

area, providing advice and technical assistance regarding the rule of law and the necessary reforms, and recommending courses of action to address the identified issues. In fulfilling these functions, the Human Rights Unit coordinates and works closely with the Civilian Police Component. The inclusion of two human rights advisers in the Mission reflects the government's wish that OHCHR assess possible areas of joint activities aimed at fostering protection and promotion of human rights. As of June 1998 one of the two human rights advisors had been recruited and had joined MINURCA.



## CHAD

**Date of admission to UN:** 20 September 1960.

### TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

**Land and People:** Chad has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.88) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains demographic, statistical and economic data as well as information on the general political structure. Human rights principles and international standards are established in the Constitution and, under article 82, Parliament ensures the defence and promotion of human rights and freedoms. The National Commission on Human Rights was created in 1994. Among the Commission's tasks is that of submitting opinions to the government concerning human rights and freedoms, including the status of women, the rights of children, and the rights of persons with disabilities. Individuals claiming a violation of rights may take their cases to the courts of general jurisdiction; if the courts fail to act, the case may be taken to the National Commission. International treaties take effect in domestic law as soon as they are promulgated and published. In addition to the work of the National Commission, a number of NGOs are active in the field of human rights, including the Chadian League of Human Rights, the Chadian Association for the Promotion and Defence of Human Rights, and the Association of Female Jurists.

#### Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 9 June 1995.

Chad's initial report was due 30 June 1997.

#### Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 9 June 1995.

Chad's initial report was due 8 September 1996.

**Optional Protocol:** Acceded: 9 June 1995.

#### Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 17 August 1977.

Chad's 10th report was due 16 September 1996; the 11th periodic report was due 30 October 1998.

#### Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 9 June 1995.

Chad's initial report was due 9 July 1996.

#### Torture

Acceded: 9 June 1995.

Chad's initial report was due 9 July 1996.

#### Rights of the Child

Signed: 30 September 1990; ratified: 2 October 1990.

Chad's initial report (CRC/C/3/Add.50) has been submitted and is scheduled for consideration at the Committee's May/June 1999 session; the second periodic report was due 31 October 1997.

#### Commission on Human Rights

Every year since 1991, the situation in Chad has been considered by the Commission under the confidential 1503 procedure. At its 1998 session, the Commission decided to continue this consideration.

### THEMATIC REPORTS

#### Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

##### Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary: (E/CN.4/1998/43, paras. 121–123)

No new cases of disappearance were transmitted by the Working Group (WG) to the government. Of the 12 cases of disappearance reported in the past, one occurred in 1983, five in 1991 and six in 1996. One case was submitted by a relative of the victim and concerned a member of the Democratic National Union who was reportedly taken prisoner in July 1983 during clashes between government troops and opposition forces. Five cases concerned members of the Hadjerai ethnic group who were reportedly arrested in October 1991 by the security forces; they were said to have been detained following an announcement by the authorities that an attempt by a section of the Chadian armed forces to overthrow President Idriss Deby had been thwarted. Six other cases concerned members of armed opposition groups who are said to have been arrested by the Sudanese security forces in 1996 at El Geneina in the Sudan, near the Chadian border, and handed over to the Chadian security forces; they are alleged to have then been transferred to N'Djamena by members of the Agence nationale de sécurité.

The government has not provided the WG with information on these cases.

##### Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/68, paras. 12, 13, 14, 32, 34, 36, 37, 39, 57, 59, 61, 68; E/CN.4/1998/68/Add.1, paras. 71–74)

The Special Rapporteur (SR) expressed concern about the renewed outbreak of violations of the right to life since 1996 and referred to information indicating that some 52 civilians were killed in an attack launched by