

sent a coordinator to Algeria in April 1997 to coordinate and support the activities of some 100 international observers provided by states.

Voluntary Fund for victims of torture, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/27, para. 4)

The Secretary-General's report notes that Algeria contributed to the Fund in 1996.

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ANGOLA

Date of admission to UN: 1 December 1976.

TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 10 January 1992.

Angola's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 10 January 1992.

Angola's initial report was due 9 April 1993.

Optional Protocol: Acceded: 10 January 1992.

Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 17 September 1986.

Angola's initial, second and third periodic reports were due 17 October 1987, 1991 and 1995 respectively.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 14 February 1990; ratified: 5 December 1990.

Angola's initial report was due 3 January 1993.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary: (E/CN.4/1997/34, paras. 47-50)

No new cases of disappearance in Angola were reported but four cases remain pending on the books of the Working Group (WG). These concern four men who were allegedly arrested in 1977 by Angolan security forces, two because they were suspected of supporting UNITA. The government informed the WG that it had exhausted all avenues of inquiry and had found no new information on these cases. Therefore, it hoped the WG would consider these cases closed. The government noted that the task of clarifying cases of disappearances was made more difficult by several factors: first, limited resources to respond to the thousands of requests received to trace those who disappeared as a result of the war; second, many bodies had been buried during the fighting, making it impossible to locate the remains; and third, many of the Angolans who had died a violent death had no identity papers. The WG has referred the four cases to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Angola, with the hope that new information may be uncovered and/or the cases clarified.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/60, para. 16; E/CN.4/1997/60/Add.1, paras. 14-18)

The Special Rapporteur (SR) has continued to receive allegations that both the security forces and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) were responsible for numerous extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. The SR also received information about death threats against journalists who had criticized the government, and about incidents where police officers shot at suspects on sight rather than trying to arrest them. The report notes a lack of significant progress in judicial investigations involving the security forces; the few cases where investigations had been started had not led to many practical results. The SR expressed regret that the government had not sent him information on the cases transmitted. The SR also suggested that the government, together with UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III), should undertake a large-scale de-mining operation to rid the country of the millions of anti-personnel mines scattered throughout Angola which have already killed or maimed large number of civilians.

Mercenaries, Special Rapporteur on the use of: (E/CN.4/1997/24, para. 23)

In its reply to the Special Rapporteur's request for information on national legislation on mercenaries, the government stated that the use of mercenaries is no longer a problem in Angola. It also indicated that, where UNITA was concerned, it is the responsibility of the UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III) to provide the SR with information on the mercenary situation.

Racial discrimination, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/71, paras. 43-46)

The report notes that the press and other media in Angola have reported on the repatriation, mainly to Mali, of foreigners living in Angola, an action said to have been motivated by xenophobia. Among those expelled were foreigners who were living legally in Angola. The government did not reply to the questions sent by the Special Rapporteur.

Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on: (A/52/477, paras. 28, 36, 38)

The Special Rapporteur's report to the 1997 General Assembly refers to violations of religious freedom against Christians, including arrests and detentions of clergy and believers. The report notes that the government had not responded to communications transmitted.

Sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography, Special Rapporteur on: (A/52/482, para. 18)

The Special Rapporteur's interim report to the General Assembly notes that both the government and UNITA forces have begun to demobilize an estimated 8,000 child soldiers in a campaign initiated by the Ministry of Social Integration.

Toxic wastes and products, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/19, para. 26)

Angola referred to the difficulties it faced in trying to prevent its sea coast and river banks from being used as dumping sites for toxic wastes. The government requested technical assistance in implementing an environmentally sound policy.