

authorities to consider property "abandoned or ownerless" whenever the Greek Cypriot or Maronite owner dies or permanently leaves the area.

Other information in the report relates to: difficulties encountered in trying to arrange for the repair of religious sites in the northern part of the island; ensuring the presence of religious leaders and teachers in the area; restrictions on freedom of movement; temporary suspensions from employment; and, obstacles to access to detainees by UNFICYP.

Decision of the CHR: (1997/121)

At its 1997 session, the Commission on Human Rights adopted without a vote a decision on the situation in Cyprus. It states that the Commission decided to keep the question of human rights in Cyprus on its agenda and that the actions required, as set out in previous resolutions, remain operative; it also requested the Secretary-General to provide a report to the 1998 session of the Commission on implementation of those actions.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary: (E/CN.4/1997/34, paras. 123–125, 393)

The report notes that the Working Group continued to remain available to assist the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus (CMP) and, further, that the Secretary-General was considering the merits of continuing UN support to the CMP.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/60, paras. 16, 34, 36; E/CN.4/1997/60/Add.1, para. 575)

The report notes two cases that were transmitted to the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community. The first case involved a Greek Cypriot, who was reported to have been beaten to death during a clash between Greek Cypriot and Turkish demonstrators on 1 August 1996 in the buffer zone. The information received indicated that the Turkish participants in the incident acted under the protection and with the active involvement of members of the Turkish armed forces. The second case related to another Greek Cypriot who was shot and killed in mid-August 1997 by a member of the Turkish Armed Forces in Cyprus.

Racial discrimination, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/71, para. 38)

The report cites information provided by the government, stating that legislative measures are being considered for the regulation and monitoring of broadcasts and films with regard to programming that may seek to incite acts or activities likely to cause hatred, discrimination or violence based on racial, sexual, religious or national differences.

Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/91, paras. 9, 17, 21, 24, 26, 66; A/52/477, paras. 21, 51, 54)

The reports refer to violations of religious freedom against Jehovah's Witnesses and to incidents of ill-treatment, arrest and detention of clergy and believers. The Special Rapporteur (SR) notes that cases of imprisonment for refusal to perform military service have been reported, and that,

although some legal provisions recognize conscientious objection and provide for non-armed military service, this is not in conformity with international law. The government's response to a case previously transmitted is cited, stating that the Turkish Cypriot man who had been sentenced to three years' imprisonment for conscientious objection was released after serving three-quarters of his sentence and then detained again for 24 hours on an arrest warrant to which he objected. The government informed the SR the individual had been awarded compensation and the case was closed.

Sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.5/1997/95, para. 56)

The report refers to information indicating that Cyprus is one of the countries to which girls from Romania are trafficked for the purposes of prostitution.

Torture, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/1997/7, Section III; E/CN.4/1997/7/Add.1, para. 114)

The Special Rapporteur transmitted to the government one case involving a Turkish Cypriot who had been detained by Greek Cypriot police under accusation of smuggling and spying in the buffer zone under the control of UNFICYP. Information received indicated that he was subjected to extensive beatings that resulted in hospitalization, and that a UNFICYP doctor reported serious injuries. A medical report from his family doctor confirmed that he had been subjected to torture and that his body was covered with wounds caused by beatings and slashing with implements. He had sustained injuries to his eyes, ear, hip, back, the soles of his feet and around his kidneys.

Mechanisms and Reports of the Sub-Commission

Traditional practices affecting the health of women and children, Special Rapporteur on: (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/10, para. 29)

The report notes the government statement that there are no traditional practices (including mutilation) in Cyprus affecting the health of women and children.

Other Reports

Decade for Human Rights Education, Report of the S-G to the GA: (A/52/469, paras. 42)

The report of the Secretary-General notes that the government has established the National Institute for Human Rights, the main objectives of which are to: raise public awareness for human rights; further educate civil servants, teachers, and lawyers on human rights; strengthen human rights education in the Cyprus educational system at all levels; strengthen the capacity of the mass media for human rights education by appropriate means; promote the active engagement of national non-governmental organizations in the realization of the goals of the Decade; and, establish a human rights library in order to enhance public awareness. The report also notes that the Ministry of Education was developing new curricula and teaching methods following a review of the status of human rights education in schools.

Detention of international civil servants, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/25, paras. 8–9)

The report of the Secretary-General summarizes information received from the UN Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) which states that, in general, the privileges and immunities of civilian officials of the UN specialized