

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION**

Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture
(Extracts for follow-up of CAT/C/COD/CO/2)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

(...)

C. Principal subjects of concern and recommendations

(...)

Fundamental legal safeguards

(...)

13. The Committee reiterates the recommendation made in its previous concluding observations (para. 7 (c)) and urges the State party to:

(...)

(c) Systematically verify that State officials respect, in practice, all legal guarantees and scrupulously keep registers, and punish any failure to do so;

(...)

National mechanism for the prevention of torture

(...)

25. The State party should initiate, without delay, a participatory and inclusive process to establish an independent and effective national preventive mechanism, in accordance with the guidance of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The State party should allocate the human and financial resources needed to enable the mechanism to function effectively and independently.

(...)

Sexual violence

(...)

33. The Committee urges the State party to:

(a) Ensure that all cases of sexual violence automatically give rise to effective and impartial ex officio investigations and proceedings in the ordinary

courts and that perpetrators, including instigators and accomplices, are prosecuted and receive punishments commensurate with the seriousness of the acts committed;

(b) Assess the needs of victims of acts of sexual violence and establish compensation funds that are operational, along with specialized medical and psychological rehabilitation services;

(...)

Violence against children

(...)

35. The Committee urges the State party to:

(a) Automatically launch investigations and proceedings when child abuse, including sexual violence, is suspected, so that perpetrators are punished and victims receive reparation, including rehabilitation measures and health care that encompasses psychological support;

(...)

(c) Ensure that children are not held alongside adults and that their conditions of detention are appropriate to their status as minors;

(...)

Follow-up procedure

42. The Committee requests the State party to provide, by 17 May 2020, information on follow-up to the Committee's recommendations contained in paragraphs 13 (c), 25, 33 (a) and (b), and 35 (a) and (c). In that context, the State party is invited to inform the Committee about its plans for implementing, within the coming reporting period, some or all of the remaining recommendations in the concluding observations.

(...)
