



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

Distr.: General  
21 August 2017

Original: English

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## Committee against Torture Sixty-first session

### Summary record of the first part (public)\* of the 1568th meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 11 August 2017, at 10 a.m.

*Chair:* Mr. Modvig

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\* The summary record of the second part (closed) of the meeting appears as document CAT/C/SR.1568/Add.1.

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*The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.*

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

1. **The Chair** said that the country rapporteurs for the State party reports to be considered at the Committee's sixty-second session were himself and Ms. Racu for Bosnia and Herzegovina; Ms. Racu and Mr. Zhang for Bulgaria; Ms. Belmir and Mr. Hani for Cameroon; Mr. Heller Rouassant and Mr. Touzé for Italy; Mr. Bruni and Mr. Hani for Mauritius; Mr. Heller Rouassant and Ms. Pradhan-Malla for the Republic of Moldova; Ms. Belmir and Mr. Touzé for Rwanda; and Ms. Gaer and Ms. Pradhan-Malla for Timor-Leste.

2. The State party reports for the following countries were to be considered at the Committee's sixty-third session: Belarus, the Czech Republic, Norway, Qatar, Senegal and Tajikistan. At the sixty-fourth session, the reports for Chile, Mauritania and the Russian Federation and the country situation in the absence of a report of the Seychelles would be considered. The consideration of each report would be preceded by confidential briefings from United Nations bodies, national human rights institutions and, where they existed, by national preventive mechanisms, and also by non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

3. During the current session, the Committee had undertaken its follow-up activities under articles 19 and 22 of the Convention in relation to reprisals and had examined relevant matters under article 20 of the Convention. It had taken decisions on 13 individual complaints, including 7 decisions on the merit, and would continue its consideration of individual complaints at a private meeting to be held in the afternoon.

4. Following the completion of the first reading of the revised draft general comment No. 1 on the implementation of article 3 of the Convention, which had been prepared by Mr. Bruni in cooperation with Ms. Gaer and Mr. Hani and had been discussed in public consultations with all relevant stakeholders at the previous session, the Committee had considered the many written and oral contributions from States, United Nations human rights mechanisms, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), specialized agencies, regional bodies and representatives of academia and civil society. On behalf of the Committee, he expressed his appreciation for those inputs. The Committee would continue discussion of the revised draft general comment No. 1 at its November-December 2017 session.

5. The Committee had held separate joint meetings with the Human Rights Committee (facilitated by the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights), the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture. It had also benefited from an expert workshop on overcrowding, organized by Penal Reform International, the Centre for Legal and Social Studies and the American Civil Liberties Union. The Committee was also grateful to the World Organisation Against Torture for the work it had done in coordinating participation by NGOs and other civil society representatives in the session.

6. At the sixty-second session, to be held in November-December 2017, the Committee would hear a thematic briefing on the issue of ill-treatment in psychiatric institutions, organized by the Association for the Prevention of Torture, and it would hold a joint plenary meeting with the Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture and plenary meetings with representatives of the regional human rights courts for Africa, the Americas and Europe.

7. **Mr. Bruni** requested that detailed information on the programme for the next session should be circulated to the members.

**Closure of the session**

8. **The Chair**, after thanking the many individuals who had facilitated the work of the Committee, said that the current meeting marked the closure of the Committee's sixty-first session.

*The public part of the meeting rose at 10.10 a.m.*