

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 10 January 1992.

Angola's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 10 January 1992.

Angola's initial and second periodic reports were due 9 April 1993 and 1998 respectively.

Optional Protocol: Acceded: 10 January 1992.

Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 17 September 1986.

Angola's initial, second and third periodic reports were due 17 October 1987, 1991 and 1995 respectively.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 14 February 1990; ratified: 5 December 1990.

Angola's initial and second periodic reports were due 3 January 1993 and 1998 respectively.

THEMATIC REPORTS**Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights****Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary:** (E/CN.4/1998/43, paras. 88–91)

No new cases of disappearance were transmitted to the government. The cases which remain unresolved concern four men who were allegedly arrested in 1977 by the Angolan security forces, in particular by DISA (Angolan information and security forces), two of them reportedly because they were suspected of supporting the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). The report notes that the government has in the past informed the Working Group that it had done everything in its power to locate all information concerning the people who disappeared, but to no avail. The government stated that the resources available to the authorities for meeting the thousands of requests to trace those who disappeared as a result of the war were extremely limited. In addition, many bodies had been spontaneously buried during the fighting, which made it impossible to identify the places of burial and to locate the remains. Consideration also had to be given to the fact that many Angolans had no identity papers and had died a violent death. Given the lack of new information into the four cases, they remain pending.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/68, paras. 12, 13, 16, 17, 44; E/CN.4/1998/68/Add.1, paras. 15–18)

The reports note that an urgent appeal was sent to the government on behalf of Rwandese Hutu refugees who were said to have entered Angola in late April 1997 while fleeing from the approaching Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of the Congo Zaire. The information received indicated that at least 500 of them entered the area controlled by the National Union for the

Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and that the government, which had not yet re-established its authority over the territory where the refugees were located, was denying the UNHCR access to them. The Special Rapporteur (SR) reminded the government of its obligation to provide protection for all refugees in its territory.

The report notes responses received from the government to previously transmitted cases involving deaths by shooting by police officers and members of the security forces, noting that an inquiry had been opened to establish the circumstances in which the two named persons had died. According to the government, there was no evidence of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions.

Racism and racial discrimination, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/79, paras. 53, 72)

The report refers to the fact that cases have been transmitted to the government, but no reply had been received. Details of the cases were not provided.

Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/6, paras. 48, 50, 66)

The report notes that information was transmitted to the government related to violations of religious freedom and belief against Christianity, including arrests and detentions. No details of the cases were provided.

FIELD OPERATIONS

The UN Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) was established by Security Council resolution 1118 (1997). Its headquarters are in Luanda. Officer-in-Charge: Mr. Nicholas Howen, c/o MONUA, Luanda, Angola; Phone (1-212) 963-1950/3110; Fax: (1-212) 963-1951; e-mail: howen@un.org. In August 1998 there were 15 professionals and four UN Volunteers covering 12 of the 18 provinces in the country. The Human Rights Division of MONUA is funded by Department of Peace-keeping Operations (DPKO). Based on an arrangement between OHCHR and DPKO, OHCHR is in charge of recruitment of human rights observers and providing substantive guidance. Candidates recruited by OHCHR are subject to DPKO approval. The Human Rights Division of MONUA (HRD) reports to the High Commissioner for Human Rights through the Secretary-General's Special Representative. In a 1998 resolution (S/RES/1213), the Security Council maintained the MONUA mandate through 26 February 1999.

The HRD mandate is to contribute to the promotion of human rights and prevention of their abuse in the country. This is within the context of the overall programme aimed at consolidating peace and national reconciliation, enhancing confidence-building and creating an environment conducive to long-term stability, democratic development and rehabilitation of the country. The HRD programme includes: human rights monitoring; human rights promotion and education; and developing the capacity of national institutions and of non-governmental organizations to investigate violations and to initiate appropriate action.