13. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendations,²¹ please provide updated information on education and training programmes developed by the State party to ensure that all public officials, in particular law enforcement officials, prison staff, immigration and border control officers and members of the military, are fully acquainted with the provisions of the Convention and the absolute prohibition of torture and are aware that breaches will not be tolerated and will be investigated, and to ensure that any offenders will be prosecuted. Please indicate whether such training courses are mandatory or optional, how often they are offered, how many national security, immigration and defence officials have already completed them, what percentage of all such officials have completed them and what measures have been taken to train the remaining officials. Please provide further details on the training programmes for police officers and other law enforcement officials on non-coercive investigation techniques. Please indicate whether the State party has developed a methodology to assess the effectiveness of the training and education programmes in reducing the number of cases of torture and ill-treatment and, if so, please provide

¹⁹ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 32–33.

²⁰ CAT/C/CYP/FCO/5, paras. 22–25.

²¹ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 36–37.

information on the methodology. Please also indicate the measures taken to give effect to the provisions of article 10 (2) of the Convention.

14. Please provide detailed information on the programmes aimed at training judges, prosecutors, forensic doctors and other medical personnel who deal with persons deprived of their liberty to detect the physical and psychological consequences of torture, ensure the effective documentation of torture and verify the admissibility of confessions into evidence. Please indicate whether such programmes include specific training on the Istanbul Protocol, as revised.²²

Article 11

15. Please describe the procedures in place for ensuring compliance with article 11 of the Convention, and provide information on any interrogation rules, instructions, methods and practices or arrangements for custody, in particular those that may have been introduced or updated since the consideration of the State party's previous periodic report. Please indicate the frequency with which they are reviewed. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendations,²³ please comment on allegations of ill-treatment by law enforcement officials in places of deprivation of liberty, in particular at the Limassol and Paphos central police stations, and of incidents of death, suicide, attempted suicide, verbal abuse and racist behaviour in some police stations.

16. Taking note of the Committee's previous recommendations,²⁴ please provide information on further measures taken to reduce overcrowding and improve the material conditions in all places of detention, including any measures to increase the use of alternatives to imprisonment both before and after trial. Please specify what laws and policies are in force regarding the use of pretrial detention, and indicate what steps are taken to prevent the excessive use of such detention. Please provide information on the occupancy rate in all places of detention and statistical data, disaggregated by sex, age and ethnic origin or nationality, on the number of pretrial detainees, including those held in police stations, and the percentage thereof with regard to the total number of persons deprived of their liberty. Please indicate the average and maximum duration of pretrial detention during the reporting period. Please describe the steps taken to ensure that pretrial detainees are separated from convicted persons. Please also report on measures taken to ensure that persons are not deprived of their liberty in police stations for prolonged periods.²⁵

17. Please provide information on the State party's efforts to meet the specific needs of women and minors in detention, including vocational and rehabilitation programmes. Please also indicate whether protocols are in place to meet the requirements of other groups of prisoners with particular needs, such as persons with disabilities, older persons and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. Please indicate the measures taken to guarantee the periodic review of life sentences, with a view to their commutation, and to provide the prisoners concerned with rehabilitation programmes to prepare for their social reintegration in the event of parole.

18. Please provide statistical data regarding deaths in custody during the period under review, disaggregated by the year, place of detention, sex, age and ethnic origin or nationality of the deceased person and the cause of death. Please include information on the number and outcome of investigations into those deaths, specifying whether a forensic medical assessment, including an autopsy, was performed, and on the number of deaths believed to have been caused by assaults committed or tolerated by government officials involving excessive use of force or the failure to provide the detainee with the necessary medical attention and treatment in a timely manner. Please provide information on the number of sentences pronounced in such cases, the criminal and disciplinary penalties imposed and the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such acts. Please indicate whether relatives of the deceased person received compensation in any such cases. Please describe the steps taken to reduce the incidence of inter-prisoner violence, including rape, in penitentiary institutions,

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid., paras. 34–35.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ [CCPR/C/CYP/QPR/5](#), paras. 14–15.

including efforts to recruit and train a sufficient number of prison personnel and investigate all incidents of violence, while ensuring that prison officials are held accountable in cases where they fail to take reasonable measures to prevent and respond to such violence.²⁶

19. Further to the Committee's previous recommendations,²⁷ please indicate the measures taken by the State party during the reporting period to ensure that the detention of asylum-seekers and migrants is only used as a last resort, where it is justified as reasonable, necessary and proportionate and for as short a period as possible, and to further implement alternatives to detention in practice. In this regard, please include statistical data for the reporting period, disaggregated by year, sex, age and ethnic origin or nationality, on the number of migrants and asylum-seekers in detention, the average and maximum time of detention and the use of alternatives to detention. Please also provide information on the State party's efforts to improve the material conditions of detention and the health-care services, including mental health-care services, in all immigration centres. Please indicate whether the State party has ended the practice of detaining migrants and asylum-seekers, especially unaccompanied children, in police holding cells and other detention facilities that are not suitable for long stays. Please report on the procedures in place to identify victims of torture to ensure that such individuals are not detained within the context of asylum procedures. Please indicate the steps taken to introduce independent processes, both when a decision to detain is made and during detention, for the identification of people who may face a particular risk of harm as a consequence of detention. Please provide information on measures taken to ensure that children and families with children are not detained solely because of their immigration status. Please describe the measures taken to guarantee that all immigration detainees have access to free legal aid and to judicial review or other meaningful and effective avenues to challenge the legality of their detention.²⁸

20. Bearing in mind the Committee's previous recommendations,²⁹ please provide information on protocols on the use of physical, mechanical and chemical restraints in psychiatric institutions, including in terms of duration and frequency. Please clarify the current policy regarding involuntary psychiatric hospitalization. Please provide information on the number of persons deprived of their liberty in psychiatric hospitals and other institutions for persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities and on the means to challenge the legality of such detention. Please indicate the steps taken to ensure that every patient, whether hospitalized voluntarily or not, is fully informed about the treatment prescribed and is given the opportunity to refuse treatment and any other medical intervention. In this regard, please describe the alternative forms of treatment, such as community-based rehabilitation services and other forms of outpatient treatment programmes, that are available and how patients or their caregivers may avail themselves thereof.

21. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendations,³⁰ please provide data on visits to places of deprivation of liberty, including immigration detention facilities, psychiatric institutions and centres for children in conflict with the law, carried out by the Office of the Commissioner for Administration and the Protection of Human Rights (Ombudsman) and other existing monitoring bodies during the period under review. Please report on the measures taken by the State party in response to the recommendations made by those entities. Please indicate whether independent monitors, including non-governmental organizations, enjoy unhindered access to all places of detention without prior notice and the ability to speak with detainees in private. Please provide updated information, including statistical data, on the complaints examined by the Office of the Commissioner in relation to alleged torture or ill-treatment, and specify whether any such cases have been submitted to the competent authorities for prosecution. Please provide information on the measures taken to enable the Office of the Commissioner to fully execute its mandate in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), including information on the steps taken to: (a) empower the Office of the Commissioner to appoint its own staff; (b) include Turkish speakers among

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 20–21.

²⁸ CCPR/C/CYP/QPR/5, para. 18.

²⁹ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 38–39.

³⁰ Ibid., paras. 30–31.

its staff; and (c) ensure that it has the personnel and the financial and technical resources necessary to perform its functions effectively.³¹

Articles 12–13

22. Please specify:

(a) Which bodies are competent to initiate a criminal or disciplinary investigation into cases where there is reason to believe that an act of torture or ill-treatment has been committed under the State party's jurisdiction, and describe how those bodies interact with the office of the public prosecutor during the investigation and what safeguards are in place to ensure that there is no hierarchical or institutional link between the suspected perpetrators and the inspectors;

(b) Whether the office of the public prosecutor is required to initiate an ex officio investigation, in cases where there is reason to believe that an act of torture or ill-treatment has been committed, and to request that the potential victim undergo a forensic medical examination;

(c) Whether the alleged perpetrator is automatically relieved of his or her duties while the investigation is being conducted and prohibited from making any further contact with the alleged victim.

23. Please provide updated statistical data, disaggregated by year, the sex, age and ethnic origin or nationality of the victims and the services to which the persons accused of committing acts of torture belong, on complaints of actual or attempted acts of torture, ill-treatment and excessive use of force, including during demonstrations and in migration control operations, recorded by the State authorities during the reporting period. Please include information on investigations, disciplinary and criminal proceedings and convictions and on the criminal or disciplinary sanctions applied. Please provide examples of relevant cases and judicial decisions. Please provide information on the crowd control procedures applied by the Cyprus Police in the context of demonstrations.³²

24. Recalling the Committee's previous recommendations,³³ please provide information on the measures taken to ensure that effective mechanisms for receiving complaints against the police, in particular the Independent Authority for the Investigation of Allegations and Complaints against the Police and the Professional Standards, Audit and Inspection Directorate of the Police, as well as any committee mandated to receive complaints from migrants in an irregular situation, remain fully independent and sufficiently funded. Please describe the procedures and mechanisms in place to protect victims of torture and their relatives, as well as witnesses and investigators, from any form of intimidation or reprisal that their complaints may provoke. Please provide information on the resources and activities of the complaint committee that was appointed in 2013, in accordance with section 28 (1) of the 2011 regulations for places of detention for illegal migrants, to receive complaints from migrants in an irregular situation.

Article 14

25. Taking note of the Committee's previous recommendations,³⁴ please provide information on redress and compensation measures, including the means of rehabilitation ordered by the courts or other State bodies and that which is actually provided to the victims of torture or their families, since the consideration of the State party's previous periodic report. Please include information on the number of requests for compensation that have been made, the number granted and the amounts ordered and actually provided in each case. Please provide information on any ongoing reparation programmes, including the treatment of trauma and other forms of rehabilitation, provided to victims of torture and ill-treatment and on the material, human and budgetary resources allocated for the effective functioning of such programmes. Please indicate the steps taken to amend Law 9 (I)/2006 and other relevant

³¹ CCPR/C/CYP/QPR/5, para. 3.

³² Ibid., paras. 10–11.

³³ CAT/C/CYP/CO/5, paras. 12–13.

³⁴ Ibid., paras. 44–45.

legislation and to review the existing procedures for seeking reparation, including through civil action and other legal means, and those for providing redress in cases in which the perpetrator has not been identified or found guilty of an offense, in order to ensure that such redress is accessible to all victims of torture and ill-treatment.

26. With reference to the Committee's previous recommendations,³⁵ please provide information about recent progress made in the investigation of all outstanding cases of missing persons. Please indicate the efforts made to ensure that alleged perpetrators are brought to justice and, if found guilty, punished in accordance with the gravity of their acts, and the further steps taken to ensure that the families of victims receive full reparation. Please include statistical data in this regard. Please provide information about support provided to the Committee on Missing Persons during the reporting period, including in relation to requests for information and for access to relevant areas. Please describe the measures taken to uphold the right to truth regarding the circumstances of disappearance, including by ensuring access for the families of victims to information on the progress and results of investigations and to participate in relevant proceedings.

Article 15

27. Please provide information on the specific measures taken to ensure respect in practice of the principle of the inadmissibility of evidence obtained through torture or ill-treatment. Please provide examples of any cases that have been dismissed by the courts owing to the introduction of evidence or testimony obtained through torture or ill-treatment.

Article 16

28. Please provide information on the measures taken to protect human rights defenders and humanitarian workers and volunteers from threats, intimidation and harassment. Please also provide information on the measures taken to ensure that they are not prosecuted for engaging in aid work, including participating in maritime search and rescue activities.

29. Recalling the Committee's previous recommendations,³⁶ please indicate the steps taken to review the law relating to the National Guard to ensure that children under 18 years of age are never subject to compulsory recruitment, in the interest of protecting all children from direct involvement in armed conflict.

Other issues

30. Please provide updated information on the measures taken by the State party to respond to the threat of terrorism. Please describe whether those measures have affected human rights safeguards in law and in practice and, if so, how they have affected them. Please also describe how the State party has ensured that counter-terrorism measures are compatible with all its obligations under international law, especially the Convention. Please indicate what training is given to law enforcement officers in this area, the number of persons who have been convicted under legislation adopted to combat terrorism, the legal remedies and safeguards available in law and in practice to persons subjected to counter-terrorism measures and whether there have been complaints of the non-observance of international standards and, if so, what the outcome was.

31. Given that the prohibition of torture is absolute and cannot be derogated from, including within the framework of measures related to states of emergency and other exceptional circumstances, please provide information on any steps taken by the State party during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic to ensure that its policies and actions comply with its obligations under the Convention. In addition, please specify the measures taken in relation to persons deprived of their liberty and in other situations of confinement, such as in Reception and Identification Service facilities, including designated quarantine

³⁵ Ibid., paras. 40–41.

³⁶ Ibid., paras. 42–43.

areas, and in homes for the elderly, hospitals or institutions for persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities.

General information on other measures and developments relating to the implementation of the Convention in the State party

32. Please provide detailed information on any other relevant legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures taken since the consideration of the State party's previous periodic report to implement the provisions of the Convention or the Committee's recommendations. Such measures may include institutional developments, plans or programmes. Please indicate the resources allocated and provide statistical data. Please also provide any other information that the State party considers relevant.
