



National Preventive Mechanisms Directory: Africa

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National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs)

According to Article 17 of the [Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture \(OPCAT\)](#), every State party must establish its National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) within one year of having ratified the instrument unless, at the time of the ratification, it enters a declaration in accordance with Article 24 postponing this deadline.

There are currently 83 States parties to OPCAT and the present NPM Directory lists all these States parties below according to the regional division adopted by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT). However the HRIC has information only about 64 established NPMs for which individual entries can be found below.

The NPM Directory holds fundamental information about all the designated National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) around the world thus providing its users with quick and easy access to the basic information about each NPM. It pulls together key background information on each designated NPM as well as hosts links to the published material of the individual NPMs such as their Annual Reports or SPT's NPM advisory visit reports.

The NPM Directory is not intended to cover all aspects of each NPMs' mandate which is done by such excellent resources as [APT's OPCAT Database](#) or the information about the [designated NPMs](#) or [annual reports](#) available from the [SPT's website](#) or indeed the information from the specific websites of each individual NPMs to which all users are referred to for further particulars.



Benin

Further information to come.



Burkina Faso

The NPM designated	The National Observer for the Prevention of Torture
Website	<i>No website</i>
Date of the official NPM designation	27 May 2014
Date of the OPCAT ratification	7 July 2010
Mode of NPM designation	New legislation, Law N° 022-2014/AN was adopted by the national legislator on 27 May 2014 Burkina Fasa Legislation (PDF, 128kB)
Composition of the NPM	New specialised institution.
Annual Reports and other documents	No annual reports as of yet.
Interaction with the SPT	SPT has not visited Burkina Faso.



Burundi

Further information to come.



Cape Verde

Further information to come.



Central African Republic

Further information to come.



Congo, Democratic Republic of

Further information to come.



Gabon

Further information to come.



Ghana

Further information to come.



Liberia

Further information to come.



Mali

The NPM designated	The National Observer for the Prevention of Torture
Website	http://www.cndhmali.org
Date of the official NPM designation	16 March 2006
Date of the OPCAT ratification	12 May 2005
Mode of NPM designation	<p>The initial designation of the National Human Rights Commission as the NPM was carried out carried by the same Presidential Decree (N°6-117/P-RM) which established the Commission (PDF, 105kB) itself on the 16 March 2006.</p> <p>On 19 November 2009 the Parliament adopted Law N°09-042 (PDF, 4,986kB) which established the new legislative mandate for the National Human Rights Commission. This Law was completed by Decree N° 09-641 (PDF, 4,986kB) of 30 November 2009.</p>
Composition of the NPM	<p>There is no separate NPM unit; the NPM work is ensured by the NHRC as a whole, which is composed of 40 members.</p> <p>The commission has 6 Sub-commissions (established in accordance with Article 10 of the Presidential Decree N°6-117/P-RM):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sub-commission on Civil and Political Rights;• Sub-commission on economic, social and cultural rights;• Sub-commission on solidarity rights;• Sub-commission on women, children and vulnerable Strata;• Sub-commission on information, sensitisation and formation;• Sub-commission on the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. It was established in 2010 to lead on the NPM mandate.
Annual Reports and other documents	<p>No separate NPM annual reports located; however the annual reports of the Commission contain some account of the NPM activities: see annual reports for 2010 (PDF, 1,272kB), 2011 (PDF, 430kB) and 2012 (PDF, 2,796kB).</p> <p>See also the Strategic Plan 2010-2014 (PDF, 508kB) which, <i>inter alia</i>, refers to the establishment of the Sub-commission on the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.</p>
Interaction with the SPT	SPT carried out a regular visit to Mali on 5 -14 December 2011 and the State party has requested the publication of the visit report (PDF, 335kB) which is available in French.



Mauritania

Further information to come.



Mauritius

The NPM designated	The Human Rights Commission
Website	http://nhrc.govmu.org/English/Pages/default.aspx
Date of the official NPM designation	October 2007
Date of the OPCAT ratification	21 June 2005
Mode of NPM designation	<p>The Commission was initially administratively designated as the NPM in the anticipation of the SPT's visit and it appears that this was done through a mere notification given to the SPT in October 2007. This was reiterated in an official correspondence (PDF, 559kB) between the Republic of Mauritius and the SPT on the 10 May 2010.</p> <p>On 13 July 2012 The National Preventive Mechanism Bill (PDF, 75kB) (No. XXI of 2012) was adopted, creating a NPM division in the commission (together with 2 other divisions created by 2 different bills) acting as the Mauritius National preventive mechanism. The bill came into force on the 1 July, 2013 (proclamation n°32 of 2013 (PDF, 55kB)).</p>
Composition of the NPM	<p>APT report that the NPM is composed of 8 individuals: 2 members from the HRC (one being Deputy Chair of the NHRC and also chairing the NPM); 2 members from the Attorney General's Office, 1 member from the Ombudsman's Office; the Chief Police Medical Officer; and 2 members from the NGOs.</p> <p>The NPM division is composed of 4 members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Chairperson of the Commission as its head• A deputy Chairperson• A member selected in a list submitted by NGO's involved in social work in prison• An expert member
Annual Reports and other documents	No separate NPM annual reports located; however the annual reports of the Commission contain some account of the NPM activities: see annual reports for 2007 (PDF, 1,815kB) and 2008 (PDF, 2,302kB) .
Interaction with the SPT	SPT carried out a regular visit to Mauritius on 8-18 October 2007; however the State party has not requested the publication of the visit report.



Morocco

Further information to come.



Mozambique

The NPM designated	The Human Rights Commission
Website	<i>No website</i>
Date of the official NPM designation	1 July 2014
Date of the OPCAT ratification	1 July 2014
Mode of NPM designation	<p>The APT reports that, in 2013, Mozambique approved an internal resolution on OPCAT ratification and designation of the newly established CNDH as NPM.</p> <p>CNDH was established and became operational in September 2012, pursuant to Act No. 33/2009, 22 December 2009.</p>
Composition of the NPM	<p>Not clear whether a separate NPM Unit has been established.</p> <p>The CNDH is comprised of 11 members, three elected by the political parties who hold seats in the Assembly, four chosen by civil society, three appointed by the Prime Minister, and one chosen by the Mozambique Bar Association. Although the legislation on CNDH was adopted in 2009, its first members were not sworn in until 2012.</p>
Annual Reports and other documents	No annual reports as of yet.
Interaction with the SPT	SPT has not visited Mozambique.



Niger

Further information to come.



Nigeria

The NPM designated	National Committee on Torture
Website	<i>No website</i>
Date of the official NPM designation	28 September 2009
Date of the OPCAT ratification	27 July 2009
Mode of NPM designation	The Committee was inaugurated by the Attorney-General of the Federation on 28 September 2009 and along with this, the Terms of Reference of the Mandate of National Committee on Torture (PDF, 557kB) were published.
Composition of the NPM	This is a newly created institution for the purposes of NPM. APT report that the Committee comprises 19 representatives from a wide range of sectors (NGOs, Human Rights Commission, prison authorities, legal community, Justice Ministry etc).
Annual Reports and other documents	No annual reports as of yet.
Interaction with the SPT	SPT has announced a regular visit to Nigeria in 2014.



Rwanda

Further information to come.



Senegal

The NPM designated	National Observatory of Places of Deprivation of Liberty
Website	http://www.onlpl.sn/
Date of the official NPM designation	2 March 2009
Date of the OPCAT ratification	18 October 2006
Mode of NPM designation	<p>Law No 2009-13 on the National Observatory of Places of Deprivation of Liberty (PDF, 2,799kB) was adopted on 18 February 2009 and signed by the President on 2 March 2009. According to Article 12 of this law, a further Decree must be adopted for the implementation of the law. On 16 June 2011, the Council of Ministers approved the implementing Decree of the legislation establishing the National Observatory of Places of Deprivation of Liberty. (PDF, 88kB)</p> <p>On 19 January 2012 the Director of the Observatory, Mr. Diouf Tall, former magistrate and technical adviser to the Ministry of Justice, was appointed under Decree No. 2012-119.</p>
Composition of the NPM	<p>This is a new specialised institution created to carry out the NPM mandate.</p> <p>In November 2012 of the Observatory's Rules of Procedure were adopted by decision No. 1-2012, and the National Monitoring Committee of the Observatory was created by decision No. 2-2012 establishing various organizational and structural procedures. On 26 November 2012 the Guidance on Visits was adopted too.</p>
Annual Reports and other documents	<p>No annual reports located.</p> <p>However, in preparation of the SPT's NPM advisory visit to Senegal, FIACAT-ACAT Senegal issued a report examining the Senegalese NPM (PDF, 141kB) in June 2012.</p>
Interaction with the SPT	<p>SPT carried out a NPM advisory visit to Senegal between 10-13 December 2012 and the NPM has requested the publication of the report addressed to the NPM (PDF, 267kB). The Senegalese NPM has requested the publication of its replies to the SPT report which are available in French (PDF, 43kB).</p>



South Sudan

Further information to come.



Togo

The NPM designated	National Human Rights Commission
Website	http://www.cndh-togo.org/cndh-togo/
Date of the official NPM designation	2012
Date of the OPCAT ratification	20 July 2010
Mode of NPM designation	<p>The national Human Rights Commission operates on the basis of the Organic Law N° 2005-004 (PDF, 24kB) which was last amended on 9 February 2005.</p> <p>It is however unclear how the designation of the Commission as the NPM took place; the letter to the SPT from the Togo Permanent Mission to the UN informing of this designation (PDF, 613kB) was sent on 21 September 2012.</p>
Composition of the NPM	It has been reported that there are plans to set up a separate NPM unit within the Commission but it is unclear whether this has happened
Annual Reports and other documents	<p>No annual NPM reports located.</p> <p>See Annual Report of the Commission for 2010-11 (PDF, 599kB) which contains some information about the NPM process in Togo too.</p>
Interaction with the SPT	SPT has announced that it will carry out a regular in-country visit to Togo in 2014.



Tunisia

The NPM designated	National Authority for the Prevention of Torture (Instance Nationale de la Prévention de la Torture).
Website	<i>No website</i>
Date of the official NPM designation	23 October 2013
Date of the OPCAT ratification	29 June 2011
Mode of NPM designation	The Organic Law N° 2013-43 establishing the NPM (PDF, 434kB) was published in the Official Gazette of Tunisia on 25 October 2013.
Composition of the NPM	This is a new institution created for the purposes of NPM.
Annual Reports and other documents	No annual reports as of yet.
Interaction with the SPT	SPT has not visited Tunisia.