



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

SIDE EVENT AT THE THIRD COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT
OR PUNISHMENT

REVIEWING THE STANDARD MINIMUM RULES FOR THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS (SMR) – PREVENTING TORTURE AND ILL-TREATMENT?

The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (SMR) have remained an authoritative and vital set of generally accepted principles and practices for the treatment and management of prisoners since their adoption in 1955.

In 2012 a process of revision of the SMRs was initiated by the General Assembly Resolution 65/230 seeking to incorporate best practices and recent advances in correctional science and international law.

In this context, the participation of a high number of member States in the review process is key for its success.

Based on the **latest thematic report by Special Rapporteur Juan E. Méndez (SRT) on the revision of the SMR (A/68/295)**, the side-event seeks to inform about the on-going targeted review process and to motivate interested States to consider participating in the next Expert Group meeting (IEGM) in Brasilia, Brazil (Dec. 3 – Dec 6, 2013).

According to the Special Rapporteur on torture, the ongoing review process of the SMRs is an excellent opportunity to enhance understanding of the scope and nature of the prohibition against torture and other ill-treatment, the contexts and consequences in which they occur and effective measures to prevent them.

The panel will discuss the Special Rapporteur on torture's **recommendations (A/68/295)** and the proposed targeted revisions to the SMRs illustrated by examples of areas such as the **principle of humane treatment of persons deprived of liberty, medical and health services, disciplinary action and punishment and solitary confinement**. The panel will also highlight the critical aspects of the review process.

Representatives of Member States, UN agencies and civil societies are cordially invited

Light refreshments provided

THE EVENT WILL BE BROADCASTED THROUGH
"LIVE WEBCAST" AT

<http://webtv.un.org/internal-communication/>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE EVENT PLEASE VISIT THE ANTI-TORTURE INITIATIVE'S WEBSITE AT:

www.antitorture.org

TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2013

16.00-18.00

Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium

MODERATED BY

Mr. Juan E. Méndez

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

PANELISTS:

Mr. Malcolm D. Evans,

Chair of the Subcommittee on the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (SPT)

Mr. Claudio Grossman

Chair of the Committee against torture (CAT) and Chair of the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies

Mr. Andrés Pizarro

Human Rights Specialist, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)

Ms. Andrea Huber,

Policy Director, Penal Reform International (PRI)

Mr. Jamil Dakwar

Director of the Human Rights Program (HRP); American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

Mr. Yuval Ginbar

Legal Advisor, Amnesty International (AI)

The side-event is collaborative and organized by the Special Procedures Branch of OHCHR in cooperation with the American University Washington College of Law Center for Human Rights & Humanitarian Law's Anti-Torture Initiative, and cosponsored by the Permanent Missions of Switzerland and Denmark to the United Nations, Amnesty International, Penal Reform International, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Association for the Prevention of Torture, and Open Society Foundations

UN identification badges are required for entry into the **DHL Auditorium**. Interested guests without a UN identification badge should send an email to sselg@ohchr.org before 12pm (New York time) on Friday, 18 October 2013.