



***Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office  
and other International Organizations in Geneva***

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No. 60/2010

The Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT), and wishes to refer to the Note received on 20 November 2009 which requests information on the process of establishment of a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), in accordance with article 17 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT).

2. The Permanent Mission of Brazil wishes to transmit information obtained after internal consultations between the Ministry of External Relations and the General Coordination for the Combat of Torture (CGCT) under the Special Secretariat for Human Rights of the Presidency of the Republic, taking into account the importance of the matter, a core thematic issue of Brazil's national policy on human rights.

3. The creation of the NPM, in compliance with article 17 of the OPCAT (promulgated by Decree No. 6085 on 19 April 2007), is one of the main goals of the General Coordination for the Combat of Torture. The CGCT has been leading the process for the construction of the NPM, including meetings of the National Committee for the Prevention and Combat of Torture and capacity building workshops designed for members of entities focused on human rights in order to enable them to perform monitoring visits in areas of deprivation of liberty. Such workshops count on the

participation of the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT), a non-governmental organization based in Geneva, which has been working in partnership with the Brazilian government in the construction of the National Preventive Mechanism.

4. The process of consolidation of the Mechanism, which started in 2006, is in an advanced phase. In this regard, the National Committee for the Prevention and Combat of Torture, during a meeting on 15 December 2009, concluded the elaboration of a legislation draft, which creates and regulates the NPM. The text was the focus of extensive consultation between the Brazilian government, civil society representatives and experts on the issue and it will soon be sent by the Special Secretary of Human Rights to the President of the Republic for future submission to the National Congress.

The Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, February 4, 2010



To the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture  
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Geneva