70th Session of the UN General Assembly

Implementation of the revised UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Mandela Rules)

Monday 19 October 2015, 3-5pm, Conference Room 8, United Nations Headquarters, New York
With a small informal reception at 4.30pm

Following four years of negotiations, the revised Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Mandela Rules) have been put forward for final approval by the UN General Assembly (see ECOSOC E/RES/2015/20).

Their adoption marks a historic event: the revision updates the key set of standards on the treatment of prisoners and detention conditions adopted 60 years ago, and consolidates human rights and criminal justice standards in one document.

At this event the expert panel will focus on the areas and Rules with particular relevance to the prevention of torture and ill-treatment. It will seek to initiate discussion on the implementation of the ‘Mandela Rules’ and to start collecting recommendations and good practice in that regard.

The side event will be webcast.

Moderator: Andrea Huber, Penal Reform International

Welcome & Introduction
Jürg Lauber, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Switzerland at the UN in New York

Summary of the review process
Matteo Pasquali, United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime

Prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment
Juan E. Méndez, Special Rapporteur on Torture

Rules relating to health-care
Stefan Enggist, World Health Organization

Investigations, complaints and legal representation
Jamil Dakwar, American Civil Liberties Union

Inspection and prisoner file system
Malcolm Evans, Chair of the UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture

Questions & Answers

Concluding remarks
Brooke Darby, Senior Advisor, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), U.S. Department of State

Should you require access to the premises of the UN please RSVP at the latest on 14 October by emailing ahuber@penalreform.org