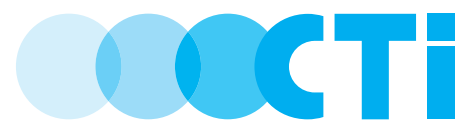





2018 ANNUAL REPORT



CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE INITIATIVE
CTI2024.ORG



“ *Fighting torture and inhuman treatment is an individual and collective responsibility that requires all of us to rise up whenever these rights we hold dear are sacrificed on the altar of national security, economic imperatives or any other reason”.*

Kofi Annan, former Ghanaian statesman
and UN Secretary General (1938-2018)

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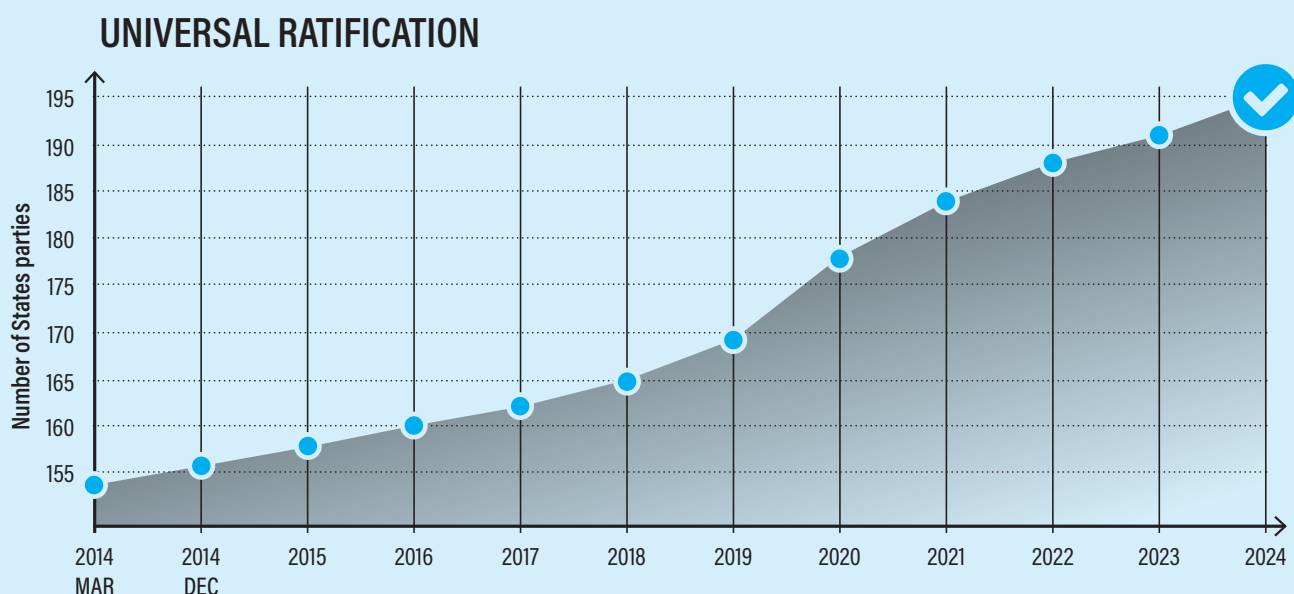


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OUR VISION

By 2024, universal ratification of the UN Convention against Torture will be a reality. The risk of torture will be reduced as all States parties will be working actively to implement the Convention.



A FOREWORD FROM THE CTI CORE STATES



2018 was a year of celebrations surrounding the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. For CTI, it was an important time to recognise the absolute prohibition against torture contained therein and adopted by consensus in 1948. CTI's overall aspiration to reduce the risks of torture and other ill-treatment through universal ratification and effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Torture, supports and reinforces the Universal Declaration's original hope. Our Governments set up the CTI to demonstrate the cross-regional consensus on the need to act and to do something profound to eradicate torture and ill-treatment in all its forms, and everywhere it occurs.

CTI's State-led, constructive and cross-regional approach seeks to bring interested States together – often in regional settings sharing similar legal traditions and challenges. Additionally, we pursue a programme of bilateral exchanges and visits, and provide technical assistance and capacity-building through the CTI Secretariat. Our approach is built on the values of international cooperation, mutual respect and equality between States. Through this format, we have raised awareness of the global prohibition against torture and other ill-treatment, and the benefits for the State and its citizens in ratifying and implementing the Convention. This has led to political commitments as well as legal and practical reforms, in a growing number of countries.

Progress on CTI's goals is possible, and is happening. This report summarises a wide range of activities carried out by CTI, in close collaboration with many partners, during 2018.



Significantly this year, we released our [second strategy](#) covering the period 2018-20, in which we have identified a range of opportunities for deeper engagement with States.

We are humbled by the participation of over 80 governments at senior level in CTI regional events this year covering Francophone Africa, the Caribbean, the Commonwealth, the Council of Europe and the OSCE. Of particular note, we welcomed five Ministers of Justice/Legal Affairs and Attorneys-General to our seminar in the Caribbean, each of whom gave resounding commitments to taking action to reform their systems of justice, wherever necessary, and to be guided by the rule of law and the vision of living in peaceful societies.

There was also success on the ratification front, adding three more ratifications in 2018. We congratulate the governments of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, The Gambia and the Marshall Islands, on ratifying UNCAT in 2018, and stand ready to offer further assistance. While the total number of State parties has reached an impressive 165, we will need to expand our engagement with States across all regions in the years ahead to reach universal ratification by 2024. We invite any State interested in learning more about UNCAT or the support that CTI can offer to get in touch.

Lastly, we wish to acknowledge the outstanding commitment, leadership and significant contributions of two CTI core group Ambassadors who departed Geneva in 2018, namely H.E. Ambassador Marta Maurás, former Permanent Representative of Chile to the UN in Geneva and H.E. Ambassador Carsten Staur, former Permanent Representative of Denmark to the UN in Geneva. We wish also to thank Mark Thomson, former Secretary General of the Association for the Prevention of Torture and our strategic partner, for his personal dedication to CTI and for his sound advice and guidance. We are richer in knowledge and understanding as a result of their involvement in the CTI.

We look forward to continuing our work in 2019,

H.E. Ambassador **Juan Eduardo Eguiguren**, Permanent Representative of Chile to the UN in Geneva

H.E. Ambassador **Morten Jespersen**, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the UN in Geneva

H.E. Ambassador **Ramses Joseph Cleland**, Permanent Representative of Ghana to the UN in Geneva

H.E. Ambassador **Hasan Kleib**, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the UN in Geneva

H.E. Ambassador **Omar Zniber**, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the UN in Geneva



2018 IN REVIEW:

MAKING PROGRESS ON CTI'S NEW STRATEGY

Message from the Head of the CTI Secretariat

2018 has been a successful year of expanding capacity, interest and momentum towards CTI's ultimate vision of eradicating the use of torture and other ill-treatment through universal ratification and implementation of the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT), by 2024.



This year marked 70 years since the prohibition against torture first appeared in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the global blueprint on human rights. During the final adoption conference of the Universal Declaration, the President of the General Assembly in 1948, Mr. H.V. Evatt of Australia stated that the Universal Declaration is "a step forward in a great evolutionary process." Achieving universal participation in UNCAT would be another milestone in this great evolution, and for which considerable progress is being made.

The CTI Core States purposefully place significance on treaty ratification and implementation. Belonging to the international rule of law architecture, and UNCAT in particular, supports and guides States towards living in peaceful, well-governed and just societies. As a unique inter-governmental and cross-regional endeavour of a group of State duty-bearers, there are many good reasons to be optimistic.

The CTI Secretariat has been pleased to deliver the annual programme of activities, bringing together a growing number of States sharing the vision of the CTI and interested in constructive dialogue and practical solutions to some of the challenges they face. Activities undertaken in 2018 are reflected in this Annual Report.

3 new countries

ratified the Convention, all of which had engaged with the CTI in different ways

80+ states

participated in CTI regional events, from multiple regions

53 good State practices

were documented in 2 new [CTI Implementation Tools](#)

CTI's Ratification Tool

was [updated](#)

CTI's Annual Forum

held in Geneva, saw the largest number of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives attend (16) and 27 States overall, alongside leading anti-torture organisations and experts

Languages Library

A growing number of CTI documents were translated into different languages, and CTI launched a new [languages library](#)

CTI's new [strategy](#), launched in June at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, notes that CTI's engagement in 2018-20 will continue to involve the important tasks of raising awareness, information sharing, and building knowledge and technical capacity of States. An enhanced schedule of diplomatic visits and seminars will be part of this programme, tailored to the interests and priorities of individual States. Collaborating more closely with the CTI's Group of Friends, as well as the Core States' diplomatic presences throughout the world, are highlighted, as well as putting torture prevention and response on the agenda of regional organisations.

In 2018, the Secretariat bolstered its capacity to respond to State requests for technical advice through the establishment of a "remote help desk" where queries can be sent and responded to.

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, I have been personally pleased to be involved in two complementary initiatives, namely as an adviser to the review of the Istanbul Protocol on effective investigation and documentation of torture and other ill-treatment, and the practitioner-led process of developing a universal set of guidelines on investigative interviewing. CTI's own training tool on [investigative interviewing](#), now available in 8 languages, is importantly being used as part of the latter drafting process.

As a last word, it has been a pleasure and a privilege to have worked with the outgoing Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives of Chile and Denmark respectively, H.E. Marta Maurás and H.E. Carsten Staur, as well as Mark Thomson of the [Association for the Prevention of Torture](#). I thank them sincerely for their outstanding guidance and counsel during the past few years and for their total commitment to the Initiative. I am excited about working with the incoming CTI Ambassadors, as well as old and new CTI Friends and partners, on moving closer to the laudable and gallant CTI vision.

Alice Edwards

Head of the CTI Secretariat

2018 EVENTS TIMELINE



- 16 FEB** ● CTI Ambassadors' retreat, Geneva
- 26-27 FEB** ● High-level delegation visit, The Gambia
- 8 MAR** ● CTI Item 3 Statement to Human Rights Council HRC37
- 13-14 MAR** ● Seminar for Sudan on UNCAT, Khartoum
- 22-23 MAR** ● CTI-Council of Europe Seminar on safeguards against torture and ill-treatment, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 17 APR** ● CTI-Commonwealth Roundtable, London, UK
- 8 MAY** ● CAT briefing, Geneva
- 4-6 JUN** ● CTI-Wilton Park Caribbean regional seminar, St Lucia
- 11-12 JUN** ● CTI Retreat with NGOs and Independent Experts, Glion sur Montreux
- 20 JUN** ● SPT briefing, Geneva
- 21 JUN** ● OSCE-CTI event on rehabilitation for torture victims, Vienna, Austria
- 25 JUN** ● Launch of CTI's 2018-2020 strategy, Geneva
- 28 JUN** ● Breakfast meeting with SIDS and LDCs, HRC38
- 13 SEP** ● Fiji-CTI side- event on "Safeguards against torture", HRC39
- 3 OCT** ● CTI briefing of UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Torture, Geneva
- 10-12 OCT** ● CTI Technical workshop on anti-torture laws, Dakar, Senegal
- 16-17 OCT** ● Seminar on The Gambia's implementation of UNCAT, Banjul
- 29 NOV** ▼ Annual Forum, Geneva

STRATEGISING FOR 2018-20



On 25 June 2018, CTI celebrated the launch of its new 2018-20 strategic plan at a gathering in Geneva of UN Member States, UN agencies, non-governmental organisations and other friends and partners. The strategy will guide the work of the CTI over the important “mid-years” of the 10-year initiative, and calls for deeper and broader engagement at national, regional and international levels.



The launch ceremony of the CTI’s Ratification and Implementation Strategy 2018-20, Geneva, Switzerland, June 2018.



“ Our approach is based on constructive dialogue, technical assistance and the mutual respect and equality between States; it is proving to be even more effective than we had dared hope, when we set out four years ago.”

H.E. Ambassador Carsten Staur, former Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations in Geneva, at the launch of CTI’s new Strategy 2018-20

The strategy is available in [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).
For more information about the launch, the press release is [here](#).

CONSULTING ON CTI’S STRATEGY:

A retreat with international organisations, NGOs and experts - 11- 12 June 2018, Glion-sur-Montreux

CTI sought inputs into its new strategy including through hosting a two-day retreat with 20 international organisations, leading anti-torture NGOs and other experts. The participants discussed how best to move forward to achieve universal ratification and effective implementation of UNCAT by 2024. Experts were able to share practical and innovative ideas which could encourage States to ratify and implement the Convention.

More on the retreat is available [here](#).

VISITS: DIPLOMATIC AND/OR TECHNICAL



For many governments, there is no substitute for direct discussions at national level, allowing for deeper understanding and identification of national opportunities for UNCAT ratification as well as ways to overcome any obstacles. In 2018, CTI undertook visits to The Gambia and the Sudan to support their deliberations, and also held a number of other bilateral meetings with interested non-State-parties throughout the year.



HIGH-LEVEL VISIT TO THE GAMBIA

26-27 February 2018, Banjul, The Gambia

A high level diplomatic delegation visited The Gambia, led by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of Ghana, Hon. Charles Owiredu of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of Ghana. The delegation, which included H.E. Ambassador Ramses Joseph Cleland, Permanent Representative of Ghana to the UN in Geneva and Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat, held a number of meetings with key government stakeholders, including H.E. Abubacarr Tambadou, the Minister of Justice and H.E. Ebrima Mballow, the Minister of Interior as well as judges of the Supreme Court, and directors and staff of prisons, police, health and social welfare, and the intelligence services. Discussions were focused on exploring possibilities for The Gambia to ratify UNCAT.

Read the press release [here](#).



SEMINAR ON COOPERATION AND DIALOGUE WITH THE GAMBIA:

16-17 October, Banjul, The Gambia

Following The Gambia's ratification on 28 September 2018 on the sides of the UN General Assembly, CTI collaborated again with Gambia's Ministry of Justice on a two-day seminar focused on implementation of UNCAT. The seminar brought together over 40 participants from all relevant ministries and departments, and planned for next steps.

Read press release [here](#).



Participants at CTI's seminar on Dialogue and Cooperation on The Gambia's post-ratification implementation of UNCAT, October 2018, including Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of The Gambia, Hon. Abubacarr Tambadou (third from left) and Minister of Interior, Hon. Ebrima Mballow (third from right)



SEMINAR ON UNCAT FOR SUDAN

16-17 March 2018, Khartoum, Sudan

In March, the CTI organised a two-day seminar on “Dialogue and cooperation towards Sudan’s ratification of UNCAT” in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the British Embassy in Khartoum. The seminar was attended by senior level officials from foreign affairs (the human rights department), justice, defence, intelligence, prisons, the institute for judicial and legal sciences, and the prosecution service. The delegation which was led by Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat, included a team of experts: Ms. Sara Bezzazi, Head of Studies at the General Directorate for National Security, Morocco; Ms. Mouna Lamzouni, Prosecutor, Presidency of the Public Prosecutor, Rabat, Morocco; Mr. Hani Abdelwahab, Member of the UN Committee against Torture; Ms. Yasmine Shams, Middle East and North Africa Programme Officer at the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT).

During the visit, Dr. Alice Edwards took the opportunity to meet with Dr. Tarig Mubarak Magzoub, Sudan’s new Rapporteur of the Advisory Council on Human Rights, and Ambassador Sayed Altayeb Ahmed, Director of Human Rights in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss Sudan’s interest in ratifying UNCAT.

Read press release [here](#).



Dr. Tarig Mubarak Magzoub, Rapporteur of the Advisory Council on Human Rights, Republic of Sudan, Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat, and Ambassador Sayed Altayeb Ahmed, Director of Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Sudan.

REGIONAL DIALOGUES



CTI's regional dialogues in 2018 aimed to build and strengthen domestic legislative and institutional approaches to counter the risks of torture and other abuses and to share good State experiences in areas such as the administration of justice, safeguards in police custody and pre-trial detention, and rehabilitation for victims. Below are some highlights.



CPT-CTI-DIGNITY

Seminar on combating torture during police custody and pre-trial detention

22-23 March 2018, Copenhagen, Denmark



H.E. Anders Samuelsen, Denmark's Minister for Foreign Affairs (third from right) at the opening session of the CPT-CTI-DIGNITY Seminar on combating torture during police custody and pre-trial detention, March 2018.

The Government of Denmark, in its capacity as Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and Core State of the CTI, convened a seminar for Council of Europe Member States on ways to address and respond to torture and other abuse during police custody and pre-trial detention. The seminar was opened by the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Anders Samuelsen and co-organised by the [European Committee for the Prevention of Torture](#) (CPT), the [Danish Institute against Torture](#) (DIGNITY) and CTI.

Twenty-three Council of Europe Member States participated and shared their national experiences and challenges on ways to implement safeguards and rights, including prompt access to a lawyer, to an independent medical examination and to communicate with a family member or third party. The panel discussion on police interviewing showed that using rapport-building techniques and digital recording improves the collection of oral evidence and reduces allegations of abuse against police.

Read the report [here](#).



CTI-WILTON PARK REGIONAL SEMINAR

on sharing experiences and building capacity in the Caribbean on the administration of justice and UNCAT
4-6 June 2018, Gros Islet Saint Lucia



Participants at CTI's regional seminar on sharing experiences and building capacity in the Caribbean, June 2018

Together with [Wilton Park](#), CTI's regional seminar on "*Sharing experiences and building capacity in the Caribbean: The Fair Administration of Justice and UNCAT*" was held in St Lucia. Forty participants (5 at Ministerial-level) attended and in total 17 States (10 Caribbean and 7 other States) shared their experiences of the benefits of ratifying UNCAT, and engaged in discussions around police, prisons and juvenile justice issues.

Discussions revealed that ratifying UNCAT could be a first major step away from a culture of institutionalised violence to one of respect for human rights. Addressing root causes and establishing adequate and comprehensive standards and accountability frameworks were seen as basic elements to changing police culture and mindsets, and addressing concretely torture and ill-treatment in custody. Prison overcrowding and meeting international standards in terms of prisoner conditions was acknowledged as challenging across the region, with a number of positive changes shared. The seminar also dealt with the broader justice system and the roles that lawyers, prosecutors, judges, independent complaints mechanisms, national human rights institutions and Parliamentarians can play in minimising the risk of torture and ill-treatment in all settings.

Find the seminar report here in [English](#).

Why would a small country take on the additional burden of such a UN Convention, with the international scrutiny that would necessarily be involved?

“ [...] to create a society that in every aspect of life obeys and adheres to the rule of law; a society where human rights and human integrity is accorded respect; to help to create a truly civil society.”

The Bahamas' Minister of Legal Affairs, Hon. Ellsworth Johnson, at event in St Lucia, following his country's ratification of UNCAT on 31 May 2018



OSCE-CTI EVENT ON REHABILITATION FOR TORTURE VICTIMS 21 June 2018, Vienna, Austria

On 21 June 2018, the Italian OSCE Chairmanship, the Government of Denmark, the Government of Switzerland, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the CTI and the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) jointly organised an evening event on the “Rehabilitation of victims of torture”. The event represented a platform for OSCE's delegations to discuss and share their countries' practices and potential challenges in relation to legislation and policy guidance, funding models, the actual delivery of rehabilitation services to torture victims, and their co-operation with civil society organizations.

Moreover, the event was an opportunity for CTI and ODIHR to launch their [joint publication](#) on “*Providing Rehabilitation to Victims of Torture and Other Ill-treatment*”. This tool showcases examples of States' efforts to implement the right to rehabilitation, supplemented by the experiences of non-State rehabilitation providers.

Read the press release [here](#).



Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of CTI Secretariat, and speakers at OSCE-CTI event in Vienna

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



CTI TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON ANTI-TORTURE LAWS

10-12 October 2018, Dakar, Senegal

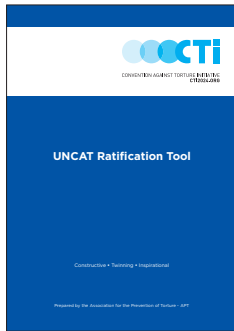


Participants and faculty at the CTI technical workshop on legislative drafting of anti-torture laws.

From 10 – 12 October 2018, CTI convened, together with the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights and its Committee for the Prevention of Torture in Africa (CPTA), and The Redress Trust, a technical workshop for 15 countries from Francophone Africa on legislative drafting of anti-torture legal frameworks. The workshop brought together senior drafters from Ministries of Justice, Parliamentarians and anti-torture experts from these countries, as well as Members of the CPTA and the UN Committee against Torture. This was CTI’s second technical workshop on legislative drafting in Africa, following CTI’s first such workshop for African Anglophone countries in Entebbe, Uganda, in September 2017.

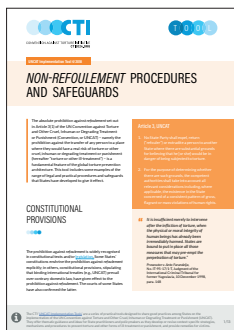
Read the press release [here](#).

TOOLS

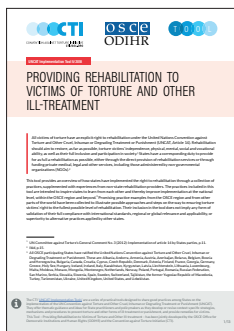


CTI's Ratification Toolkit, which includes advice on ratification, was updated in 2018. It is available [here](#).

The CTI Secretariat released two additional tools in its UNCAT Implementation Tool series. The tools focus on issues requested by States, and they give examples of good State practices from around the world. They are intended to offer support, guidance and inspiration for practitioners and policymakers.



CTI's tool on "[Non-refoulement procedures and safeguards](#)" provides 33 examples of the range of legal and practical procedural and safeguards that States have adopted to give effect to Article 3 of UNCAT.



Partnering with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), CTI's tool on Article 14 of UNCAT provides an overview of how States have implemented [the right to rehabilitation](#) through a collection of good practices from 19 States, supplemented with experiences from non-State rehabilitation providers.

All CTI's UNCAT Implementation Tools are available [here](#).

AWARENESS RAISING



CTI ITEM 3 STATEMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

8 March 2018, HRC37, Geneva, Switzerland

During the 37th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, H.E. Ambassador Ramses Joseph Cleland, Permanent Representative of Ghana to the UN in Geneva, delivered CTI's annual statement on behalf of the Initiative's Core States. Ambassador Cleland shared with the participating UN State Members attending the session a summary update of CTI's activities and engagements in 2017 in relation to its vision for universal ratification and active implementation of the Convention. He called on the international community for global solidarity and awareness of the absolute prohibition against torture.

Find the statement is available [here](#).



COMMONWEALTH ROUNDTABLE ON THE RULE OF LAW, JUSTICE SECTOR REFORM AND UNCAT

17 April 2018, London, United Kingdom

On the margins of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), CTI convened a roundtable discussion on the "Rule of law, justice sector reform and UNCAT" which took place in London, United Kingdom on 17 April 2018. The event, which was aligned with the CHOGM 2018 theme "Towards a common future", focused on the rule of law, justice sector reform and UNCAT and highlighted good practices as well as challenges. The experiences of three Commonwealth countries were shared, namely Fiji, Ghana and the United Kingdom.

Chaired by Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat, opening remarks were delivered by H.E. Otiko Afisa Djaba, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection of Ghana while closing remarks were by Mr. Steve Onwuasoanya, Human Rights Adviser at the Commonwealth Secretariat. The three panelists were H.E. Nazhat Shameem Khan, Fiji's Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, H.E. Ramses Joseph Cleland, Ghana's Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, and Dame Anne Owers, National Chair of Independent Monitoring Boards, UK. The event was co-organised with the Ghanaian High Commissions in London and Geneva, and with the support of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Read the press release [here](#).

You can also find the full report [here](#).



L-R Dame Anne Owers (IMB, UK), H.E. Ambassador Khan (Fiji), Dr. Alice Edwards (CTI Secretariat), H.E. Ambassador Cleland (Ghana) and Hon. Minister Djaba (Ghana).



WORKING BREAKFAST WITH SIDS AND LDCS

28 June 2018, HRC38, Geneva, Switzerland

During HRC38, CTI held a working breakfast meeting with representatives from Small Island Developing States (SIDSs) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Geneva. The breakfast was attended by six States along with CTI Core States and the CTI Secretariat. The purpose of the meeting was to provide background information on the CTI and the support we can provide regarding ratification and implementation of UNCAT, and to hear any updates regarding UNCAT ratification and/or implementation. This was followed by an open discussion and exchange of ideas on how the CTI could help and support presented states.



FIJI-CTI SIDE-EVENT ON SAFEGUARDS AGAINST TORTURE

13 September 2018, HRC39, Geneva, Switzerland



From left to right: Mr. Ashwin Raj, Director of the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission; Hon. Mr. Justice Anthony H.C.T. Gates, Chief Justice of Fiji; Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat; Mr. Itendra Nair, Assistant Commissioner of Police of Fiji; Mr. Shahin Ali, Executive Director of the Legal Aid Commission of Fiji

During the 39th session of the Human Rights Council, CTI was invited to co-sponsor the Permanent Mission of Fiji's side-event on "Safeguards against torture – the implementation of UNCAT". Distinguished panelists from Fiji highlighted how UNCAT ratification had prompted domestic reforms, such as the launch of the pilot scheme "first hour procedure" and the introduction of video recorded interviews. Internal coordination and buy-in from the police, judiciary, Legal Aid Commission and the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission in Fiji were emphasised. Fiji's experience can be seen as a positive example to inspire other States to consider ratifying UNCAT while encouraging in an ongoing process of internal review and reform of domestic laws and policies to better implement the Convention.

Read the press release [here](#).

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



BRIEFING OF THE UN COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE 8 May 2018, Geneva, Switzerland

CTI was invited to brief the UN Committee against Torture (CAT) during their 63rd session in Geneva. The Committee was updated on CTI's latest developments, progress and achievements, as well as on some of the challenges faced by States in moving towards ratification, implementation and reporting.



BRIEFING OF THE UN SUBCOMMITTEE ON PREVENTION OF TORTURE 20 June 2018, Geneva, Switzerland

CTI had a fruitful exchange with members of the UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture during their 35th session in Geneva. The discussion highlighted the linkages between UNCAT and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT), and the importance of assisting States with measures and procedures to prevent torture and other ill-treatment.



BRIEFING OF THE UN VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE 3 October 2018, Geneva, Switzerland

CTI had its first meeting with the Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture during their October session in Geneva. The Trustees were updated on CTI's work on rehabilitation for victims, as well as on some examples of good State practices in implementing Article 14 UNCAT. The meeting served as an opportunity to identify areas for future collaboration between CTI and the Fund, including in regards to technical assistance and knowledge sharing.



CTI ANNUAL FORUM: "WHAT NEXT IN TACKLING TORTURE AND ILL-TREATMENT?" 29 November 2018, Geneva, Switzerland

CTI held its 5th Annual Forum in Geneva on 29 November 2018, focusing on achievements and progress made since the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in 1948. Over 60 participants joined the discussions, made up of 27 States, including 16 Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives, 11 international or non-governmental organisations and experts. The meeting recalled that Article 5 of the UDHR on the absolute prohibition on torture was adopted by consensus, and highlighted unprecedented efforts made by States and other stakeholders to make the absolute prohibition a reality in law and in practice, which is also reflected by the increasing number of States parties to UNCAT.



Participants of CTI's 2018 Annual Forum in Geneva, Switzerland

The Forum heard from the CTI Ambassadors on progress to date, as well as an interactive panel, moderated by Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat, in conversation with H.E. Ambassador Carla María Rodríguez Mancía, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the UN in Geneva, Professor Nils Melzer, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, and Dr. Carla Ferstman, Senior Lecturer at the University of Essex and former Director of REDRESS. The discussion revolved around progress achieved in preventing and eradicating torture and ill-treatment 70 years after the adoption of the UDHR, the remaining key challenges to the prohibition, as well as ways to reinforce its national implementation and an outlook to 2048.

The Forum concluded that global solidarity and vigilance are required to uphold the promise made by the UDHR. CTI re-committed itself to work with its Friends and partners to overcome remaining challenges and build on what has been learned over the past 70 years including on how to operate fairer justice systems, on methods of interrogation that are humane and effective, and on how rehabilitation and reconciliation can lead to sustainable peace.



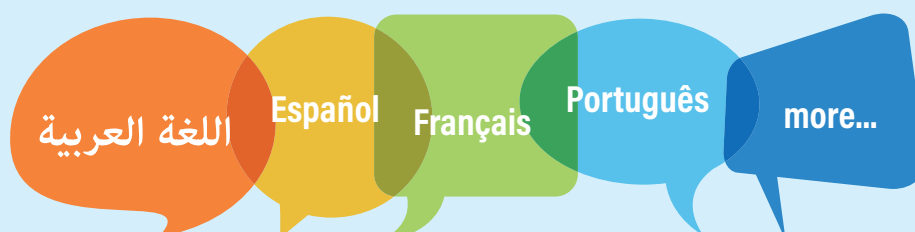
Expert panel, from left to right: H.E. Ambassador Carla María Rodríguez Mancía, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the UN in Geneva; Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat; Professor Nils Melzer, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, and Dr. Carla Ferstman, Senior Lecturer at the University of Essex and former Director of REDRESS.

COMMUNICATIONS

CTI aims to become a hub for sharing knowledge and good practices between governments. Our website is a repository of our tools, resources and other information. In 2018, CTI created a new “Language Library” where various documents and resources are now available in multiple languages.

Follow the direct link: <https://cti2024.org/en/library/>
As documents are translated, these pages are being updated.

CTI also sends our periodic newsletters and updates. If you are interested, please sign up [here](#).



CTI FRIENDS AND PARTNERS



CTI employs a multi-stakeholder approach working with national, regional and international stakeholders and partners to support its vision. CTI is thankful for this engagement and the opportunity it provides to exchange and benefit from drawing on the knowledge and expertise of diverse actors.



2018 RESULTS

FRAMEWORK



Results	Outcome
RESULT 1: INCREASED UNCAT RATIFICATIONS/ACCESSIONS	
Output indicator	Through technical support, dialogue and cooperation, the number of States ratifying/ acceding to the Convention against Torture increases
Outputs	3 in 2018 3
RESULT 2: INCREASED AWARENESS OF BENEFITS OF UNCAT	
Output indicator	Active bilateral engagement with States on UNCAT ratification/accession and implementation through study visits, in-country delegation visits and technical assistance
Outputs	Bilateral meetings are organized by CTI core States in Geneva and New York with permanent missions and visiting delegations (with up to 10 States) 13
	An annual schedule of in-country visits and study visits are carried out that raise awareness, knowledge and capacity of non-States-parties (3 per year) 3
	CTI's " 10 good reasons to ratify " is reviewed, updated and shared ✓
	Technical advice on the UN Convention against Torture provided (10 States per year) ✓
RESULT 3: STRENGTHENED INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT ON UNCAT OF MINISTRIES OF JUSTICE AND OTHER RELEVANT AGENCIES	
Output indicator	30 governments represented at senior level participate actively in CTI events > 80
Outputs	A series of regional dialogues, designed in collaboration with States and reflecting their needs and interests, and bringing together experts and sharing experiences (2 per year) 3
	A series of regional and sub-regional technical workshops on legislative drafting for anti-torture laws (1-2 per year) 1
	A number of side events and other seminars at regional and international levels, including an annual thematic side event during the UN Human Rights Council high level segment, Geneva, and during the Third Committee or General Assembly and other opportunities in New York (2-3 per year) 5
	Space for discussion on reporting at relevant events secured (2-3 opportunities per year) 4
	Technical support on reporting through experts for newly ratified States and SIDS on initial reports, offered (2 per year) ✓
	CTI's UNCAT Implementation Tool on Reporting translated and disseminated ✓

RESULT 4: INCREASED AWARENESS OF GOOD STATES' PRACTICES IN RATIFYING AND IMPLEMENTING UNCAT

Output indicator	CTI tools sharing technical advice and good State practices developed, translated and disseminated to relevant stakeholders	
Outputs	CTI's UNCAT Ratification Tool is kept updated and shared	✓
	New CTI's UNCAT Implementation Tools on UNCAT developed, translated and disseminated (up to 3 per year)	2
	The CTI website is kept updated, and is a "go-to" repository for tools and good practices	✓
	A "library" of other language documents created and kept updated on website	✓
	Seasonal electronic newsletters distributed (3 per year)	✓
	An annual report published annually	✓



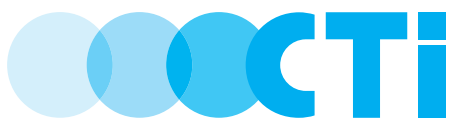
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