



UNITED STATES MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN GENEVA
December 5, 2013

OHCHR REGISTRY

15 DEC 2013

Recipients ... SPD.....
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Mr. Juan Mendez
UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman
and Degrading Treatment or Punishment
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Mr. Mendez,

Thank you for your email of December 1, 2013 to Special Envoy for Guantanamo Closure Sloan, concerning the potential repatriation of Djamel Ameziane, an Algerian national detained at the Guantanamo Bay detention facility.

As the U.S. Government indicated in its July 2013 Periodic Report to the United Nations Committee Against Torture, the United States will not transfer any person to a country where it determines it is more likely than not that the person will be tortured. The United States maintains extensive mechanisms to ensure that all transfers are conducted in a manner consistent with its non-refoulement commitment and conducts a thorough review of each potential transfer from Guantanamo to ensure that it complies with this humane treatment policy.

In Guantanamo Bay transfer cases, including when detention as a result of a judicial proceeding or other lawful authority by the receiving country is foreseen, the U.S. Government seeks assurances of humane treatment, including treatment in accordance with the international obligations of the destination country, in particular under the Convention Against Torture. In every decision to transfer a detainee, the U.S. Government takes into account the totality of relevant factors relating to the individual and the government in question, including but not limited to any diplomatic assurances that have been provided and any concerns regarding mistreatment or persecution. While we cannot comment on specific detainee transfers, we can assure you that any transfer of Mr. Ameziane would be consistent with our humane treatment policy.

We look forward to continuing to work with you constructively as we reduce the detainee population at Guantanamo and ultimately close the facility.

Sincerely,

Peter F. Mulrean
Chargé d'Affaires *ad interim*