



Генеральная Ассамблея

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Совет по правам человека

Тридцатая сессия

Пункт 3 повестки дня

**Поощрение и защита всех прав человека,
гражданских, политических, экономических,
социальных и культурных прав,
включая право на развитие**

Информация, представленная Комиссией по правам человека Канады*

Записка секретариата

Секретариат Совета по правам человека настоящим препровождает сообщение, представленное Комиссией по правам человека Канады** и воспроизводимое ниже в соответствии с правилом 7 b) правил процедуры, содержащихся в приложении к резолюции 5/1 Совета, согласно которому участие национальных правозащитных учреждений основывается на процедурах и практике, согласованных Комиссией по правам человека, включая резолюцию 2005/74 от 20 апреля 2005 года.

* Национальное правозащитное учреждение с аккредитационным статусом категории «А», присвоенным Международным координационным комитетом национальных учреждений, занимающихся поощрением и защитой прав человека.

** Воспроизводится в приложении в полученном виде только на том языке, на котором оно было представлено.



Annex

[English only]

Submission by the Canadian Human Rights Commission

The human rights implications of over-incarceration and overcrowding

The Canadian Human Rights Commission would like to thank the High Commissioner for his report on the human rights implications of over-incarceration and overcrowding in Canadian prisons.

In Canada, the number of offenders with mental health issues has increased significantly in recent years. In fact, mental health issues are two to three times more prevalent in Canadian prisons than in the general population.

Canadian prisons are now housing one of the largest psychiatric populations in the country, causing significant challenges.

It is vital that appropriate mental health services be available to respect the rights of this vulnerable population. However, this is often not the case, and offenders' mental health conditions may deteriorate as a result.

This issue has far-reaching human rights implications in the correctional setting. Offenders with mental disabilities are inappropriately identified as having "behavioural problems," leading to a higher security classification than necessary. Too often, inmates resort to self-harm.

The Commission is particularly concerned about the use of solitary confinement – or administrative segregation, as it is known in Canada – to manage offenders with mental disabilities. Prolonged segregation has been shown to have harmful and permanent effects on inmates, particularly those with mental health disabilities.

The Commission calls on Canada to increase the capacity and effectiveness of mental health treatment for offenders. The Commission further proposes that Canada limit the use of solitary confinement to manage inmates with mental disabilities, and to abolish the practice entirely for inmates with serious or acute mental illness.
