

**NATIONS UNIES
HAUT COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES
AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME**

**PROCEDURES SPECIALES DU
CONSEIL DES DROITS DE L'HOMME**

**UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

**SPECIAL PROCEDURES OF THE
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

Mandates of the Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

REFERENCE: G/SO 214/46-19 G/SO 218/2 G/SO 217/1 Terrorism (2005-4) G/SO 214 (53-24)
SYR 15/2011

21 October 2011

Excellency,

We have the honour to address you in our capacities as Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; and Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251 and to Human Rights Council resolutions 15/18, 16/16, 15/15, and 16/23.

On 2 June 2010, at the fourteenth session of the Human Rights Council, our mandates presented the joint study on global practices in relation to secret detention in the context of countering terrorism (A/HRC/13/42). At that time, the importance of follow-up was highlighted, in particular through the launch of independent enquiries into allegations contained in the study.

The joint study was part of a consultative process with States and we wish to thank all States that have facilitated our joint work. In the same spirit of cooperation, we would like to continue engaging with States in ensuring appropriate follow-up to the joint study. In this context, we would like to invite your Excellency's Government to provide us with information on measures taken to investigate the allegations contained in the joint study and if found true, to rectify the situation in compliance with international human rights norms and standards; to implement the related recommendations; and to provide any other relevant information

The information provided by your Excellency's Government will be included in the next joint communications report presented by Special Procedures and be considered by our mandates at the nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council.

We thank you in advance for your Excellency's Government's anticipated co-operation and for engaging in a dialogue with our respective mandates. It would be most appreciated if your reply could reach the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights by 30 November 2011.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Jeremy Sarkin
Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Shaheen Sardar Ali
Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Ben Emmerson
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

Juan E. Mendèz
Special Rapporteur on torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment