

## APPENDIX 3: TREATY BODIES

### DRAFT SCHEDULES FOR CONSIDERATION OF STATE REPORTS

#### COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE

The Committee against Torture (Fact Sheet No. 17) met for the first time in April 1988 and is made up of 10 experts who must be nationals of states parties. Members are elected by the states parties for a term of four years and are eligible for re-election. The Committee normally holds two regular sessions each year (May and November); special sessions may be convened by the Committee at the request of a majority of the states parties.

The tasks of the Committee include: examination of the reports of states parties; to receive information and institute inquiries concerning allegations of systematic practice of torture in states parties, subject to a declaration by states under article 20 of the Convention; respond to inter-state complaints under article 21, as necessary; under article 22, to receive and consider complaints from or on behalf of individuals; and cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, appointed by the Commission on Human Rights. There is limited scope for the Committee actively to cooperate with the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture, established under the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

The provisional schedule of reports to be considered at the Committee's May 1999 session is:

Bulgaria	2nd periodic report	CAT/C/17/Add.19
Italy	3rd periodic report	CAT/C/44/Add.2
Libya	3rd periodic report	CAT/C/44/Add.3
Liechtenstein	2nd periodic report	CAT/C/29/Add.5
Luxembourg	2nd periodic report	CAT/C/17/Add.20
Malta	2nd periodic report	CAT/C/29/Add.6
Mauritius	2nd periodic report	CAT/C/43/Add.1
Morocco	2nd periodic report	CAT/C/43/Add.2
Netherlands	3rd periodic report	CAT/C/44/Add.4 (Antilles and Aruba)
The FYR Macedonia	initial report	CAT/C/28/Add.4
Venezuela	initial report	CAT/C/16/Add.8

#### COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (CERD)

CERD (Fact Sheet No. 12) monitors the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination, which entered into force on 4 January 1969. CERD, composed of 18 experts elected by States parties for a term of four years, meets twice a year (in March and August) three week sessions. CERD members examine the periodic reports State parties are required to make -- comprehensive reports every four years, with brief updates at intervening two-year periods -- and issue comments and recommendations on the basis of their dialogue with government representatives. In cases where a State's reports are seriously overdue, the Committee may review the situation in that country without a report. In addition, the Committee may receive and act on a state-to-state complaint as well as communications received from individuals or groups claiming to be victims of a violation of the Convention. CERD is also designated to monitor the aim of the Convention regarding Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The provisional schedule of reports and/or situations to be considered by the Committee for 1999 is:

##### March 1999

Austria	11th -- 13th periodic reports	CERD/C/319/Add.5
Australia	Re: Native Title Act	***
Bangladesh	***	***
Bahrain	***	***
Congo	12th- 14th periodic reports	***