

Additional Thematic Approaches

Mandates of the Secretary-General

There are seven thematic mandates which are entrusted to the Secretary-General. These mandates are:

- ▶ cooperation with representatives of UN human rights bodies;
- ▶ human rights and forensic science;
- ▶ the protection and promotion of fundamental human rights and freedoms in the context of HIV/AIDS;
- ▶ the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances;
- ▶ the rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia, particularly in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- ▶ human rights and terrorism; and,
- ▶ human rights and thematic procedures.

Studies of the Sub-Commission

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities maintains a roster of thematic studies, reports and working papers. Three studies were concluded in 1997: impunity and economic, social and cultural rights, prepared by Mr. El-Hadji Guissé (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/8); impunity and civil and political rights, prepared by Mr. Louis Joinet (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/20); and the human rights dimensions of population transfer, prepared by Mr. Awn Al-Khasawneh (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/23; resolution 1997/29).

As of 7 February 1998, the list of ongoing studies, reports or working papers included the following subjects (the date in square brackets indicates the expected date of completion):

- ▶ **systematic rape and sexual slavery during armed conflict**, [being completed by Ms. Gay J. McDougall, 1998] (resolution 1997/114);
- ▶ **treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between states and indigenous populations** [Mr. Alfonso Martínez, 1998] (decision 1997/110);
- ▶ **indigenous peoples and their relationship to land**, [Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, 1998] (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/17 and Corr.1; resolution 1997/12);
- ▶ **human rights and states of emergency** [Mr. Leandro Despouy, annual; the 1998 report is being prepared by the new SR on the question of human rights and states of emergency, Mr. Ioan Maxim] (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/19; E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/19, Add.1; resolution 1997/27);
- ▶ **the concept of affirmative action**, [Mr. Marc Bossuyt, 1998] (decision 1997/118);
- ▶ **article 7 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**, related to teaching, education, culture and information to combat prejudices leading to racial discrimination [Mr. José Bengoa and Mr. Mustapha Mehedi, 1998];
- ▶ **the right to education**, [Mr. Mustapha Mehedi, 1998] (resolution 1997/7);
- ▶ **the relationship between the enjoyment of human rights and the working methods and activities of transnational corporations** [Mr. El-Hadji Guissé, 1998] (resolution 1997/11);
- ▶ **the right of access to drinking water supply and sanitation services**, [Mr. El-Hadji Guissé, 1998] (resolution 1997/18);
- ▶ **the right to adequate food as a human right**, [Mr. Asjborn Eide, 1998, update] (resolution 1997/108)
- ▶ **juvenile justice**, [Ms. Lucy Gwanmesia, 1998] (resolution 1997/25)
- ▶ **weapons of mass destruction or with indiscriminate effect; illicit transfer of arms**, [Ms. Forero Ucross, 1998] (resolutions 1997/36; 1997/37);
- ▶ **privatization of prisons**, [Mr. Ali Khan, 2000] (resolution 1997/26);
- ▶ **freedom of movement**, [Mr. Volodymyr Boutkevitch, 2001] (resolution 1997/30);
- ▶ **human rights and income distribution**, [Mr. José Bengoa, 1998] (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/9; resolution 1997/107);
- ▶ **traditional practices affecting the health of women and children**, [Mrs. Halima Embarek Warzazi, 1998] (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/10; E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/10, Add.1; resolution 1997/8)