



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

Distr.  
GENERAL

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MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES  
Eleventh Meeting  
Geneva, 8 October 2007

**ELECTION OF FIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AGAINST  
TORTURE TO REPLACE THOSE WHOSE TERMS ARE DUE TO  
EXPIRE ON 31 DECEMBER 2007, IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
ARTICLE 17 OF THE CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND  
OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT  
OR PUNISHMENT**

**Note by the Secretary-General**

1. In accordance with article 17, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention will be convened by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Office at Geneva on Monday, 8 October 2007, to elect five members of the Committee against Torture to replace those whose terms of office are due to expire on 31 December 2007.
2. The curricula vitae of ten candidates received by 10 August 2007 are reproduced in document CCPR/SP/30.
3. The present document contains the biographical data of one further candidate, received after 10 August 2007.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO  
THE COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE**

**Name and first name:** FORTUN, Raquel

**Date and place of birth:** 13 March 1962, Philippines

**Working Languages:** English, Filipino

**Current position or function:**

Associate Professor in Pathology of the University of the Philippines College of Medicine (UPCM) in Manila; case consultant in Forensic Pathology of the Commission on Human Rights, the Philippine General Hospital and other hospitals; member of the Technical Committee on Forensic Science, Commission on higher education; member and faculty of the Child Protection Unit Network, Philippines

**Main Professional Activities:**

Dr. Fortun has been a faculty member of the UPCM since 1989 teaching pathology and legal medicine. She has lectured in numerous forums all over the country promoting forensic science and gaining national recognition as an outstanding professional and teacher. She is involved in a variety of activities aimed at effecting legislative, judicial and educational reforms in local investigative procedures. She is a forensic pathology consultant to several hospitals and has been involved in cases referred by government institutions, non-government organizations and other parties. Many of these cases are difficult, controversial and pro bono including mass disaster fatalities, sexual and physical assault and human rights abuse.

**Education Background**

Doctor of Medicine, University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center 1987; anatomic and clinical pathology residency training, UP-PGH 1989-1992; forensic pathology post-residency training, King County Medical Examiner's Office, WA, USA, 1994-1995; second international investigators' course, Institute for International Criminal Investigation, Netherlands, 2003; and others

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

Dr. Fortun is a respected forensic pathologist in the Philippines and her expertise, integrity and independence are well recognized. Her opinion is highly valued by parties in search of the truth such as in cases of unexplained or suspicious injury or death, particularly those occurring in custody, or where the police or military are involved. Victims' families, the media, defence and prosecution lawyers alike, the Philippines Senate and House of Representatives, the Commission on Human Rights, the University of the Philippines, the Department of Foreign Affairs, and various non-governmental organizations have turned to her for assistance. Dr. Fortun has also been involved in foreign forensic investigations and she has worked for and with the United Nations in East Timor and Sierra Leone, the Physicians for Human Rights and LICADHO (Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defence of Human Rights)

**List of most recent publications:**

Responding to Health Emergencies and Disasters, article contributor “Who’s Who? (Handling Dead Bodies)” DOH-HEMS, WHO, 2005; Identification of Exhumed Remains of Fire Tragedy Victims Using Conventional Methods and Autosomal/Chromosomal Short Tandem Repeat DNA. Profiling, co-author (Calacal GC et al) Am J. Forensic Med. Path. Vol. 26, No. 3, Sep. 2006. Addressing Rape in the Legal System, a Multidisciplinary Training Manual contributor, Women’s Legal Bureau, 2005.

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