



CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE INITIATIVE
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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

43rd Session

Item 3 General Debate

Statement by H.E. Hasan Kleib, PR of Indonesia on behalf of the Convention against Torture Initiative

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Thank you, Madam President,

I have the pleasure of speaking on behalf of the Core States of the inter-governmental Convention against Torture Initiative (CTI), namely Denmark, Chile, Fiji, Ghana, Morocco and my own country, Indonesia.

We are a group of States, together with our many friends and partners, aspiring to strengthen institutions, policies and practices and to reduce the risks of torture and ill-treatment. In particular we aim to achieve universal ratification and implementation of the UN Convention against Torture by 2024. We have already achieved significant results.

In 2019 alone, four **(4)** new States parties ratified the Convention, namely **Angola, Grenada, Kiribati and Samoa**, bringing the total to 169. **The Maldives** accepted the individual communications procedure; while **Iceland** and **South Africa** ratified the Optional Protocol. We congratulate them all for their commitments.

No State is exempt from risks; that's why we're seizing every opportunity to exchange on achievements, benefits, best practices, and challenges.

Particularly, law enforcement officials play a central role on the front lines of justice. Therefore, CTI focuses on building their capacity and exploring the benefits of peer-to-peer cooperation and innovation in policing practices and methods of criminal investigation. In addition, CTI focuses on anti-torture legislative and institutional frameworks.

In the CTI, we engage with a wide number of states at a bilateral level. We, carry out country visits, and collect and disseminate good state laws, policies, and practices. A **total of 66 States** participated in various ways in CTI's activities in the course of 2019. I refer you to CTI's annual report for further information. And the CTI stands ready to engage with any UN Member State that may wish for support in the fight against torture.

To sum it up, the customary prohibition against torture and ill-treatment is not in dispute. Yet the Convention - which marked 35 years in December last year - does not enjoy full membership. We are working hard to change that, as well as to strengthen state capacities to be able to implement the Convention fully. We encourage all UN Member States to join our Initiative and to accelerate our efforts towards a rule-based and violence-free world.

I thank you, Madam President.