

**Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

Signed: 31 October 1995.

**Civil and Political Rights**

Signed: 31 October 1995.

**Discrimination against Women**

Signed: 31 October 1995.

**Rights of the Child**

Acceded: 14 May 1991.

The initial and second periodic reports of Sao Tomé and Príncipe were due 12 June 1993 and 1998 respectively.



## SENEGAL

**Date of admission to UN:** 28 September 1960.

### TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

**Land and People:** Senegal has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add. 51/Rev.1) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains demographic and statistical data as well as information on the general structure of government and the framework within which human rights are protected.

The guarantee of basic rights lies chiefly with the courts and, at the administrative level, the guarantee is provided by the Ombudsman whose task is to remind the Executive of its duty to respect its own legislation and fundamental human rights. International human rights instruments are an integral part of the country's positive law and international commitments are placed above national laws. All international instruments to which Senegal is a party may be invoked before judicial bodies and courts which apply them as the law of the country. The report notes that human rights are also guaranteed through the monitoring of the actions of authorities by non-governmental organizations. As well, the Senegalese Human Rights Committee, which was established in 1965 and is an inter-ministerial body, has been entrusted with the task of assisting the government in formulating and coordinating its policy in the field of human rights. The Committee may also draw the attention of the authorities to cases of violations of human rights.

**Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

Signed: 6 July 1970; ratified: 13 February 1978.  
Senegal's second periodic report was due 30 June 1995.

**Civil and Political Rights**

Signed: 6 July 1970; ratified: 13 February 1978.  
Senegal's fifth periodic report is due 4 April 2000.  
*Reservations and Declarations:* Declaration under article 41.

**Optional Protocol:** Signed: 6 July 1970; ratified: 13 February 1978.

**Racial Discrimination**

Signed: 22 July 1968; ratified: 19 April 1972.  
Senegal's 11th through 13th periodic reports were due 19 May 1993, 1995 and 1997 respectively.  
*Reservations and Declarations:* Declaration under article 14

**Discrimination against Women**

Signed: 29 July 1980; ratified: 5 February 1985.  
Senegal's third and fourth periodic reports were due 7 March 1994 and 1998 respectively.

**Torture**

Signed: 4 February 1985; ratified: 21 August 1986.  
Senegal's third periodic report was due 25 June 1996.  
*Reservations and Declarations:* Declarations under articles 21 and 22.

**Rights of the Child**

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 31 July 1990.  
Senegal's second periodic report was due 1 September 1997.

### THEMATIC REPORTS

#### Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

**Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on:** (E/CN.4/1998/68, paras. 17, 48; E/CN.4/1998/68/Add.1, paras. 358–360)

The Special Rapporteur (SR) expressed concern over reports indicating that mobs had killed people, particularly foreigners, who were accused of "stealing a person's sexual organs" through the most simple physical contact (i.e., shaking hands).

The government replied to allegations that were transmitted in 1996, stating that: the death of a political officer of the Casamance Democratic Forces Movement (MFDC) was due to illness and not the result of arrest followed by torture by soldiers; the death reported to have resulted from torture by soldiers was not confirmed and, if confirmed, could only have been the result of clashes between members of the army and members of the independence movement; in the case of a female supporter of MFDC, information indicated that she was arrested in 1992, amnestied, and had taken refuge in Gambia.

The SR expressed concern about the escalation of violence in the Casamance region, and the danger to the civilian population created by the increase in armed clashes and the laying of anti-personnel mines. The authorities were requested to carry out impartial and in-depth inquiries to shed light on all allegations of violations of the right to life committed in Casamance.