



**World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT)
30th Anniversary Forum**

24-25 November 2016

Centre International de Conférences Genève (CICG)

With the support of



OMCT 30th Anniversary Forum - Centre International de Conférences de Genève (CICG) - Agenda

DAY I – 24 NOVEMBER		
08 :00-09 :00	Registration	
09 :00-10 :30	Opening ceremony (Room 5-6) Chaired by: Mr. Yves Berthelot , President, OMCT	
	09 :00 – 09 :30	Ambassador Ridha Bouabid , International Organisation of the Francophonie (OIF) Mr. Francois Longchamp , President of the Conseil d’Etat, Canton and Republic of Geneva Mr. Gerald Staberock , Secretary General, OMCT
	09:30 - 10:00	“Working with civil society to eradicate torture” Ambassador Heidi Grau , Head of Human Security Division, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Switzerland
	10 :00- 10 :30	Mr. Nils Melzer , Newly-appointed United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
10 :30-11 :00	Coffee break	
11 :00-11 :45	Plenary Session I (Room 5-6) Mobilizing to regain space in the fight against torture Keynote speaker:	

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	<p>Mr. Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</p> <p>Chaired by: Ms. Hina Jilani, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Pakistan</p>
11 :45-12 :30	<p>Plenary Session II (Room 5-6)</p> <p>SOS-Torture Network: 30 years in – from past to future</p> <p>What are the most intractable problems in the fight against torture and how can the SOS-Torture network make the most of its resources to make advances? Where are we in the anti-torture movement and where do we want to go? How will this forum empower our network to collectively respond to today's challenges?</p> <p>Animated Panel discussion with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Eric Sottas, Former Secretary-General, OMCT • Mr. Mokhtar Trifi, Executive Council member/Formal president of the Ligue Tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme (LTDH), Tunisia • Ms. Helena Solà Martín, Senior Legal Advisor, OMCT <p>Chaired by: Mr. Michel Cerutti, Journalist</p>
12 :30-13 :30	Lunch break
13 :30-15 :00	Plenary Session III (Room 5-6)

	<p style="text-align: center;">Creating powerful advocacy circuits</p> <p>Mobilizing civil society : how to build powerful advocacy circuits using the Committee Against Torture (CAT) : International standards, notably those upheld by the United Nations Convention Against Torture, are a blueprint for eradicating torture. Yet mobilization for their implementation can be a challenge. How can we better engage society and policymakers to uphold these principles? How can the SOS-Torture Network use the CAT mechanisms as an advocacy tool and to bring about justice?</p> <p>Keynote speaker: Mr. Jens Modvig, Chairperson, United Nations Committee Against Torture (CAT)/ Director, Dignity, Denmark</p> <p>Lessons learnt from the field:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. André Kangni Afanou, Africa Coordinator, Centre for Civil and Political Rights (CCPR Centre)/Director, Collectif des Associations Contre l'Impunité au Togo (CACIT), Togo • Ms. Stephanie Brewer, Director, International Affairs, Centro Prodh, Mexico • Mr. Adilur Rahman Khan, Member of the OMCT General Assembly/Secretary, Odhikar, Bangladesh <p style="text-align: center;">Chaired by: Ms. Carin Benninger-Budel, Director, Convention Against Torture Program, OMCT</p>	
15 :00-15 :30	Coffee break	
15 :30 -17 :00	Working groups	
	Working group I (Room 5-6)	Working group II (Room 18)
	Protecting and supporting the anti-torture movement : Countering aggressive security discourses and laws	Protecting and supporting the anti-torture movement : Building coalitions as a mobilisation and protection mechanism

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	<p>Security threats such as terrorism are changing Governments' discourses, policies and laws, and serving as pretexts for muscled responses at the expense of respect for human rights and the prohibition of torture. Meanwhile, militant armed groups and other non-state actors, such as ISIS, add to the pressure by continually resorting to inhumane violence. Responding to those challenges can be difficult for civil society without access to global support, learning, and joint approaches. How can the SOS-Torture Network's action contribute to shifting the counter-terrorism discussion from the security discourse to the human rights discourse, and help providing an answer in this context? What examples can we draw on?</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dick Marty, OMCT Vice-President/Former President of the Human Rights Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Switzerland • Ms. Gabriele Reiter, Director, OMCT Tunisia <p>Moderator: Mr. Innocent Chukwuma, Former Director CLEEN Foundation/ Director, West Africa, Ford Foundation, Nigeria</p>	<p>How can building coalitions and local networks help improve the protection of defenders fighting torture, and enhance the impact and scope of their advocacy work? How can we use national or regional networks to gather support, and engage the broader public and international media to help defenders work more effectively and safely in spite of repressive environments?</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Favziya Nazarova, Director, Public Foundation "Nota Bene"/ Tadjikistan Coalition Against Torture, Tadjikistan • Mr. Armel Niyongere, SOS-Torture/Burundi, Burundi <p>Moderator: Ms. Jahel Quiroga Carrillo, Member of the OMCT Executive Council/Director, REINICIAR, Colombia (tbc)</p>
17 :30	**Departure to ceremony jointly by bus**	
18 :00-21 :00	<p>OMCT 30th Anniversary Ceremony (on invitation)</p> <p><i>Location : Palais Eynard</i></p>	

DAY II – 25 NOVEMBER	
09 :00-10 :00	<p>Plenary session IV – Brief report-back from Working Groups (Room 5-6)</p>
10 :00-11 :00	<p>Plenary session V (Room 5-6)</p> <p>Fighting torture in a changing global human rights climate: Responding to the migration and refugee crisis and its impacts in the fight against torture</p> <p>Key speaker: Mr. Michael O’Flaherty, Director, Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union (FRA)</p> <p>Migrants and refugees are increasingly at risk of torture and ill-treatment along their journey towards a better future ; as States systematically fail to protect them and the migration crisis lowers States’ commitment to the abolition of torture. How can OMCT’s SOS-Torture network better understand and react to the specific risks and implications of the migration crisis on the struggle against torture? Specifically, how can it help better protect migrants and asylum seekers against torture during the various stages of their journey?</p> <p>Lessons learnt from the field:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Gustavo Gallón, Director, Comisión Colombiana de Juristas (CCJ), Colombia • Mr. Gordan Kalajdziev, Director, Helsinki Committee of the Republic of Macedonia, Macedonia <p>Chaired by: Mr. Peter Zangl, OMCT Representative at the European Union, Belgium</p>
11 :00-11 :30	<p>Coffee break</p>

11 :30-16 :00	Working groups		
Working group I	<p style="text-align: center;">Working group I (Part I) 11 :30-13 :00 (Room 5-6)</p> <p>Fighting torture in a changing global human rights climate: Building innovating campaigns</p> <p>What new tools can we use to combat torture? How can global digital campaigns help draw attention to the issue to successfully mobilize communities and the general public?</p> <p>Speakers :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rosemarie Trajano, Substitute OMCT General Assembly Member/Director PAHRA, Philippines • Mr. Matthias Lüfkens, Burson-Marsteller Social Media Architect <p>Moderator: Ms. Lori Brumat, Head of Communications, OMCT</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch 13 :00-14 :00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Working group I (Part II) 14 :00 - 16 :00 (Room 5-6)</p> <p>Fighting torture in a changing global human rights climate: Innovative documentation and litigation practices</p> <p>Certain practices applied within our network, such as public investigations, have been effective in investigating, documenting and litigating torture cases. Could these inspire others? How can OMCT support the network in countering impunity, promoting strategic and impact litigation (i.e. through the coordination of a litigation working group) and better advocating for victim-centered justice responses to torture?</p> <p>Speaker :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Olga Sadovskaya, Member of the OMCT Executive Council/Deputy Director, Committee Against Torture, Russian Federation • Ms. Kelly Matheson, WITNESS Senior Attorney and Program Manager <p>Moderator : Mr. Samwel Mohochi, Member of the OMCT General Assembly/Director ICJ Kenya,</p>

			Kenya
Working group II	<p>Working Group II (Part I) 11 :30-13 :00 (Room 18)</p> <p>Working with groups entitled to special protection : Addressing special vulnerabilities and discrimination</p> <p>Groups such as minorities and indigenous communities can be more vulnerable to torture and have specific needs when it comes to rehabilitation. How can the SOS-Torture Network contribute to overcoming the gaps on documentation, protection, and access to remedies for persons and groups that are the most discriminated against and socially excluded taking into account cultural, linguistic, geographical and/or economic barriers?</p> <p>Speakers :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Anabella Sibrian, Plataforma Internacional contra la Impunidad, Guatemala • Mr. Panayote Dimitras, Member of the OMCT General Assembly /Greek Helsinki Monitor, Greece <p>Moderator : Mr. Jose Dougan Becea, Vice President OMCT, Equatorial Guinea</p>	<p>Lunch 13 :00-14 :00</p>	<p>Working Group II (Part II) 14 :00-16 :00 (Room 18)</p> <p>Working with groups entitled to special protection : Protecting children, women and LGBTI people</p> <p>Torture affects children, women and LGBTI people in specific and different ways. Children require special protection due to their age and level of physical and mental development, particularly when facing situation of risk, such as deprivation of liberty or migration. Women and LGTBI persons can also be considered especially vulnerable, suffering from structural discrimination and gender-based violence. The OMCT has for long addressed the protection of children and women in designated programmes. Drawing on the lessons learned over the last years, how can the SOS-Torture Network develop appropriate responses to address their needs? How do we mainstream and integrate these specific problematics into the torture agenda both at domestic and international level ? How do we get organisations working on these specific topics work on torture and viceversa ?</p>

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			<p>Speakers :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Luis Pedernera, UN CRC Committee member/IELSUR, Uruguay • Ms. Aminata Dieye, Member of the OMCT Executive Council/EDH Programme Coordinator, Amnesty International, Senegal <p>Moderator : Mr. George Abu Al Zulof, Member of the OMCT General Assembly/Head of Office, OHCHR, Training and Documentation Centre for South West Asia and the Arab Region in Qatar</p>
16 :00-16 :30	Coffee break		
16 :30 -18 :00	<p>Plenary Session VI (Room 5-6)</p> <p>Chaired by: Yves Berthelot, President, OMCT</p> <p>Recommendations from the working groups M. Gerald Staberok, Secretary General, OMCT</p> <p>Adoption of final conclusions</p> <p>Closing statement: Ms. Hina Jilani, Human Rights Commission, Pakistan</p>		