

**Sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography,  
Special Rapporteur on:** (A/52/482, para. 31)

The Special Rapporteur's interim report to the General Assembly notes the practice of *criadito* service still exists in some parts of the country. The practice involves indigenous children between the ages of 10 and 12 who are sent by their parents to middle- and upper-class families to perform housework in exchange for education, clothing, room and board. The report notes that the treatment of these children is often not supervised in any way and they sometimes become virtual slaves to the host family.

**Torture, Special Rapporteur on:** (E/CN.4/1997/7, Section III; E/CN.4/1997/7/Add.1, para. 20)

The Special Rapporteur (SR) received the report of the Chamber of Deputies Human Rights Commission entitled "Complaints of torture of citizens charged with armed revolt", which summarizes the Commission's investigation into torture and other violations involving persons detained between 1989 and 1993 in the context of the anti-terrorism campaign. The report includes data on the cases of persons who reportedly were tortured, on the methods of torture, and on the identity of those responsible. It calls for criminal proceedings to be instituted against alleged torturers and for the report to be forwarded to courts where criminal proceedings are under way against persons charged with armed revolt and other crimes against State security. In the light of this report, in July 1996, the SR asked the government to provide information on action taken by the competent authorities to follow up on the Commission's recommendations taken and, in cases where proceedings were initiated, the status of the proceedings against those accused of torture.

The SR also transmitted to the Government two urgent appeals on behalf of two groups of persons. The first, sent in January 1996, referred to a group of approximately 45 peasants (including three children), who were arrested late in December 1995 by the Special Security Guard in the locality of Nicayani, near Leghepalca. This occurred while they were participating in a march and hoping to speak to authorities about the programme to eradicate coca crops. A few days earlier, another group of marchers had been arrested and transferred to Chimore where they were allegedly beaten. The second urgent appeal was transmitted in April 1996 on behalf of a group of approximately 78 persons arrested by the police in La Paz during a demonstration organized by several trade unions.

**Mechanisms and Reports of the Sub-Commission**

**Indigenous and tribal peoples, Memorandum by the ILO:** (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/25, para. 24)

The ILO noted that it had provided technical and financial assistance towards legal training courses in Bolivia in response to a request from the Vice-President. This included a course on indigenous law and an international seminar on the administration of justice and indigenous peoples. Each course had a component on Convention No. 169 and the ILO supervisory mechanisms. The ILO noted that Bolivia has ratified the Convention.

**Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Working Group on:** (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/13, para. 49)

The report refers to studies indicating that, in Bolivia, indigenous peoples are victims of slavery-like practices, ranging from the sexual exploitation of women and children to bonded labour and even bondage.

**Other Reports**

**World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights,  
Report of the S-G to the CHR:** (E/CN.4/1997/36, para. 98)

The report of the Secretary-General refers to activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and notes that a representative of the UN Information Centre attended an official event marking the International Day of the World's Indigenous People.

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## BRAZIL

**Date of admission to UN:** 24 October 1945.

### TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

**Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

Acceded: 24 January 1992.

Brazil's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

**Civil and Political Rights**

Acceded: 24 January 1992.

Brazil's second periodic report is due 23 April 1998.

**Racial Discrimination**

Signed: 7 March 1966; ratified: 27 March 1968.

Brazil's 14<sup>th</sup> periodic report was due 4 January 1996.

**Discrimination against Women**

Signed: 31 March 1981; ratified: 1 February 1984.

Brazil's initial and second through fourth periodic reports were due 2 March 1985, 1989, 1993 and 1997 respectively.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraph 1 of article 29.

**Torture**

Signed: 23 September 1985; ratified: 28 September 1989.

Brazil's initial and second periodic reports were due 27 October 1990 and 1994 respectively.

**Rights of the Child**

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 24 September 1990.

Brazil's initial report was due 23 October 1992.

### THEMATIC REPORTS

**Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights**

**Arbitrary detention, Working Group on:** (E/CN.4/1997/4, para. 17, 21)

The report notes that one urgent appeal involving four individuals was sent and the government replied, indicating that the persons concerned had been released.

**Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary:** (E/CN.4/1997/34, paras. 3, 68-75)

No new cases of disappearance were transmitted by the Working Group (WG) to the government. The report notes