

Mechanisms and Reports of the Sub-Commission

Traditional practices affecting the health of women and children, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/10, para. 29)

The report cites a statement by the government asserting that there are no traditional practices (including mutilation) in Brazil that affect the health of women and children.

Contemporary forms of slavery, Working Group on: (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/13, para. 45)

The report refers to the introduction of a computer programme on the Internet to facilitate adoption formalities in Rio de Janeiro and to stem the traffic of children and organs. The report notes the government's assertion that, in Brazil, there is no traffic in organs, and that an inquiry had failed to substantiate any of the allegations made in that regard. The government further stated that adoption formalities were designed to safeguard the child and promote the principle of the best interests of the child.

Other Reports

Periodic and genuine elections, Report of the S-G to the GA: (A/52/474, para. 8, Annex)

The report of the Secretary-General notes that under a UNDP project, a mission composed of an electoral advisor, a specialist in electronic voting, and a consultant in electoral administration were sent to Brazil in November 1995 to advise the government on various aspects related to electronic voting on a nationwide basis.

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CHILE

Date of admission to UN: 24 October 1945.

TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 16 September 1969; ratified: 10 February 1972.
Chile's third periodic report was due 30 June 1994.

Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 16 September 1969; ratified: 10 February 1972.
Chile's fourth periodic report was due 28 April 1994.
Reservations and Declarations: Declaration under article 41.

Optional Protocol: Acceded: 27 May 1992.

Reservations and Declarations: General declaration.

Racial Discrimination

Signed: 3 October 1966; ratified: 16 March 1971.
Chile's 11th through 13th periodic reports were due 19 November 1992, 1994 and 1996 respectively.
Reservations and Declarations: Declaration under article 14.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 June 1980; ratified: 7 December 1989
Chile's second periodic report (CEDAW/C/CHI/2) has been submitted but is not yet scheduled for consideration by the Committee; the third periodic report is due 6 January 1999.
Reservations and Declarations: General declaration.

Torture

Signed: 23 September 1987; ratified: 30 September 1988.
Chile's third periodic report was due 29 October 1997.
Reservations and Declarations: General declaration; paragraph 1 of article 30.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 2 October 1990.
Chile's second periodic report was due 11 September 1997.

THEMATIC REPORTS***Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights***

Arbitrary detention, Working Group on: (E/CN.4/1997/4, paras. 17, 20)

The report notes that the Working Group appealed to the government to uphold the right to physical integrity of a leading female member of the Chilean Communist Party. The report notes that the person concerned was released shortly after being detained.

Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary: (E/CN.4/1997/34, paras. 94-100, 392)

No new cases of disappearance were transmitted by the Working Group to the government. The vast majority of the 848 cases of disappearance remaining to be clarified occurred between 1973 and 1976 under the military government and involved political opponents of the military dictatorship, from different social strata, most of them activists in the Chilean leftist parties. The report states that those responsible for the disappearances were members of the army, the air force, the *carabineros* and persons acting with the acquiescence of the authorities. The report welcomes steps taken by the government to clarify cases as well as the efforts made to compensate the families of victims of disappearance. The Working Group nonetheless expressed particular concern about countries which have had more than 500 cases outstanding for more than 10 years, Chile being among them, and stated that it is essential for the government to make consistent and effective efforts to identify the fate and whereabouts of the disappeared.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/60, paras. 17, 18, 19, 46, 95; E/CN.4/1997/60/Add.1, paras. 95-99)

The report refers to a case previously sent to the government involving a 16-year-old student who died in 1995 in the course of a demonstration commemorating the military coup of September 1973, as well as the case of the staff member of the UN Latin American Centre for Demography. In response to the first case, the government informed the SR that judicial proceedings had been initiated and that every means would be used to clarify the circumstances of the death and to bring those responsible to justice. The SR expressed his deep concern at the application of the Amnesty Act of 1978 adopted by the military regime and considers that the application of that Act encourages impunity and is contrary to the spirit of the international human rights instruments.

Independence of judges and lawyers, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/32, para. 93)

The report refers a decision by the Supreme Court in October 1996, rejecting a petition made by the military prosecutor to instruct all appeal courts to close legal proceedings