

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF THE GENEVA BAR ASSOCIATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE

Workshop on the “Lawyer of the first hour” under the Swiss Criminal Procedure Code and the related international human rights safeguards / 7-8 March 2016 / Delegation from the Republic of Fiji



Objective

Workshop on the “Lawyer of the first hour” under the Swiss Criminal Procedure Code, some related aspects and human rights safeguards.

Key Topics

- General introduction to “Lawyer of the first hour” and related issues
- Scheme of implementation of the “Lawyer of the first hour”
- Perspectives from the Police and Public Prosecutor Office on the “Lawyer of the first hour”; training, implementation and practical issues; visit of Geneva central police station and premises related to the first hours of custody
- Human rights safeguards and viewpoints of the Association for the Prevention of Torture, the World Organisation Against Torture and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the matter
- Discussion on the European Court of Human Rights case law: *Dembele vs Switzerland*

Venue

Maison des avocats
11, rue de l’Hôtel-de-ville (bottom of the yard)
1211 Geneva 3
+41 22 310 50 65

Speakers

Yves BERTOSSA, First Prosecutor, Geneva Public Prosecutor Office

Sébastien GILLIOZ, Human Rights Officer for the Asia Pacific Section of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Sandrine GIROUD, Lawyer, President of the Human Rights Commission of the Geneva Bar Association

Her Excellency Nazhat Shameen KHAN, Ambassador of the Republic of Fiji to the United Nations in Geneva

Simon NTAH, Lawyer, Member of the Geneva Bar Association’s Council, Member of the Human Rights Commission of the Geneva Bar Association

Olivier PREVOSTO, Section Chief of the Geneva Judicial Police and supervisor of the police training during the implementation of Swiss Criminal Procedure Code

Matthew SANDS, Legal Adviser for the Association for the Prevention of Torture

Sylvain SAVOLAINEN, Lawyer, Member of Human Rights Commission of the Geneva Bar Association

Eric SOTTAS, former Secretary General of the World Organisation against Torture

Vincent SPIRA, Lawyer, former Head of the Geneva Bar Association acting during the implementation of Swiss Criminal Procedure Code, Member of the Geneva Bar Association’s Council

Programme

Monday 7th March 2016

- 8:30** Welcome of the participants at the Maison des Avocats
- 8:45** Welcome speeches
Simon NTAH and Sandrine GIROUD
- 9:00** General Introduction to the “Lawyer of the first hour” and some related aspects
Sylvain SAVOLAINEN
- 10:30** Coffee break
- 10:45** European Court of Human Rights case law: *Dembele vs Switzerland*
Sylvain SAVOLAINEN
- 11:00** Implementation of the Swiss Criminal Procedure Code and the “Lawyer of the first hour”; analysis and experience of a criminal lawyer, former Head of the Geneva Bar Association
Vincent SPIRA
- 11:45** Discussion
- 12:15** Lunch Break
- 14:30** Perspective of the Police on the “Lawyer of the first hour” (Carl-Vogt Police Station, visit of Geneva central police station and premises related to the first hours of custody)
Olivier PREVOSTO
- 16:30** Perspective of the Public Prosecutor Office on the “Lawyer of the first hour”
Yves BERTOSSA
- 17:15** Discussion
- 18:00** Address by the Ambassador of the Republic of Fiji at the United Nations in Geneva H.E. Ms Nazhat Shameen KHAN
- 18:15** Cocktail, Maison des avocats

Tuesday 8th March 2016

- 9:00** UN Human Rights mechanisms to safeguard Human Rights and OHCHR engagement in Fiji
Sébastien GILLIOZ
- 9:30** Key features of the UN Convention against torture in the light of OMCT’ practical experience”, perspective of the World Organisation against Torture
Eric SOTTAS
- 10:30** Perspective of the Association for the Prevention of Torture
Matthew SANDS
- 11:30** Discussion
- 12:00** Lunch and shifting to the United Nations
- 13:00** Intervention of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment at the Human Rights Committee (held at the United Nations premises)
Mr Juan MENDEZ
- 15:00** Final Discussion and exchange of views (held at the Association for the Prevention of Torture’s premises)
- 19:00** Dinner offered by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Fiji

NB: Please note that the 14th edition of the **International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights** will take place between 4 and 13 March 2016 in Geneva (for further information: www.fifdh.org)