

Seminar on the implementation of effective safeguards to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment during police custody and pre-trial detention

**6 October 2017, Conference Room XVII
Palais des Nations, Geneva**

PROGRAMME

09:30-10:00 Registration

10:00-10:15: **Opening:**

Peggy Hicks
Director, Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development,
OHCHR

Thematic Session – 1

10:15-11:15 Setting the scene: Legal and judicial safeguards for the prevention of torture

Moderator: Barbara Bernath
Chief of Operations, Association for the Prevention of Torture

Speakers:

Applicable human rights norms and standards and their interpretation

Nils Melzer
UN Special rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The Brazilian Experience of Custody Hearings

José Antonio Dias Toffoli
Vice-President of the Supreme Federal Court of Brazil

Safeguards: Role of the judiciary, including in relation to accountability

Silvana Donoso
Judge, Court of Appeals of Valparaiso, Chile

Contributions from the floor

11:15-11:20 Change of panel

Thematic Session – 2

11:20-13:00 Implementation of practical measures to prevent torture and ill-treatment

Moderator: Mona Rishmawi
Chief, Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch, OHCHR

Speakers:
National practices on interrogation and interviewing: moving away from a confession culture

Asbjørn Rachlew
Superintendent of the Norwegian Police

Training of law enforcement personnel responsible for police custody and pre-trial detention

Edson Luis Baldan
Academy of Civil Police of Sao Paulo, Brazil

Practical measures to prevent torture in cases related to national security

Sima Samar
Chairperson, Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, and Chairperson, Commission against Torture

Contributions from the floor

13:00-15:00 Lunch Break

15:00-16:15 Implementation of practical measures to prevent torture and ill-treatment (cont.)

Moderator: Jens Modvig
Chairperson, UN Committee Against Torture

Speakers:
The role of the legal profession in the prevention of torture

Muluka Miti-Drummond
Senior Programme Lawyer, International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute

The role of medical professionals in the prevention of torture

Suzanne Jabbour
President, RESTART

Practical measures to avoid conditions of detention amounting to torture, including violence between detainees

Sofien Mezghich
Director of the Secretariat of the Directorate General of the Tunisian Prison Service and spokesperson of the Directorate General of the Tunisian Prison Service

Contributions from the floor

16.15-16.20 Change of panel

Thematic Session – 3

16:20-17:50 The role of oversight and complaint mechanisms

Moderator: Malcolm Evans
Chairperson, UN Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture

Speakers:

Regional oversight mechanisms

Renate Kicker
Former member and former Vice-President of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

National oversight mechanisms

Nika Kvaratskhelia
Head of the Department of Prevention and Monitoring, Office of Public Defender,
Georgia

Internal and independent complaints mechanisms and investigations of torture in police custody and pre-trial detention settings

Marina Ilminska
Open Society Justice Initiative

Contributions from the floor

17:50- 18.00 Concluding remarks

Kate Gilmore
Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights