



General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 December 2011

Original: English

Human Rights Council

Nineteenth session

Agenda item 2

**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Note by the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

A. Submission of the report

1. The present note was prepared in accordance with the arrangements approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/205, IN which it encouraged contributions to the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Human Rights Council on the operations of the Special Fund.

B. Mandate of the Special Fund

2. The Special Fund was established pursuant to article 26 of the Optional Protocol to help finance the implementation of the recommendations made by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment following a visit to a State party to the Optional Protocol, as well as education programmes of national preventive mechanisms.

3. The Special Fund receives voluntary contributions from Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities (see paragraph 9 below).

C. Management of the Special Fund

4. The Special Fund is administered by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

D. Call for applications from 2011 to 2012

5. The call for applications for the period 2011-2012 closed on 30 November 2011. During this application period, four thematic priorities were established by the Subcommittee: (a) notification of fundamental rights to detainees in a language that they could understand; (b) improving recreational and/or vocational activities for juveniles in detention; (c) basic training programmes for detention personnel (including a focus on health care); and (d) any other specific recommendation in the visit reports that detailed a pressing and compelling need.

6. Only recommendations made in visit reports that have been made public at the request of the State party may form the basis of an application. An overview of the visits and the status of publication of visit reports are available on the webpage of the Subcommittee.¹

7. Applicants could request grants of up to \$20,000 for project applications implemented between 1 January and 31 December 2012. States parties that had been visited and had requested the Subcommittee to publish their country visit reports, and national preventive mechanisms, were eligible to apply for grants. Applications could also be submitted by national human rights institutions, if fully compliant with the Paris Principles,

¹ See www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/opcat/spt_visits.htm.

and by non-governmental organizations, in particular if the proposed projects were implemented in cooperation with State parties and/or national preventive mechanisms. More information on the application process and the guidelines for applications to the Special Fund are available on the Fund webpage.²

8. Information on the activities of the Special Fund will be provided as requested by the General Assembly upon completion of the 2011-2012 project cycle.

II. Financial situation of the Special Fund

9. At the time of writing, contributions to the Special Fund had been received from the Czech Republic (\$29,704.98), Maldives (\$5,000), Spain (\$82,266.30) and from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (\$855,263.16). The table below shows the contributions received.

Contributions received from 2008 to 2011

(in United States dollars)

<i>Donors</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Date of receipt</i>
Czech Republic	10 000.00	16 November 2009
	10 271.52	30 December 2010
	9 433.46	22 September 2011
Maldives	5 000.00	27 May 2008
Spain	25 906.74	16 December 2008
	29 585.80	10 November 2009
	26 773.76	29 December 2010
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	855 263.16	20 June 2011

III. Making a contribution

10. Contributions to the Special Fund may be accepted from Governments, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations, private-sector organizations and the public at large, in accordance with the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules. Only un-earmarked funds may be accepted.

11. Contributions to the Special Fund should always be marked "Payee: Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, account CH". Payments may be made either by bank transfer (a) in United States dollars to UNOG General Fund, account No. 485001802, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, 270 Park Avenue, 43rd floor, New York, NY 10017, United States of America (Swift code: CHAS US 33; bank number: (ABA) 021000021); (b) in euros to the United Nations Office at Geneva, account No. 6161600934, J.P. Morgan Chase AG, Grueneburgweg 2 – 60322 Frankfurt am Main, Germany (Swift code: CHAS DE FX, bank number: (BLZ) 50110800, IBAN: DE78 5011 0800 6161 6009 34); (c) in pounds sterling to the United Nations Office at Geneva, account No. 23961903, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, 25 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AJ, United Kingdom (Swift code: CHAS GB 2L, bank number: (SC) 609242, IBAN: GB68 CHAS

² www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/opcat/SpecialFund.htm.

6092 4223 9619 03); (d) in Swiss francs to the United Nations Geneva General Fund, account No. 240-C0590160.0, UBS AG, rue du Rhône 8, case postale 2600, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland (Swift code: UBSW CH ZH 80A; bank number: 240; IBAN: CH92 0024 0240 C059 0160 0); (e) in other currencies to the United Nations Geneva General Fund, account No. 240-C0590160.1, UBS AG, rue du Rhône 8, case postale 2600, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland (Swift code: UBSW CH ZH 80A; bank number: 240; IBAN: CH65 0024 0240 C059 0160 1); or (f) by cheque payable to the United Nations, addressed to Trésorerie, Nations Unies, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

12. Donors are requested to inform the Donor and External Relations Section of OHCHR when a payment has been made (including a copy of the bank transfer order or of the cheque) to facilitate effective follow-up on the official recording procedure and preparation of reports of the Secretary-General.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

13. **Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities are strongly encouraged to contribute to the Special Fund, in order to provide it with the resources necessary to carry out its mandate.**
