

activists in the Chilean leftist parties. Those responsible for the disappearances were members of the army, the air force, the carabinieri and persons acting with the acquiescence of the authorities.

During the period covered by the report, the government provided information on the 847 outstanding cases which had been collected by the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission, by the National Agency for Compensation and Reconciliation, and by the Programme of Follow-up to Act No. 19, 123. The WG was informed that, although the National Agency for Compensation and Reconciliation ceased to function on 31 December 1996 for legal reasons, its Victims' Final Destiny Programme remains in effect. This programme is intended to establish the whereabouts of detained and disappeared persons and the bodies of those whose remains have not been found, despite the existence of an official record of their deaths.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/68, paras. 12, 17, 29, 30, 57, 65; E/CN.4/1998/68/Add.1, paras. 75–76) The report notes that communications were sent to the government arising from death threats from state officials. An urgent appeal was transmitted on behalf of members of the Group of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees after they had received death threats by telephone and were harassed by men in civilian clothes who identified themselves as members of the Police Department. Information indicated that the three women, members of the Group of Relatives, had applied to the Santiago Court of Appeal for protection.

In its reply, the government stated that no member of the Police Department had been involved in the intimidation of the three women, and further, that they had been offered police protection but had declined. The government noted that after the women had submitted an application for protection to the Santiago Court of Appeal, the Court had ordered that a police guard be maintained for 30 days at the office of the Group of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees and for 15 days at the women's homes.

Sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography, Special Rapporteur on the: (E/CN.4/1998/101, para. 117)

In the section dealing with sex education programmes, the report notes that the Catholic Church has not opposed sex education in schools and that such programmes have been conducted.

Torture, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/38, paras. 46–48; E/CN.4/1998/38/Add.1, paras. 64–66)

The report recalls that the Special Rapporteur (SR) visited Chile in 1995 and addressed a number of recommendations to the government. Information was requested from the government on follow-up to those recommendations on a number of issues, including, *inter alia*: eliminating the "arrest on suspicion" provision from the Code of Criminal Procedure; the introduction of rules to strengthen the protection of civic rights; concerns related

to the draft Code of Criminal Procedure and of the Organization Act relating to the Prosecution Service; the bill submitted by the government in 1996 in order specifically to characterize torture as an offence; and measures taken in 1996 and 1997 to ensure that officers of the forces of law and order had been punished for offences relating to violation of the right to physical integrity of detained persons and details of any cases. The SR stated that in light of information suggesting that torture and ill-treatment continue to be used by the police, it is a matter of concern that the government has not been in a position to elaborate on developments related to follow-up of the recommendations made after the 1995 visit.

During the period under review, 12 cases were transmitted to the government. These involved, *inter alia*: a beating by two motorized police officers (carabineros), following refusal to show identity papers, which resulted in serious injuries; detention followed by punches and kicks resulting in injuries confirmed at the San José de Melipilla hospital; a house search and beating of the putative suspect's mother in a case of mistaken identification during an anti-drugs operation, as well as insults and beatings requiring medical treatment of the wrongfully detained person; various incidents related to the use of force by police during the course of arrests or detentions; the blindfolding, beating and ill treatment, by various fellow servicemen, of an individual who had joined the air force to carry out his compulsory military service and was subsequently accused of having inadequately performed a military manoeuvre; the beating of an individual who had gone to the station to make a statement about having been shot in the leg the previous day by policemen during an operation near his home; the beating of an inmate in a high security prison; and, assault by police officers which resulted in the victim being admitted to hospital as an emergency case.

An urgent appeal was also sent related to the arrest of four 19-year-old conscripts who were accused of involvement in the murder of another conscript, whose body had been found three months after his disappearance. Information indicated that the four had been beaten, deprived of sleep, and threatened by members of the army to force them to confess to having participated in the crime.



COLOMBIA

Date of admission to UN: 5 November 1945.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Colombia has submitted a revised core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.56/Rev.1) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains economic, demographic and statistical data as well as information on the system of government and the