

colour or creed; and the right to a fair trial and the presumption of innocence. The Constitution states that any person alleging the violation of these rights may apply to the High Court for redress, thus making the High Court the effective domestic guardian of human rights in Barbados.

The Ombudsman Act (1981) established the office of Ombudsman, whose function is to investigate and report upon allegations of improper, unreasonable or inadequate administrative conduct. Any complaints made to the Ombudsman must be made in writing and cannot be anonymous. Normally the Office cannot investigate a case where the complainant has other legal means of redress. With some exceptions the Ombudsman has the power to request any minister or officer of a government department or any other person to supply information considered necessary. The Bureau of Women's Affairs is responsible for policy elaboration and research in the area of women's rights and is responsible to the Minister for Community Development.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 5 January 1973.

Barbados's second and third periodic reports were due 30 June 1991 and 1996 respectively.

Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph (a) (i) of article 7; paragraph (2) of article 10; paragraph (2) (a) of article 13.

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 5 January 1973.

Barbados's third and fourth periodic reports were due 11 April 1991 and 1996 respectively.

Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 3 (d) of article 14.

Optional Protocol: Acceded: 5 January 1973.

Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 8 November 1972.

Barbados's eighth through 13th periodic reports (covering the period 1987-1997) have not been submitted; the 13th periodic report was due 8 December 1997.

Reservations and Declarations: Article 4.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 24 July 1980; ratified: 16 October 1980.

Barbados's fourth and fifth periodic reports were due 3 September 1994 and 1998 respectively.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 19 April 1990; ratified: 9 October 1990.

Barbados's initial report (CRC/C/3/Add.45) has been submitted and is pending for consideration at the Committee's January 1999 session; the second periodic report was due 7 November 1997.



BELIZE

Date of admission to UN: 25 September 1981.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

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

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 10 June 1996.

Belize's initial report was due 9 September 1997.

Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 2 of article 12; paragraphs 3 (d) and 6 of article 14.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 7 March 1990; ratified: 16 May 1990.

Belize's initial and second periodic reports were submitted as one document (CEDAW/C/BLZ/1-2) which is scheduled for consideration at the Committee's June 1999 session; the third periodic report is due 15 June 1999.

Torture

Acceded: 17 March 1986.

Belize's second and third periodic reports were due 25 June 1992 and 1996 respectively.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 2 March 1990; ratified: 2 May 1990.

Belize's initial report, (CRC/C/3/Add.46) has been submitted and is pending for the Committee's January 1999 session; the second periodic report was due 1 September 1997.



BOLIVIA

Date of admission to UN: 14 November 1945.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Bolivia has submitted a core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.54/Rev.1) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains demographic and statistical data as well as information on the historical background, the political structure, the general legal framework for the protection of human rights and principal problems of justice related to human rights.

The legal framework related to human rights is established by the Constitution which covers the full range of rights set out in the two International Covenants. The international human rights treaties to which Bolivia is a