

Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 11 July 1988.

Congo's initial and second through fifth periodic reports (covering the period 1989-1997) have not been submitted; the fifth periodic report was due 10 August 1997.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 29 July 1980; ratified: 26 July 1982.

Congo's initial and second through fourth periodic reports (covering the period 1983-1995) have not been submitted; the fourth periodic report was due 25 August 1995.

Rights of the Child

Acceded: 14 October 1993.

Congo's initial report was due 12 November 1995.

THEMATIC REPORTS**Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights**

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/68, paras. 42, 43, 62, 63, 106; E/CN.4/1998/68/Add.1, paras. 126-128)

The Special Rapporteur (SR) expressed concern about the high number of civilians and persons hors de combat killed during internal armed conflicts and referred to conditions in the Congo. Information received indicated that confrontations between militias of President Pascal Lissouba and former President Denis Sassou Nguesso, which started in June 1997, had led to indiscriminate shelling of residential areas of Brazzaville resulting in numerous victims, and summary executions of civilians and combatants taken as prisoners. The SR stated that the end of the civil war situation in the Congo should not mean impunity for the many summary executions and violations of humanitarian law which occurred. The report states that the authorities should investigate allegations of violations of the right to life, identifying the offenders and bringing them to trial, and should offer compensation to victims' families.



CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF

Date of admission to UN: 20 September 1960.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: The DR Congo has not submitted a core document for use by the treaty bodies.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 1 November 1976.

DR Congo's second periodic report was due 30 June 1992; the third periodic report was due 29 June 1997.

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 1 November 1976.

DR Congo's third periodic report was due 31 July 1991; the fourth and fifth periodic reports were due 30 January 1993 and 1997 respectively.

Optional Protocol: Acceded: 1 November 1976.

Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 21 April 1976.

DR Congo's 11th periodic report was due 21 May 1997.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified: 17 October 1986.

DR Congo's second and third periodic reports (CEDAW/C/ZAR/2; CEDAW/C/COD/3) have been submitted and are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its June 1999 session.

Torture

Acceded: 18 March 1996.

DR Congo's initial report was due 16 April 1997.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 20 March 1990; ratified: 27 September 1990.

DR Congo's initial report (CRC/C/3/Add.57) has been submitted and is scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its September/October 2000 session; the second periodic report was due 26 October 1997.

REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES**Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

At its August 1997 session, the Committee decided to review the situation in DR Congo at its March 1998 session under its early warning and urgent procedures. The Committee's concluding observations and comments from the 1998 session (CERD/C/52/Misc.32) emphasized the importance of continuing with UN investigations into reports of massacres and other grave human rights violations in DR Congo in order to identify the persons responsible for violations, particularly those associated with ethnic differences, and hold them accountable. The Committee recommended the extension of the mandate of the International Criminal Tribunal in Arusha to include jurisdiction over war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the war in the DR Congo, and that assistance be given to the government, as a priority, in creating an independent Congolese judiciary. The Committee requested that copies of its comments be transmitted to relevant UN bodies and agencies, and to the Organisation of African Unity.