

dier or policeman committing the act was aware that it is a criminal offence; the persistent reports that an inordinately high proportion of detainees is roughly handled or treated cruelly before, during and after interrogation by the police; that a disproportionate number of detainees and/or prisoners serving their sentences are Roma; information indicating that a number of complaints of torture or ill treatment do not result in the initiation of investigations by prosecutors; and reports that conditions in prisons, detention centres and holding centres for refugees include overcrowding and lack of exercise, education and hygiene.

The Committee recommended that the government, *inter alia*:

- ♦ take all necessary measures to ensure, in particular, prompt access to defence counsel assistance soon after arrest, and improved training to prevent and eradicate torture and all acts of ill treatment;
- ♦ include in its next periodic report all relevant statistics, data and information on: (a) the number of complaints about ill treatment, the proportion they represent in relation to the total number of cases investigated and, in particular, the proportion of Roma complaints, detainees and prisoners; (b) the number and proportion of cases discontinued by prosecutors, the reasons, if any, for such discontinuance and the measures taken to ensure the complete impartiality and effectiveness of the investigation of the complaints or accusations; and (c) complaints against military personnel for alleged torture of civilians and the justification for military prosecutors handling such cases;
- ♦ take all appropriate action necessary to bring the Hungarian translation of article 3 (1) of the Convention in line with the authentic text of this article; and
- ♦ re-examine article 123 of the Criminal Code and effect the necessary amendments in order to ensure its consonance with the terms and purposes of the Convention.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Torture, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/38, para. 110; E/CN.4/1998/38/Add.1, para. 159)

The Special Rapporteur referred one case to the government related to ill treatment of a detainee while in police custody at the Eighth District Police Station in Budapest. Information indicated that the person concerned was beaten and kicked all over his body by six or seven officers, and was subsequently treated for chest and spleen injuries and a ruptured eardrum. The victim reportedly filed a complaint about his treatment.



LATVIA

Date of admission to UN: 17 September 1991.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

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

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 14 April 1992.

Latvia's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 14 April 1992.

Latvia's second periodic report was due 14 July 1998.

Optional Protocol: 22 June 1994.

Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 14 April 1992.

Latvia's initial, second and third periodic reports were due 14 May 1993, 1995 and 1997 respectively.

Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 14 April 1992.

Latvia's initial and second periodic reports were due 14 May 1993 and 1997 respectively.

Torture

Acceded: 14 April 1992.

Latvia's initial and second periodic reports were due 13 May 1993 and 1997 respectively.

Rights of the Child

Acceded: 14 April 1992.

Latvia's initial report (CRC/C/11/Add.22) has been submitted and is pending for consideration at the Committee's September/October 2001 session; the second periodic report is due 13 May 1999.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/6, paras. 48, 50, 59)

The report refers to violations of freedom of religion or belief against Jehovah's Witnesses, including refusal to grant them official recognition.

