

personnel and transport resources of the Armed Forces at the disposal of government relief agencies for rescue missions during emergencies and natural disasters.

Minorities, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/82, paras. 3, 6, 9, 14)

The report of the Secretary-General notes information provided by the government stating: the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship are allowed without discrimination and there is national recognition and observance of Muslim holidays; regional languages are the auxiliary official languages in the regions and serve as auxiliary media of instruction; offices and agencies such as the Office of the Northern Cultural Communities, the Office of the Southern Cultural Communities and the Office of Muslim Affairs have been created to implement the provisions of the Philippine Constitution which promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to minorities; and, the government has proposed a bill entitled Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities which will address the needs, and protect and promote the rights of indigenous people.

Regional arrangements, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/44, paras. 21, 22)

The report of the Secretary-General notes that a representative of the Philippines received a UN human rights fellowship and the government requested a needs assessment mission on juvenile justice which was fielded to the Philippines in July 1996.

Restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/29, paras. 4)

The report of the Secretary-General summarizes information received from the government on legislation related to the question of restitution, compensation and rehabilitation. The information notes laws: aiming to minimize violations of the minimum-wage and other labour standards, increase the amount of fines and the number of years of imprisonment and impose civil obligation in an amount double the unpaid benefits due the employees by way of restitution, on any person, company or employer who fails or refuses to pay the prescribed increases or adjustments in the wage rates; appropriating 10 billion pesos (approximate US\$290 million) to help the victims of the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo and its after-effects; increasing the 1993 appropriation for vital infrastructure projects from 1.5 billion to 3.5 billion pesos; providing financial resources for military veterans in areas of schooling, disability, old-age pension; and, granting incentives to village health workers in the form of hazard and subsistence allowance, training programmes, compensation for injury, insurance, medical benefits and free legal services. The government also provided information on pending bills dealing with justice for victims of human rights violations arising from proclamations of martial law and the rights of detained persons.

Right to development, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/21, para. 8)

The report of the Secretary-General provides a summary of information from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) noting that a study on male sexuality in and out of the family is being conducted in the Philippines and is

focussed on the attitudes and views of adolescent boys and men on their sexual and reproductive behaviour, decision-making about contraception and their role in the family.

UN Decade for Human Rights Education, Report of the HCHR to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/46, paras. 23)

The report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights summarizes information provided by the government referring to the fact that the Philippine Commission on Human Rights has prepared a national Plan of Action for human rights education. The report notes that the Plan includes clear objectives, target audiences (organized and unorganized elements of society), strategies (trainers' training, organization of networks, integration of human rights in all educational curricula, utilization of village-level officials to reach out to the community level, promotional campaigns including artistic and cultural activities, development of monitoring and evaluation systems, etc.) and programmes, including the creation of a human rights training, documentation and research centre (the Human Rights Academy). The Philippine Commission has entered into a number of formal agreements with other national partners for human rights education to define in detail specific areas of responsibility. These partners include: the Department of Interior and Local Government, the Liga NG MGA Barangay (an organization of barangay captains or village chiefs), the Department of Justice, the Department of National Defence, the Department of Education, Culture and Sports, the Commission on Higher Education, and Amnesty International/Philippine Section.

The report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (A/52/469, para. 42) refers to a national gathering in the Philippines of regional delegates, human rights practitioners and advocates from the private, non-governmental and governmental sectors which was held in February 1997 and recommended: an executive order be passed, creating a national inter-agency committee to implement the national plan; establishment of an ad hoc inter-agency task force for each region; development of a memorandum of agreement with all concerned agencies; and, creation of the National Association of Human Rights Educators, formed by all participants to the consultation and given specific responsibilities in the implementation of the Plan.

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

The report of the Secretary-General refers to activities for the Decade of the World's Indigenous People and notes that in the Philippines the observance of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People was jointly organized by UNIC Manila, the NGO Earthsavers Movement and ILO. The programme included an exhibit and performances by indigenous people.

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QATAR

Date of admission to UN: 21 September 1971.

TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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