

case, torture and death, noting reports stating that the police left the body in the morgue of the central hospital without any explanation; an incident involving dozens of soldiers in several vehicles who beat the inhabitants of Karyo-Ba with rifle butts and sticks, causing serious injuries, particularly to two persons; the arrest of a group of students at the University of N'Djamena, noting that several of them were stripped, forced to lie on the ground where they were beaten and subjected to mock executions; and, arrest by members of the security forces who accused the victims of belonging to an armed group, noting reports of subsequent torture and denial of medical care.

The SR noted that government did not respond to any of the information transmitted.

**Violence against women, Special Rapporteur on:** (E/CN.4/1998/54, Section II.C)

In the section on forms of custodial violence against women, the report refers to the case of a woman who was accused of stealing bracelets, arrested, held at the Béboto gendarmerie headquarters and tortured. The woman's daughter was tied up and raped as she lay dying. The report notes that the main perpetrator of the murder and rape was arrested but escaped from prison and was reported to be working at the Presidential Palace.



## COMOROS

**Date of admission to UN:** 12 November 1975.

### TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

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

**Discrimination against Women**

Acceded: 31 October 1994.

Comoros's initial report was due 30 November 1995.

**Rights of the Child**

Signed: 30 September 1990; ratified: 22 June 1993.

Comoros's initial report (CRC/C/28/Add.13) has been submitted and is pending consideration at the Committee's January 2001 session; the second periodic report is due 21 July 2000.

### THEMATIC REPORTS

**Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights**

**Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on:** (E/CN.4/1998/6, paras. 48, 50, 58, 63)

The report refers to violations of freedom of religion and

belief against all religions and all religious groups and communities except for the official religion. Reported violations include restrictions on non-Muslims in religious matters, and a prohibition on any proselytizing of Muslims by non-Muslims.



## CONGO

**Date of admission to UN:** 20 September 1960.

### TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

**Land and People:** Congo has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.79) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains demographic and statistical data as well as information on the institutional framework and the legal framework for the protection of human rights.

The Charter of National Unity and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms were adopted by the National Sovereign Conference on 29 May 1991. Any individual may apply to the Constitutional Court regarding the constitutionality of legislation either directly or through special unconstitutionality proceedings before a court. Decisions of the Constitutional Court are not open to appeal; they are binding on the government authorities, the judiciary and individuals. The rights proclaimed in the various international human rights instruments are protected and guaranteed by the Constitution and by the Charter of National Unity. Exceptions to the proceeding are allowed in specific cases such as searches, privacy of correspondence, and telecommunications. International law takes precedence over domestic law and relevant international instruments may be invoked before domestic courts. NGOs monitoring observance of human rights include the Comité national des droits de l'homme (CONADHO), the Ligue des droits de l'homme, the Comité des femmes pour la paix, and the Federation des femmes juristes.

**Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

Acceded: 5 October 1983.

Congo's initial and second periodic reports were due 30 June 1990 and 1995 respectively.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraphs 3 and 4 of article 13.

**Civil and Political Rights**

Acceded: 5 October 1983.

Congo's second periodic report (CCPR/C/63/Add.5) has been submitted but is not yet scheduled for consideration by the Committee; the third periodic report was due 4 January 1995.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Article 11; declaration under article 41.

**Optional Protocol:** Acceded: 5 October 1983.