



GNV 1/7/06 – A – NV - 178

HUMAN RIGHTS REGISTRY

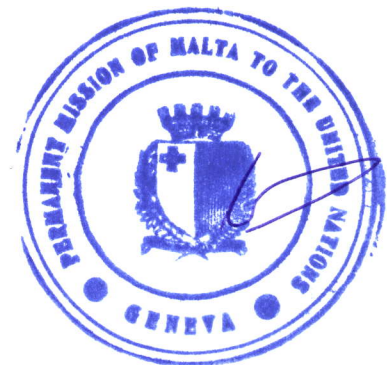
29 OCT 2008

Recipients : SPT  
PG (Encl.)

The Permanent Mission of Malta to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights), and has the honor to refer to the latter's communication dated 24<sup>th</sup> September, with reference PG/jr, regarding Article 17 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT) on the designation of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM).

The Permanent Mission of Malta is pleased to inform that the Government of Malta has taken action to address the relevant elements in Part IV of the Optional Protocol on the designation of a NPM. In response to request for information by the Secretariat of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, this Ministry encloses herewith copies of Legal Notices 265, 266 and 341, published in 2007 with the specific intention of addressing the relevant elements in Part IV of the OPCAT relating to the establishment/designation of the NPM. Legal Notices 265 and 341 amended the Prisons Act (Chapter 260 of the Laws of Malta); whilst Legal Notice 266 established the Board of Visitors for Detained Persons Regulations by virtue of Article 36 of the Immigration Act (Chapter 217 of the Laws of Malta). Copies of the Prison Act and the Prison Regulations (Legal Notice 118 of 1995) are also enclosed for ease of reference. An unofficial chart comparing relevant articles in OPCAT with those in relevant Legal Notices is also enclosed for guidance purposes only.

The Permanent Mission of Malta avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2008

**Secretariat of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture  
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
GENEVA**