

potential of regional IGOs and the UN in taking concrete action on human rights, and for this reason are doubly upset about its failures over Rwanda.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights' (HCHR) role and capacity within the UN is both new and evolving, and he personally had just joined the Centre for Human Rights (UNCHR). Nevertheless the Centre itself is well established and the expectation is that the Commissioner and the Centre certainly will act as the core and driving force of the UN Secretariat human rights machinery per se if not the larger UN human rights community. It is useful in the Rwandan context to examine the effectiveness of the UN's human rights response under the following headings:

*Monitoring and Intelligence Gathering* - the effective assessment of human rights violations throughout the world informs and drives all other possible functions of the international human rights community.

*Advocacy* - being an advocate for those who cannot sufficiently advocate for their own rights is the most pressing role for the international human rights community.

*Policy or Program Advice* - institutionalised advocacy such as when peacekeeping or humanitarian or development agencies and others draw upon UN human rights experts both within their structure, from elsewhere in the UN (eg. the Centre for Human Rights), and from outside the UN, as they automatically factor in human rights to their mandate and operations.

*Coordination* - particularly relevant to the UN Centre for Human Rights which is strategically placed to coordinate those aspects of UN activities which have a substantive human rights impact.

*Program Delivery* - human rights are integral to most international situations and advocacy, advice, and coordination will facilitate all agencies and organizations in fulfilling their particular contribution to human rights. However there are times when international human rights bodies per se need to run their own substantive field programs.