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**OPEN-ENDED INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPERT GROUP  
ON THE STANDARD MINIMUM RULES FOR THE  
TREATMENT OF PRISONERS**

**VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 25 – 28 March 2014**

**RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY<sup>1</sup>  
TO NOTE VERBALE CU 2013/129/DO/JS**

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<sup>1</sup> This document is reproduced in the form and language in which it was received.



*Permanent Mission of Italy  
to the International Organizations  
Vienna*

## **Revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners**

### **Italian Comments**

With reference to the Note CU2013/182/DO/JS of 30 August 2013, by which the Secretariat invited Member States to submit drafting proposals for the revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in the nine areas identified in operative paragraph 5 of resolution “Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners”, Italy wishes to share the following comments.

Italy supports the revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in all areas, issues and rules identified in ECOSOC resolution E/Res/2013/35. In particular, Italy strongly supports the changes proposed to Rule 36 to promote judicial review, as stated under Area (g) “Complaints and independent inspection”:

(c) to add to Rule 36 a subparagraph addressing the entitlement of prisoners to bring their request or complaint before a judicial or other (independent and impartial) authority in case the initial request or complaint is rejected, or in case of undue delay.

Furthermore, Italy strongly promotes the introduction in the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, possibly in Rule 55, of the important role played by the judiciary in overseeing that the prisoners’ rights be properly addressed and protected.

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