

- ▶ establish a system of complaints aimed at child victims of any form of violence and/or abuse, including sexual abuse, neglect, maltreatment or exploitation, even while in the care of their parents;
- ▶ ensure proper investigation of cases of abuse and sanctions for perpetrators;
- ▶ develop a comprehensive and integrated public information campaign aimed at preventing and combatting all forms of abuse of children;
- ▶ take all necessary measures to ensure the physical and psychological recovery and the social reintegration of child victims of the war;
- ▶ adopt and implement appropriate legislation with regard to the adoption of children;
- ▶ consider ratifying the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption of 1993;
- ▶ adopt appropriate measures on child labour issues and consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 138 on minimum age for admission to employment;
- ▶ continue legal reform in the area of the administration of juvenile justice, particularly with regard to deprivation of liberty, social reintegration and legal counsel and court procedures; and,
- ▶ adopt and implement special protection measures for children living and/or working in the street, children in conflict with the law, in particular those deprived of liberty, children affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS, including orphans, abused and exploited children and children involved with child labour.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Arbitrary detention, Working Group on: (E/CN.4/1997/4, paras 4, 5, 17, 21; E/CN.4/1997/4/ Add.1, Decision 39)

The Working Group (WG) sent three urgent appeals (concerning three individuals) to the government in the time period covered by the report and was subsequently informed that the persons on whose behalf the appeals were sent had been released. The WG considered one case of detention which was transmitted to the government. Based on information provided by the government and confirmation from the source that the individual concerned had been released, the Working Group decided to file the case.

Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary : (E/CN.4/1997/34, paras. 146–150)

The Working Group (WG) transmitted one case to the government which was subsequently clarified when the person concerned was located in detention in Ethiopia.

One hundred cases remain to be clarified. The majority of them relate to disappearances that occurred between 1991 and 1994 under the Transitional Government and concerned members of the Oromo ethnic group suspected of participation in the Oromo Liberation Front, who were arrested in Addis Ababa or disappeared from the Huso military detention camp in western Ethiopia. Other cases concern members of

the Ogaden National Liberation Front (a political party) who disappeared in eastern Ethiopia, in the Ogaden which is inhabited by ethnic Somalis, and in which there were reports of fighting by elements of the Ogaden National Liberation Front. The report notes that some 30 other cases occurred between 1974 and 1992 after the military took power and concerned mainly high-ranking officials of Emperor Haile Selassie's government, members of the Oromo ethnic group believed to be involved with the Oromo Liberation Front, or persons accused of involvement with opposition political groups, including the Ethiopian Socialist Movement. The government has not provided any new information on these cases. They therefore remain open.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/60/paras. 16, 18, 51, 57, 58; E/CN.4/1997/60/Add.1, paras. 172–176)

The addendum to the main report refers to the cases of 48 members of the former Dergue military government who were on trial and facing the death penalty on charges including genocide and crimes against humanity. The Special Rapporteur (SR) also notes that some 1,800 former officials, most of them having been held in detention since 1991, will also be tried and that many of them may be sentenced to death. The government has indicated, however, that it supports only a limited number of executions of those guilty of the worst crimes.

The report refers as well to the fact that the SR continues to receive information regarding human rights violations, including violations of the right to life, committed by the Ethiopian armed forces in the Ogaden. Incidents are reported to have included the massacre of 50 civilians, including women, children and elders in Qabri-Daharre and the killing of eight people in Hodayo. Cases transmitted by the SR involved 29 people, among whom were a singer and musician, three children who were killed by the Ethiopian armed forces because they had the initials of the Oromo Liberation Front tattooed on their hands, tribal chiefs and clan elders and a mother and her new-born child. The Special Rapporteur expressed concern over the reports of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions committed by the Ethiopian armed forces in the Ogaden and repeated his call to the Transitional Government of Ethiopia to ensure that all allegations of human rights violations are exhaustively and impartially investigated in order to establish the facts, identify those responsible and bring them to justice, to grant adequate compensation to the victims or their families, and to prevent the recurrence of such violations.

Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/91, paras. 9, 17, 24, 25)

The report notes that discrimination against Christians has been reported in Ethiopia, including ill-treatment, arrest and detention of both clergy and believers.

The Special Rapporteur's interim report to the General Assembly (A/52/477, paras. 51, 55) notes the response of the government to previous communications related to reports of intolerance against the Lutheran Church "Mekane Vesus". The government: recalled the constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion and freedom to practice one's religion; noted that "Mekane Vesus" had been recognized as a legal person under law and had been classified as a sect; and denied that its