

UN Committee against Torture to review Colombia

GENEVA (28 April 2015) - The UN Committee against Torture is due to review Colombia on 30 April and 1 May in sessions that will be webcast live.

Colombia is one of the 157 States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and is required to undergo regular examinations of its record before the Committee of 10 independent experts.

The Committee will engage in a dialogue with the Colombian government delegation and also hear from NGOs.

Public sessions: 10:00-12:00 (03:00-05.00 in Bogota) on 30 April, 15:00-17:00 (08:00 - 10:00) on 1 May. Venue: Palais Wilson, Geneva

Live webcast: <http://www.treatybodywebcast.org/> .

Among the possible issues to be discussed: criminal investigations and prosecutions of torture, enforced disappearances and “false positives”; redress, including compensation and rehabilitation for victims of torture; prison overcrowding and conditions in detention centres; measures to prevent attacks on human rights defenders and other members of civil society; and, sexual violence against women and children, in particular that related to the armed conflict.

Further information and Colombia’s report available at:

http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=961&Lang=en . The Committee will publish its concluding observations here on Friday 15 May.

A news conference is scheduled for 12:30 on Friday 15 May at Palais des Nations in Geneva when the Committee will discuss its concluding observations on Colombia and the other countries being reviewed – New Zealand, Congo, Romania, Luxembourg, Spain, Serbia, and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

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To learn more about the Committee Against Torture, please visit:
<http://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cat/pages/catindex.aspx>

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