



**DEPARTMENT OF WAR
OFFICE OF MILITARY COMMISSIONS
4800 MARK CENTER DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22350**

March 31, 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

SUBJECT: Updated Non-Government Organization In-person Viewing Selection Policy

In 2003, the Office of Military Commissions (OMC) invited several large national and international Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) to view commission proceedings at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (NSGB). In selecting an organization for inclusion in the NGO selection pool, OMC considers the following criteria: (1) reach of the applicant organization; (2) nexus of the applicant's organizational mission to military commissions, wartime detention or prosecution, international law, and/or human rights; and (3) the extent to which the applicant's organization has provided longstanding and frequent coverage of such issues.

OMC will coordinate with NGOs and facilitate NGO remote viewing of commission proceedings via closed-circuit television (CCTV) at Fort Meade, Maryland. Additionally, OMC will continue to accommodate approved NGOs that express interest in traveling to NSGB to view proceedings, consistent with the following policies and procedures:

- NGOs desiring to view commission proceedings in-person must sign and acknowledge the Ground Rules and Standard Operating Procedures for NGOs. Violations may result in the organization's removal from further travel to NSGB to view proceedings.
- The maximum number of NGO representatives allowed to observe each week of military commission proceedings in person at NSGB is five.
- All approved NGOs will be invited to send a representative to NSGB. NGOs that wish to send a representative must express their intent to view proceedings by a set date and time defined in the OMC invitational email.
- Allocation of slots will be selected by a random number generator, in the event that timely expressions of interest exceed the five available allocations.
- Those NGOs not selected to send a representative will be given priority to view the next commission hearing at NSGB.
- In order to maintain approval to send a representative to view commission proceedings at NSGB, all NGOs must recertify annually, by October 1st, the justification contained within its original applications and its ability to continue meeting the NGO criteria.
- OMC will provide NGO representatives with air transportation between a designated site in the United States and NSGB at no cost to the NGO. NGOs are responsible for all travel to and from the designated site. NGO representatives are not entitled to any per

diem, lodging reimbursement, or other travel-related benefits.

- NGOs are required to stay at NEXCOM run lodging on NSGB. OMC will make all lodging reservations for NGOs. NGOs are responsible for covering the cost of lodging.
- Due to the expeditionary nature of NSGB, the medical treatment facility (MTF) is limited with its capability and capacity for medical care. NGOs must ensure their representative acquires valid medical evacuation insurance. OMC reserves the right to request proof of medical evacuation insurance and deny travel if not provided.
- OMC will provide NGO representatives with transportation onboard NSGB.

This memorandum supersedes all previous policies regarding NGO in-person viewing selection.

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