



# **APT STRATEGIC PLAN**

## **2011-2012**

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### As approved by the Board in November 2010

## A. Vision and Mission

The APT envisions a world in which no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The APT seeks to achieve this vision through a preventive and cooperative approach. The APT works globally, regionally and nationally with a wide range of partners including State authorities, national institutions and civil society.

The APT is convinced that the prevention of torture and ill-treatment is best achieved through three integrated elements:

- Promoting **effective monitoring and transparency** in places of deprivation of liberty
- Contributing to effective international and national **legal and policy frameworks** for the prevention of torture
- Ensuring that **international and national actors** have the necessary **determination and capacity** to prevent torture.

In its work and functioning, the APT endeavours to apply the principles of a human rights based approach, in particular the universality and indivisibility of all human rights, empowerment, accountability, participation, non-discrimination, gender sensitivity and protection of vulnerable groups.

## B. Strategic objectives

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

#### **Promote effective monitoring and transparency in places of deprivation of liberty**

1. Promote and provide advice and training on best practices related to preventive detention monitoring.
2. Provide advice on the designation and establishment of competent, independent and effective national preventive mechanisms (NPMs), in

compliance with the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture (OPCAT).

3. Support the effective functioning of NPMs and the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture established under the OPCAT.
4. Promote synergies and coordination between international, regional and national bodies involved in preventive monitoring.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2**

### **Contribute to effective legal and policy frameworks to prevent torture**

1. Advocate for States to ratify the UN Convention against Torture (UNCAT), its Optional Protocol and other relevant international instruments.
2. Advocate for, and provide policy and legal advice on OPCAT implementation.
3. Advocate for, and provide policy and legal advice on, UNCAT implementation, in particular regarding national legal frameworks.
4. Contribute to the development of and better knowledge and understanding of international standards and jurisprudence related to the prohibition and prevention of torture.
5. Promote legal and procedural safeguards for the prevention of torture.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3**

### **Promote a culture of prevention by helping to improve capacities and practices of relevant actors**

1. Increase knowledge on torture prevention and prohibition by providing multilingual publications, tools and online resources.
2. Provide training and technical advice on torture prevention and facilitate exchange of experiences amongst relevant actors on best practices for torture prevention.
3. Improve practices of actors directly concerned with persons deprived of liberty, through enhancing their capacity, knowledge and determination to prevent torture.
4. Contribute to the development of the conceptual framework on torture prevention, through internal knowledge management, research and analysis of data and trends.

## C. Priorities by programme

PROGRAMME	PRIORITIES
<b>Africa</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promoting the designation, establishment and functioning of effective NPMs</li> <li>2. Engaging with and contributing to the African Commission and other regional actors for dynamic torture prevention</li> <li>3. Contributing to the effective domestication of the UN Convention against torture, through the adoption and implementation of national anti-torture legislation</li> </ol>
<b>Americas</b>	<p><u>Priorities Regional Office:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Effective OPCAT implementation (NPM designation &amp; functioning)</li> <li>2. Capacity strengthening/building on detention monitoring</li> <li>3. Facilitating exchanges and networks amongst torture prevention actors</li> </ol> <p><u>Priorities Geneva:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Engaging with the Inter-American human rights system for torture prevention</li> <li>5. Follow-up to recommendations of UN &amp; regional bodies</li> </ol>
<b>Asia-Pacific</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contribute to a critical mass of OPCAT ratifications in Asia Pacific, with effective NPMs in key countries</li> <li>2. Support processes for effective legal reform against torture in target countries</li> <li>3. Contribute to strengthened capacity and determination of key actors to prevent torture (NHRIs and criminal justice officials, NGOs).</li> </ol>
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promoting OPCAT ratification and NPM designation</li> <li>2. Ensuring effective NPM functioning</li> <li>3. Following-up on implementation of recommendations of UN &amp; regional bodies (special Rapporteur, CAT, etc.)</li> </ol>
<b>MENA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase commitment to the OPCAT among governments and civil society in the MENA region leading to additional ratifications</li> <li>2. Improve implementation of the Convention against Torture</li> <li>3. Sharing best practices on torture prevention within the region</li> </ol>

PROGRAMME	PRIORITIES
<b>Detention Monitoring</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Delivering trainings and workshops for National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs), National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and others; fostering exchanges and good practices on preventive detention monitoring methodology</li> <li>2. Developing internal knowledge on detention monitoring and on specific themes (such as migrants)</li> <li>3. Developing tools on detention monitoring</li> </ol>
<b>UN &amp; Legal Programme</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engage with and contribute to relevant UN bodies, mechanisms and agencies towards comprehensive protection against torture/CIDT and effective follow-up to the relevant recommendations</li> <li>2. Strengthen the normative prevention of torture/CIDT, in particular through the promotion of effective legal and procedural safeguards</li> <li>3. Support the domestic legislative implementation of international obligations related to torture prevention and prohibition</li> </ol>
<b>OPCAT</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sharing best practices on OPCAT implementation and policy development (internally &amp; externally)</li> <li>2. Promoting the ratification of the OPCAT in target countries / regions</li> <li>3. Supporting OPCAT implementation processes (NPM establishment, designation, functioning; support to SPT)</li> </ol>

## D. Planned activities by Objective

<b>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1</b>	
Promote effective monitoring and transparency in places of deprivation of liberty	
<b>AFRICA</b>	
<b>Benin, Mauritius, Senegal</b>	Support the establishment of an effective NPM
<b>Burkina Faso, Gabon, Togo</b>	Support the NPM designation process.
<b>Regional</b>	Support the effective functioning of NPMs through training and exchange of best practices on monitoring places of detention: Francophone Africa (2011) and Anglophone Africa (2012)
<b>AMERICAS</b>	
<b>Argentina</b>	Support NPM designation and functioning, including at the provincial level (Chaco and Rio Negro)
<b>Brazil</b>	Support NPM designation and functioning, including at the State level (Alagoas, Rio)
<b>Costa Rica</b>	Support the effective functioning of the NPM
<b>Chile, Uruguay</b>	Support the NPM designation and functioning
<b>Honduras, Guatemala</b>	Support the NPM functioning: advisory mission and training workshop.
<b>Paraguay</b>	Support the NPM designation process; Follow-up to the SPT visits
<b>Peru, Bolivia</b>	Support the NPM designation
<b>Mexico</b>	Support the NPM effective functioning Follow-up to the 2009 SPT visit
<b>ASIA PACIFIC</b>	
<b>Philippines</b>	Support the establishment/designation of an effective NPM

<b>Maldives</b>	Support implementation of OPCAT bodies recommendations
<b>Thailand, Japan</b>	Sharing of best practices of detention monitoring
<b>EUROPE &amp; CENTRAL ASIA</b>	
<b>Turkey</b>	Support the establishment/designation of an effective NPM
<b>Albania, Armenia</b>	Council of Europe (CoE) "European NPM Project": On site exchange of experiences on detention monitoring.
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	Support the effective functioning of NPMs through strategic planning and detention monitoring training
<b>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia</b>	Support the effective implementation of the OPCAT
<b>Regional</b>	Council of Europe (CoE) "European NPM Project": three thematic workshops for all European NPMs
<b>MIDDLE EAST &amp; NORTH AFRICA</b>	
<b>Lebanon</b>	Support local partners in their efforts to establish an effective NPM
<b>CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES AND TOOLS</b>	
<b>International, OPCAT Programme</b>	APT Global Forum on Torture Prevention (10-11 November 2011) Gathering of key international, regional and national actors to stock take on OPCAT implementation after 5 years and explore ways forward
<b>International, Detention Monitoring Programme</b>	Conference on visiting methodology for regional and international visiting bodies, Washington University (17-18 March 2011)
<b>United Nations, UN and Legal Programme</b>	Input on draft legislation related to National Preventive Mechanisms

<b>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2</b>	
Contribute to effective legal and policy frameworks to prevent torture	
<b>AFRICA</b>	
<b>Cameroun, Ghana, South Africa, Malawi, Zambia</b>	Promote OPCAT ratification and implementation
<b>Uganda, South Africa</b>	Support national processes on UNCAT domestication including criminalization of torture
<b>African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, The Gambia</b>	Support Committee for the Prevention of Torture in Africa (CPTA) activities for the effective implementation of the Robben Island Guidelines for the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture in Africa
<b>United Nations, Geneva</b>	Monitor the Universal Periodic Review: Uganda, Togo and CAT review: Madagascar, Mauritius
<b>AMERICAS</b>	
<b>Interamerican Commission on HR, Washington</b>	Cooperation with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
<b>Panama</b>	Advocate for OPCAT ratification; follow-up to UPR
<b>United Nations, Geneva</b>	Monitor Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and CAT review: Paraguay
<b>ASIA PACIFIC</b>	
<b>Philippines, Australia, Indonesia, Nepal, Timor Leste</b>	Promote OPCAT ratification
<b>Nepal, Maldives, Thailand</b>	Support processes of legal reform on torture
<b>Nepal, Thailand</b>	Follow-up to recommendations of UN mechanisms
<b>Pacific Islands</b>	Promote UNCAT ratification
<b>United Nations, Geneva</b>	Monitor the Universal Periodic Review: Australia, Nepal, Thailand, Timor Leste, Pacific Islands, Philippines; Indonesia; India

<b>EUROPE &amp; CENTRAL ASIA</b>	
<b>Bulgaria, Greece, Mongolia, Tajikistan</b>	Promote OPCAT ratification
<b>Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Turkey</b>	Follow-up to recommendations of UN mechanisms
<b>United Nations, Geneva</b>	Monitor the Universal Periodic Review: Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Tajikistan and Committee against Torture: Bulgaria, Greece, Germany
<b>MIDDLE EAST &amp; NORTH AFRICA</b>	
<b>Regional</b>	Promote OPCAT on a regional level, including with government officials, diplomats and through social networks
<b>Regional</b>	Support local actors in the implementation of UPR and CAT recommendations
<b>Regional</b>	Regional Conference on prevention of torture in international law, Morocco
<b>Morocco</b>	OPCAT advocacy
<b>Qatar</b>	Promote UNCAT implementation and OPCAT advocacy
<b>United Nations, Geneva</b>	Monitor the Committee against Torture review: Kuwait, Morocco, Tunisia
<b>CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES AND TOOLS</b>	
<b>UN and Legal Programme</b>	Engage in the UNODC process related to the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty, including the possible revision of the UN Standard Minimum Rules
	Advocacy on torture-related resolutions at the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly
	Advocacy related to the Committee against Torture (CAT) and Universal Periodic Reviews
	Provide input on domestic legislation implementing UNCAT and other torture prevention norms
	Facilitate follow-up to selected recommendations of Special Procedures, Treaty Bodies and Universal Periodic Reviews

<b>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3</b>	
Promote a culture of prevention by helping to improve capacities and practices of relevant actors	
<b>AFRICA</b>	
<b>Regional</b>	Capacity strengthening for NHRIs in Africa (including Northern Africa) on prevention of torture
<b>Madagascar</b>	Capacity strengthening for judges, lawyers and other criminal justice officials for the effective implementation of the national anti-torture law
<b>AMERICAS</b>	
<b>Argentina, Paraguay</b>	Detention monitoring for members of the judiciary
<b>Brazil</b>	Detention monitoring training for prosecutors
<b>ASIA PACIFIC</b>	
<b>Sub-Regional</b>	Blended learning trainings (online course and face to face workshop) on torture prevention for National Human Rights Institutions in South Asia (2011) and West Asia (2012)
<b>Regional</b>	NHRI implementation of international human rights treaties, in particular OPCAT (APF annual meeting, 2011)
<b>MIDDLE EAST &amp; NORTH AFRICA</b>	
<b>Regional</b>	Regional workshop on the role of lawyers in the prevention of torture
<b>Mauritania</b>	Engage with national actors on torture prevention
<b>Nepal &amp; Indonesia</b>	Participation in training programmes for criminal justice officials
<b>CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES AND TOOLS</b>	
<b>UN and Legal Programme</b>	Research on the role of judges and prosecutors in the prevention of torture, including judicial visits to places of detention

	Update of the Torture Law Compilation
	Publication of Legal Briefings on Safeguards for torture prevention
<b>Detention Monitoring Programme</b>	International Detention Coalition on migrants and refugees (IDC): sessions on detention monitoring during 4 Regional Workshops (Middle East, South Africa, Asia and Latin America)
	Publication of a manual on monitoring police facilities
	Publication of specialized detention monitoring briefings
<b>OPCAT Programme</b>	Publication of OPCAT briefings (including on civil society and NPMs)
	Update of the OPCAT Data base