

**World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, Report of the S-G to the CHR : (E/CN.4/1997/36, paras. 85, 98)**

The report of the Secretary-General refers to activities by the UN's Information Centres and Services (UNIC) and notes that: in Colombia, UNIC held a briefing for 1,000 police officers at "Escuela de Policia General Santander", distributed information materials, and showed the film, "Universal Declaration of Human Rights"; UNIC provided material to the Ombudsman's Office for an edition of its magazine (entirely dedicated to Human Rights Day) which has a circulation of nearly 500,000; and that UNIC assisted the Ombudsman's Office in the production of two videos — "Human rights for youth" and "Humanitarian international rights" — by providing information and "UN in action" videos. The report also notes that, for the observance of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People, UNIC invited the director of a traditional radio programme to air "Perspective international" from the series, "Nosotros los pueblos indígenas", and arranged interviews for the representatives of UN programmes involved in indigenous issues in Colombia.

### FIELD OPERATIONS

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was established on 6 April 1997 in Santa Fe de Bogota. The Officer-in-Charge is Mrs. Almudena Mazarrasa Alvear. Address: Apartado Aereo 05964, Calle 100 No. 8A-55, Of. 815, Bogota 2, Colombia. Fax: (57-1) 25 76 244; telephone: (57-1) 25 76 044.

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## COSTA RICA

**Date of admission to UN:** 2 November 1945.

### TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

**Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

Signed: 19 December 1966; ratified: 29 November 1968.  
Costa Rica's second periodic report was due 30 June 1993.

**Civil and Political Rights**

Signed: 19 December 1966; ratified: 29 November 1968.  
Costa Rica's fourth periodic report was due 2 August 1995.

**Optional Protocol:** Signed: 19 December 1966; ratified: 29 November 1968.

**Second Optional Protocol:** Signed: 14 February 1990.

**Racial Discrimination**

Signed: 14 March 1966; ratified: 16 January 1967.  
Costa Rica's 12<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> periodic reports were due 4 January 1992, 1994 and 1996 respectively.  
*Reservations and Declarations:* Article 8.

**Discrimination against Women**

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified: 4 April 1986.  
Costa Rica's initial, second and third periodic reports were due 4 May 1987, 1991 and 1995 respectively.

**Torture**

Signed: 4 February 1985; ratified: 11 November 1993.  
Costa Rica's initial report was due 10 December 1994.

**Rights of the Child**

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 21 August 1990.  
Costa Rica's second periodic report was due 19 September 1997.

### TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

*Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights*

**Sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography, Special Rapporteur on:** (E/CN.4/1997/95, para. 68)

The report states that there are over 2,000 child prostitutes in San José alone whose clients are mostly foreigners. The report notes that children selling sex are frequently offered to foreign paedophiles as part of a sex tour "package".

**Violence against women, Special Rapporteur on:** (E/CN.4/1997/47, Section II)

In the section dealing with rape and sexual violence, the report refers to steps taken by many governments to remedy the gender bias that has pervaded their interactions with victims of rape and sexual violence, including sexual harassment; it notes that, in Costa Rica, seminars and dialogues with judges have proven helpful in this area.

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## CUBA

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

### TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

**Racial Discrimination**

Signed: 7 June 1966; ratified: 15 February 1972.  
Cuba's 10<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup> periodic reports have been submitted as one document (CERD/C/319/Add.4) which has not yet been scheduled for consideration by the Committee; the 14<sup>th</sup> periodic report is due 16 March 1999.  
*Reservations and Declarations:* Articles, 17, 18 and 22.

**Discrimination against Women**

Signed: 6 March 1980; ratified: 17 June 1980.  
Cuba's fourth periodic report was due 3 September 1994.  
*Reservations and Declarations:* Article 29.

**Torture**

Signed: 27 January 1986; ratified: 17 May 1995.  
Cuba's second periodic report is due 15 June 2000.  
*Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraph 1 of article 2; paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of article 20; article 30.

Cuba's initial report (CAT/C/32/Add.2) was considered by the Committee at its November 1997 session. The report prepared by the government provides an inventory of constitutional, legal and administrative provisions related to the question of torture, conditions of detention, due process and remedies.