



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Office of the United Nations and
to the other International Organizations
Geneva

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Note Verbale

The Permanent Mission of Germany to the Office of the United Nations and to the other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to inform the Sub-Committee on the Prevention of Torture about the state of establishment of the National preventive mechanism under Part IV of the OP-CAT in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Due to the division of competences between federal authorities and federal states (Länder) authorities in Germany, The National Preventive Mechanism will consist of two bodies: a Federal Agency for the Prevention of Torture dealing with federal institutions and a Joint Commission of the Länder dealing with Länder authorities.

The Federal Agency for the Prevention of Torture has been set up by decree of the Federal Ministry of Justice of 20 November 2008 and is operative since the beginning of 2009. It has established its own website under www.antifolterstelle.de. The contact adress is:

Bundesstelle zur Verhütung von Folter
Viktoriastr. 35
65189 Wiesbaden

The Joint Commission of the Länder will be set up by a State Treaty between the 16 Länder. This treaty has been signed by all Länder on 24 June 2009 and is now awaiting ratification in the Länder parliaments. As some of the Länder are facing elections in the near future, the precise date of its entering into force can not yet be predicted.

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

Geneva, 13 August 2009

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Sub-Committee on the Prevention of Torture -
Geneva