



CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE INITIATIVE  
CTI2024.ORG

**Seminar on the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment:  
Dialogue and Cooperation on The Gambia's post-ratification implementation of UNCAT  
The Kairaba Beach Hotel, Serrekunda, The Gambia  
16 -17 October 2018**

*Programme*

Time	Programme	Purpose and content
08:30 – 09:00	<b>Arrival and registration with tea and coffee</b>	
09:00 – 09:15	<b>Welcome remarks</b> <i>H.E. Abubacarr Tambadou, Minister of Justice of Government of The Gambia</i> <i>H.E. Ebrima Mballow, Minister of Interior</i>	Welcome to participants and setting out the objectives and expectations of the seminar from The Gambia's perspective
09:15 – 09:30	<b>Group Photo with Ministers</b>	
09:30 – 10:30	<b>A. An introduction to the CTI, the UN Convention against Torture and regional instruments</b> <i>Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of CTI Secretariat</i> <i>Mr. Jean-Baptiste Niyizurugero, Vice Chairperson, CPTA and Africa Programme Officer, Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT)</i>	This first session will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Run through the agenda</li> <li>- Introduce the CTI, its vision and CTI's working philosophy</li> <li>- Provide an overview of UNCAT and relevant African instruments               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ history and relevance of UNCAT and prohibition on torture and ill-treatment</li> <li>✓ summary of substantive legal obligations of UNCAT</li> <li>✓ realising the benefits of ratification</li> <li>✓ recalling the relationship with African instruments</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Break</b>	
11:00 – 1:00	<b>B. Defining and contextualizing torture or ill-treatment</b> <i>Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of CTI Secretariat (overview)</i>  <i>Joined by:</i> <i>Mr. Jean-Baptiste Niyizurugero, Vice Chairperson, CPTA and</i>	This session will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Explain and contextualise what amounts to torture or ill-treatment</li> <li>- Explore the limits through examples (practitioner perspectives v legal perspectives)</li> </ul>

	<p><i>Africa Programme Officer, APT</i>  <i>Ms. Ruth Ssekindi, Director of the Complaints, Investigations and Legal Services, Uganda Human Rights Commission</i></p>	<p>This session will explain and contextualize the meaning of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment through examples drawn from different contexts. Participants are invited to pose questions from their own areas and experiences (e.g. arrest, detention, military operations, protests, legitimate use of force, etc.).</p> <p><i>Opportunity for Q&amp;A and discussion.</i></p>
1:00 – 2:00	<b>Lunch</b>	
2:00 – 4:00	<p><b>C. Legislative reform – process and content</b></p> <p><i>Ms. Ruth Ssekindi, Director of the Complaints, Investigations and Legal Services, Uganda Human Rights Commission</i></p>	<p>This session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inform the primary, recommended and optional elements of anti-torture legislation</li> <li>- Note the different approaches available to States in aligning their national laws with UNCAT, between stand-alone anti-torture law or amending existing legislation</li> <li>- Share the experiences of different countries in their processes, consultation and content of anti-torture legislation</li> </ul> <p><i>Opportunity for Q&amp;A and discussion.</i></p>
4:00 – 4:30	<b>Break</b>	
4:30. – 5:30	<p><b>D. Panel discussion on prevention and safeguards in policing, and detention including pre-trial detention</b></p> <p><i>Chair: Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of CTI Secretariat</i></p> <p><i>Steve Banks MBA, International Policing Consultant, London, UK</i>  <i>Mr. Jean-Baptiste Niyizurugero, Vice Chairperson, CPTA and Africa Programme Officer, APT</i></p>	<p>This panel discussion will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide an overview (ahead of the parallel working groups) on the ways to prevent torture and ill-treatment looking at basic safeguards in the policing and intelligence contexts, as well as in respect of persons deprived of their liberty</li> <li>- Sharing good practices from other countries</li> </ul> <p><i>Opportunity for Q&amp;A and discussion.</i></p>
5.30-5.45	<p><b>Wrap-up Day 1</b>  <i>Dr. Alice Edwards, CTI</i></p>	
<b>End of day 1</b>		

Day 2		
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Opening – Day 2</b> <i>Dr. Alice Edwards, CTI</i>	Summary of what was discussed on Day 1 and introduction to Day 2's programme (including parallel working groups)
09:30 – 11:00	<b>E. Parallel working groups, facilitated by practitioners:</b>  <b>Group 1: Prevention – democratising the police and security services</b> <i>Facilitated by Steve Banks MBA, International Policing Consultant, London, UK</i>  <b>Group 2: Good practices in prison management and reform</b> <i>Facilitated by Mr. Jean-Baptiste Niyizurugero, Vice Chairperson, CPTA and Africa Programme Officer, APT</i>	<b>*Interactive and exercise-focused working groups*</b>  <i>Rapporteurs for each group will be volunteered from amongst the group participants.</i>  <b>Group 1 will engage participants on:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the basic safeguards to prevent torture and ill-treatment in the policing and intelligence contexts (arrest, custody, other situations) – both international and African standards (e.g. Luanda Guidelines)</li> <li>- good practices on how these standards have been implemented in reality, taking account resource, capacity and other constraints</li> <li>- case studies on i) non-coercive investigative interviewing techniques (moving away from coercion) and ii) use of force</li> <li>- checks and balances in the system (e.g. independent police complaints mechanisms)</li> </ul> <b>Group 2 will engage participants on:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the prevention provisions of UNCAT (and OPCAT) relevant to prison and remand contexts</li> <li>- the Nelson Mandela Rules and other guidelines</li> <li>- good practices on how these standards have been implemented in reality, taking account of resource, capacity and other constraints</li> <li>- checks and balances in the system (e.g. independent visiting and/or complaints mechanisms)</li> </ul>
	<b>Group 3: Criminalizing and prosecuting torture</b> <i>Facilitated by Ms. Ruth Ssekindi, Director of the Complaints, Investigations and Legal Services, Uganda Human Rights Commission</i> <i>Additional resource person: Ms. Annah Moyo, Advocacy Programme Manager, The Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSV) (victims' perspectives)</i>	<b>Group 3 will engage participants on:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- more detailed discussion on legislative reform and other practical actions for the purposes of facilitating criminal prosecution and punishment of offenders</li> <li>- how to define torture for Gambia's criminal law</li> <li>- how to ensure the exclusionary rule (non-admission of torture-tainted evidence) is understood and applied in practice</li> <li>- good practices and challenges regarding criminalization and prosecution of incidents of torture (including victims' perspectives)</li> </ul>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Break</b>	

11:30 – 1:00	<b>E. Parallel working groups continued</b>	
1:00 – 2:00	<b>Lunch</b>	
2:00 – 3:00	<b>E. Plenary: Report back from parallel working groups</b>	The working groups will report back on the key good practices and priorities to be addressed going forward
3:00 – 3:30	<b>Break</b>	
3:30 – 5:00	<b>F. Handling complaints, investigations: Remedies and rehabilitation</b> <i>Facilitated by Ms. Annah Moyo, Advocacy Programme Manager, The Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSV)</i>	This session will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduce the basic provisions of UNCAT around complaints and investigations, as well as remedies and rehabilitation (and African instruments and experiences)</li> <li>- Hear about State practices regarding the relationship between prosecution and truth and reconciliation commissions, and how to manage expectations</li> <li>- Be an opportunity to respond to and prepare further for any challenges regarding preparations of the TRRC</li> </ul> <i>Opportunity for Q&amp;A and discussion.</i>
5:00 – 5:30	<b>Take away messages and next steps</b> H.E. Abubacarr Tambadou, <i>Minister of Justice of Government of The Gambia</i>	Following the discussions, some final reflections on the direction of The Gambia on next steps, opportunities for further collaboration and final remarks.
<b>Close</b>		