



Regional workshop

The benefits of, and challenges to, the ratification and implementation of the UN Convention against Torture in the Pacific region

Sharing experiences and building capacity

Natadola, Fiji, 27th–28th October 2016

Program

DAY ONE (27th October/Thursday)	
Time	Agenda
09:00-09:30	Traditional Fijian Welcoming Ceremony
09:30-10:30	<p><u>Opening session</u></p> <p><i>Chaired by Mr. Mark Thomson, Secretary General of the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT)</i></p> <p>Opening remarks by:</p> <p>Honourable Mr. Frank Bainimarama, Prime Minister of Fiji (host)</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Triyono Wibowo, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations in Geneva, representing the CTI core group</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (via pre-recorded video)</p>
10:30-11:00	<p>Ratifying and implementing the UN Convention against Torture: The Fiji experience</p> <p>Honourable Mr. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, Attorney-General of Fiji</p> <p>Fiji has been invited to share their experiences with ratifying and implementing the Convention including challenges, opportunities and future plans.</p>





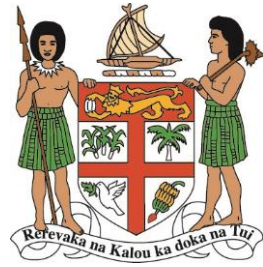
<p>11:00-11:30</p>	<p>Coffee Break & Group Photo</p>
<p>11:30-13:30</p>	<p><u>Session 1</u>: Sharing good practices, perceptions and challenges around UNCAT ratification</p> <p><i>Chaired by H.E. Mr. Carsten Staur, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Danish Mission to the UN in Geneva</i></p> <p>This session will be an opportunity for participants to share information about their experiences, perspectives and challenges to ratification of the UNCAT and to share some good practices.</p> <p>Speakers (10 minutes): Mr. Abdelwahab Hani, member of the UN Committee against Torture, will open the first session with an overview of some of the key provisions of the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT). Ms. Rebecca Minty, Asia-Pacific Regional Advisor, APT, will talk about the ratification processes of the UNCAT.</p> <p>Pacific Island Governments (one speaker per country) will be invited to share their perspectives and/or experiences (5-7 minutes) of possible catalysts for ratification, the main domestic challenges and how these could be overcome, the stakeholders that may be key to moving ratification forward, and for those already having ratified, their experience so far post-ratification.</p> <p>Ambassadors representing the CTI core group governments and CTI Friends will also be invited to make comments and share their experiences.</p>
<p>13:30-14:30</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>14:30-16:00</p>	<p><u>Session 1</u> continued</p>
<p>16:00-</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>





16:30	
16:30-18:30	<p>Session 2: Sharing good practices on coordination, reporting and dealing with capacity concerns</p> <p><i>Chaired by Mr. Marc Limon, Executive Director, Universal Rights Group (URG)</i></p> <p>Over 50% of the non-States parties to the UNCAT are small island developing states (SIDS). It is clear that many SIDS have not yet ratified the UNCAT owing to technical, resource and capacity challenges, rather than any political objections. This session provides an opportunity for States to share the ways in which SIDS may meet their obligations under the Convention including reporting and how ratification of the Convention can be used to strengthen their domestic systems of rule of law, good governance and law and order. It will also be an opportunity to hear directly from a member of the UN Committee against Torture on their expectations and their hope to enter into a constructive dialogue with States, as well as some of the latest developments in Treaty Body capacity-building from the OHCHR.</p> <p>Speakers (10 minutes):</p> <p>Ms. Gayethri Murugaiyan, Second Secretary for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Transport, the Republic of Seychelles</p> <p>Mr. Ta’alo Finau, Investigation Officer, Special Investigation Unit, Ombudsman Office, Samoa</p> <p>Ms. Save Redfern, Chair of the Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce</p> <p>Ms. Chitrallekha Massey, Regional Representative, OHCHR Regional Office for the Pacific</p> <p>Mr. Abdelwahab Hani, Member, UN Committee against Torture</p>
19:30-	Welcome dinner at the Toba beachfront, Intercontinental Fiji Golf Resort & Spa hotel





DAY TWO (28th October/Friday)

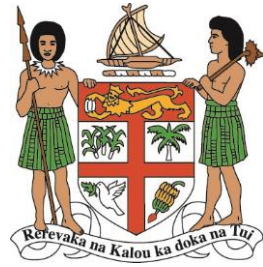
Time	Agenda
<p>9:00-10:30</p>	<p><u>Session 3: Reviewing police procedures and practices – putting in place safeguards upon arrest and detention</u></p> <p><i>Chaired by Mr. Mark Thomson, APT Secretary General</i></p> <p>It is well known that the first hours in police custody represent a period of heightened risk of torture or ill-treatment, and also that small changes in policy and procedures can have significant dividends in reducing the incidence of torture or ill-treatment. The UNCAT and other international documents provide helpful frameworks for improving police practices in this area. This session presents an opportunity to share experiences of national practices around police and law enforcement safeguards, supported by speakers experienced in law enforcement and police practices.</p> <p>Speakers (10 mins):</p> <p>Mr. Juan Mendez, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture (via pre-recorded video), presenting his latest report on interrogation safeguards and methods</p> <p>Mr. Isikeli L. Sauliga, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Fiji</p> <p>Mr. Mike Kellett, Vice-president of the Board of the APT and retired police investigator in the United Kingdom and former police advisor to the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture</p>
<p>10:30-11:00</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p>11:00-12:30</p>	<p><u>Session 4: Improving criminal investigation through interviewing suspects and witnesses</u></p>





	<p><i>Chaired by Mr. Mark Thomson, APT Secretary General</i></p> <p>Torture and ill-treatment can be incentivised in systems that rely wholly or primarily on confessions. This session will be an opportunity to share a number of good investigative and non-coercive interviewing approaches, and other ways to help evidence collection and preservation and to reduce false confessions and false allegations.</p> <p>Speakers (10 mins):</p> <p>Dr. Asbjørn Rachlew, researcher at The Norwegian Centre for Human Rights. On leave from his position as Superintendent of Norwegian police</p> <p>Mr. Agus Irianto, Senior Police Commissioner, Indonesian National Police</p> <p>Mr. ‘Unga Fa’aoa, Deputy Commissioner, Tonga</p> <p>Ms Anika Nausi, Director PSII (Police Standards and Internal Investigations), Royal Solomon Islands Police Force</p>
<p>12:30-13.30</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>13.30-15:00</p>	<p><u>Session 5: Sharing experiences on developing the legislative framework</u></p> <p><i>Chaired by Mr. Mark Thomson, APT Secretary General</i></p> <p>Speakers (10 mins):</p> <p>Ms. Rebecca Minty, Asia-Pacific Regional Advisor, APT, introducing the APT-CTI Anti-Torture Law Guide – main elements</p> <p>Ms. Bertha Pakoasongi, Secretary, Law Reform Commission, Vanuatu</p> <p>Ms. Raka Raula, Executive Legal Officer, Samoa Law Reform Commission</p> <p>Mr. Christopher Pryde, Director of Public Prosecutions, Fiji</p>





<p>15:00-15:30</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p>15:30-16:15</p>	<p><u>Session 6: The way forward: comments, perspectives and possible next steps</u></p> <p><i>Chaired by Mr. Mark Thomson, APT Secretary General</i></p> <p>Mr. Marc Limon, URG, will provide a short summary of the main messages from the two days.</p> <p>The session will also offer a space for Pacific Island State participants to reflect on lessons learnt and experiences shared from the two-day workshop, and identify possible next steps, opportunities and potential challenges, and how those challenges might be overcome.</p>
<p>16:15-17:00</p>	<p>Open discussion on how the CTI and other partners can provide further assistance to Pacific Island States</p> <p><i>Chaired by Mr. Mark Thomson, APT Secretary General</i></p> <p>Ms. Chitrlekha Massey, Regional Representative, OHCHR Regional Office for the Pacific</p> <p>Ms. Christine Fowler, Programme Manager, Access to Justice, Rule of Law and Human Rights, UNDP Pacific</p> <p>CTI Friends: representatives of Australia, the European Union, New Zealand, UK and USA.</p> <p>Ambassadors of the CTI core group: H.E. Mr. Isauro Torres (Chile), H.E. Mr. Carsten Staur (Denmark), H.E. Mr. Sammie Eddico (Ghana), H.E. Mr. Triyono Wibowo (Indonesia).</p>

