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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT), Part IV, has the honour to inform of the designation of the South African National Preventative Mechanism (NPM) .

The Permanent Mission has the honour to convey that the South African Government has designated a multiple-body National Preventive Mechanism, to be co-ordinated by the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC). Thus, under the co-ordinating leadership of the SAHRC, the South African NPM will include institutions such as:

- The Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services (JICS);
- The Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID);
- The Military Ombud;
- The Health Ombud;
- The Compliance Inspectorate of the Office of Health Standards Compliance (OHSC);
- The Department of Social Development's secure care and Child and Youth Care Centres' monitoring mechanism; and
- Mental Health Review Boards.

Furthermore, it is envisaged that civil society will also play a critical role in monitoring and awareness.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organisations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 25 August 2020

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