**Reference is made to the letter from OHCHR dated 10 March 2020 entitled Subject: Report to the General Assembly on torture-free trade: examining the feasibility, scope and parameters for possible common international standards**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input OHCHR’s examination of the feasibility, scope and parameters for possible international standards towards torture-free trade.

Norway supports the aim to end the trade in goods used for capital punishment and torture and participates in the Alliance for Torture-Free Trade.

Norway does not have a specific set of rules to regulate goods which can be used for capital punishment and torture. However, as Norway does not practice neither capital punishment nor torture, goods which have no other practical use would be deemed illegal or restricted under different provisions of Norwegian law. For certain goods which can be misused for capital punishment or torture, such as chemicals and explosives, EEA relevant EU legislation is incorporated into the EEA Agreement and implemented in Norwegian law.

According to Norway’s export control legislation, certain products, technology and services may only be exported from Norway if the exporter has obtained an export licence from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Guidelines for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ handling of export license applications regarding defence related goods and dual-use goods for military end use, require thorough assessments on the basis of several principles and criteria. Of particular relevance to this topic, license applications shall, inter alia, be denied if "there is a clear risk that the military technology or equipment to be exported might be used for internal repression”. Repression “includes torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, summary or arbitrary executions, disappearances, arbitrary detention, and other serious violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as specified in relevant international human rights instruments.