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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Secretariat of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, and in conformity with Article 17 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment on the designation of the national preventive mechanism, would like hereby to provide the following information:

The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment has entered into force in respect to the Republic of Bulgaria on 1 July 2011.

The National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria has adopted amendments to the Law on Ombudsman related to the designation of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria as a national preventive mechanism on 28 March 2012. In particular, a new paragraph 2 of Article 19 of the Law stipulates the designation of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria as a national preventive mechanism and a new Chapter Four(a) with Articles 28a – 28e of the Law provides for the competence of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria as a national preventive mechanism. These amendments have been promulgated in State Gazette No.29 of 10 April 2012 and have entered into force on 11 May 2012.

Pursuant to the above stated amendments a new Directorate of National Preventive Mechanism and Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms has been established in the Office of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria on 1 June 2012.

Enclosed herewith is a courtesy translation of the Articles of the Law on Ombudsman related to the designation of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria as a National Preventive Mechanism in conformity with the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Secretariat of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture the assurances of its highest consideration.

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Secretariat of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture
Geneva

