



Helsinki, 22 October 2008

Ms. Nathalie Prouvez
UN Human Rights Committee

Dear Ms. Prouvez,

I wish to thank the United Nations Human Rights Committee for the draft General Comment no. 33 on the Obligations of States Parties under the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to submit the following observations on its substance.

Finland is a State party to the the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and recognizes as such the competence of the Human Rights Committee to receive and consider communications from individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim to be victims of a violation of any of the rights set forth in the Covenant.

Finland considers the views of the Human Rights Committee legally non-binding. At the same time, a determination by the Human Rights Committee that a State party is in breach of a treaty obligation in respect of an individual entails an obligation on that State party to consider the views of the Committee in good faith.

Accept, Madame, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Marcus Laurent
Director General, Legal Adviser