

and certain segments of the civil society on international human rights standards in order to consolidate their role in the transition period and to reinforce their capacity to collect and analyze information and to provide reports on human rights developments to the Special Rapporteur and other bodies.

The main activities carried out as of August 1998 included:

- ♦ a comprehensive needs assessment on how best to rehabilitate and reconstruct public institutions, most notably the justice system, and on capacity-building and reinforcement of human rights NGOs as well as others in civil society;
- ♦ a seminar aimed at bringing together Congolese human rights NGOs, others in civil society and international human rights and humanitarian organizations; participants reflected on their common priorities during 1998, including joint projects between national human rights organizations and the Office;
- ♦ a second seminar in March 1998, with government and civil and military authorities from various regions and provinces of the country, in order to identify and evaluate human rights priorities for 1998, and to prepare and develop a national plan for the protection and promotion of human rights;
- ♦ collection and analysis of information provided by NGOs and the population at large to assist the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights; and
- ♦ facilitating and assisting the Secretary-General's Investigative Team, which was mandated to investigate the gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed in the former Zaire/DRC from 1 March 1993.

DR Congo is a member of the Southern Africa Development Community and, therefore, also a beneficiary of and participant in the Regional Human Rights Programme Office for Southern Africa, a joint project of OHCHR and UNDP, which is based in Pretoria (see profile under "South Africa").



## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

**Date of admission to UN:** 20 September 1960.

### TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

**Land and People:** Côte d'Ivoire has not submitted a core document for use by the treaty bodies.

### Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 26 March 1992.

Côte d'Ivoire's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

### Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 26 March 1992.

Côte d'Ivoire's initial and second reports were due 26 June 1993 and 1998 respectively.

**Optional Protocol:** Acceded: 5 March 1997.

### Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 4 January 1973.

Côte d'Ivoire's fifth through 13th periodic reports (1982-1998) have not been submitted; the 13th periodic report was due 3 February 1998.

### Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified: 18 December 1995.

Côte d'Ivoire's initial report was due 17 January 1997.

### Torture

Acceded: 18 December 1995.

Côte d'Ivoire's initial report was due 16 January 1997.

### Rights of the Child

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 4 February 1991.

Côte d'Ivoire's initial and second periodic reports were due 5 March 1993 and 1998 respectively.

## THEMATIC REPORTS

### Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

#### Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/68, para. 48)

The report refers to deaths due to acts of omission by the state, and notes information indicating that individuals, in particular foreigners, were killed by mobs after having been accused of "stealing a person's sexual organs" through the most simple forms of physical contact (i.e., shaking hands).

#### Racism and racial discrimination, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1998/79, paras. 53, 72)

The report refers to cases having been transmitted, and the government's failure to respond to the information sent. No details of the cases were provided.

