

- ♦ suspend, without delay, and take steps to repeal the "Charter of Honour";
- ♦ provide human rights training to all judges and members of the legal profession; provide information on the jurisdiction, composition and activities of the Revolutionary Security Courts as well as on the organization of the legal profession;
- ♦ suspend immediately provisions in the Publication Act (1972) that are incompatible with the Covenant and take steps to revise the Act;
- ♦ take steps to ensure compliance with article 25 of the Covenant, related to genuine elections by secret ballot;
- ♦ ensure that all individuals realize their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, noting the statement that "all Libyans are Muslims by birth and heredity";
- ♦ intensify efforts to guarantee full realization by women and men of all human rights;
- ♦ include, in the next report, information on the protection of persons belonging to minorities as well as specific information on minorities; and
- ♦ take urgent steps to allow the free operation of independent non-governmental human rights organizations.

The Committee decided that Libya's 4th periodic report would be due in October 2002.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary: (E/CN.4/1998/43, paras. 3, 13, 255-256)

During the period under review, two new cases of disappearance were transmitted to the government which occurred in September 1996; one case concerned a Palestinian who was arrested at the Palestinian camp near Salloom in north east Libya and subsequently released. This case was clarified by the Working Group. The other case concerned a Palestinian who was reportedly arrested in Tubruk on suspicion of having connections with a religious opposition movement. The one other outstanding case, transmitted in 1994, concerns a Sudanese translator at the International Centre of Research of the Green Book in Tripoli, who reportedly disappeared in 1993.

On the second newly reported case, the government stated that the person named had been arrested for smuggling drugs and for involvement in selling foreign currency. The case was pending before the court, awaiting a judgement.



MADAGASCAR

Date of admission to UN: 20 September 1960.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Madagascar has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.31) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government includes demographic data and information on religion, the general political structure, political history and the general legal framework for the protection of human rights.

The 1992 Constitution stipulated that the government would undertake to establish an independent body responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights and the government has appointed an ombudsperson with this function. Under Malagasy law there is no special system for compensation for the violation of human rights; therefore actions alleging violations must be brought before the courts in terms of seeking remedy and/or damages. International human rights treaties are incorporated de jure into national law following accession or ratification.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 14 April 1970; ratified: 22 September 1971. Madagascar's second periodic report was due 30 June 1990; the third periodic report was due 30 June 1995.

Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 17 September 1969; ratified: 21 June 1971. Madagascar's third periodic report was due 31 July 1992; the fourth and fifth periodic reports were due 3 August 1993 and 1998 respectively.

Optional Protocol: Signed: 17 September 1969; ratified: 21 June 1971.

Racial Discrimination

Signed: 18 December 1967; ratified: 7 February 1969. Madagascar has not submitted a report since 1989, covering the 10th through 14th periodic reports; the 14th periodic report was due 9 March 1998. *Reservations and Declarations:* Article 22.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified: 17 March 1989. Madagascar's second and third periodic reports were due 16 April 1994 and 1998 respectively.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 19 April 1990; ratified: 19 March 1991. Madagascar's second periodic report was due 17 April 1998.

