

COVID 19 & DETENTION WEBINAR: GLOBAL OVERVIEW

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE, COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSE TO
COVID-19 IN RELATION TO DETENTION

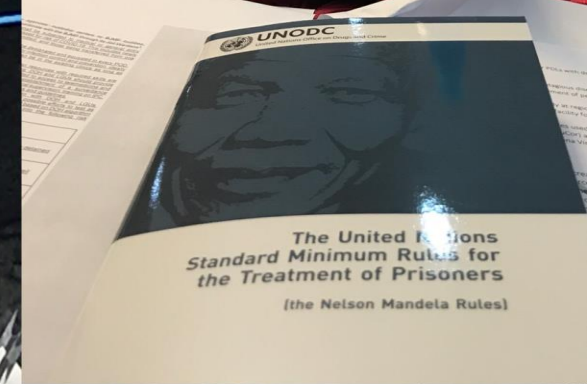
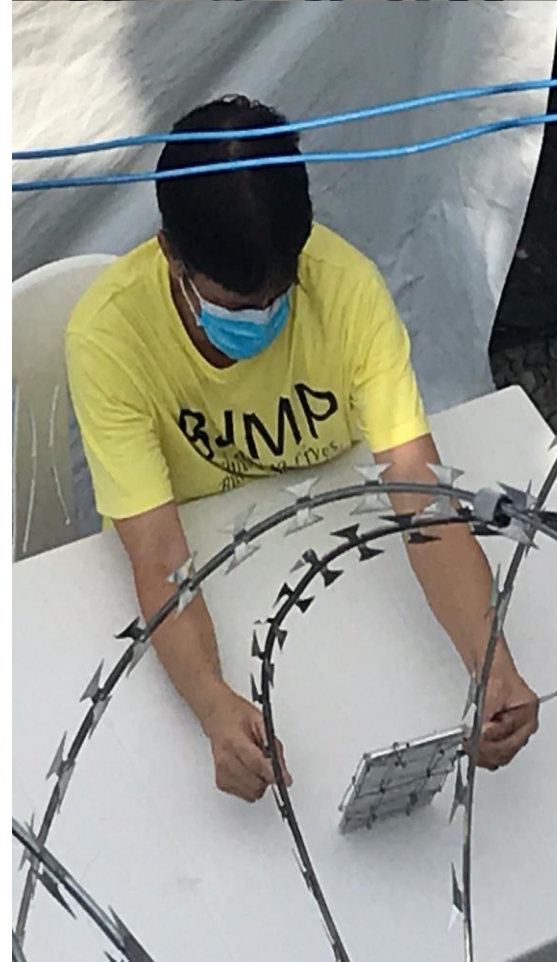
Terry Hackett
Regional Prison System Advisor
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)



ICRC

ICRC Multi-disciplinary Global Response to C19

- Dialogue with governments / detaining authorities
- Technical Advice– Health, Water / Habitat, Prison Management
- Restoring Family Links
- Monitoring conditions in PoDs



Key Issues / Challenges

- An existing humanitarian crisis
 - Overcrowding & criminal justice silos
 - Aging and inadequate infrastructure
 - Lack of access to health care & basic needs
 - Insufficient human / financial resources
- Rethinking everything....
 - Admissions / transfers
 - Regimes & systems
 - Releases
- Forced innovation
 - Technology-visitation & access to justice
 - Processes / use of resources
 - Monitoring bodies



What has been missing from the response?

- Focus on the basics
 - International minimum standards as a roadmap
 - Nelson Mandela Rules
 - Bangkok Rules
 - Communication / transparency
- Sustained community (whole of government) response
 - Interdepartmental support
 - Safe release pathways & community acceptance



Priorities to respond sustainably and effectively...

- Short term (3 Months)
 - Understand impact of C19 on detainees & staff
 - Remain focused
 - Tackle stigma
- Long term (3 years)
 - Continue to build on unlikely opportunities that have emerged during C19
 - Strengthen systems and partnerships
 - Address the pre-existing humanitarian crisis in places of detention through the lens of c19



Examples of ICRC in Detention: C19

- Philippines – <https://www.icrc.org/en/document/halting-spread-covid-19-congested-detention-facilities-0>
- Iraq – <https://www.icrc.org/en/document/covid-19-icrc-response-Iraq>
- Afghanistan – <https://www.icrc.org/en/document/covid-19-afghanistan-largest-prison>
- Central America – <https://www.icrc.org/es/document/el-cicr-apoya-lugares-de-detencion-para-prevenir-y-controlar-la-propagacion-de-la-covid-19>
- Côte d'Ivoire – <https://www.icrc.org/fr/document/cote-divoire-distribution-de-materiel-prisons-pour-empecher-la-propagation-du-coronavirus>

