



THE UNIVERSITY
OF AUCKLAND

FACULTY OF LAW



**New Zealand Centre for
Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice
presents the Annual Human Rights Public Lecture by
The Honourable Justice Goddard**



Date: Wednesday, 6 November 2013

Time: 6pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre 102-G36
Old Government House
Cnr Princes Street and Waterloo
Quadrant, Auckland

Justice Lowell Goddard practised as a Barrister in Auckland from 1975 to 1989, being appointed Queen's Counsel in 1988. She served as Crown Counsel and Head of the Criminal Team at Crown Law from 1989 to 1995 and as Deputy Solicitor-General from 1992 to 1995. In 1995 Justice Goddard was appointed a Judge of the High Court of New Zealand. From 2007 to 2012 she was the Police Complaints Authority and subsequently Chair of the Independent Police Conduct

Authority. In 2010 she was elected to the United Nations Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture, the only UN human rights Treaty Body that undertakes national visits and inspections. In that role she has a special interest in the Asia-Pacific region as head of the Subcommittee's Asia-Pacific Taskforce. Justice Goddard has played a leading role in implementing OPCAT at the national level in NZ and internationally through inspections of states that have ratified OPCAT.

"The OPCAT and its Preventive Role in the Elimination or Reduction of Torture and Ill-treatment of Detainees"

The prohibition of torture in Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is complemented by the obligation to prevent torture. Both principles are internationally recognised in the United Nations Convention Against Torture and its Optional Protocol, providing this sanction *jus cogens* status in international law.

The independent monitoring of places of detention is one of the most effective ways of preventing torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The OPCAT provides a framework for regular, unannounced, preventive visits aimed at reducing risk factors and eliminating possible causes of torture and ill-treatment at both the national and international level.

**Preceded by pre-lecture refreshments at 5.30pm
Vice-Chancellor's Suite, Old Government House
Please RSVP by 3 November to: lawevents@auckland.ac.nz**