

provided the Special Rapporteur with a copy of Act No. 933/96, promulgating the Inter-American Convention on the Forced Disappearance of Persons.

Racism and racial discrimination, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/79, paras. 74, 91–93)

The report refers to information provided by the government according to which there had been no cases of anti-Semitism, racial discrimination or racism affirming the superiority or privilege of one's own race. The government referred to articles 73 and 74 of the Constitution related to equal access to education and the need to remove discriminatory material from school books, as well as constitutional and legislative provisions in favour of women and children. The government acknowledged, however, the situation of indigenous peoples in Paraguay was troubling to the extent that it is typically characterized by poverty and neglect, and stated that bills to improve the situation of indigenous peoples were being prepared.

Toxic wastes and products, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/10, para. 51)

The report notes that the government was investigating a serious case of illicit movement and dumping of toxic wastes which may have occurred in Paraguay, and undertook to provide the Special Rapporteur (SR) with relevant information as soon as it was available. The government requested the SR's assistance in investigating the issue. No details of the incident were provided.



PERU

Date of admission to UN: 31 October 1945.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Peru has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.43/Rev.1) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government includes demographic and statistical data as well as information on the general political structure and the framework for the protection of human rights.

Under the 1993 Constitution, international treaties are part of national law and the Constitution stipulates that the rights and freedoms set out in it must be interpreted in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and any international treaties and agreements related to human rights that Peru has ratified. In addition to the Public Prosecutor's Department and the office of the Ombudsman, other institutions and arrangements exist for the protection of human rights. These include the Special Procurator for Human Rights for the Whole Nation (jurisdiction and investigation of complaints of human rights violations), the Peace Council (to imple-

ment the National Pacification Plan), the National Council for Human Rights (the primary agency responsible for promoting, coordinating and advising on the protection and observance of fundamental individual rights), the National Human Rights Committee (a coordinating and monitoring body within the Ministry of the Interior), the Register of Complaints related to Disappeared Persons (under the responsibility of the Special Procurator for Human Rights and the Ombudsman), the National Register of Detainees and Persons Sentences to Custodial Sentences, the Technical Commission for Displaced People (to deal with families displaced by terrorist violence), the Programme of Support for the Population (to assist displaced persons to return to places of origin) and the Pacification and Human Rights Commission (with the role of securing the fundamental and constitutional rights of individuals).

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 11 August 1977; ratified: 28 April 1978.
Peru's second periodic report was due 30 June 1995.

Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 11 August 1977; ratified: 28 April 1978.
Peru's fourth periodic report has been submitted but has not yet been scheduled for consideration by the Committee; the fifth periodic report is due 9 April 2003.
Reservations and Declarations: Declaration under article 41.

Optional Protocol: Signed: 11 August 1977; ratified: 3 October 1980.

Racial Discrimination

Signed: 22 July 1966; ratified: 29 September 1971.
Peru's 12th and 13th periodic reports were submitted as one document (CERD/C/298/Add.5) which is pending for consideration at the Committee's March 1999 session; the 14th periodic report was due 29 October 1998.
Reservations and Declarations: Declaration under article 14.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 23 July 1981; ratified: 13 September 1982.
Peru's third and fourth periodic reports were submitted as one document (CEDAW/C/PER/3-4) which was considered at the Committee's July 1998 session; the fifth periodic report is due 13 October 1999.

Torture

Signed: 29 May 1985; ratified: 7 July 1988.
Peru's second periodic report (CAT/C/20/Add.6) was considered at the Committee's May 1998 session; the third periodic report was due 5 August 1997.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 4 September 1990.
Peru's second periodic report (CRC/C/65/Add.8) has been submitted and is pending for consideration at the Committee's June 2000 session; the third periodic report is due 3 October 2002.