



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

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**Committee against Torture**  
**Forty-ninth session**

**Summary record of the first part (public)\* of the 1132nd meeting**

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 23 November 2012, at 10 a.m.

*Chairperson:* Mr. Grossman

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\* The summary record of the second part (closed) of the meeting appears as document CAT/C/SR.1132/Add.1.

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*The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.*

**Organizational and other matters** (*continued*)

1. **The Chairperson** said that the adoption of general comment No. 3 on the implementation of article 14 of the Convention marked a significant milestone in the Committee's work. He thanked the civil society organizations that had been involved in the preparation of that important text, which he hoped would prove useful for all stakeholders and would help to improve implementation of the right to redress. As the Committee would be celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary during the session in May 2013, it would use that opportunity to make its work, including general comment No. 3, better known.

2. Having observed in the course of its work that human rights defenders were often the victims of reprisals, and as it considered that the situation required urgent attention, the Committee had decided to appoint a special rapporteur on that issue. The Committee had also considered the Guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies (A/67/222) and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the strengthening of the human rights treaty bodies (A/66/860), and would report on the outcome of its preliminary discussions at the end of the session.

3. In keeping with the Committee's standard practice, reminders had been sent to States parties whose initial reports were long overdue, with the exception of the Republic of Guinea, which had undertaken to submit its initial report in November 2013 for consideration by the Committee at its session in May 2014.

4. **Mr. Nataf** (Secretary of the Committee) said that all the concluding observations adopted at the current session would be published on the website of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the day of their adoption. The following rapporteurs had been appointed for the countries whose reports would be considered at the session in May 2013: Japan – Mr. Mariño Menéndez and Mr. Grossman; Estonia – Ms. Gaer and Mr. Wang Xuexian; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and overseas territories – Mr. Bruni and Mr. Tugushi; Plurinational State of Bolivia – Mr. Mariño Menéndez and Ms. Sveaass; Mauritania – Mr. Domah and Mr. Gaye; Netherlands – Mr. Bruni and Ms. Belmir; Guatemala – Mr. Grossman and Ms. Sveaass; and Kenya – Mr. Domah and Mr. Wang Xuexian. The Committee had also assigned country rapporteurs for the countries whose reports would be considered at its session in November 2013: Uzbekistan – Ms. Gaer and Mr. Tugushi; Kyrgyzstan – Mr. Tugushi and Ms. Gaer; Latvia – Ms. Sveaass and Ms. Belmir; Poland – Mr. Mariño Menéndez and Mr. Wang Xuexian; Belgium – Ms. Belmir and Mr. Bruni; Portugal – Mr. Grossman and Ms. Sveaass; Mozambique – Mr. Mariño Menéndez and Mr. Grossman; Burkina Faso – Mr. Gaye and Mr. Domah; and Andorra – Mr. Bruni and Mr. Wang Xuexian.

5. The Committee planned to draft lists of issues prior to submission of the reports for the following 25 States parties whose reports were due in 2015: Bahrain, Belarus, Benin, Bulgaria, Denmark, Djibouti, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Paraguay, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and the United States of America. Beginning at its session in May 2013, it would adopt lists of issues prior to submission of reports for Bulgaria, Finland, Kuwait, Mauritius, Monaco and Paraguay, which had already accepted the optional reporting procedure. A letter would be sent to the Governments of Ghana, Ireland, Slovenia and Turkmenistan inviting them to accept the optional procedure, while a reminder would be sent to the other States that had not yet responded to the invitation to accept the optional procedure.

6. **Mr. Kjaerum** (International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims – IRCT) asked whether the Committee had already appointed a member to the post of special rapporteur on reprisals and, if so, what mandate the person had been given.

7. **The Chairperson** said that the rapporteur had not yet been appointed and that the mandate had not yet been clearly defined, but that the relevant information would be made public in due course.

*The public part of the meeting rose at 10.30 a.m.*