



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

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REFERENCE: CAT/14<sup>th</sup> States parties meeting

**Subject:** Fourteenth Meeting of the States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

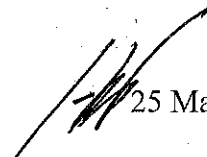
The Secretary-General of the United Nations (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) has the honour to refer to the provisions of article 17 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment relating to the election of the members of the Committee against Torture, the text of which is attached (annex I).

The Fourteenth Meeting of the States parties to elect five members of the Committee against Torture to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 31 December 2013 (annex II), will be convened by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Office at Geneva on **Tuesday 1 October 2013**.

Pursuant to article 17, paragraph 4, of the Convention, the Secretary-General has the honour to invite States parties to submit nominations of one candidate for this election, together with the biographical data concerning the candidate, drafted in accordance with the model attached (annex III). The nomination and the biographical data, in electronic version (**Word format**), should be sent by note of the Permanent Mission, to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights ([registry@ohchr.org](mailto:registry@ohchr.org), copied to [cat@ohchr.org](mailto:cat@ohchr.org)), by **Wednesday 26 June 2013** at the latest, having regard to the relevant provisions of article 17 of the Convention.

In accordance with article 17, paragraph 2, of the Convention, each State party may nominate one person from among its own nationals. In this connection, the Secretary-General wishes to draw attention to annex IV which contains the names of those members of the Committee who will continue to serve on it until 31 December 2015.

The Secretary-General, in accordance with article 17, shall prepare a list of all candidates, with an indication of the States parties which have nominated them, and shall submit the list to all States parties together with information concerning the Fourteenth Meeting of the States parties.

  
25 March 2013

## ANNEX I

### **Article 17 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment**

1. There shall be established a Committee against Torture (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) which shall carry out the functions hereinafter provided. The Committee shall consist of ten experts of high moral standing and recognized competence in the field of human rights, who shall serve in their personal capacity. The experts shall be elected by the States Parties, consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience.

2. The members of the Committee shall be elected by secret ballot from a list of persons nominated by States Parties. Each State Party may nominate one person from among its own nationals. States Parties shall bear in mind the usefulness of nominating persons who are also members of the Human Rights Committee established under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and who are willing to serve on the Committee against Torture.

3. Elections of the members of the Committee shall be held at biennial meetings of States Parties convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At those meetings, for which two thirds of the States Parties shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Committee shall be those who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of the representatives of States Parties present and voting.

4. The initial election shall be held no later than six months after the date of the entry into force of this Convention. At least four months before the date of each election, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall address a letter to the States Parties inviting them to submit their nominations within three months. The Secretary-General shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of all persons thus nominated, indicating the States Parties which have nominated them, and shall submit it to the States Parties.

5. The members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of four years. They shall be eligible for re-election if re-nominated. However, the term of five of the members elected at the first election shall expire at the end of two years; immediately after the first election the names of these five members shall be chosen by lot by the chairman of the meeting referred to in paragraph 3 of this article.

6. If a member of the Committee dies or resigns or for any other cause can no longer perform his Committee duties, the State Party which nominated him shall appoint another expert from among its nationals to serve for the remainder of his term, subject to the approval of the majority of the States Parties. The approval shall be considered given unless half or more of the States Parties respond negatively within six weeks after having been informed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the proposed appointment.

7. States Parties shall be responsible for the expenses of the members of the Committee while they are in performance of Committee duties.

## ANNEX II

### List of the five members of the Committee whose terms expire on 31 December 2013

	NAME OF THE MEMBERS	COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY
1.	Ms. Essadia BELMIR	Morocco
2.	Mr. Alessio BRUNI	Italy
3.	Mr. Fernando MARIÑO MENENDEZ	Spain
4.	Ms. Nora SVEAASS	Norway
5.	Mr. Xuexian WANG	China

**ANNEX III**

**Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee against Torture  
(Please respect the specified amount of lines when completing this form)**

Name and first name:.....

Date and place of birth:.....

Working languages:.....

Current position/function:  
(5 lines maximum)

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Main professional activities:  
(10 lines maximum)

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Educational background:  
(5 lines maximum)

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.....  
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.....

Other main activities in the field of human rights relevant to the mandate of the Committee  
against Torture:  
(10 lines maximum)

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

List of most recent publications in this field:  
(5 lines maximum)

.....  
.....  
.....  
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## ANNEX IV

### List of the five members of the Committee whose terms expire on 31 December 2015

	<b>NAME OF THE MEMBERS</b>	<b>COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY</b>
1.	Mr. Satyabhoosun Gupt DOMAH	Mauritius
2.	Ms. Felice GAER	United States of America
3.	Mr. Abdoulaye GAYE	Senegal
4.	Mr. Claudio GROSSMAN	Chile
5.	Mr. George TUGUSHI	Georgia