



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: registry@ohchr.org

REFERENCE: CAT/52-53 sessions/NGO invitation

The Committee against Torture will be holding its **52nd session from 28 April to 23 May 2014**, during which it will consider the periodic reports of Cyprus, Lithuania, Montenegro, Uruguay, the initial reports of the Holy See, Sierra Leone and Thailand and, in absence of an initial report, the situation in Guinea. See the CAT webpages on the OHCHR website at:
http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CAT

With regard to its **53rd session, to be held from 3 to 28 November 2014**, the Committee will consider the periodic reports of Australia, Burundi, Croatia, Kazakhstan, Serbia, Sweden, Ukraine, United States of America and Venezuela (see the website).

The Committee has often stressed the importance it attaches to receiving information relevant to the implementation of the Convention against Torture by the States parties from non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Bearing this in mind, the Committee would be grateful if your organization could provide it with such relevant information as you may have in respect of the Convention's implementation by any of these States parties two weeks prior to the beginning of the session.

For that information to be taken into account for the 52nd session it must reach the Secretariat by **11 April 2014**; as for the 53rd session, the information must reach the Secretariat by **17 October 2014**.

At the 52nd session, the Committee will also be adopting a list of issues for the periodic reports of Burundi (CAT/C/BDI/2), and Venezuela (CAT/C/VEN/3-4), for its consideration at the 53rd session.

In addition, at the 52nd session, it will be adopting list of issues prior to reporting with regard to reports due in 2016, for States parties that have accepted the procedure and have not yet received such list, which are the Czech Republic, Greece, Mexico, Norway, Peru and the Russian Federation. The others States parties will receive a reminder to accept the procedure or submit their report under it.

In this regard, the Committee would also be grateful if your organization could provide it with such relevant information as you may have in respect of these States parties. For that information to be taken into account at the 52nd session, it must reach the Secretariat by **14 February 2014**.

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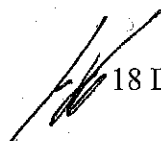
This information should be sent by e-mail, in electronic WORD format, to registry@ohchr.org and cat@ohchr.org. Please note that all the material received from the NGOs will be posted on the Committee's webpages and, therefore, will be available to the Governments concerned.

If you wish your documentation to be distributed to the members, you are kindly requested to send 12 paper copies to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 52 rue des Pâquis, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland, c/o Secretariat of the Committee against Torture.

The Committee will also set aside one hour to consider NGO information on the day preceding that on which the consideration of each report begins. Should your organization have provided written information and wish to brief the Committee on the mentioned State party, it would be appreciated if you were to inform the Secretariat, at least, two weeks prior to the session. The final schedule of the sessions will be posted, in due course, on the website.

In order to participate to the sessions of the Committee, participants must be accredited to the session by the Secretariat. Such request should be addressed to Ms. Cassy Corvalan (bcorvalan@ohchr.org) within the mentioned deadlines.

For further details, please consult the website, especially the link on information for NGOs and NHRIs, where the accreditation form is also available.

 18 December 2013