

## GUINEA-BISSAU

**Date of admission to UN:** 17 September 1974.

### TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

#### Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 2 July 1992.

Guinea-Bissau's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

#### Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified 23 August 1985.

Guinea-Bissau's initial report was due 22 September 1986; the second and third periodic reports were due 11 September 1990 and 1994 respectively.

#### Rights of the Child

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 20 August 1990.

Guinea-Bissau's initial report was due 18 September 1992.

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## KENYA

**Date of admission to UN:** 16 December 1963.

### TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

#### Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 1 May 1972.

Kenya's second periodic report is due 30 June 2000.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraph 2, article 10.

#### Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 1 May 1972.

Kenya's second through fourth periodic reports were due 11 April 1986, 1991 and 1996 respectively.

**Optional Protocol:** Acceded: 1 May 1972.

#### Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 9 March 1984.

Kenya's third and fourth periodic reports were due 8 April 1993 and 1997 respectively.

#### Torture

Acceded: 21 February 1997.

Kenya's first periodic report is due 22 March 1998.

#### Rights of the Child

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 30 July 1990.

Kenya's initial and second periodic reports were due 1 September 1992 and 1997 respectively.

### THEMATIC REPORTS

#### *Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights*

**Arbitrary detention, Working Group on:** (E/CN.4/1997/4, para. 17, 22)

The report notes that two urgent appeals on behalf of twenty-two individuals were sent to the government but

provided no details. The government informed the Working Group that the twenty-two persons concerned had been released.

**Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on:** (E/CN.4/1997/60, paras. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 28, 31, 32, 35; E/CN.4/1997/60/Add.1, paras. 290–298)

The Special Rapporteur (SR) notes that a large number of deaths in custody are the result of harsh prison conditions that include overcrowding, insanitary conditions in which infectious diseases spread easily, as well as lack of adequate food, clothing, blankets and basic sanitary provisions. The report also refers to deaths resulting from excessive use of force by police officers. Urgent appeals were transmitted to the government on behalf of Rwandans who feared for their lives following an assassination attempt, in Nairobi, against Rwanda's former Minister of the Interior, and a ruling of the high court related to the death penalty. Individual cases were also transmitted concerning death in custody as a result of torture. The government replied to some of the cases, citing technical factors in the death penalty case, diplomatic immunity in the case of the assassination attempt against one of the men believed responsible, and the fact that one case was *subjudice*. The SR urged the government to take all necessary measures to avoid further deaths in custody and ensure that prison conditions conform to international standards.

**Sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography, Special Rapporteur on:** (A/52/482, para. 11)

The Special Rapporteur's interim report to the General Assembly notes that the SR carried out a mission to Kenya from 25 August to 2 September 1997 and that the mission report will be submitted to the 1998 Commission.

**Torture, Special Rapporteur on:** (E/CN.4/1997/7, Section III; E/CN.4/1997/7/Add.1, paras. 289–307)

The report notes that the Special Rapporteur (SR) continued to receive information indicating that the use of torture and ill-treatment by officers of the Directorate of Security Intelligence (DSI or "Special Branch") and the Criminal Intelligence Department (CID) was widespread. The regular police, the local administrative police, and the KANU Youth Wingers (the youth division of the ruling party, the Kenyan African National Union) were also alleged to engage in torture. Torture and ill-treatment were reportedly inflicted to intimidate detainees, to dissuade them from engaging in political activities, to obtain "confessions" or other information, and to extract bribes. The report also cited information indicating that, although detainees accused of offences for which the death penalty is not applicable are legally permitted to be held incommunicado for no more than 24 hours, in practice such detainees were often held incommunicado well beyond this period. The report notes that persons accused of offences carrying the death penalty may be held incommunicado legally for up to 14 days. Information further indicated that, in order to maintain a state of incommunicado detention, officers often moved detainees from one station to another upon arrest.

The methods of torture reported to be the most common included: beatings on various parts of the body, especially the soles of the feet; beatings to the soles of the feet while being suspended upside down; infliction of simultaneous blows to