

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
GREEK NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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<p>Decision regarding the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment <i>via</i> the Optional Protocol to the Relevant United Nations Convention</p>
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The Commission reminded the Greek State of the significance of protecting detainees' rights; especially detainees who are mentally disabled, aliens and detainees belonging to minority groups, all of whom are especially vulnerable. As a consequence, the Commission stressed the particularly important role that the above Optional Protocol may well play in human rights protection, especially for the protection of detainees. The Commission, underlined in particular the significance of the new Subcommittee on Prevention and the independent National Preventive Mechanisms provided for by the Protocol. These organs, especially through their visits to places of detention and the relevant reports, have the potential to enhance the detention conditions and to prevent detainees' ill treatment worldwide. As a consequence, the Commission called upon the Greek State to accede to the above Protocol and proceed to its effective implementation, especially through the independent National Preventive Mechanisms provided for by the Protocol.

22 January 2004