



Ministry
of Justice

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Mr Malcolm Evans
Chairperson
Sub-Committee on Prevention of Torture
Human Rights Treaties Division
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for
Human Rights
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

April 2014

Dear Mr Evans,

**EXTENSION TO THE ISLE OF MAN OF THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE
CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR
DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT**

I am writing to inform you that the UK received a request from the Government of the Isle of Man to accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT).

Following receipt of this request, the Ministry of Justice, on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK), assessed the Isle of Man's ability to meet the requirements of OPCAT.

As the Isle of Man is a Crown Dependency, it is not part of the UK. We worked with the Isle of Man authorities to confirm that: (a) the Isle of Man would comply with the OPCAT obligations in relation to your Sub-Committee; and (b) the Isle of Man would establish a separate National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) in accordance with the OPCAT criteria.

The Isle of Man authorities have provided the requested undertakings in this matter, and advised that their NPM will initially consist of the Independent Monitoring Board for the Isle of Man Prison, the Independent Monitoring Board for the Isle of Man Secure Care Home, and the Mental Health Commission.

The UK will remain responsible for ensuring that the Isle of Man meets its international obligations under the OPCAT.

I am therefore pleased to confirm that on 24 February 2014 the OPCAT was extended to the Isle of Man.

I am copying this letter to Ms Anne Shimmin (Cabinet Office – Isle of Man Government), and, for information, to HM Inspectorate of Prisons, which act as coordinators for the UK NPM.

Sincerely,

ALISON STRADLING