



In memory of

Mr. Ebenezer Appreku

Deputy Permanent Representative Permanent Mission of Ghana to the UN in Geneva

1961-2016



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We, the five States behind the CTI – Chile, Denmark, Ghana, Indonesia and Morocco, have set ourselves the ambitious goal of having the UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT) universally ratified and better implemented by 2024. We seek to rid the world of this abhorrent human rights violation. By ratifying the Convention, States send an important message of zero tolerance against torture.

As the CTI's Annual Report goes to press in early 2017, the number of States parties to UNCAT has reached 161: two States (the Central African Republic and Fiji) ratified in 2016, and São Tomé and Príncipe ratified in January 2017. We remain confident that we will be able to galvanise action to encourage the remaining 34 States to ratify by 2024. Meanwhile, 83 States have joined the Optional Protocol to the Convention in its first ten years, and in doing so, have committed themselves to take concrete steps to prevent torture and abuse in places of detention.

Torture and ill-treatment still persist in many countries and we still have much to learn about torture prevention. However, many governments and other stakeholders are taking concrete steps to reduce the risk of torture and ill-treatment, and to provide redress to victims. Safeguards in places of detention have been reinforced by building capacities and training police and prison officials on relevant standards. National legislation and institutions have been reformed to minimise abuse and ensure accountability for violations. Rehabilitation services have been stepped up for victims, and measures to inform the public of their rights so they can exercise them have been taken. UNCAT provides a framework of standards to support States in these endeavours.



Throughout 2016, the CTI expanded and deepened its efforts to achieve our universal goal by inter alia cementing our role as a platform where good practices on fighting and preventing torture can be highlighted and shared. In 2016 alone, 46 States shared their national experiences in our regional events and we interacted bilaterally with a dozen or more other States.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a special thanks to all 37 States, 17 non-governmental organisations, and 10 international anti-torture experts, that are members of our Group of Friends, as well as to our partner expert organisation, the Association for the Prevention of Torture, for support and assistance throughout the year. We will continue to build and establish new and strong partnerships as we believe that only through joint efforts will we be able to achieve these goals.

We look forward to continuing to work with you all in 2017,

H.E. Ms. Marta Maurás, Ambassador of Chile to the United Nations in Geneva

H.E. Mr. Carsten Staur, Ambassador of Denmark to the United Nations in Geneva

H.E. Mr. Sammie Eddico, Ambassador of Ghana to the United Nations in Geneva

H.E. Mr. Triyono Wibowo, Ambassador of Indonesia to the United Nations in Geneva

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Auajjar, Ambassador of Morocco to the United Nations in Geneva

March 2017

THE CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE INITIATIVE (CTI)



In March 2014, the Governments of Chile, Denmark, Ghana, Indonesia and Morocco marked the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT) by launching a ten-year global initiative for the universal ratification and implementation of the Convention.

Vision

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

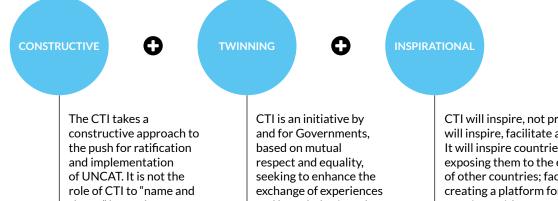
Objectives

The immediate objectives of the CTI are:

- To identify challenges and barriers to ratification and implementation of the UNCAT.
- To address these obstacles through inter-State cooperation, assistance and dialogue.
- To become a hub for sharing knowledge and good practices between governments.
- To build a global platform of States, the UN, national and international NGOs and experts to work jointly to achieve the CTI vision.

Operating principles

The work of the CTI is guided by three fundamental principles:



shame" but rather to support Governments in their efforts to pursue ratification of and to implement the Convention.

and knowledge in order to learn from others with similar challenges - typically in regional settings.

CTI will inspire, not prescribe. CTI will inspire, facilitate and motivate. It will inspire countries by exposing them to the experience of other countries; facilitate by creating a platform for informal meetings with experts and through the development of useful tools; and motivate by highlighting – in the UN and to the public - States' efforts to ratify and implement the Convention.

THE YEAR IN SUMMARY



2016 saw growing support for the Convention against Torture Initiative's dual goals of achieving universal ratification of UNCAT and improved implementation. An important number of events and milestones are summarized below, with more detail contained in this Annual Report. We believe we are on track to reach our target of universal ratification by 2024, as well as improved implementation in specific priority areas.

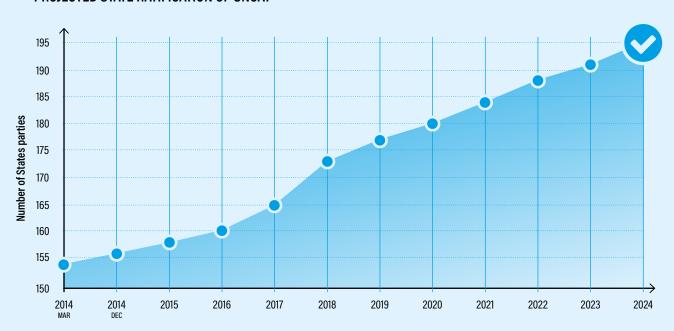
UNIVERSAL RATIFICATION

The CTI aims to ensure that all UN Member States have ratified or acceded to the UN Convention against Torture by 2024

To help steer our work, the CTI released a two-year strategy, in March, and set itself a target of three new ratifications in 2016, and a further five ratifications in 2017 (see CTI's Ratification and Implementation Strategy 2016-17).

We were extremely pleased to welcome the **Central African Republic** and **Fiji** as States parties in 2016. With these two ratifications, UNCAT reached an impressive total of 160 States parties, with 35 UN Member States still to join at the end of 2016, and with whom the CTI is building and intensifying relations.

PROJECTED STATE RATIFICATION OF UNCAT



50% COPTIONAL PROTOCOL

Also in 2016, three States ratified the Optional Protocol in its 10th anniversary year, **Cabo Verde**, the **Central African Republic** and **Ghana**, bringing the total number of States parties to 83. Over half of the UNCAT States parties are also now party to the Optional Protocol.

Bilateral and multilateral engagement, directly by the CTI core States and through our growing circle of States' Friends, is proving to be one of the CTI's greatest strengths. In the spirit of constructive government-to-government dialogue (no name, no shame), the CTI has shown its capacity to reach a broad audience, on the basis of equality between States, and is supporting Governments with their own efforts to pursue ratification of the Convention. Many States have now accepted to ratify UNCAT through the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). As a platform, the UPR has provided important opportunities to reach out to visiting delegations and to offer support to help follow-up on individual pledges.

Concretely, in 2016, the CTI conducted two diplomatic and technical visits to **Grenada** and **Saint Lucia** in July, and supported **Suriname**'s own national consultation on UNCAT ratification in October. A half-day meeting with **Angola**, **Comoros** and **Tanzania** was held in April on the sides of the Accra meeting on antitorture legislative frameworks, helping to identify opportunities and resolve challenges to ratification in sub-Saharan Africa. Six small island developing States (**Nauru**, **Samoa**, **St Kitts and Nevis**, **São Tomé and Príncipe**, **Tonga and Tuvalu**) joined the CTI core States for a breakfast briefing on the UNCAT during the Human Rights Council in June, and as this report has gone to press, the CTI welcomed the ratification of **São Tomé and Príncipe** as the 161st State party to the Convention.

Two CTI study visits were organized in Geneva for **Grenada** and **Malaysia**, during which inter-ministerial delegations were able to learn more about the key obligations of the UNCAT and to prepare for implementing the Convention upon ratification. Meanwhile one of CTI's main regional events was held in **Fiji for Pacific Small Island States**, and saw positive participation from **eight States that are not yet party to the Convention** in the region and **two UNCAT States parties**.

IMPROVING IMPLEMENTATION

The CTI works to support States to put the UN Conventior against Torture into concrete practice

In 2016, implementation of UNCAT varied across regions and between countries. There were a number of significant legislative, institutional or practical reforms at national level. For its part, the CTI focused its work to support States to implement UNCAT around three main themes, namely adopting legislative anti-torture frameworks, preventing torture in the first hours of police custody, and reporting to the UN Committee against Torture, the latter particularly focused on newly ratifying States.

Forty-six countries in total were represented at CTI's regional events on these themes. Forty participants representing 14 African States contributed to a successful meeting in Accra, Ghana, on criminalizing torture in sub-Saharan Africa, sixty participants representing 22 OSCE participating States shared their practices of providing rehabilitation to victims of torture in Copenhagen, while 10 States were represented at the CTI regional event for Pacific countries in Fiji, which discussed, alongside ratification, good practices in police and law enforcement and legislative frameworks to minimize risks of torture and to ensure accountability.

In 2017, the CTI, together with its partners, hopes to follow-up on a number of requests for specific support.

Tools

In 2016, the CTI issued a second edition of the **UNCAT Ratification Tool**, including new easy-to-use templates on ratification, accession, reservations and declarations. The Association for the Prevention of Torture prepared for the CTI, a **Guide on Anti-Torture Legislation**, which is available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish, and is being translated into Arabic. A short film on **rehabilitation for victims of torture** was released, and is available with French, Spanish and Russian sub-titles. Work has begun on a **series of tools** to support implementation of UNCAT, which are due to be published on a rolling basis in 2017.

Friends and partnerships

CTI has also expanded its Group of Friends, adding five new States members and four new NGOs, as well as five new experts, during the course of 2016. Twenty-seven State delegations attended CTI's Annual Forum in Satigny, Geneva, together with NGOs, international organisations and experts. An invitation is extended to all UN Member States to join the Group of Friends.

The CTI is grateful for the ongoing special relationship and counsel of the Association for the Prevention of Torture, as well as its partnerships in 2016 with DIGNITY-Danish Institute Against Torture, the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, the Universal Rights Group and the University of Bristol's Human Rights Implementation Centre. The CTI also expresses its gratitude to the Government of Fiji for co-hosting with CTI the Pacific regional event, and the German Chairmanship of the OSCE and ODIHR for their co-hosting of the rehabilitation events in Copenhagen and Vienna.



Alice Edwards
Head of CTI Secretariat

TIMELINE OF CTI EVENTS 2016



01 Welcoming new Head of CTI Secretariat, Dr. Alice Edwards 15 CTI briefing of the Sub-Committee for **Prevention of Torture** 01 Adoption of the CTI Ratification and Implementation Strategy MAR 2016-17 01 High Level Event at the 31st MAR

session of the Human Rights
Council, Geneva

Adoption by consensus of Human Rights Council resolution 31/31 welcoming the CTI in operative paragraph 3

Regional meeting in Accra, Ghana, for sub-Saharan African States on criminalisation of torture in national legislation

Study visit of a delegation from Malaysia to Geneva

Working lunch for the CTI States Group of Friends

Regional meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, on rehabilitation for torture victims in the OSCE region

13 CTI Third Annual Forum, Satigny, Geneva Study visit of a delegation from Grenada to Geneva 01 EU-NGO Forum on Human Rights, Brussels, Belgium DEC Regional meeting in Natadola, Fiji, for Pacific Island States on UNCAT ratification and implementation 18 UNGA71 side event on realizing SDG16 and the role of anti-torture initiatives, OCT **New York** 17 Roundtable discussion as part of national consultation on UNCAT OCT ratification in Paramaribo, Suriname OSCE workshop on rehabilitation for torture victims, Vienna, Austria 06 Working lunch for the CTI States Group of Friends 18 In-country diplomatic CTI missions to Grenada and St Lucia 07 Expert consultations on Special Rapporteur on torture's universal

guidelines on investigative interviewing

techniques, Washington DC

ADOPTION OF THE CTI RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY 2016-17



In March 2016, the CTI adopted its Ratification and Implementation Strategy for 2016-17. The Strategy will steer the work of the CTI for the two year period to achieve CTI's overall goals of universal ratification of UNCAT and more effective implementation, by 2024.

The Strategy focuses on achieving **universal ratification** through a mixture of regional initiatives, as well as bilateral and multilateral diplomatic and technical engagement, in line with the CTI's spirit of inter-State cooperation, assistance and dialogue.

To improve States' **implementation** of the Convention, the CTI will focus its efforts on three thematic priorities:

- Supporting States to adopt or amend national laws in compliance with the Convention,
- Supporting States to prevent torture in the first hours of police custody through improved safeguards and investigative interviewing techniques, and
- Improving reporting to the UN Committee against Torture, in particular for newly ratifying States
- Read the Strategy here in English, French or Spanish.

Human Rights Council resolution 31/31

On 23 March 2016, the Human Rights Council, during its 31st session, adopted by consensus the resolution on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment with a focus on safeguards in police custody and pre-trial detention. The resolution welcomes the Convention against Torture Initiative in its operative paragraph 3.

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL **RATIFICATION**





Ratification meeting with three African non-States parties

5-6 April 2016 - Accra, Ghana

On the sides of a CTI regional meeting for sub-Saharan African States on criminalization of torture held in Accra, Ghana on 5-6 April, the CTI held a half-day meeting with three African non-States parties: Angola, Comoros and Tanzania on the issue of ratification. The meeting was supported by the Chair of the UN Committee against Torture and a Member of the Committee on the Prevention of Torture in Africa. The CTI Secretariat has since been working closely with Comoros in the preparation of their instrument of ratification, while bilateral engagement continues with Angola and Tanzania.

Working breakfast with Small Island Developing States on UNCAT ratification

30 June 2016 - Geneva, Switzerland

The CTI held a breakfast meeting for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to discuss ratification of UNCAT, including both opportunities and challenges that the States are facing in that regard. Alongside members of the CTI core group, the Association for the Prevention of Torture, Universal Rights Group, OHCHR and CTI Friends, six SIDS attended the meeting: Nauru, Samoa, São Tomé and Príncipe, St Kitts and Nevis, Tonga and Tuvalu.



Diplomatic delegation visits to Grenada and Saint Lucia





The CTI carried out its first in-country diplomatic missions in 2016. The diplomatic delegation, composed of Ambassador Carsten Staur, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the UN in Geneva, Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Universal Rights Group and former Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Maldives and Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat, travelled to Grenada and Saint Lucia following these States' acceptance of UPR recommendations to ratify UNCAT. The diplomatic delegation met with government representatives in both countries, as well as with State Friends of the CTI and local civil society organisations.

Grenada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Elvin Nimrod, confirmed to the delegation their acceptance of UPR recommendations to ratify UNCAT, and was pleased to work with CTI to move this forward. Grenada promptly joined the CTI Group of Friends following the visit, and in December 2016, a five-person delegation undertook a study visit to Geneva to learn more about ratification and to prepare for postratification implementation (see immediately below).

See the press release from the diplomatic missions here.

Study visits to Geneva

During 2016, the CTI organized two UNCAT study visits to Geneva. The CTI study visits consist of meetings with CTI core States and CTI friends to discuss assistance going forward on UNCAT ratification, expert seminars on the Convention delivered by the Association for the Prevention of Torture, meetings with senior UN officials, including CAT members and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and the observation of a session of the CAT in their review of a State party report wherever possible.



Malaysia study visit

26-28 April 2016

A delegation from Malaysia undertook a study visit to Geneva. The delegation consisted of government officials from the Prime Minister's Department and the Ministry of Home Affairs as well as civil society. Since the visit, a policy paper has been drafted, and civil society has launched a campaign to ratify the UNCAT.

See the press release from the Malaysia study visit here.



Grenada study visit

6-8 December 2016

As a follow-up to the <u>CTI diplomatic delegation visit</u> to <u>Grenada</u> in July 2016, five senior officials from Grenada's Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Legal Affairs, and the Police and Prison Services were in Geneva on 6-8 December for a CTI study visit.

Speaking after the study visit, Head of Delegation Mr. Michael Mitchell, Chargé d'affaires, Permanent Mission of Grenada to the UN in New York, stated:

Our study visit and engagement with the CTI has been very enlightening and we leave Geneva with a sense of empowerment that will translate into action towards UNCAT ratification."

See the press release from the Grenada study visit here.



The CTI delegation and members of the Grenada Prison Service, including Superintendent of Prisons, Derek John.



The Malaysia delegation together with APT and CTI Secretariat.



The Grenada delegation, including head of delegation Mr. Michael Mitchell, with Ambassador Triyono Wibowo of Indonesia and Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of CTI Secretariat



Participants and speakers at Suriname's seminar on UNCAT ratification.



Roundtable discussions as part of Suriname's national consultation on UNCAT ratification

20 October 2016 - Paramaribo, Suriname

The CTI collaborated with OHCHR in holding Suriname's national consultation seminar on UNCAT ratification. The seminar - which was held in Suriname's capital Paramaribo - followed positive discussions between CTI and the Minister for Justice and Police after Suriname's acceptance of UPR recommendations to ratify the UNCAT. At the opening of the seminar, Minister of Justice, Ms. Jennifer Dijk-Silos, publicly stated that she wants to see only action towards ratification. The CTI continues to work closely with Suriname to make ratification a reality.



See the press release from the Suriname seminar here.



Benefits of and challenges to UNCAT ratification and implementation in the Pacific

27-28 October 2016 - Natadola, Fiji

The CTI and the Government of Fiji in partnership with the Universal Rights Group and the Association for the Prevention of Torture held a regional event in Natadola, Fiji, on UNCAT ratification and implementation for Pacific Small Island States. The event was opened by Fiji's Prime Minister. Around 60 participants attended the meeting, including representatives from 10 of the 12 Pacific SIDS, among them eight UNCAT non-States parties and two States parties. Following the meeting, the CTI received communications from a number of the participating States that actions were being taken forward domestically to begin the UNCAT ratification process.



Read the report from the Fiji meeting here.



Participants at the Pacific seminar.

TOWARDS MORE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION





Criminalising torture in sub-Saharan Africa

5-6 April 2016 - Accra, Ghana

The CTI and the Government of Ghana, in partnership with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and APT, held a regional seminar for sub-Saharan African States on criminalizing torture in national legislation. The seminar, which enjoyed the attendance of around 40 participants, presented a unique occasion in which Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone States came together to discuss concrete legal challenges and anti-torture laws. Discussions revealed that the States had many similar challenges, despite their different legal traditions. Participants made specific requests for further support and/or research from CTI and other partners in relation to capacity-building and seminars and visits, in particular in legal drafting skills; further research to aid in understanding 'aggravation' and penalties/ sentencing; and collecting and disseminating good practices on transparent and multi-stakeholder consultation processes, and on redress and victim and witness protection schemes.

Read the report from the Ghana seminar here.



Participants at the Accra seminar.



Rehabilitation for torture victims in the OSCE region

23-24 June 2016 - Copenhagen, Denmark

A seminar on rehabilitation for victims of torture in the OSCE region – organized by CTI, the Government of Denmark, the German Chairmanship of the OSCE, and DIGNITY-Danish Institute Against Torture – successfully created a platform where participating States shared national practices on the matter at hand. The <u>event report</u>, prepared by the International Council for the Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture, documents a wide number of good State practices on rehabilitation which had not previously been brought to light, as well as collaboration with the non-governmental sector. The seminar was opened by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, H.E. Mr. Kristian Jensen, and enjoyed the participation of around 60 persons, amongst which were 22 OSCE participating States.

GLOBAL ACTIVITIES AND SIDE EVENTS





High Level Event at the 31st session of the Human Rights Council

1 March 2016 - Geneva, Switzerland

On 1 March, in the margins of the opening week of the 31st session of the Human Rights Council and as a follow-up to CTI's regional meeting in Marrakech, Morocco in December 2015, more than 80 participants from 37 States, international and civil society organisations attended a CTI side event on torture prevention strategies in policing and law enforcement. The high level panel, moderated by Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of CTI Secretariat, was composed of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Mr. Kristian Jensen, EU Special Representative on Human Rights, Mr. Stavros Lambrinidis, Director of Global Issues of Morocco, Mr. Mohammed Amine Belhaj and Dr. Asbjørn Rachlew, Superintendent of Norwegian police and researcher at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo.

See the press release from the HRC31 high level side event here.



OSCE workshop on rehabilitation of torture victims

12 October 2016 - Vienna, Austria

On 12 October and as a follow-up to the CTI regional seminar on rehabilitation for victims of torture in the OSCE region (as above), the CTI organized together with the German Chairmanship of the OSCE, the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark a workshop in Vienna, Austria, exploring the current and potential role of the OSCE in assisting participating States in implementing their obligation to provide rehabilitation to victims of torture and other ill-treatment. The workshop brought together seventeen OSCE participating States and the delegation of the European Union who shared their national experiences and good practices.

See the report from the workshop here.



From left: Ms. Sara Fridlund, Swedish Red Cross, Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of CTI Secretariat, Ms. Madina Abubeker, OSCE Centre in Bishkek, and Ms. Stephanie Selg, ODIHR Adviser on Torture Prevention, at the OSCE-CTI event in Vienna, Austria.



UNGA71 side event on realizing SDG16 and the role of anti-torture initiatives

18 October 2016 - New York, USA

The CTI and the APT held its annual side event with the three torture mandate holders, SPT Chair Malcolm Evans, Special Rapporteur on Torture Juan Mendez, and CAT Chair Jens Modvig, as well as Ms. Sofia Borges, Special Adviser, Office of the President of the UN General Assembly, during the Third Committee of the 71st session of the UN General Assembly in New York. The event focused on the interplay between anti-torture initiatives and Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which focuses on peace, justice and strong institutions, important foundations also for the eradication of torture.





EU-NGO Forum on Human Rights

1-2 December 2016 - Brussels, Belgium

Denmark on behalf of the CTI participated in the EU-NGO Forum on Human Rights in Brussels, Belgium, which had torture prevention as its particular focus, and provided an update on the developments and achievements of the CTI.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT





CTI briefing of the Sub-Committee on Prevention of Torture

15 February 2016 - Geneva, Switzerland

The CTI briefed the Sub-Committee for Prevention of Torture (SPT) during its 28th session in Geneva on CTI achievements and activities over the course of 2015. The briefing by the CTI was followed by an interactive dialogue between SPT members and the CTI core members present.

Expert consultation on interrogation, investigation and custody practices with the UN Special Rapporteur on torture



7-8 July 2016 - Washington DC, USA

Head of the CTI Secretariat, Dr. Alice Edwards, and a number of other international anti-torture experts participated in the UN Special Rapporteur's consultation on interrogation, investigation and custody practices, in July 2016 in Washington DC. The Special Rapporteur's final report under his mandate focused on non-coercive investigative interviewing and he has called for the development of a universal protocol on investigative interviewing techniques.

Third Annual CTI Forum 2016

13 December 2016 - Satigny, Geneva, Switzerland

The CTI held its third Annual Forum at Château des Bois in the countryside of Geneva. Twenty-seven States were represented as well as partners from 16 NGOs alongside a number of international anti-torture experts. In total, the Forum enjoyed the attendance of more than 70 Friends and partners of the CTI.

The Forum provided a platform where positive developments on ratification and implementation of the UNCAT and ideas on new approaches for the coming years were shared. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Jennifer Bryson who presented her personal testimony as an interrogator in Guantanamo and why this had led her to be a staunch advocate against torture. Dr. Asbjørn Rachlew responded by providing a perspective from the police on interviewing techniques. A panel discussion on how to leverage the third cycle of the UPR towards universal ratification and improved implementation of UNCAT was both informative and interactive, with contributions from the Governments of Brazil, Morocco and Portugal and UPR-Info, and was moderated by URG.



Read the press release from the Annual Forum here.

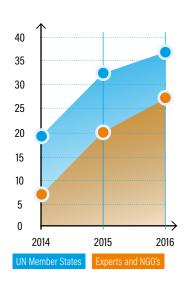
CTI Group of Friends

The essential role of the CTI Group of Friends continued to be evident throughout 2016 where the CTI enjoyed substantial support by a number of Friends - States, NGOs and experts - in various activities and regional events. The CTI also held two working lunches for the Group of Friends in Geneva – one in May and one in October – exploring further the engagement between the CTI and Friends, and hearing also of their own bilateral work.

By the end of 2016, the CTI counted on the support of 37 States, 17 of the leading anti-torture NGOs and 10 independent experts.



See more about the CTI Group of Friends here.



TOOLS



A number of tools to support UNCAT ratification and implementation have been revised or published in 2016.

Second edition of UNCAT Ratification Tool

A second edition of the <u>UNCAT Ratification Tool</u> was published and now includes easy-to-use templates on ratification, accession, reservations and declarations.

APT-CTI Guide on Anti-Torture Legislation

CTI published, together with the Association for the Prevention of Torture, a Guide on Anti-Torture Legislation, which is available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish, and is currently being translated into Arabic. The Guide is divided into thematic chapters, based on the relevant articles of UNCAT, and lists the primary, recommended and optional elements of anti-torture legislation. The guide also promotes good practices by providing examples of national legislation drawn from different regions and in different languages.

In a practical format, this Guide is primarily intended to assist lawmakers in drafting specific anti-torture legislation or in revising existing domestic laws. It will also be useful for other actors such as civil society, national human rights institutions, or international and regional organisations, advocating for the adoption of a legal framework on torture at the national level.

The Guide has been widely praised including by members of the CAT.

Short film on rehabilitation for torture victims

For the CTI regional seminar for OSCE participating States held in Copenhagen in June, a short film was produced by CTI and True Heroes Film entitled "Rehabilitation for victims of torture: Restoring their Humanity" depicting the experiences of torture, trauma and recovery. The short film tells the story of torture survivor, Mr. Vincent Cochetel, who was kidnapped at gunpoint near Chechnya in 1998, while working for the UN. He explains – in his own words – his long yet powerful road to recovery.

The short film is available in four languages (English, French, Spanish and Russian) and can be screened here.

CTI Implementation Tools

The CTI started work towards the development of a series of practical <u>'Implementation Tools'</u> as part of its ongoing work to provide support to States' implementation of UNCAT.

Drawing on the obligations contained in the Convention, the Implementation Tools will share good State practices from around the world on different implementation themes. Prepared in a practical online format, they are intended to offer support, guidance and ideas for State practitioners and policymakers as they develop or revise context-specific strategies, mechanisms and procedures for the effective implementation of UNCAT.

The tools will be released for free download as they become available throughout 2017.

