



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

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Meeting of the States Parties

Thirteenth Meeting

Geneva, 18 October 2011

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Election of five members of the Committee against Torture
to replace those whose terms are due to expire
on 31 December 2011, in accordance with article 17
of the Convention against Torture and
Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment**

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Note by the Secretary-General*

Addendum

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 Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention will be convened by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Office at Geneva on Tuesday, 18 October 2011, to elect five members of the Committee against Torture to replace those whose terms of office are due to expire on 31 December 2011.
2. The biographical data of the eight persons nominated by 13 July 2011 are reproduced in document CAT/SP/35.
3. The present document contains the biographical data of one further person nominated after 13 July 2011 by Guatemala.

* Late submission.

Annex

Biographical data on candidates for election to the Committee against Torture

Last and first names: Dora Ruth del Valle Cóbar

Date and place of birth: 30 January 1961, Guatemala

Working languages: Spanish and English

Current position/function:

President of the Presidential Commission for Coordinating Executive Policy in the Field of Human Rights, involving coordination of efforts to promote and protect human rights in the country under the Commission's mandate. Term will end on 14 January 2012.

Main professional activities:

Human rights defender

The nominee received training in political science and social psychology in Guatemala as well as Mexico and Brazil, where she lived in exile. She worked in the Office of the Human Rights Advocate (*Procuraduría de los Derechos Humanos*) and for the Catholic church's inter-diocese project for the Recovery of Historical Memory (Recuperación de la Memoria Histórica – REMHI) and for community groups in Ixcán and Rabinal.

She has conducted social research on topics relating to local authorities, recovery of historical memory, human rights and social movements, among others. She has taught human rights, historical memory and conflict resolution and has been adviser to community-based organizations regarding human rights and historical memory.

Educational background:

Postgraduate studies: Master's degree in social psychology and political violence, University of San Carlos, Guatemala; Master's degree in Political Science, University of Brasilia, Brazil

Degree studies: Bachelor of Political Science and Public Administration, National Autonomous University of Mexico; qualified urban primary school teacher

Other main activities in the field of human rights relevant to the mandate of the Committee against Torture:

Advanced training in human rights, international law and its impact, International Service for Human Rights, Geneva

Seminar on Precautionary Measures in the inter-American human rights protection system, Mechanisms for their implementation, Center for Justice and International Law

Fourth regional meeting on international mechanisms and reporting to the United Nations treaty bodies, Honduras

Alternative methods for conflict transformation

Participation in the session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva to present the results of the third Latin American Consultation on Human Rights Defenders

Presentation on the effects of violence and migration on the life of Guatemalan women at the alternative forum held during the Commission on Human Rights session in Geneva, April 2005

Coordination of the alternative report to the Committee against Torture, 2005

Founder of the National Human Rights Movement, 2002

Founder of the Human Rights Defenders Protection Unit, 2006

Member of the Alliance against Impunity, 1998

List of most recent publications in this field:

Research on lynchings, the culture of peace, genocide in Guatemala, and reconciliation, for educational publications, Alliance against Impunity, Guatemala, 2004

Political violence and community power in Rabinal, Baja Verapaz. Research for Community Study and Psychosocial Action Team (ECAP), 2002–2003 (published in 2004)
