



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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27 March 2017

Dear Mr. Jens Modvig,

On behalf of the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (UNVFVT) Board of Trustees, I wish to commend the Committee against Torture (CAT) for its initiative to revise General Comment No. 1 (2017) on the implementation of article 3 of the Convention in the context of article 22. I also wish to thank you for providing stakeholders the opportunity to provide written contributions to the draft revised General Comment ahead of your General Discussion on 28 April 2017 in Geneva.

In this context, the UNVT Board of Trustees is pleased to provide the attached written submission for your consideration. The submission is based on both the rich experience of the Fund's grantees, as well on the expertise of its Board members and Secretariat. As a general point, we appreciate that while the title of the draft revised General Comment indicates a particular link to article 22 of the Convention, it also addresses important issues related to the general scope of article 3 of the Convention. For this reason, we believe that the provisions and standards highlighted in the Draft with regard to redress and rehabilitation of victims of torture could follow more closely the language advanced by CAT General Comment No. 3 (2012), as well as the UN Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law (2005). These documents should be referenced throughout the draft revised General Comment No. 1. More specific suggestions are provided in the attached document.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for the interest and availability of all CAT members to participate in the third annual Expert Workshop on *Torture Victims in the Context of Migration: Identification, Redress and Rehabilitation*, organised by the UNVFVT Board of Trustees, during our 45th session (24-28 April 2017) in Geneva.

Mr. Jens Modvig,
Chairperson
Committee against Torture
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights



Finally, I wish to reiterate our satisfaction with the regular dialogue and constructive exchange between the CAT and the Fund's Board of Trustees. We look forward to continuing our cooperation with the Committee on a regular basis, including jointly commemorating the upcoming International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gaby Oré Aguilar'.

Gaby Oré Aguilar

Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Cc: Mr. Patrice Gillibert, Secretary