

COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

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Mr. Malcolm Evans
The Chairperson of the United Nations Subcommittee
on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or
Degrading Treatment or Punishment
of the Committee against Torture

Note Verbale

Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) in the Republic of Kazakhstan Askar Shakirov presents his compliments to the Chairperson of the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of the Committee against Torture Mr. Malcolm Evans and has the honor to send him this note verbale with the official notification about the beginning of functioning of the national preventive mechanism (hereinafter – the NPM) in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

In 1998 the Republic of Kazakhstan has joined the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and has ratified its Optional Protocol in 2008, where one of the requirements was to establish or to support the NPM during one year.

However, due to the global financial-economic crisis and forced budget cuts this commitment had to be left unimplemented.

On July 2, 2013, the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan has signed a Law "On Introduction of Changes and Addendae to Certain Legislative Acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Establishment of the National Preventive Mechanism to Prevent Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment" effectively establishing the NPM in our country. Named law is attached to the note.

The first monitoring visits carried out under the NPM mandate began in March 2014. To the present day 276 preventive visits were held.

At the moment first annual report, that will be send to the Subcommittee on The Prevention of Torture, is being prepared.

Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) in the Republic of Kazakhstan Askar Shakirov avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Chairperson of the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of the Committee against Torture Mr. Malcolm Evans the assurances of his highest consideration.

Annex: stated document, 27 pages.

Askar Shakirov

Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) in the Republic of Kazakhstan