

**EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF SOCIAL RIGHTS
COMITE EUROPEEN DES DROITS SOCIAUX**



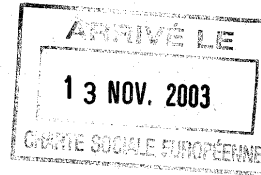
19 November 2003

**Collective Complaint No. 21/2003
World Organisation against Torture (OMCT)
v. Belgium**

Case Document No. 3

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE
WORLD ORGANISATION AGAINST TORTURE (OMCT)
ON THE ADMISSIBILITY**

registered at the Secretariat on 13 November 2003



Organisation Mondiale Contre la Torture
Case postale 21- 8, rue du Vieux Billard
CH 1211 Genève 8, Suisse

Tél. : 0041 22 809 49 39 - Fax : 0041 22 809 49 29 - E-mail : omct@omct.org

Facsimile - Page de couverture

A: Regis Brillat, Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the European Social
Charter, Council of Europe

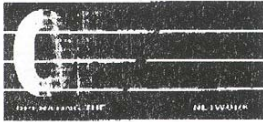
De: Eric Sottas

Date: 13 November 2003 **Fax No.:** +33 388 413 700

Nombre de pages (y compris la page de garde) [1]

Message

Please find attached a response from the World Organisation Against Torture to the Belgian government's objection to Collective Complaint No. 21/2003, World Organisation against Torture v. Belgium.



ORGANISATION MONDIALE CONTRE LA TORTURE

المنظمة العالمية ضد التعذيب WORLD ORGANIZATION AGAINST TORTURE 世界及対酷刑組織 世界拷問阻止機関
ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL CONTRA LA TORTURA Всемирная организация против пыток
ארגון עולמי למנוחה בעינויים WELTORGANISATION GEGEN DIE FOLTER

- Director**
Eric Sottas
- Executive Council**
- President**
Elisabeth Teusse-Decrey
- Vice-Presidents**
Denis von der Weid
Olivier Mach
- Treasurer**
José Domingo Dougan Beacca
- Members**
Dan Cunlloh
Fraj Fanriche
Alphonse Mac Donald
Christine Savegn
- ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES**
 - **Africa**
Madeleine Affie
Innocent Chukwuma
Aminda Diaye
Oman Humaida
Guillaume Ngela
 - **Latin America**
Ernesto Aloyz Mujica
Hélia Boute
Alberto Leon Gomez
Alicia Perez Duarte
 - **North America**
Al Bronstein
 - **Asia**
Joseph Gathio
Sareewa Uysong
Zavi Nair
Elisabeth P. Protacio
Khaldia Salima
 - **Europe**
Panayote Elias Dimitras
Nazmi Gür
Hélène Jaffe
Tinair Khidastell
Frank Seidensticker
 - **Middle East and Maghreb**
Mohammad Abuhattimah
Hassan Almoja
Kadio Nayacal
Lea Semel
- ADVISORY BOARD**
Susanna Agnelli / Francis Blanchard
Eduard Brunnner / Bernard Comby
Hans Danteluis / Leandro Despouy
Alexis Dipanda Nouelle / Taine van Dongen
Ashraf Elde / Karl Furgler
Konrad Ginter / Peter Jenkovitsch
Louis Joriel / Lea Levin
Alicia Marangopoulos / Jacques Moreillon
Franz Nuheim / Kihide Musiatokaj
Chandra Muzaffar / Adolfo Perez Esquivel
Pierre Pictet / Bert Sarantis
Rudolf Steinhagen / Desmond Tutu
Liliane Uchtenhagen / Simone Weil
Jacques Verret / Joseph Vogone
Amos Wain / Laurie Wiseberg

Regis Brillat
Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the European
Social Charter
Council of Europe
F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex

Re- Collective Complaint No. 21/2003, World Organisation against Torture v. Belgium

November 13 2003

Dear Mr Brillat,

Thank you for sending us a copy of the observations of the Belgian Government with regard to the admissibility of Complaint No. 21/2003.

The complaint is submitted on the basis of Belgium's acceptance of the relevant articles of the European Social Charter of 1961. We apologise for the error in the date in the heading at the bottom of page 2 of the complaint, which refers to "the European Social Charter of 1996" instead of 1961. But the text of the complaint throughout makes it quite clear that it is the 1961 European Social Charter that we are referring to, and the text of articles 7 and 17 quoted are those from the 1961 Charter. Indeed, the complaint indicates explicitly on page 2 that Belgium has signed and ratified the European Social Charter of 1961, but only signed (and not as yet ratified) the Revised Social Charter. The conclusions of the European Committee of Social Rights to which we refer relate to both Charters.

The issue raised by the Belgium Government in the penultimate paragraph of its letter, in so far as we can understand it, appears to relate to the merits of the complaint, not to admissibility.

We hope that the Committee will declare this complaint admissible.

Yours sincerely,

Eric Sottas
Director

OMCT
CASE POSTALE 21
8, RUE DU VIEUX-BILLARD
CH - 1211 GENEVE 8
TEL : 0041/22 809 49 39
FAX : 0041/22 809 49 29
E-MAIL : omct@omct.org
WEB : http://www.omct.org
CCP 12-5500-1 Genève
UBS compte N°279 C8 106 675 0 Genève