

Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 26 October 1993.

Tajikistan's initial report was due 25 October 1994.

Torture

Acceded: 11 January 1995.

Tajikistan's initial report was due 9 February 1996.

Rights of the Child

Acceded: 26 October 1993.

Tajikistan's initial report was due 24 November 1995.

THEMATIC REPORTS***Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights*****Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary:** (E/CN.4/1997/34, paras. 342-344)

No new cases of disappearance were transmitted by the Working Group (WG) to the government. All six cases of disappearance reported to the WG were alleged to have occurred between late 1992 and July 1993 in the context of the escalating civil war, when progovernment forces took over the capital of Dushanbe. The report notes that the government has never provided any information on these cases.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/60, paras. 15, 17, 18, 22, 32, 45, 60, 61, 106; E/CN.4/1997/60/Add.1, paras. 463-466)

The report notes information received indicating that conditions in Tajik prisons constitute a serious threat to the life and physical integrity of detained persons; numerous detainees have died in custody; the government has failed to provide sufficient food to prisoners, resulting in numerous deaths from malnutrition, and it has neglected its duty to provide medical treatment to prisoners; and, the widespread occurrence of tuberculosis, without separation of infected inmates, was as an important cause of death in custody. The report refers to an urgent appeal sent by the Special Rapporteur (SR), jointly with the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons, on behalf of 300 internally displaced persons who had reportedly been moved to the Tavildara area, a region of active armed conflict, littered with landmines and other hazardous war materials. The SR cites information indicating that, contrary to prior agreement, neither the government nor the opposition had removed all landmines from the area. The SR reiterated to the government his interest in visiting Tajikistan. No response has been received from the government either on cases transmitted or the request for an invitation to visit. With regard to the distressing situation in prisons, the SR urged the government to allow humanitarian organizations access to all prisons in Tajikistan.

Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/91, paras. 9, 17, 24, 26)

The report refers to violations of religious freedom against followers of Islam and murders of clergy and believers.

Mechanisms and Reports of the Sub-Commission**Freedom of movement, Working Paper:** (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/22, para. 22, 24, 32)

The working paper on freedom of movement and related issues notes that the breakup of the Soviet Union led to the

appearance of 15 new states which have, more or less, created their own legislation, including laws dealing with questions of freedom of movement. The report mentions constitutional provisions, the nationality laws, laws on refugee status and laws on forced migrants and notes that the conflict in Tajikistan has contributed to the massive flows of refugees.

States of emergency, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/19/Add.1, Section I)

The report notes that a state of emergency was declared in February 1993 and a curfew imposed in the whole territory of the country. The measures were extended in July 1994 and are still in force.

Other Reports**Cooperation with UN representatives, Report of the S-G to the CHR:** (E/CN.4/1997/50, para. 21)

The report of the Secretary-General refers to the mission by the Representative on internally displaced persons and notes comments on a case of reprisals against the Pamiri population in a village of returnees. The Representative stated that: it was apparent that those who spoke out were afraid to do so; several people told him that they were convinced that they were going to be punished afterwards for having told the Representative about their problems; and, some people had been threatened in advance of his meeting with them by a local official of Kulyabi origin, who had said that they should not voice complaints or they would be arrested.

Detention of international civil servants, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/25, para. 59)

The report of the Secretary-General refers to information provided by the World Food Programme (WFP) related to threats by groups of armed men against staff distributing food in the Vaksh District in the Korgan-Tjube area of southern Tajikistan.

Mass exoduses, Report of the HCHR to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/42, Section I.B)

In the section dealing with human rights situations affecting refugees and displaced persons, the report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights refers to work done by the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons. The Representative noted that when displaced persons returned home, they faced multiple obstacles in Tajikistan, including the widespread destruction and looting of their homes, occupation of their property, lack of seeds for planting, and the collapse of the health care system. The Representative also noted that, with regard to security, the displaced population had been identified with the enemy and, as a consequence, faced considerable hostility among the local population upon return. At the time of the Representative's visit, the problems were compounded by the general lack of law and order, with numerous disappearances, killings, beatings and other forms of harassment of the returnees (see A/51/483/Add.1).

SECURITY COUNCIL

The reports of the Secretary-General (S/1997/56, January 1997; S/1997/198, March 1997; S/1997/415, May 1997; S/1997/686, September 1997; S/1997/859, November 1997) provide information on, *inter alia*: negotiations between the