

## TOWARDS HUMANE PRISONS: DECENCY IN DETENTION

Plenary session – Workshop: ‘Decency in the Design Brief’



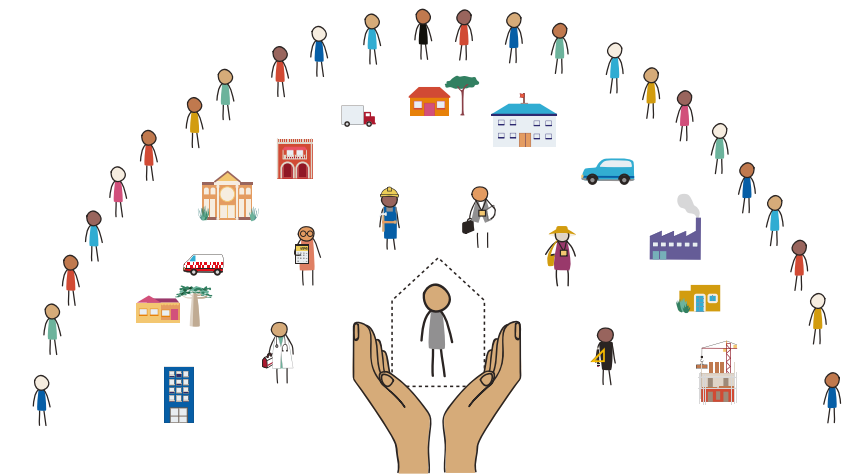
# TOWARDS HUMANE PRISONS: ICRC INTRODUCTION

**WORKSHOP FACILITATORS**



# TOWARDS HUMANE PRISONS:

## THE BOOK



## TOWARDS HUMANE PRISONS

A PRINCIPLED AND PARTICIPATORY APPROACH  
TO PRISON PLANNING AND DESIGN



# TOWARDS HUMANE PRISONS:

## THE CHAPTER

### CHAPTER 4

# DECENCY IN DETENTION

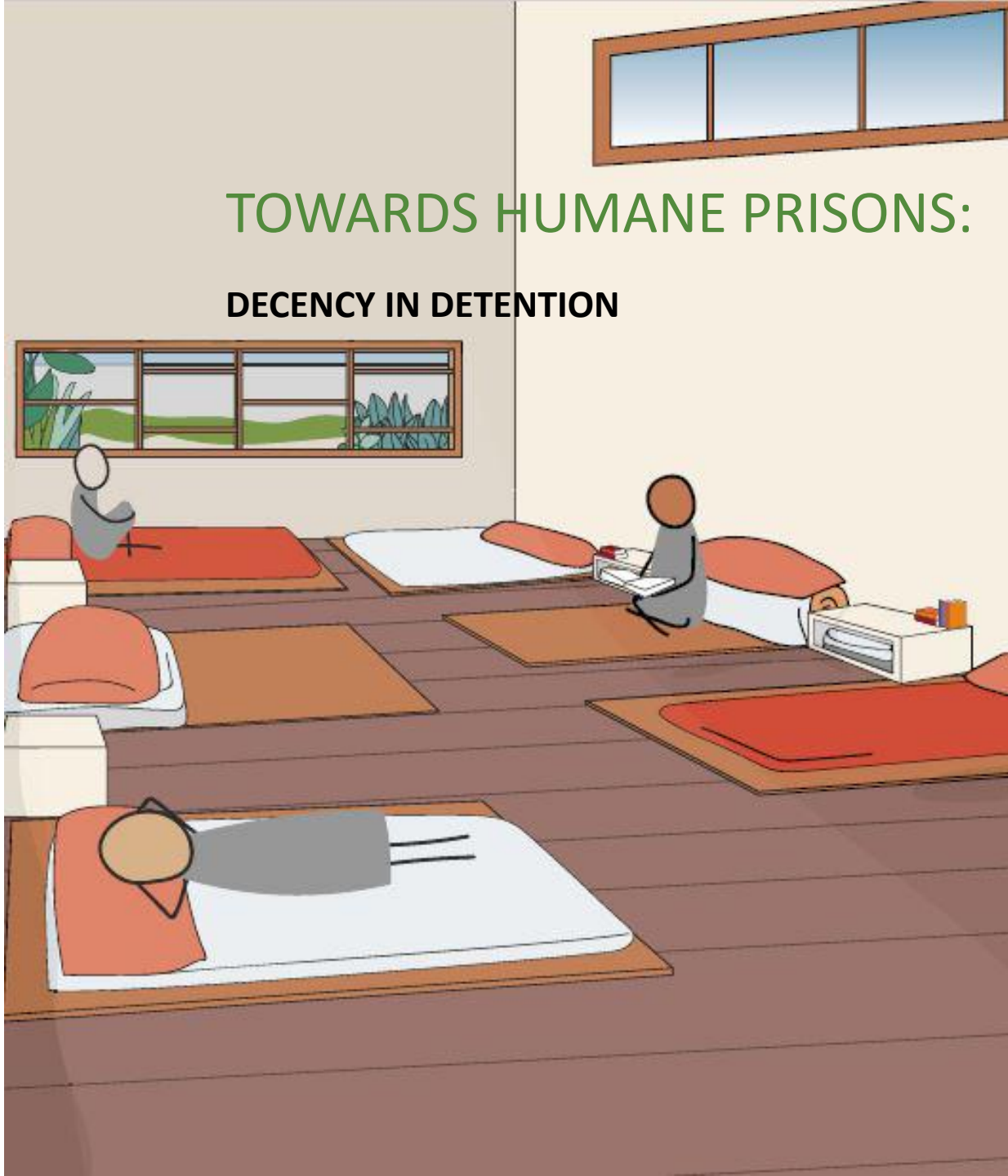
#### CHAPTER OVERVIEW

This chapter outlines the human needs any prison must ensure are met, including both detainee needs and those of the staff entrusted with their custody and care. Design choices impact upon how well those needs are met and can help ensure they are fulfilled not just to minimum standards, but with decency.



# TOWARDS HUMANE PRISONS:




## DECENCY IN DETENTION



Specifically, the human needs that must be met for detainees and staff, and to which ample access must be provided, are:

-  • a safe environment
-  • respect
-  • adaptations for special needs
-  • meaningful interactions
-  • privacy and personal space
-  • ability to exercise religious beliefs
-  • fresh air, access to outdoors and physical exercise
-  • sleep and rest in basic comfort
-  • a healthy and clean environment and adequate sanitation
-  • adequate food and drinking water
-  • preventive and curative health-care services.

Detainees also need:

-  • contact with family and the outside world
-  • legal advice, assistance and representation
-  • purposeful activities.



## DECENCY IN DESIGN:

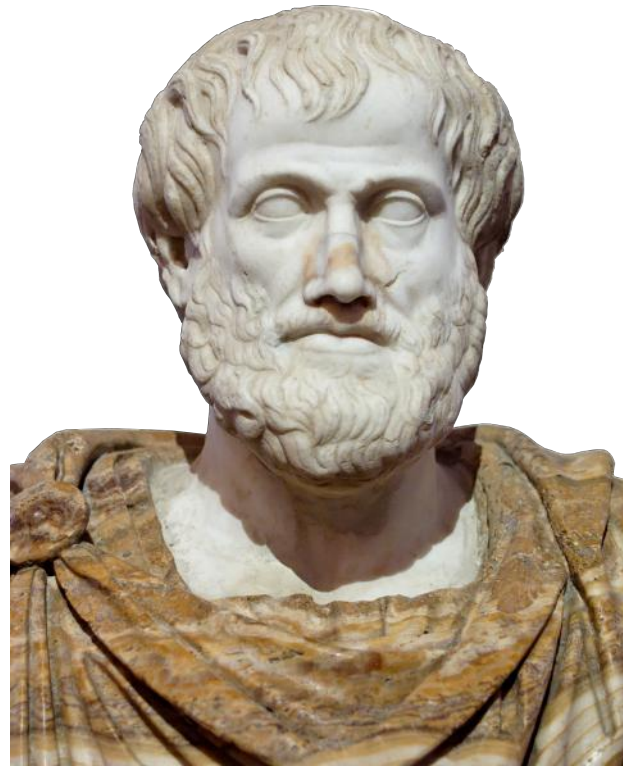
CAN IT BE DESIGNED FOR?



EMV PLAINS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE  
VISITS CENTRE - OUTDOOR SPACE - CONCEPT.  
DIME

## DECENCY IN DESIGN:

DOES IT EVEN EXIST?



Aristotle  
384–322 BC

### EPISTEME –

SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE,  
ANALYTICAL. SCIENTIFIC.  
Data informed.  
Statistics.

### TECHNE –

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE.  
The various risk consultants.  
Architectural plans. Specifications.  
MCC

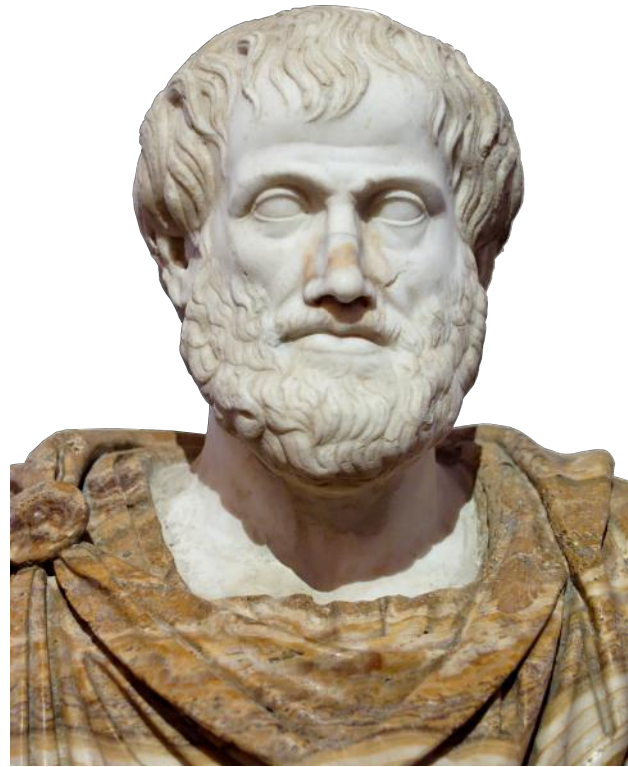
### PHRONESIS –

PRACTICAL WISDOM AND JUDGEMENT

*“reasoned, and capable of action with regard to things that are good or bad for man” Aristotle.*

# ‘It’s difficult to argue for trees’

Lina Grip. Europris 19



Aristotle  
384–322 BC





# WORKSHOP TASK: Decency in the Design Brief

## THE TASK:

- Construction of a new male/female pre-trial (remand) facility proposed to be located in an urban setting
- A design brief is being put together by the penitentiary authority and you and your colleagues (on your table) have been asked to write a 'Decency in Detention' position statement for the design brief.
- *All* that is needed is a paragraph on 'Decency in Detention' that will provide a direction that represents the authority's aspirations for the new facility and is enough for designers to feel that they can respond to.



# WORKSHOP: Decency in the Design Brief

## WORKSHOP METHOD:

Your table will take be given a stakeholder persona to explore the potential for Decency in Design.

- Worksheets: You have worksheets on your table with a nominate stakeholder persona.
- You will first establish your respective stakeholder persona profile – I am... My situation is...I live...
- For various times of the day, you will discuss ‘decency in detention’ on behalf of your stakeholder with respect to what is fair, ethical and acceptable.
- Your table will present your persona and a summary of your discussion to the workshop (representing your stakeholder)
- Taking into consideration all that has been presented by all the stakeholder groups, each group is to construct a ‘Decency in Detention’ statement for the design brief.



# WORKSHOP: The day – Decency in Detention.

Starting the day

During the day

How do I feel safe and respected?  
How do I experience meaningful interactions?  
What is a decent environment for me?

End of the day

Through the night



# **WORKSHOP: Decency in Detention Statement.**



# **WORKSHOP: Decency in Detention Presentations.**

