

- ♦ ensure close cooperation and coordination with non-governmental agencies concerned with child protection and involve the private sector in the protection and reintegration of children victims.

The report recommends that state governments in the border areas, *inter alia*:

- ♦ initiate and/or enhance cooperative efforts between the relevant officials on both sides of the border for the protection of children; sensitize and train the border police, customs, and immigration officers on the vulnerability of children and on the methods of investigation and inquiry in the process of apprehension or repatriation; provide training to Mexican consular officials in the United States for treating and interviewing migrant minors; and
- ♦ ensure constant supervision of the border areas to prevent exploiters from having ready access to children for the purpose of subjecting them to abuse either locally or across the border.

The report recommends that non-governmental organizations, *inter alia*:

- ♦ conduct general awareness programmes related to: the existence of the specific problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children; the primary causes giving rise to the vulnerability of children; the modus operandi of recruitment of children; the rights of children under international instruments, particularly the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the repercussions of commercial sexual exploitation of children on their whole personality; and the responsibilities of parents and other members of the community to be vigilant for the protection of children;
- ♦ actively participate in monitoring places where children are at greater risk and take measures to report findings and remove the children from the exploitative situation; monitor response mechanisms by the government, especially law enforcement authorities, in order to avoid revictimization of children needing assistance;
- ♦ encourage and make possible networking and cooperation among themselves by first, making an inventory of the different organizations providing service to children, and then by allocating areas of responsibility to improve coordination and avoid duplication;
- ♦ pay particular attention, as a matter of priority, to the curtailment of drug or substance abuse among children especially in the metropolitan and border areas;
- ♦ actively cooperate with government in the search for viable alternatives to formal schooling for working children;
- ♦ actively advocate and sensitize the business sector in training children for alternative sources of income other than commercial sex; and
- ♦ provide for "help lines" or "hot lines" to which children needing assistance can have easy access.

The SR's interim report to the 1998 General Assembly (A/53/311, para. 21) welcomes the creation of the Comisión Nacional para Prevenir, Atender y Erradicar el Fenómeno de la Venta de Niños, la Prostitución Infantil y la Utilización de Niños en la Pornografía (National Commission for the Prevention, Responsibility for, and Eradication of the Phenomenon of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and the Use of Children in Pornography). The aims of this national commission include: raising public awareness about the commercial sexual exploitation of children; carrying out a full assessment of the problem; and introducing appropriate preventative measures and adequate legislation.

Torture, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/38, paras. 133–134; E/CN.4/1998/38/Add.1, paras. 237–248)

The main report notes that eight urgent appeals were sent to the government and that replies were received to seven of them, as well as to two cases that were transmitted in 1995 and 1996.

The addendum summarizes individual cases including, *inter alia*: the arrest of members of the Tepozteca Unity Committee by judicial police officers and allegations that at least two of them were threatened with death and subjected to ill treatment; incommunicado detention and beatings of at least of seven persons, including two Jesuit priests and five community leaders, by judicial police officers in connection with incidents in which two policemen had been killed; detention of members of the Mixtec indigenous community, reportedly associated with the Democratic Revolution Party (PRD), by members of the state judicial police; detention of other indigenous members of the PRD who were allegedly tortured; detention by members of the Public Security Police (PSP) in Chiapas of several persons involved in a private dispute; detention and alleged torture of members of the DRP in Guerrero; detention of the agricultural secretary of the DRP in Guerrero, who was reportedly handed over to the army the same day and reportedly tortured to make him confess to links with the People's Revolutionary Army; actions against inhabitants of the San Lorenzo Texmelucan community, including beatings, burns and threats; and, detention, including incommunicado detention of three municipal officials by judicial police officers accompanied by two masked individuals.

The government variously responded that: the Morelos Human Rights Commission had received a complaint but it did not contain any allegations of torture; the statements of persons named had been taken in the presence of their lawyers and at no time were they subjected to ill treatment, held incommunicado, or otherwise deprived of legal guarantees; a complaint had been lodged by the accused against members of the Attorney General's Office on grounds of fabrication of evidence, illegal detention, ill treatment and incommunicado detention; the National Human Rights Commission and the Human Rights Commission of Guerrero had opened an investigation on the disappearance of the four named persons, their whereabouts were still unknown; no complaint had