

arrest. The government did not reply to the information transmitted.

Torture, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/7, Section III; E/CN.4/1007/7/Add.1, paras. 145–152)

The report notes that information has been received indicating that torture and ill-treatment are frequently inflicted on detainees, including those arrested for political reasons. Thirteen individual cases and two urgent appeals were transmitted to the government. Among the cases handled by the Special Rapporteur were several involving a regional leader and several members of the Convergencia para la Democracia Social (CPDS) party and several leaders and a member of the Partido del Progreso (PP). The forms of torture and ill-treatment used included sessions, morning and afternoon, of 50 blows with rubber truncheons, severe beating with high-voltage cable, beatings on the soles of feet, severe blows to the chest with a rifle, extraction of fingernails with pincers, and detention while undressed for periods up to a month in closets measuring 70 x 50 cms with almost no food.

Other Reports

Minorities, Report of the S-G to the GA: (A/52/498, para. 31)

The report of the Secretary-General recalls the references in the 1997 CHR report of the Special Rapporteur to discrimination against members of the Bubi ethnic group on the island of Bioko and the inhabitants of the island of Annobon. It is noted that the government informed residents on Bioko, in writing, that any traditional celebration or ceremony involving a gathering of people required prior authorization from the government delegation in the district. The Special Rapporteur viewed the communication as seriously jeopardizing the right of any community freely to conduct ceremonies that were expressions of its culture.

Periodic and genuine elections, Report of the S-G to the GA: (A/62/474, Annex)

The report of the Secretary-General notes that the government invited the UN to send observers to the Presidential elections in February 1996 but that the lack of lead time made it impossible to organize an effective observation mission.

Women's human rights, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/40, paras. 82, 105)

The Secretary-General's report on the integration of women's human rights throughout the United Nations system notes that the resolution on Equatorial Guinea, adopted at the 1996 session of the Commission on Human Rights, encouraged the government to continue taking the necessary measures to improve the situation of women's human rights in the country. The report also summarizes actions taken by the Commission's thematic and country rapporteurs in terms of women's human rights and notes that the Special Rapporteur on Equatorial Guinea dedicated a section of his 1996 report to the situation of women, looking into the situation of women and their position in the society, and pointing out that he had observed no changes and that women continued to be relegated to an inferior position and discriminated against.

ERITREA

Date of admission to UN: 28 May 1993.

TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

Discrimination against Women

Acceded: 5 September 1995.

Eritrea's initial report was due 5 October 1996.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 20 December 1993; ratified: 3 August 1994.

Eritrea's initial report was due 1 September 1996.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on:

(E/CN.4/1997/91, paras. 9, 17, 19, 21, 26)

The report notes that Jehovah's Witnesses have been subjected to intolerance and discrimination and, as conscientious objectors, have lost their citizenship rights.

The Special Rapporteur's report to the 1997 session of the General Assembly (A/52/477, para. 46) notes that the government had not replied to communications transmitted.

Violence against women, Special Rapporteur on:

(E/CN.4/1997/47, Sections V, V-B)

In the section dealing with women migrant workers, the Special Rapporteur (SR) notes that live-in domestic work in countries of the European Union is a rapidly growing area of employment but one that is developing outside of labour regulatory schemes. The increasing demand for workers is being met mostly by undocumented migrant women, including women from Eritrea.

Mechanisms and Reports of the Sub-Commission

States of emergency, Special Rapporteur on:

(E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/19/Add.1, Section II)

The report states that Eritrea found itself in a de facto state of emergency at the moment of its transition to independence.

ETHIOPIA

Date of admission to UN: 13 November 1945.

TREATIES AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES

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

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 11 June 1993.

Ethiopia's initial report was due 30 June 1995.

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 11 June 1993.

Ethiopia's initial report was due 10 September 1994.