

GUINEA

Date of admission to UN: 12 December 1958.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Guinea has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.80) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains economic, demographic and statistical data, a brief historical overview as of independence, and information on the political and administrative structure and the legal framework for the protection of human rights. Title II of the Constitution sets out the fundamental freedoms and the duties and rights of citizens. There is no authority with exclusive competence related to the protection of human rights; neither is there one court specifically competent to try violations of human rights. In addition to recourse to the courts, remedies are available through applications to vacate judgements, appeals, reviews and applications for judicial review. International law takes precedence over domestic law and the Constitution provides that citizens may invoke various human rights instruments before the courts. There are no national public institutions or organizations responsible for ensuring respect for human rights. The government has authorized, however, the establishment of NGOs concerned with the support or protection of human rights, including the Guinean Association for Human Rights and the Guinean Organization for the Defence of Human Rights.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 28 February 1967; ratified: 24 January 1978. Guinea's initial and second periodic reports were due 30 June 1990 and 1995 respectively. *Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraph 1 of article 26; paragraph 3 of article 1; article 14.

Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 28 February 1967; 24 January 1978. Guinea's third periodic report was due 12 November 1993. *Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraph 1 of article 48.

Optional Protocol: Signed: 19 March 1975; ratified: 17 June 1993.

Racial Discrimination

Signed: 24 March 1966; ratified: 14 March 1977. Guinea's second through eleventh periodic reports, covering the period from 1980 to 1998, have not been submitted; the eleventh periodic report was due 13 April 1998.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified: 9 August 1982. Guinea's initial and second through fourth periodic reports have not been submitted; the fourth periodic report was due 8 September 1995.

Torture

Signed: 30 May 1986; 10 October 1989. Guinea's initial report was due 8 November 1990; the second periodic report was due 8 November 1994.

Rights of the Child

Acceded: 13 July 1990. Guinea's initial report (CRC/C/3/Add.48) has been submitted and is pending for consideration by the Committee at its January 1999 session; the second periodic report was due 1 September 1997.

THEMATIC REPORTS

Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights

Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary: (E/CN.4/1998/43, paras. 191–193, 417)

No new cases of disappearance were transmitted by the Working Group (WG) to the government. The majority of the 28 reported cases in Guinea occurred in 1984 and 1985 in the context of a coup d'état. The WG noted that it has not received any reports of disappearances occurring in Guinea after 1985. In the absence of new information from the government on the outstanding cases, the WG was unable to report on the whereabouts of the disappeared persons.



GUINEA-BISSAU

Date of admission to UN: 17 September 1974.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

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

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 2 July 1992. Guinea-Bissau's initial report was due 30 June 1994.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified 23 August 1985. Guinea-Bissau's initial and second through fourth periodic reports have not been submitted; the fourth periodic report was due 22 September 1998.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 20 August 1990. Guinea-Bissau's initial report was due 18 September 1992 and 1997.