



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

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## Committee against Torture Sixty-fifth session

### Summary record of the first part (public)\* of the 1718th meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Thursday, 6 December 2018, at 3 p.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.1718/Add.1.

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*The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.*

**Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention** *(continued)*

*Report on follow-up to concluding observations (continued)*

1. **Mr. Hani** (Rapporteur for follow-up to concluding observations) said that the Committee had received a number of follow-up reports from States parties and other stakeholders since its sixty-fourth session. One State party, Italy, had requested and been granted additional time to supplement its report. Most States parties had complied with the follow-up procedure, with the exception of Paraguay and Antigua and Barbuda, to which reminders would be sent at the end of the current session. The Committee had considered the follow-up reports of eight States parties, namely, Afghanistan, Argentina, Bahrain, Kuwait, Mongolia, Panama, Saudi Arabia and Turkmenistan. Assessments on the follow-up reports of six of those eight countries had been sent, while two countries, Saudi Arabia and Turkmenistan, had been sent requests for additional information. The authorities in Saudi Arabia had been requested to provide information on the disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, a case which, according to official information published by the State party, involved torture and ill-treatment.

2. In 12 per cent of cases, the Committee had received satisfactory, thorough and extensive information. In 52 per cent of cases, the information received had been deemed extensive, but failed to respond fully to the Committee's recommendations. The information received in 20 per cent of cases had been deemed vague and incomplete. Information had not been provided or had not addressed the Committee's concerns or recommendations in 16 per cent of cases. None of the Committee's recommendations had been fully implemented. In 12 per cent of cases, States parties had taken substantive steps towards implementing the Committee's recommendations, and in 44 per cent of cases, States parties had taken initial steps to that end. In 28 per cent of cases, the Committee's recommendations had not been implemented, and in 16 per cent of cases, the States parties had not provided sufficient information on implementation. Only 25 per cent of States parties had submitted information on their implementation plans for recommendations not selected for urgent follow-up.

3. The Committee was currently considering additional information received on the situations in Ireland and Lebanon. He invited the authorities and other stakeholders in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Italy, Mauritius, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda and Timor-Leste to duly submit their follow-up reports before the Committee's sixty-sixth session.

4. **The Chair** recalled that unimplemented and partially implemented recommendations were fed into the subsequent reporting cycle of the States parties concerned.

**Consideration of communications submitted under article 22 of the Convention** *(continued)*

*Report on follow-up to communications*

5. **Mr. Heller Rouassant** (Rapporteur for follow-up to communications) said that the Committee had considered the follow-up to eight communications since its sixty-fourth session. Of those eight, two had been closed. The first, communication No. 634/2014 (*M.B. et al. v. Denmark*), had been closed owing to a lack of information. The second, communication No. 750/2016 (*R.H. v. Sweden*), had been closed following the satisfactory resolution of the situation; the State party, Sweden, had complied fully with the Committee's decision, which it had publicized widely.

6. There had been positive developments in one case involving Switzerland, although the situation remained unresolved; a definitive response from the State party should be received shortly. Five other cases remained under review pending receipt of further information from the four States parties concerned, namely, Australia, Canada, Mexico and

Morocco. Looking ahead, the Committee had decided to reflect on how best to approach cases in which States parties proved uncooperative.

### **Organizational and other matters**

#### *Report on follow-up to reprisals*

7. **Ms. Racu** (Rapporteur on reprisals) said that there had been no new allegations of reprisals since the Committee's sixty-fourth session. The only case currently under consideration by the Committee was *Asfari v. Morocco* (communication No. 606/2014), which remained sensitive. Members of the Committee had met with representatives of the Permanent Mission of Morocco on 3 December 2018 to determine whether the State party had implemented recommendations issued by the Committee on the complainant's conditions of detention. The Permanent Mission had assured the Committee that it would send an update on the status of the complainant as soon as possible. The Committee would keep its dialogue with the State party open and would send a letter requesting it to refrain from reprisals against the complainant and members of his family and to provide its observations on the Committee's decision in the case by 31 December 2018.

*The public part of the meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.*