



**Convention against Torture
and Other Cruel, Inhuman
or Degrading Treatment
or Punishment**

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Summary record of the 1179th meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 1 November 2013, at 3 p.m.

Chairperson: Mr. Grossman

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention *(continued)*

Combined third to fifth periodic reports of Latvia (continued) (CAT/C/LVA/3-5; CAT/C/LVA/Q/5)

1. *At the invitation of the Chairperson, the delegation of Latvia took places at the Committee table.*
2. **Ms. Medina** (Latvia) said that, following the Committee's previous recommendations, a general definition of torture had been introduced in criminal law and provisions on the conduct of public officials had been amended to criminalize torture, including attempted torture, and establish heavy penalties. All offences were subject to a statute of limitations, except those covered in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Since such a course was not specifically mandated by the Convention, her Government did not see the need to lift the statute of limitations when perpetrators were public officials. It considered that 10 years was sufficient for victims to report an offence and for perpetrators to be brought to justice.
3. Under the Criminal Procedure Law, the State had, where necessary, to provide interpretation services for defendants at all stages of criminal proceedings. Furthermore, the European directive on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings would enter into force at the end of 2013 and the Government had allocated 2 million euros for its implementation. Prison staff generally had a sufficient grasp of Russian. Although the 2009 Concept Paper on Penal Policy had not amended the terms of pretrial detention, it had provided for alternative measures and substantially shorter prison sentences. The number of prisoners had decreased markedly since the adoption of the concept paper, dropping from approximately 7,000 in 2009 to 5,200 in 2013, while the number of persons in pretrial detention had fallen by 25 per cent between 2010 and 2013. No complaints of unduly delayed proceedings had been deemed admissible by the European Court of Human Rights.
4. Replying to various questions on juvenile justice, she said that the Criminal Procedure Law stipulated that minors should only be detained in the most serious cases and had been amended to clarify the terms of juvenile detention, the length of which was determined on the basis of the seriousness of the offence and ranged from 30 days to 12 months. The practice was increasingly rare: as of October 2013, only 13 of the 31 convicted minors had been detained. Drawing the Committee's attention to paragraph 198 of the report, she said that the notion of "compulsory correctional measures" referred to measures imposed on minors aged 11 to 18 when neither criminal nor administrative penalties were deemed appropriate. Fines were only imposed on minors when they had a source of income. The law provided for a range of penalties for each criminal offence, giving judges leeway to apply the punishment most conducive to rehabilitating convicts and preventing them from reoffending.
5. In order to implement the European directive on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, the Government was working on a number of legislative amendments, including an overhaul of criminal provisions regarding sexual offences. The statute of limitations had been extended to 20 years in cases of serious sexual offences against minors. Pursuant to the European directive on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, comprehensive amendments to criminal legislation had come into force in April 2013, notably a prohibition on prosecuting trafficking victims for their involvement in unlawful activities.

6. The Ministry of Justice had prepared an amendment, based on international best practices, introducing protective orders into the Civil Procedure Law. The amendment stipulated that victims of domestic violence could apply to the courts for a protective order themselves or with the help of the police. Rape was a serious criminal offence, and a current or past spousal relationship between assailant and victim was considered an aggravating circumstance. Capital punishment had been abolished in December 2011 and some 53 persons were currently serving life sentences. Perpetrators of minor offences or criminal offences not resulting in death could be released from legal liability by reaching a settlement with the victim or their representative, provided that they had not been released from legal liability for another offence in the previous 12 months and that any injury had been fully compensated.

7. The Ombudsman's Office had begun the process for accreditation as the national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles, and would be submitting the final documentation by the end of 2013. Despite funding shortages, the Ombudsman was becoming better known among the general public. It had the authority to investigate complaints, visit closed institutions, appeal to the courts and petition the Constitutional Court if it considered a law to be unconstitutional, which it had done on a number of occasions.

8. There had been over 125 rulings on corruption charges involving more than 220 individuals, of whom 55 per cent were public officials, including law enforcement personnel, judges, lawyers and municipal politicians.

9. Replying to a number of questions on prison conditions, she said that the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture had rated a number of facilities favourably, but others remained inadequate. Accordingly, the authorities had undertaken a comprehensive audit of prison conditions with a particular focus on the amount of space per prisoner, natural and artificial light, ventilation and sanitation. A commission would be presenting a report and recommendations in March 2014.

10. A policy document on health care in detention centres was being drafted with a view to integrating the prison health-care system into the mainstream public health-care system. When injuries were detected by a prison doctor or another member of staff, prison authorities were legally obliged to investigate their cause. If the injuries were found to have been caused by another prisoner, the case was forwarded to the competent authorities for criminal action. Detainees could file complaints with the Administrative Court or the Health Inspectorate, and damages had been awarded in some cases. Both convicted and unconvicted prisoners could appeal disciplinary measures taken against them. Solitary confinement could not be imposed for more than 15 days on adults and 10 days on minors. Guidelines on assessing prisoners' suicide risk had been issued to prison personnel based on a scale designed by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and training in detecting suicidal behaviour was given thanks to joint financing by the Government and the European Commission. Lastly, prison authorities were obliged to register all children born in detention.

11. **Ms. France** (Latvia) said that the Government had put in place a range of measures to protect the right of detainees, suspects and defendants to a lawyer, including the possibility of legal aid if they had insufficient means. There were currently 1,280 defence attorneys in the country, more than enough to meet demand for legal aid. Moreover, the European Court of Human Rights had concluded that access to legal aid was not a systemic problem in Latvia. There was no State reparation for psychological harm suffered by crime victims; however, the Civil Procedure Law provided for compensation by the offender for moral harm, bodily injury and financial loss. Courses on more than 20 human rights topics were given each year at the Judicial Training Centre and judges often based their decisions on rulings of the European Court. The Government was preparing a grant application to the

European Social Fund for further training of judges, prosecutors, forensic experts and investigators.

12. Responding to concerns raised about the efficiency of the legal system, she said that measures had been taken to clear the backlog of cases. A project had been under way since 2009, in cooperation with Switzerland, to furnish courtrooms with sound recording and videoconferencing equipment, institute a calendar to ensure lawyers were available for hearings, establish an electronic platform for the publication of judgements and set up electronic complaint submissions. An evaluation system had been implemented in 2013 to assess judges' performance every five years. In addition, a mechanism would be introduced requiring all cases to be submitted in the first instance to district courts with a view to simplifying the court structure and avoiding the fragmentation of jurisdictions. Beginning in January 2014, senior judges would have broader responsibility for case management with the aim of limiting the length of trials. Lastly, efforts were under way to promote alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and the Mediation Act was due to come into effect in early 2014.

13. **Mr. Zakis** (Latvia), replying to questions about the Internal Security Office of the State Police, said that a reorganization was planned so that the Office would no longer be responsible for investigating and punishing its own personnel. The new entity would be under the direct supervision of the Ministry of the Interior and would conduct preliminary investigations into all criminal offences committed by State police officers and border guards, and into allegations of ill-treatment by prison, port police and municipal police officers. Thus, it would oversee the actions of some 20,000 law enforcement personnel. He acknowledged that the number of complaints against the State police continued to grow (from over 1,500 in 2010 to over 2,400 in 2012). In addition, more than 80 per cent of ill-treatment complaints were dismissed.

14. There was no reason to believe that official statistics were not indicative of the situation on the ground. In an effort to reduce the incidence of ill-treatment, police detention centres and all patrol cars had been equipped with video surveillance. The quality of the Internal Security Office's investigations was satisfactory, despite a lack of resources, but there was room for improvement and it was hoped that the reorganization would correct issues relating to institutional independence. Lastly, anyone could submit a complaint to the Office by letter, fax, phone or e-mail or directly to the Prosecutor's Office or the Ombudsman. Instructions on the complaints mechanism were available online. Although the mechanism was effective, more needed to be done to increase public trust in the Internal Security Office.

15. Recent legislative amendments stipulated that recognized trafficking victims were eligible for up to 180 hours of State-funded social rehabilitation services and that victims acting as witnesses could receive up to 150 hours of support during criminal proceedings, including legal and psychosocial assistance and interpretation services. Latvia was strictly a country of origin and there had been no recorded cases of internal trafficking within the meaning of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; there had therefore been no opportunity to evaluate existing protective measures. The trafficking division of the State police actively cooperated with the authorities of countries where Latvian victims were indentified. In addition, Latvia had signed two international cooperation agreements, one with Estonia and Lithuania on legal assistance and the other with Estonia on cross-border cooperation in combating crime.

16. Under the Criminal Procedure Law, detainees must receive prompt information about their rights, including contact with relatives and their employer, in a language they understood. Referring the Committee to paragraph 151 of the report, he said that the same

Law provided for the conclusion of criminal proceedings within a reasonable period, which depended on factors such as the legal complexity of the case.

17. **Mr. Velšs** (Latvia), referring to police custody, said that the law defined a short-term detention facility as a specially equipped place on police premises where only persons under arrest or serving an administrative sentence could be placed. Administrative arrest ranged from 24 hours to 15 days and could not be imposed on minors, persons with disabilities, pregnant women or sole guardians of children under 12. The average length of police custody was four days. In one case, a person had been held for 45 days because of the burden of processing several offences. The case had been investigated and no irregularities had been found.

18. Naturally, conditions differed from those in longer-term detention, but detainees in police custody were nonetheless entitled to personal hygiene products, three meals a day and unlimited drinking water. Detainees had their own bed, toilets were separate from sleeping quarters, cells were equipped with a call button and had adequate natural and artificial light, and the ambient temperature must not fall below 18 °C. Detainees were entitled to a half-hour outdoor walk every 24 hours.

19. Access to health services, in particular emergency medical and dental care, was guaranteed. Where necessary, detainees were escorted to external medical units. They had the right to be examined by a doctor of their choice, but at their own expense. They did not have the right to meet family members, but were entitled to have a relative or employer notified of their situation and to consult legal counsel. No special permission was required to meet counsel, nor was their meeting time in any way restricted.

20. The State Police operated 22 short-term detention facilities, with a total capacity of 694 people. Five of them were currently unused because of the recent decrease in the number of detainees. If all cells were filled, the minimum cell space per detainee would be 4.7 square metres, but on average such facilities had an occupancy rate of only 10 to 20 per cent. The above-mentioned decrease was likely to continue in the wake of a Government decision not to hold persons suspected of administrative offences in such detention. The Government was considering closing down some of the facilities and reallocating resources to prisons. A 3 million euro project to upgrade the remaining short-term facilities would begin in 2014.

21. Those facilities were constantly monitored. No detainees were kept in solitary confinement. In one facility, a special cell was set aside for detainees who had sudden violent episodes, often induced by drug or alcohol consumption, so that they would not endanger themselves or other detainees. Men and women were held separately, and children were separated from adults. Persons in short-term custody were separated from convicts and were informed of detention procedures upon arrival in a language they understood, if necessary through an interpreter. Their rights were posted in Latvian, Russian and English. Police-service horses and dogs were not used to control detainees. Animals were used for riot control, patrols, arrests and searches for missing people.

22. The State Police College provided continuing training for police officers. A system of self-assessment was used in conjunction with surveys in order to assess their work. All police officers underwent review every two years. The College did not provide Russian-language training and learning Russian was optional in schools. Nevertheless, no complaints had been received about difficulties in communicating with police officers because of their lack of Russian.

23. **Mr. Citskovskis** (Latvia) said that the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs was responsible for all decisions relating to asylum, although the State Border Guard Service had the authority to arrest persons entering the State party. A single standardized process was in place for refugee-status and supplementary-protection applications. Of 150

applicants in 2013, 11 had been granted refugee status and 19 supplementary protection. To date, 30 applications had been turned down. Asylum seekers were immediately informed of their right to receive information, legal aid, and free emergency health care. They also had the right to contact the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

24. The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs applied international standards and special procedures to identify and consider the needs of vulnerable persons such as minors, pregnant women, persons with disabilities, older persons and victims of violence. Since 2009, the accelerated-return procedure had been applied only in 10 cases and never in the case of an unaccompanied minor. Mechanisms for assisting unaccompanied minors had been established under the law and involved the police, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Orphans Court.

25. No migrants in an irregular situation had been held for more than six months. The average period of detention for such migrants was two months and for asylum seekers 19 days. Vulnerable persons were rarely placed in detention. Under pending amendments to migration law, NGOs would be permitted to visit places of detention for irregular migrants and asylum seekers. Alternatives to detention, such as the surrender of passports and the requirement to report regularly to the authorities, were being increasingly used. In 2012, the number of voluntary departures by irregular migrants had exceeded the number of forced returns.

26. Persons who received a deportation order had the right to legal aid in order to appeal to the Administrative Court. They had the right to meet family members, submit complaints and receive health care. The process of forced removal of persons from the country was monitored by the Office of the Ombudsman. Where appropriate, the Office represented asylum seekers in court.

27. **Mr. Kišuro** (Latvia) said that, increasingly, only persons with severe mental disorders were hospitalized and only those displaying greatly agitated or aggressive behaviour were admitted for inpatient care. Approximately 95 per cent of such cases were handled by the emergency services. The average hospital stay was 23 days and the number of inpatient beds had fallen from 620 in 2007 to 495 in 2013. Persons with acute disorders subsequently received treatment as outpatients. Persons with learning disabilities were treated as outpatients, where necessary with day care. Rehabilitation for acute patients began during the inpatient period.

28. Each of the five regional mental health institutions had outpatient and inpatient departments. About 280 people in need of lifelong care were housed in smaller facilities. Patients placed in a mental institution under article 68 of the Law on Medical Treatment retained their rights and were entitled to complain to the health authorities and the Latvian Medical Association. The use of restraint was heavily regulated.

29. **Ms. Sveaass** (Country Rapporteur) said that she would like to know whether police questioning was conducted in rooms with closed-circuit television. In order to combat violence among patients in hospitals and among prisoners, they should be housed so as to reduce possible causes of aggression and conflict. She enquired how many persons admitted to mental institutions had filed complaints and how they had been dealt with. She asked how smaller mental health facilities were monitored and what was being done to combat discrimination against persons on the grounds of their sexual orientation.

30. She asked at what point an asylum seeker might be considered to be an irregular migrant and whether the State party attempted to monitor the fate of persons it returned to their home countries by force. She wished to know whether confessions obtained under torture were admissible in court, whether the State party's understanding of the term "public officials" corresponded with that of the Convention and what the Government's

position was with regard to accession to the Option Protocol to the Convention. She would welcome more information about how the Office of the Ombudsman was funded.

31. **Ms. Belmir** (Country Rapporteur) said that no statute of limitations should apply to the crime of torture and that perpetrators of such crimes should not be entitled to amnesty. The length of pretrial detention should be shortened and young offenders should be exempted from the payment of fines. The Committee would welcome more detailed information about the assessment of training for law enforcement and justice officials.

32. She asked the delegation to comment on allegations that an average of 20 street children a day were kidnapped in the State party for sale. She also asked whether the high rate of suicides in custody was a result of prison conditions and whether detainees suffering from mental health problems or drug addiction received adequate treatment. The accelerated process for reviewing asylum applications often rendered it difficult for asylum seekers to defend themselves.

33. **Mr. Bruni** noted from the periodic report that the area in a solitary cell of the remand prison should be not less than 3 square metres. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture recommended that a cell should measure no less than 4 square metres. Did the State party intend to rectify that situation? He invited the delegation to comment on the State party's refusal to accept the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive and consider communications under article 22 of the Convention.

34. **Mr. Gaye**, noting that four specific crimes involving acts of torture were provided for in the Criminal Code, asked what penalties were applied to more general acts of torture. He also asked whether the Code would be amended in order to criminalize incitement by public figures to hatred of minorities such as Jews, Muslims, migrants and refugees.

35. **Ms. Gaer** reiterated her request for information about the existence in the State party of shelters for abused women. She asked whether article 74, paragraph 1, of the Criminal Code on the justification, public glorification or public denial of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes had been implemented and, if so, whether information was available on court cases heard in that regard. She invited the delegation to explain why the State party had rejected recommendations that it should introduce programmes for torture victims and to provide statistics on torture victims who had received rehabilitation.

36. **Mr. Mariño Menéndez** asked whether the out-of-court settlement procedure had been applied to more serious cases such as torture, rape or murder. He wished to know whether the State party provided diplomatic protection or consular assistance to persons holding non-national status and whether the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs or the Administrative Court was responsible for initiating expulsion proceedings against foreigners.

37. **The Chairperson**, speaking as a member of the Committee, asked the delegation to confirm whether a person violating 1 of the 11 offences provided for under article 24 of the Criminal Code was considered as having committed an act of torture and, if so, what punishments were applicable.

38. Noting that minors in Latvia could be held for up to 10 days in solitary confinement, he asked the delegation to confirm the age at which a person ceased to be legally considered a minor. He wished to know whether national legislation provided for persons with mental disabilities to be placed in solitary confinement and, if so, whether the Government intended to repeal such a provision. He enquired whether detainees had the right to appeal against placement in solitary confinement and, if so, whether they were informed of that right. Could detainees lodge a complaint regarding their placement in solitary confinement? If so, how many complaints had been investigated to date?

39. He asked whether diplomatic assurances had ever been relied upon in order to overturn a decision not to extradite an alleged offender. He wished to know whether acts of ill-treatment were punished in the same manner as acts of torture. Lastly, he asked whether the study on methods to improve the asylum system had been completed as scheduled at the end of 2011 and whether its recommendations had been published.

40. **Ms. Sveaass** asked whether a victim's de facto right to reparation and rehabilitation was guaranteed and whether persons in rehabilitation could also receive psychological treatment.

41. **Ms. Belmir** asked the delegation to comment on reports of the use of violence by some police officers in the exercise of their duties.

42. **The Chairperson** asked whether detainees in solitary confinement had the right to any form of external communication, particularly in the event of an emergency.

43. **Mr. Makarovs** (Latvia) said that not all persons residing in the country had automatically been granted Latvian citizenship after the collapse of the Soviet Union; persons who had moved to Latvia during the Soviet period had in fact been awarded non-national status. The Government had taken a number of steps to ensure that those persons, and particularly children, could subsequently apply for citizenship; those efforts had resulted in a significant reduction in the number of persons holding non-national status. The Government considered non-national status to be temporary: it would become redundant over time as applications for citizenship rose. Until such time, non-nationals would continue to enjoy the same rights as Latvian citizens, apart from the right to vote or hold positions in the civil service, and would receive full diplomatic protection and consular assistance. They could also freely submit communications to international bodies such as the European Court of Human Rights.

44. Regarding the right to freedom of speech and assembly, it was correct to state that article 74, paragraph 1, of the Criminal Code criminalized the public glorification or denial of genocide and war crimes. Despite its condemnation of all such acts, the Government was duty-bound to protect the right to freedom of speech and could not prevent citizens from expressing opinions which were contrary to its views. However, behaviour constituting the glorification or denial of genocide or war crimes had not been witnessed in his country.

45. **Ms. Līce** (Latvia) said that her Government had no immediate plans to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture but would be willing to reconsider its stance should circumstances change. Victims of torture or ill-treatment had access to justice through the Constitutional Court, which sought to interpret the provisions of the Constitution in accordance with the Convention and could also submit an individual communication to the European Court of Human Rights.

46. National legislation had recently been amended to eradicate any form of discrimination on grounds of sexuality, and a series of training and awareness-raising programmes for police officers and the general public had been introduced. The Government had also implemented a number of measures to combat discrimination against the Roma, including the introduction of an integration programme and a consultative committee on Roma affairs, which the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance had commended in a recent report.

47. **Ms. Medina** (Latvia) said that the number of minors receiving a prison sentence had fallen considerably over recent years. In an effort to combat inter-prisoner violence, around 55 million Latvian lats had been set aside to build new prisons and improve cells, and an additional 8 million lats had been spent on establishing an addiction rehabilitation centre for detainees suffering from alcohol or drug dependency.

48. The Criminal Code contained a separate definition of offences of torture committed by public officials, which covered any act of torture perpetrated by persons carrying out a function of the State, including contractors and private individuals. The Ombudsman's Office had recently received extra funding to strengthen its monitoring of State institutions.

49. The Government had taken numerous steps to reduce the duration and use of pretrial detention, and current figures showed a steady decline in the number of remand prisoners. The out-of-court settlement procedure only applied to minor offences; acts of torture, rape or murder must be prosecuted in the courts. As to the treatment of minors in the judicial system, judges could only impose a monetary fine for an offence committed by a minor if circumstances so warranted. A person was considered to be a minor until the age of 18.

50. In an attempt to reduce the number of prisoner suicides, the prison authorities had issued detailed recommendations on suicide prevention and had allocated around 200,000 lats for a special training programme aimed at enabling prison officers and medical personnel to recognize and assist detainees displaying suicidal tendencies. Persons in solitary confinement were entitled to contact a third person in the event of an emergency.

51. In relation to the definition of torture, she confirmed that ill-treatment was punished in the same fashion as torture and that every article in the Criminal Code containing a reference to torture met the standards set forth in the Convention. The punishment of torture was determined in accordance with the provisions contained in the Criminal Code and could amount to 10 years' imprisonment.

52. **Ms. France** (Latvia) said that judges received training on the provisions of the Convention and could request additional training materials if required. The Government had recently applied for a grant from the European Social Fund in order to strengthen its training of judges.

53. **Mr. Velšs** (Latvia) said that every police interrogation must be video-recorded and all police stations had at least one room fitted with equipment designed for that purpose. Although paragraph 244 of the periodic report stated that cells should be no less than 3 square metres, in practice most pretrial detainees were held in cells of 4 square metres or more.

54. The Government was not aware of the allegations of police violence mentioned and additional information would be required for his delegation to comment further. It must be stressed, however, that the use of force was not accepted as a regular means of enforcing the law and was only used in exceptional circumstances. Pursuant to police legislation, if a person was killed or injured as a result of police action, the Prosecutor's Office must be notified and an internal investigation carried out.

55. **Ms. Freimane** (Latvia) said that victims of crime had access to personalized rehabilitation treatment financed by the State. Although specific rehabilitation measures for victims of torture had yet to be implemented, steps had been taken to introduce specialist treatment for both the victims and perpetrators of torture in the near future.

56. On the question of shelters for women victims of domestic violence, she said that her Government had already established 28 family crisis centres nationwide and intended to expand the rehabilitation offered to women victims as of 2015. Regarding the rehabilitation of child victims of torture or ill-treatment, a detailed regulatory framework had been introduced in order to provide children with access to specialist rehabilitation services adapted to their needs.

57. **Mr. Kišuro** (Latvia) said that his Government had implemented special protection measures for vulnerable persons, such as human trafficking victims, and the State Border Guard Service had devised specific training programmes for officers dealing with such trafficking.

58. She confirmed that there were currently 90 outstanding asylum cases, 48 of which had been withdrawn by the applicant. A significant proportion of withdrawn applications concerned persons who had subsequently returned to their country of origin. It had been noted that some individuals had tried to use the asylum system in Latvia as a means of access to other countries in Western Europe; when they realized that they could not enter neighbouring EU countries and would be returned to Latvia, they often withdrew their application.

59. As to the treatment of illegal immigrants, a voluntary return and reintegration programme had been established in partnership with the International Organization for Migration to offer such immigrants the opportunity to return to their country of origin and re-establish their lives there. Regarding the temporary detention of asylum seekers, the initial period of detention had recently been reduced to seven days, after which the case must be brought before a judge for the detention to be extended. Every case must subsequently be reviewed every two months by the district courts. With regard to the accelerated hearing procedure for asylum seekers, the Government had taken steps to amend the relevant sections of asylum legislation so as to ensure that vulnerable persons, such as trafficking victims, had access to a number of safeguards as part of the procedure, including recourse to an interpreter and an appropriate period in which to appeal.

60. **The Chairperson** thanked the delegation for the open and constructive dialogue that had taken place. Any additional information could be sent to the Committee in writing at a later date.

61. **Mr. Makarovs** (Latvia) thanked the Committee for its recommendations. His delegation remained at the Committee's disposal should any further information be required.

The meeting rose at 6.05 p.m.