



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

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COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE

Fourth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 51st MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Friday, 27 April 1990, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. VOYAME

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The meeting was called to order at 3.40 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION (agenda item 7)

Initial report of China (CAT/C/7/Add.5) (continued)

1. At the invitation of the Chairman, the members of the delegation of China took seats at the Committee table.
2. Mr. SHEN Jinchu (China), replying to questions concerning consistency between the Convention against Torture and national legislation, said that offences under the Convention were also regarded as offences under Chinese domestic law. When China acceded to any convention, it became binding as soon as it entered into force. China then fulfilled all its obligations, and it was not necessary to draft special laws to ensure conformity. If an international instrument was inconsistent with domestic law, the latter was brought into line with the former. Where subtle differences remained, international instruments took precedence over domestic law.
3. The provisions governing extradition and judicial assistance in criminal matters served as a basis for co-operation with other countries. In addition, Chinese domestic law defined torture and laid down penalties for such practices. Under the Chinese Constitution, the freedom of citizens was inviolable. Such restrictions on the freedom of citizens as unlawful arrest and unlawful bodily search were prohibited. The dignity of the individual was also inviolable. Persons who had been the victims of human rights violations at the hands of law enforcement officers could demand compensation. The extraction of confessions by torture, as well as illegal detention, illegal surveillance and corporal punishment, were prohibited.
4. Procedures guaranteeing the right of victims of torture to appeal for compensation had been improved. In the few cases in which law enforcement officers had been found guilty of extracting confessions through torture or otherwise infringing the rights of detainees, they had been punished. The rights of offenders serving prison sentences were also protected. Inspection bodies had been set up to prevent mistreatment in prisons, and in 1989, 382 cases of violations of the rights of prisoners had come to light. Foreigners enjoyed the same right of appeal as Chinese citizens.
5. His Government was firmly opposed to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and attached great importance to investigating all allegations of torture. Any person found guilty of having used torture or other inhuman or degrading treatment to extract a confession was punished to the full extent of the law. In the view of his Government, war, the threat of war, domestic instability, an emergency situation or orders from a superior were no excuse for resorting to torture.
6. In response to a question asked by the rapporteur, his delegation stressed that, following the anti-government disturbances in 1989, there had been no summary arrests or detentions of peaceful demonstrators, summary executions or widespread torture. The persons arrested had not been those who peacefully exercised their rights as citizens, but a handful of persons engaged in anti-government rioting and criminal activities, such as looting, arson and murder. Those individuals had been a threat to China and its social

system and had violated the rights of the majority, as well as the Constitution and Chinese penal law; they had been tried in strict conformity with Chinese law.

7. Questions had been asked about Tibet, which had been part of China since ancient times. It had enjoyed full autonomy since 1956. On a number of occasions over the past 30 years, a small minority had fomented disturbances, killing and injuring police officers and violating other Chinese laws. Those offenders had been tried in full conformity with the law, which prohibited torture regardless of race, religion or creed. Allegations of torture in Tibet had proved to be entirely unfounded; any further allegations would be investigated.

8. With regard to the death sentence in China, when such a sentence was handed down, a two-year stay of execution could be declared, during which time the offender had the chance to undergo reform through labour. If he showed signs of mending his ways, the death sentence could be commuted to 15 years' imprisonment; if he persisted in his criminal behaviour, the Supreme People's Court could carry out the death sentence. That showed the humanitarian spirit and cautious approach to the death sentence in Chinese law. Many death sentences had, in fact, been commuted. With regard to allegations of torture in Tibet, his delegation assured the Committee that it would investigate them.

9. Compensation for victims of torture was provided for in article 41 of the Constitution. Where losses resulted from an infringement of an individual's rights by government agents, the victim was entitled to compensation. That was also the case with administrative procedures. The measure was intended to compensate for the loss suffered by the victim, and not as a punishment. Its scope depended on individual circumstances. Partial or total responsibility for compensation as referred to in paragraph 33 of the Chinese report did not affect a victim's right to compensation.

10. Incidents involving the beating of prisoners had fallen by 87 per cent in 1989 as compared to 1988. As to whether information obtained under torture could be used in evidence, article 32 of the Criminal Procedure Law stipulated that the use of torture, threats, enticement, deceit or other such measures in gathering evidence was prohibited.

11. The Chinese judicial organs included the People's Court, the People's Procuratorate and the security organs. Those three types of judicial organ exercised different legal functions, but co-operated with each other, as well as acting as a system of checks and balances, as provided for in the Constitution and Criminal Code. Ordinary criminal cases were brought before the security organs. The Procuratorate decided whether there should be a prosecution. If it decided that no arrest was justified, the prisoner was immediately released. If the security organ did not accept that decision, it could request that the case be reconsidered and the prisoner was again released immediately. The three types of judicial organ co-operated throughout the criminal proceedings.

12. Some members of the Committee had asked whether the courts and the Procuratorate could function independently. That was indeed the case. The Constitution provided that the People's Court and the People's Procuratorate should be independent of the administrative organs, social groups and individuals. The judicial system was composed of the Supreme People's Court,

the Provincial, District and Special People's Courts, and the Local Courts. The Local Courts consisted of basic, middle-level, higher-level and special courts. Currently, the latter handled only military and naval cases, and cases concerning railways and transport. All criminal cases were tried by the aforementioned courts, and no adjudication took place outside those courts.

13. As to the appointment of judges, the system was currently being reformulated. Judges and prosecutors were all appointed by the administrative organs and were subjected to strict tests, not only of their ability, but also of their moral and other qualities.

14. Regarding the duration of pre-trial detention, article 48 of the Criminal Procedure Law provided that where a person was arrested by a public security organ, it must within three days request the People's Procuratorate to review and approve the arrest. That period might be extended by one to four days. The People's Procuratorate must decide within three days of the application whether or not to approve the arrest. In addition, article 97 of the Criminal Procedure Law stipulated that the People's Procuratorate must render a decision on such cases within one month. Where the case was a major one, an extension of half a month was permitted. Article 92 provided that the period of pre-trial custody must be no more than two months. Where the case was complex, the period might be further extended by one month. In highly complex cases or those of unusual importance, the Supreme People's Procuratorate might ask for approval to be postponed.

15. Regarding the rights and treatment of detainees, no cases existed of secret detention. As to the regulations governing detention establishments, article 28 of the Criminal Procedure Law provided that during detention criminals had the right to exchange letters and to meet members of their families. Under article 26, all detention establishments must have medical and pharmaceutical facilities. Sick prisoners had the right to treatment: if hospitalization was necessary, prisoners were treated in local hospitals; in cases of serious illness, prisoners might be released on bail. No cases existed of prisoners being held incommunicado, except where it was necessary to segregate male and female prisoners, adult and young prisoners, or certain categories of prisoner from other inmates.

16. Regarding paragraph 14 of the Chinese report, there had been cases - albeit very exceptional - where, in the interests of the investigation or to prevent the release of information or complicity, families were not notified of a person's arrest. In normal circumstances, the public security organs would inform the families. It was very rare for families not to be notified of an arrest on the grounds that such notification would hinder the investigation.

17. Regarding paragraph 46 of the report and the question of conclusive evidence, some members of the Committee had asked how, if no trial had yet taken place, conclusive evidence could be said to exist. The question was a good one: the matter had not been well expressed in the report. Article 41 of the Criminal Procedure Law provided that a public security organ might detain an active criminal or suspect (i) if he was preparing to commit, was committing or was discovered after having committed an offence; (ii) if he was identified by the victim or an eyewitness; (iii) if he had incriminating evidence about his person or in his residence; (iv) if he attempted to commit suicide or escape; (v) if he destroyed or falsified evidence, or colluded in

an attempt to conceal evidence; (vi) if his identity was not established or was acting suspiciously; or (vii) if he was guilty of disorderly and violent behaviour or of undermining work, production or the social order. No provision for amnesty existed under the criminal law, but such provision did exist under the Constitution.

18. Regarding the issue of capital punishment, the need for capital punishment was determined by the overall social and political situation and the need to combat crime, and by the wishes of the population as a whole. If a criminal minority went unpunished, then public order could not be guaranteed and basic rights could not be ensured. In the light of those considerations, the provision for capital punishment was retained. However, its application was extremely limited in scope. The death sentence was applicable only to the most serious cases. Where the death sentence was not immediately implemented, the sentence could be suspended for two years. If, within that period, the criminal showed himself repentant or of exemplary conduct, the sentence might be reduced to 15 to 20 years. The sentence was not carried out in the case of persons under 18 years of age or pregnant women. The Government considered it important to safeguard its citizens' right to life, and had thus always opposed summary or arbitrary sentences. Provision existed in the Constitution and the Criminal Procedure Law to prevent such occurrences. Under the Criminal Procedure Law, a suspect must first be tried before the middle-level people's court, then before the higher people's court. Provincial cases must be tried first before the higher people's court, then before the Supreme People's Court. National cases were tried at the Supreme People's Court, where a verdict was reached. To avoid the inappropriate use of capital punishment, the Criminal Procedure Law provided for a checking procedure whereby sentences were confirmed by the Supreme Court, or by the higher people's court on the authorization of the Supreme Court. Prisoners had the right to conduct their own defence. Where capital punishment was called for if an error was discovered before it was authorized then execution of the sentence was suspended pending a ruling.

19. The total number of persons tried and sentenced for serious offences, in 1989 was 481,658. That total comprised all prison sentences and death sentences. Questions had been asked about the system of reform through labour and rehabilitation through education. The Chinese reform organs were national organs, dealing with criminals in all sentence categories. The Government was strongly opposed to torture, and to all forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Consequently, prisoners' legitimate rights were protected under Chinese law. The purpose of the law was not merely to impose a punishment, but to combine punishment and reform, with the emphasis on the latter, so that criminals might be turned into law-abiding citizens. The Government attached importance to criminals' welfare. Thus they received medical care and were given the healthy environment they needed. Their daily and medical expenses were met by the State, on the basis of the standards applicable in enterprises. Criminals benefited from the same level of labour protection as workers in enterprises. They were provided with bedding and facilities appropriate to the season, and with accommodation of not less than three square metres per person. In the event of sickness, they received medical treatment and pharmaceutical products free of charge. Prisoners received a monthly allowance, and if they fulfilled their production quota, they received a bonus. Bonuses were also available to those demonstrating technical knowledge. Prisoners worked an eight-hour day and were not required to work beyond the limits of their physical endurance. Nor were they required to work on public holidays.

20. The Chinese Government strictly forbade assaulting prisoners, verbal abuse, other ill-treatment, the extraction of confessions and corporal punishment. To guarantee their legal rights and livelihood, prisoners enjoyed the right of appeal, the right to legal defence, the right not to be insulted and the right to security. They also had the right to bring legal actions, and retained the right of ownership of their lawful possessions and any other citizens' rights that had not been taken away from them by a court ruling. Criminals could communicate with their families, who could visit them once or twice a month. In the event of the serious illness or death of a relative or other major family event, the imprisoned criminal, with the authorization of the prison governor, might be allowed to visit his home. Like other citizens, sentenced prisoners enjoyed freedom of belief and religion. Prisoners who were members of national minorities were allowed to observe their daily customs, and due consideration was given to those customs in providing them with appropriate care.

21. The Chinese Government attached great importance to the education of prisoners: in every prison there were regular political, cultural and technical classes. If a prisoner passed an examination, the local education and labour department would issue a certificate attesting to that fact. Through their studies, most criminals changed from immoral, selfish people with no regard for the law or any idea of the value of work to become moral, law-abiding, industrious individuals with skills and a degree of education, enabling them to reintegrate smoothly into social life. The fact that that was so reflected the humanitarian spirit of Chinese prisons.

22. Since May 1983, responsibility for prisons had been conferred on the judicial organs, and that had had two advantages. Firstly, when public security organs were placed within the judiciary system, they could supervise and check the judiciary and courts; there was then mutual supervision and problems of the abuse of authority were avoided. Secondly, the management and re-education of prisoners were strengthened thereby. Chinese experience was that the change had also helped improve the calibre of law enforcement officers.

23. In reply to the question whether there were any political prisoners in China, he denied that any existed. Chinese criminal law divided offences into two categories: counter-revolutionary offences and ordinary offences. Under Chinese criminal law, persons whose activities were aimed at overthrowing the people's democratic dictatorship and the socialist system or who wrought harm against the People's Republic of China had committed a counter-revolutionary offence. To have committed a counter-revolutionary offence, a person must have tried not only to overthrow State power and the socialist system, but his acts must also have constituted a threat to the security of the State. Merely contemplating counter-revolutionary acts was not an offence: a counter-revolutionary act must be committed for there to be an offence. There were therefore no prisoners of conscience or political prisoners in China.

24. In response to a question concerning military prisons, he confirmed that if soldiers on duty committed offences, the cases were dealt with by a military procuratorate and tried by military courts and their sentences were enforced by military organs.

25. Several members of the Committee had inquired about rehabilitation through labour. That practice was carried out according to the Decision of the Council of State approved on 1 August 1957 at the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee of the First National People's Congress. The Decision had been promulgated on 3 August 1957. Rehabilitation through labour was also governed by the additional regulations issued by the Council of State and approved at the 12th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress on 29 November 1979, which had been promulgated on 5 December that year. Rehabilitation through labour was an administrative measure comprising reform through compulsory education aimed at preventing and reducing offences. It was mainly imposed on persons aged 16 or over who had refused to repent of repeatedly upsetting the social order or had committed minor offences for which punishment was thought inappropriate. The emphasis in rehabilitation through labour was on education and on saving the individual from crime. Rehabilitation through labour authorities had been set up in all provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under central government control and large and medium-sized cities. Cases were reviewed by the local rehabilitation through labour authority, which would inform those involved and their families of the basis on which rehabilitation was to be carried out and how long it was to last. The person ordered to receive rehabilitation was required to sign the notice of the decision by the rehabilitation through labour authority, and if he refused to do so, he could appeal for review within 10 days of notice being served. Under article 11 of the Administrative Procedure Law, he might also file suit in court. The Law also stipulated that the activities of the rehabilitation through labour organs should be supervised by the people's procuratorate. With that stringent legal supervision, it was possible to prevent unlawful infringements of people's rights.

26. Persons undergoing rehabilitation through labour did so in special institutions set up by the State, in which they received political, cultural and technical education and were placed in production units, which helped to rectify their aberrant opinions and habits and give them a better idea of law and culture while they learned skills. The purpose of work organized by the rehabilitation through labour authority was to help the individual learn a skill which would enhance his employment prospects later. The type and amount of work done were determined according to the sex, age, physical condition and technical skills of the person involved. There were safety regulations and equipment to prevent injury, in line with the criteria governing State enterprises in the same category. Protective clothing and a healthy diet were provided. Of persons passing out of the rehabilitation organs, over 90 per cent had been found to have reformed, becoming law-abiding citizens and living from the fruits of their own labours. The facts showed that rehabilitation through labour suited the Chinese situation and was in line with the needs of socialist construction. It was an important social-order measure and a major element in building a socialist legal system.

27. A number of questions had been asked about paragraph 36 of the report (CAT/C/7/Add.5). The popularization of legal education had received great attention from the Party and the Government, from the central Government down to the city level, where special organizations had been set up to handle the legal education programme. An enormous number of cadres had also been trained. The forms in which legal education was provided varied: public addresses around the cities, public exhibitions, education presented as entertainment and through the mass media. Legal education curricula had been

introduced into primary and middle-level schools, and there was a door-to-door service for senior citizens and the sick. Because of the flexible way in which the education was provided, the programme had been warmly welcomed in China.

28. The content of the legal education programme was such that not only internal laws were publicized and popularized, but also international laws and United Nations instruments, including the Convention against Torture. The courses were run at various levels, with particular emphasis on training courses for law enforcement officers. Examinations were set, and "A Survey of United Nations Activities in the field of Crime Prevention and Selections of Relevant Documents" had been published. Earlier in April 1990, the third national conference on legal education had been held, and had urged people to accept and make use of the legal education programme. The programme had yielded significant results throughout the country, increasing people's awareness of the basic principles of the law, improving their respect for the law, and leading to a reduction in the incidence of cruel and inhuman treatment throughout China.

29. He expressed the hope that his answers would satisfy the Committee, although they were necessarily brief. Some of the questions asked did not have easy answers, and he looked forward to answering them in his next report.

30. Mr. GIL LAVEDRA praised the efforts of the Chinese delegation in providing much valuable information in addition to that contained in the report (CAT/C/7/Add.5). More information was, however, required, for a number of his doubts had not been dispelled. He would welcome further, detailed information about the organization and structure of the criminal legal system and the court system as a whole, including the text of the Criminal Procedure law, details of penalties imposed and accompanying precise explanations.

31. He welcomed the fact that the Convention against Torture had become part of Chinese law and that Chinese law's definition of torture was in keeping with that given in article 1. It had not, however, been made clear what sanctions were applied against torture: such sanctions must necessarily remain the province of internal law, as the Convention did not and could not stipulate what they should be. It had been indicated that the penalty was three years' imprisonment: that did not appear to show that torture was regarded as particularly serious, and the Committee also lacked a clear frame of reference to indicate how seriously torture was viewed in relative terms. It had been said that due obedience was not regarded as an excuse; he wished to know the relevant provision.

32. With reference to article 15 of the Convention, it had been stated that under article 12 of the Criminal Code it was not permitted to extract confessions. That did not, however, answer the question whether any confession so extracted could be accepted as valid evidence. Under the Convention, it should not.

33. He requested additional information on legal texts explaining which constitutional principles were applied in criminal law, with particular reference to the presumption of innocence and the principles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Additional information about the organization of the judiciary would give the Committee a better idea of how impartial and independent the courts were. The Committee would also

wish to know of any legislation which in its application might facilitate torture. For example, it was an offence to engage in counter-revolutionary propaganda or insult the army; in his view, provisions of that kind were open to considerable abuse, although that was not the spirit of Chinese legislation or the intention of the Chinese Government. The Committee would also like to know about the procedures applied for certain offences. Reference had been made to people's tribunals and to special, accelerated procedures. How did those work?

34. He felt that the legislation relating to pre-trial detention could be considerably improved. He appreciated the fact that no one was held incommunicado and that the family was informed of the arrest of one of its members, but it had been said that there were exceptions. What were those exceptions? He suggested that compulsory medical examination of detainees might help prevent torture. Also, he was not sure how long it was before detainees were brought before a court.

35. Although China was making great efforts to educate and inform, the admissions contained in the report showed that torture was still continuing, i.e. that the material objective of the Convention had not been fulfilled. He therefore called for an additional report to show what progress had been made towards the complete eradication of torture. Imagination was required in finding ways to control the situation, and the Chairman had offered the Committee's assistance in that regard.

36. Ms. CHANET said that although she was grateful to the Chinese delegation for its full replies, she was not entirely satisfied with the answers to her questions. The Chinese delegation had said that internal legislation was in conformity with the objectives of the Convention, but she wished to point out that the content of the Convention must become part of positive internal law. Regrettably, no specific definition of torture had been included in Chinese legislation so as to ensure that torture was an offence under criminal law. The Committee had been told that 1.5 million complaints had been submitted and that there had been 382 cases of irregularities in prisons, but had not been told what the follow-up had been.

37. She was still not clear about the cases in which the death penalty was provided for in the Criminal Code and she found the suspended death sentence particularly cruel. She had had no reply to her question about the role of medical personnel in finding out whether torture had taken place and the number of such personnel. Were there any independent doctors in State hospitals?

38. She agreed with Mr. Gil Lavedra that there was a difference between preventing the extraction of confession by torture and ensuring that such confessions had no evidential weight in a court of law. Moreover, nothing had been said concerning universal competence (Convention, arts. 5 and 7). The Chinese delegation had informed the Committee of the existence of military jurisdictions which had a function in putting down counter-revolutionary activities. She would welcome details of any special laws and regulations on detention under those jurisdictions. She had noted the delegation's assurances that investigations would be carried out by the Chinese authorities into cases mentioned by members of the Committee. She was particularly interested in the case of Tibet mentioned in the report of the Special Rapporteur.

39. She agreed with Mr. Gil Lavedra that it would be useful to have a supplementary report before the next report that was due.

40. Mr. DIPANDA MOUELLE thanked the Chinese delegation for its efforts to give succinct answers which had however been rather general, and many questions remained unanswered. In particular, he wished to know about the exact competence of, and relations between, the organs of security of the People's Courts and Procuratorates in the administration of justice.

41. The Committee had been told that judges were appointed by the legislative bodies. Did that mean the People's National Congress and, if so, how were the appointments effected? He agreed with Ms. Chanet that the suspended death sentence amounted to inhuman and degrading treatment. He also agreed that there was a need for additional information to be provided before the next report.

42. Mr. SORENSEN thanked the Chinese delegation for its replies, but pointed out that no answers had been given to questions on articles 2-16.

43. He had read with deep concern the material alleging torture in China that had been submitted to the Committee, especially since it was admitted in the report that torture was indeed being practised. The delegation's replies had not reassured him. He therefore requested a supplementary report with the missing answers to the questions on articles 2-16 arranged in systematic fashion as requested in the Committee's guidelines, and full information on the various cases of torture, with details of investigations carried out and their results, the punishment of torturers and the rehabilitation of victims.

44. He looked forward to seeing that report. He realized it had been impossible for the Chinese delegation to reply in such a short time to all the questions asked by members of the Committee.

45. Mr. MIKHAILOV also thanked the delegation of China for its replies. All his own questions had been answered, but he agreed that it was absolutely essential to have additional information in writing which would enable the Committee to draw conclusions and make proposals for its next session.

46. Mr. BURNS subscribed to the views already expressed and asked for a supplementary report with additional information as soon as possible. He was particularly interested in information on the death penalty in China and the autonomous region of Tibet, and wished to know how many executions had been carried out in Tibet since 1985 and in China since 1 June 1989 and which offences had given rise to that punishment. He also wished to have precise data on the number of prosecutions for acts of torture in the autonomous region of Tibet since 1985 and in China since 1 June 1989, and to know whether or not the prosecutions had been successful.

47. Mr. KHITRIN said that the Chinese delegation had dealt in great detail with the questions put by members of the Committee. Unfortunately a number of questions remained unanswered. The Committee should be given additional information, in accordance with rule 67, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure.

48. Ms. DIAZ PALACIOS thanked the Chinese delegation for its effort to reply to the many questions put by members of the Committee but subscribed to the consensus that the Committee should ask for a more detailed and analytical report.

49. The CHAIRMAN thanked the Chinese delegation for having replied to the Committee's many questions, which was no easy task. The questions had been numerous because of the brevity of the report. He therefore agreed that the Committee should, in accordance with rule 67, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, request an additional report, if possible by the end of the year so that it could be considered at the spring session in 1991.

50. Mr. FAN Guoxiang (China) said that he and his colleagues had done their best in a short time to reply to the many questions put by members of the Committee. The Chinese Government attached great importance to humanitarian values and had always opposed torture, and the country's legislation already contained provisions to combat it. The situation was not, of course, perfect but the Government was working hard to prohibit and prevent torture, and in the context of a population of 1.1 billion, cases of torture were not numerous. Figures could be misleading. In fact, there were many good examples of opposition to torture in China. Definitions of torture varied, so that what in the Chinese view was positive might be considered negative elsewhere. He did not believe that there were very many cases of torture in China and could not accept untrue allegations.

51. He was not authorized to accede to the Committee's request for a further report, but would transmit it to his Government. He thanked the members for their comments and looked forward to future collaboration with the Committee.

52. The CHAIRMAN thanked the Chinese representative for his statement. The Committee was very happy to be able to co-operate with the Government of China, which, like the Committee, wished to eradicate torture. He hoped that the Government of China would be able to provide the Committee with an additional report reflecting the questions asked by members, which had been noted by the Chinese representatives and were reflected in the summary record. The report should be set out in accordance with the Committee's guidelines: after a description of the judicial, police and prison systems, with general and legislative details, information should be provided in the order of the articles of the Convention. In addition, the Committee would like to have answers to the questions to which replies had not been given.

53. He inquired whether the Chinese Government was interested in co-operating with the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, which was equipped to disseminate information on human rights, and particularly on torture.

54. Mr. SHEN Jinchu said that the Chinese Government was already receiving good co-operation from the Centre for Human Rights but would welcome assistance in distributing in China materials such as the Constitution and laws.

55. The CHAIRMAN thanked the delegation of China for its co-operation and looked forward to meeting it again in a spirit of co-operation.

