

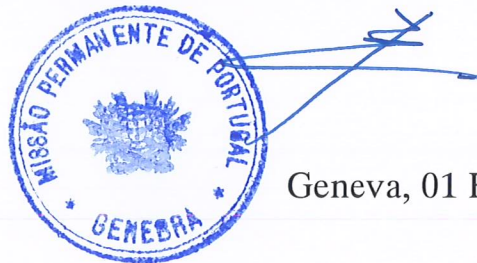


PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL
GENEVA

No. 57
DH

The Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to its letter (Ref: AL PRT 1/2021) dated 26 January, has the honour to enclose herewith the letter that the Minister of State and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Augusto Santos Silva, has addressed to the subscribers of the Joint Communication from Special procedures.

The Permanent Mission of Portugal avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, 01 February 2021

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Ms Beatriz Balbin
Chief, Special Procedures Branch
CH 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Fax: +41 22 917 90 08
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Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros
O Ministro

Lisbon, 29th January 2021

Excellencies,

I am writing to thank you for the letter I received today, bringing our attention to the registration and verification exercise that took place in Al-Hol and Roj camps for all third country nationals, including Portuguese citizens.

The Portuguese Government is fully committed to respect and ensure respect for international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and to fully cooperate with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council. In this regard, we share your concerns regarding both the substance of this specific process, and the alleged manner in which it was carried out. Therefore, in spite of the constraints imposed by the dire pandemic situation in which we find ourselves in, we will strive to collect all relevant information and provide you with our observations in a timely manner.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Augusto Santos Silva

Augusto Santos Silva
Minister of State and Foreign Affairs

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism
Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions
Special Rapporteur on the right to food
Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context
Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants
Special Rapporteur on minority issues
Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material
Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children
Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences
Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation
Working Group on discrimination against women and girls