

Gabon, Mali and Panama; (b) project formulation missions were undertaken in Gabon, Lesotho, FYR Macedonia, Madagascar, Russia, Uganda, Tanzania and Yugoslavia (for a global project); (c) project monitoring missions were undertaken in Armenia, El Salvador, Moldova, Palestine, Panama (regional project), Papua New Guinea, Paraguay and Togo; and (d) independent evaluations were carried out in connection with projects in Benin, Equatorial Guinea, Mongolia, Poland and Yugoslavia (global project).

Training materials prepared by the OHCHR, as part of its efforts to tailor training of trainers' courses for specialized audiences, are focussed on the training needs for: the police; prison officers; primary and secondary schoolteachers; legal professionals (judges, magistrates, prosecutors and lawyers); national and local NGOs; the media; and human rights monitors. In addition, three human rights handbooks, on constitutions, parliament and conflict resolution, and a publication for children are to be prepared under the human rights education project currently being implemented.

In 1997, 21 projects were approved by the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The national projects were to be undertaken in: Burundi, a one-year follow-up project to support efforts to fight impunity and promote reconciliation; Ecuador, a nine-month project to assist the government in meeting its reporting obligations under international human rights treaties; Georgia, a three-year project aimed at providing public access to UN human rights information and documentation, strengthening respect for human rights in the administration of justice and developing the human rights capacity of NGOs, the media and civil society; Guinea, a one-year project to provide assistance aimed at building national training capacity in the administration of justice, particularly the police and the prison service; Honduras, a short-term project focussed on assisting the government in reporting under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); Namibia, a two-year project to strengthen national human rights capacities through support to the human rights documentation centre and justice training centre at the University of Namibia and by providing human rights training and assistance to various state bodies and civil society organizations; Moldova, the second phase of a multi-year joint project with UNDP for the establishment of a national human rights commission; Morocco, a two-and-a-half year project to assist in implementing a plan of action to introduce human rights into the national education system at the secondary level; Panama, a one-year project to assist the police in integrating human rights concerns into their daily work; Papua New Guinea, a seven-month follow-up project to facilitate the establishment of a human rights commission; Paraguay, a one-year project to assist the government in developing a human rights national plan of action; and South Africa, a two-year project to strengthen national human rights capacities in government as well as in the Human Rights Commission and Justice College. Regional and interregional projects were also approved.

The report notes that during 1997, requests for assistance were received from: Chad (strengthening national human rights commission), Cape Verde (reporting obligations), China (human rights documentation), Ethiopia (needs assessment), Guyana (reporting obligations), Niger (strengthening human rights structures), Sudan (technical assistance) and Zambia (administration of justice). As of 31 December 1997, country specific projects were at an advanced stage of preparation or approval for Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia, Chile, FYR Macedonia, Gabon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Philippines, Russia, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Uganda.

The UN Technical Cooperation Programme is funded from the regular UN budget and the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, which became operational in 1988. The Fund receives an average of US\$3 million annually. As of 30 September, contributions for 1998 had totalled US\$5.6 million. The main contributors to the Fund have been the European Union, Switzerland, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. In recent years a number of developing countries have also contributed to the Voluntary Fund, including India, Lebanon, Latvia, Mauritius, Mexico, the Philippines and South Africa. Figures as of 31 October 1997 indicate that the main beneficiaries of the Fund include: Africa (26 per cent), Arab states, mainly Palestine (11 per cent), Asia and the Pacific (10 per cent) and Latin America (22 per cent).

As of 31 December 1997, it was estimated that approximately US\$11.6 million would be needed to fund both ongoing and pipeline projects.

### Resolution of the Commission on Human Rights

Under agenda item 17, the Commission adopted by consensus a resolution on advisory services, technical cooperation and the UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights (1998/57). The Commission, *inter alia*: recalled that the World Conference on Human Rights called for an enhanced programme of advisory services, as well as for a more efficient and transparent management of the programme; declared that advisory services and technical cooperation provided at the request of governments, with a view to developing national capacities in the field of human rights, constitute one of the most efficient and effective means of promoting and protecting all human rights and democracy; welcomed the increasing number of requests for advisory services and technical cooperation as an expression of the growing commitment of states to promote and protect human rights; encouraged all states in need of assistance to consider making use of advisory services and technical cooperation in order to achieve the full enjoyment of all human rights; encouraged the High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to develop the potential for the provision of advisory services and technical cooperation; reaffirmed that the provision of advisory services and technical cooperation does not exempt any country from the monitoring activities of the