Overview of Reports submitted prior to the 45th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Thematic Reports prepared by the Special Mandate Holders (Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts, Working Groups)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>❖ Symbol: A/HRC/45/3 ❖ Title: Communications report of Special Procedures</td>
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<td>The report includes Statistics on communications sent by the Special Procedures between 1 March and 31 May 2020 and their replies received until 31 July 2020, as well as all replies received during this period to communications sent before 1 March 2020. In total 173 communications were sent during this reporting period to 74 countries and other non-State actors to which 84 replies were received from 44 countries and other actors. Understood by ‘other actors’ are businesses, international bodies, agencies, non-State actors. These communications concerned 309 alleged identified victims of which 242 are male, 65 are female and 2 others. All communications and their replies are available at the link: <a href="https://spcommreports.ohchr.org">https://spcommreports.ohchr.org</a>. Due to the liquidity crisis faced by the UN, translation of 24 government replies received in languages other than English has been delayed. The report also includes an Appendix with a full list of all Mandates of special procedures (until 31 August 2020).</td>
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| ❖ Symbol: A/HRC/45/7 (Advanced Unedited Version) ❖ Title: Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures: priorities and road map. ❖ First report of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Ms Alena Douhan (Belarus). |
| In the report, the Special Rapporteur discusses current developments and challenges in the application of unilateral sanctions. The report also includes: |
| - The preliminary priorities of the new Special Rapporteur’s thematic research. |
| - Suggestions for establishment of networking cooperation, including with specialized agencies of the United Nations and other international organizations, regional actors, civil society. |
| The Special Rapporteur informs the Human Rights Council about her plans to create the Sanctions Reference Tool, which will provide online references to the existing unilateral and international sanctions. The Special Rapporteur also announces her plans to draft a Guidance on unilateral coercive measures and develop recommendations to be used in the process of international law making as well as development of national acts. |

| ❖ Symbol: A/HRC/45/8 ❖ Title: Impact of the coronavirus disease pandemic on contemporary forms of slavery and slavery-like practices. ❖ First report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, Mr Tomoya Obokata (Japan). |
| The report outlines the activities carried out by the Special Rapporteur, including the activities of the previous mandate holder, Ms Urmila Bhoola (South Africa), from July 2019 until June 2020. The report includes: |
| - Preliminary analysis of the impact of coronavirus disease on contemporary forms of slavery. |
| - An overview of the methods of work that the new Special Rapporteur intends to implement and promote during his tenure. |
Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/10.

- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/9
- **Title:** Impact of the use of *private military and security services* in immigration and border management on the protection of the rights of all migrants.
- Report of the **Working Group** on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination.
- During the reporting period, the Working Group was composed of Mr Chris Kwaja (Chair, Nigeria), Ms Jelena Aparac (Croatia), Ms Lilian Bobea (Dominican Republic), Ms Sorcha MacLeod (United Kingdom) and Mr Saeed Mokbil (Yemen).

Submitted pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/2, in which the Commission established the mandate of the Working Group, and Human Rights Council resolution 42/9, in which the Council renewed that mandate.

In the recommendations included in the report, the Special Rapporteur urges States to adopt measures to ensure that victims/survivors of slavery are able to access services, justice and remedy even during the pandemic. The report also informs that eleven communications were transmitted jointly with other mandates on behalf of individuals exposed to contemporary forms of slavery.

The report covers the activities of the Working Group since its previous report to the Council (A/HRC/42/42). The Working Group held its 38th (25-29 November 2019) and 39th (30 March-3 April 2020, virtually) sessions in Geneva.

**Communications submitted:**

a) An urgent action and a joint media statement were issued by the Working Group to highlight allegations of human rights violations and abuses in an immigration detention centre in the **United States of America** in the context of the COVID-19.

b) Allegation letters were addressed to 2 Governments and a company regarding the alleged role of a private military company in violations of international humanitarian law and abuses of international human rights law allegedly committed during the armed conflict in **Sri Lanka** (1984-1988), and the related lack of accountability and remedies for victims.

c) Allegation letters and a joint media statement were addressed to Governments and one non-State actor regarding the use of mercenaries and related actors in the context of hostilities near Tripoli, **Libya**.

**Country visits undertaken:**

- 3 letters of acceptance were received, from the Governments of **Bosnia and Herzegovina** and **Australia** to conduct visits in 2020 and 2021 respectively, and from the **State of Palestine**.

**Thematic Issues addressed in the report:**

- Privatization and securitization of immigration and border management.
- Normative framework.
- Impact of private military and security services on the enjoyment of the human rights of all migrants, including:
  - Provision of research and technical expertise,
  - Border security technologies and monitoring services,
  - Immigration detention, returns and removals,
  - Implementation of “externalization” policies.
- Lack of transparency, oversight, accountability and effective remedies for victims.

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/10.

- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/10
- **Title:** Progressive realization of the human rights to *water and sanitation.*

The report examines the nature of the obligation of progressive realization as it relates specifically to the human rights to water and sanitation.
### Last report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Mr Léo Heller (Brazil)

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/5.

- In preparation for the report, the Special Rapporteur held public consultations in October 2019 in New York and November 2019 in Geneva.
- In response to his call for input, 18 submissions were received.
- Three main concepts addressed in the report:
  - Progressive realization of human rights (vertical and horizontal),
  - Maximum available resources,
  - Fulfilling the minimum core obligations.

A user-friendly version of the report is also available [here](#).

### Progress towards the realization of the human rights to water and sanitation (2010-2020)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Mr Léo Heller (Brazil).

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/5.

- The report outlines progress made in realizing the human rights to water and sanitation made since 2010.
- The progress identified is dissected through a three-dimensional framework:
  - Human rights as a driver,
  - Human rights as a policy tool, and
  - Human rights as a people-centric approach.

A short overview of the thematic reports produced during the Special Rapporteur’s tenure is provided, including of the Special Rapporteur’s reports focused on development cooperation, report on megaprojects, report on assessing different levels and types of service on affordability, on service regulation, on accountability, on gender equality report on displaced persons, and report on access to water and sanitation in spheres of life beyond the household.

### Duty to prevent exposure to COVID-19.

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Mr Baskut Tuncak (Turkey/USA).

Submitted prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 36/15.

- The report addresses the issue of State’s duty to prevent exposure to hazardous substances within the context of the global crisis rising from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Main issues discussed in the report:
  - Duty to prevent exposure to the novel coronavirus.
  - Key factors in the failure to prevent exposure to the novel coronavirus:
    - Environment,
    - Governance,
    - Equality and non-discrimination,
    - Transparency and the rights to information and freedom of expression,
    - Attacking human rights defenders,
    - International Cooperation.

The report also points out that preventative measures should have already been in place, given the relatively recent outbreaks of other zoonotic diseases such as SARS, Zika, West Nile and Ebola and repeated warnings from global health authorities and environmental agencies that the destruction of natural habitats would enable the passage of disease from wildlife to humans.

### Enforced or involuntary disappearances

The present report reflects the activities of and communications and cases examined by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances from 23 May 2019 to 15 May 2020.

The Working Group consists of the following members: Mr Luciano A. Hazan (Chair, Argentina), Mr Tae-Ung Baik (Republic of Korea), Ms Houria Es-Slamli (Morocco), Mr Henrikas Mickevičius (Lithuania), Mr Bernard Duhaime (Canada).

The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances was established pursuant to resolution 20 (XXXVI) of the Commission on Human Rights and its mandate was most recently extended by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 36/6.

It also includes information on other activities carried out by the Working Group such as press releases, general comments, country visits, and follow-up reports.

Country visits undertaken:
- The Working Group visited Tajikistan from 1 to 5 July 2019.
- The Governments of Iraq and Uruguay, which extended invitations to the Working Group during the reporting period to visit their countries.
- The visits scheduled to take place in Burkina Faso and Mali during the second half of 2019 did not materialize due to a lack of cooperation and follow-up from the two Governments.
- During the reporting period, the Working Group requested visits to Brazil, Cyprus, Ghana, Uruguay and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
- The Working Group also reiterated its requests, to which it has still not received a positive response, to visit Bangladesh, China, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, South Africa, Thailand and Zimbabwe.

A summary of the decisions on individual cases taken by the Working Group and communications transmitted to the States concerned during the reporting period is available in the third section of the report.

In the report, the Working Group draws the attention of the international community to impunity as a distinctive trait of enforced disappearances. It continues to observe alarming patterns of impunity, both in relation to past acts of enforced disappearance and to new disappearances occurring in different parts of the world.

The report addresses the following issues:
- Elements of the obligation to investigate enforced disappearances and the obstacles thereto,
  - Prompt and ex officio nature of the investigation,
  - Prompt legal remedy to determine the whereabouts of the disappeared persons,
  - Access to relevant information,
  - Prohibition of amnesties, pardons and other similar measures,
  - Extension of investigations,
  - Autonomy and independence of the authorities in charge of the investigation,
  - Inadmissibility of defence of superior orders,
  - Statute of limitations and the principle of ne bis in idem.
- Public policies for an efficient investigation of enforced disappearances:
  - Obligation to criminalize enforced disappearance autonomously,
  - Coordination of the authorities in charge of the search and criminal investigations,
**Country visits:**  
- During the reporting period, the former Independent Expert visited **China** (25 November-3 December 2019) and **New Zealand** (2-12 March 2020).  
**Thematic issues addressed in the report:**  
- Representative and meaningful data on older persons, including:  
  - Why data matters,  
  - The data gap conundrum,  
  - Data revolution,  
  - Overview of the legal and policy framework and recent initiatives,  
  - Data gap impact. |
| Title: Human rights of older persons: the data gap. | The Independent Expert, Ms Claudia Mahler, assumed her mandate on 1 May 2020. The report builds on the contribution of the former Independent Expert, Ms Rosa Kornfeld-Matte (Chile).  
**Country visits:**  
- During the reporting period, the former Independent Expert visited **China** (25 November-3 December 2019) and **New Zealand** (2-12 March 2020).  
**Thematic issues addressed in the report:**  
- Representative and meaningful data on older persons, including:  
  - Why data matters,  
  - The data gap conundrum,  
  - Data revolution,  
  - Overview of the legal and policy framework and recent initiatives,  
  - Data gap impact. |
| Title: Right to development. | The report examines national-level financing for development practices from the perspective of the right to development.  
**Country visits:**  
- The Special Rapporteur requested to visit more than 20 countries.  
- The Special Rapporteur conducted a country visit to **Switzerland** (23 September-2 October 2019). It was the second country visit since the mandate was established.  
- A country visit to **Kyrgyzstan** was planned for May 2020, but had to be postponed due to the travel restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. |
Thematic issues addressed in the report:
- Financing for development and the right to development.
- International policy background on financing for development and the right to development.
- Challenges in implementing the right to development in financing for development (with focus on Resource mobilization and Tax policies).
- Meaningful community participation in financing for development.

Activity:
- From 1 January to 31 December 2019, the Working Group held its 84th, 85th and 86th sessions.
- The Working Group commenced work in developing a joint amicus curiae brief, in cooperation with the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls.
- The work on a study on arbitrary detention relating to drug policies has commenced, including initial consultations, developing a questionnaire and calling for inputs on drug policies. A report on the study will be presented to the Council at its 47th session.
- Adopted 85 opinions concerning the detention of 171 persons in 42 countries (a summary table of all Opinions adopted is available on pages 7-19 of the report);
- Transmitted 61 urgent appeals to 31 Governments and, in one case, to other actors;
- Transmitted 80 letters of allegations and other letters to 43 Governments and, in one case, other actors, concerning at least 377 identified individuals.

Country visits:
- Qatar (3-14 November 2019),
- Greece (2-13 December 2019),
- In 2019, requests to conduct a country visit were made to Morocco and Tunisia.
- The Working Group also sent reminders of its earlier requests to visit Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, the Republic of Korea, Turkey and Venezuela.
- Australia, Maldives and Tunisia confirmed their willingness to invite the Working Group for an official visit at the earliest opportunity. Myanmar replied that it was not ready to facilitate a country visit at the moment.

Deliberations:
- Deliberation No. 10 on reparations for arbitrary deprivation of liberty.
- Deliberation No. 11 on prevention of arbitrary deprivation of liberty in the context of public health emergencies.

Thematic issues addressed in the report:
- Women deprived of liberty.
- The right to legal assistance in preventing arbitrary deprivation of liberty. Modern technologies and alternatives to detention.

The international financial policies (IFIs) referred to in this report are the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Through the various policies they pursue and the safeguards they have put in place to manage the related impacts and risks associated with investment lending, IFIs have a direct influence on how good governance is realized at the local level, and ultimately on the enjoyment of a democratic and equitable international order.

The Independent Expert has focused on the following key issues:
- Stakeholder engagement and issues of public participation, transparency and reprisals,
- State responsiveness to the needs of the population and retrogressive measures, and
- The fight against corruption.

The issue of accountability is mainstreamed throughout the report. The report also takes into account a number of challenges related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/28
Title: The interplay of international financial institutions’ policies and safeguards with good governance at the local level.
Third thematic report of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, Mr Livingstone Sewanyana (Uganda).

Submitted pursuant to the Human Rights Council 42/8.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/34
Title: Rights of indigenous peoples.

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/20.

Country visits:
- The Congo (14-24 October 2019).
- Denmark and Greenland (9-19 March 2020) – interrupted due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Activities of the Special Rapporteur:
- In November 2019, the Special Rapporteur, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and indigenous peoples’ organisations, convened a regional consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples from 12 Asian countries.
- During the past year, the Special Rapporteur has issued more than 100 communications to more than 30 countries and to other entities.
- As is requested in her mandate, the Special Rapporteur has paid particular attention to the rights of indigenous women and girls.

The report also includes:
- Examples of impact and achievement from between 2014 and 2020.
- Implementation of international standards on consultation and free, prior and informed consent, including:
  - Foundation, nature and scope of indigenous consultations,
  - Impact assessments,
  - Free, prior and informed consent,
  - On the adoption of legislation,
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Symbol: A/HRC/45/34/Add.3</th>
<th>Stigmatization and criminalization, Cross-cutting issues related to indigenous consultation.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title: Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on regional consultation in Asia.</td>
<td>With the aim of engaging with indigenous peoples in Asia, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, conducted a regional consultation jointly with the OHCHR in Bangkok and with the support of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact and the Indigenous Peoples’ International Centre for Policy Research and Education. The consultation was held in Bangkok from 13 to 15 November 2019. It was attended by more than 100 representatives of indigenous peoples from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Timor-Leste, Thailand and Viet Nam, as well as Taiwan Province of China. Academics, lawyers and representatives of civil society organizations, independent national human rights institutions, the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Union for Conservation of Nature also participated. The reports includes the following thematic areas on which the Consultation focused: Self-determination, indigenous governance and justice systems, Lands, territories and resources, Conservation, Climate change, Business and human rights, Suppression of the right to freedom of association and attacks against and criminalization of indigenous human rights defenders, Sustainable Development Goals and economic, social and cultural rights. The consultation aimed, among other things, to exchange experiences and discuss the current challenges faced by indigenous peoples in Asia.</td>
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| Symbol: A/HRC/45/44 | The report includes: An overview of the Working Group’s activities from July 2019 to July 2020. An analyses of the connections between the COVID-19 pandemic, police impunity and global protest in the context of human rights framework, including: Foreseeable risks specific to people of African descent; Influence of systemic racism on prioritization, and consequent harm to people of African descent; Racial bias and disparities in COVID-19 infections, treatment and mortality; Racial bias and disparity in enforcement of COVID-19-related social restrictions; Police violence during the pandemic; Impact of systemic racism on therapy and vaccine development; Medical abuse and exploitation in the name of scientific innovation; |
| Title: Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent | The Working Group consists of the following members: Ms Dominique Day (Chairperson, United States of America), Mr Ahmed Reid (Jamaica), Mr Michal Balcerzak (Poland), Mr Sabelo Gumede (South Africa), and Mr Ricardo A. Sunga III (Philippines) |
- International human rights framework and systemic racism;
- People of African descent in the diaspora seeking redress for systemic racism within the United Nations.
  - Recommendations thereon.

**Country visits undertaken:**
- Ecuador, from 16 to 20 December 2019 (see A/HRC/45/44/Add.1),
- Peru, from 25 February to 4 March 2020 (see A/HRC/45/44/Add.2).

**Communications made:**
- Nine communications were sent under the special procedures communications procedure regarding allegations of human rights violations, including to China, Colombia, Haiti, the Netherlands, the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

The Working Group concluded that structural racial discrimination exacerbates inequality in access to health care and treatment, leading to racial disparities in health outcomes and increased mortality and morbidity for people of African descent.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought racial disparity and discrimination to the surface in institutions designed to confer justice, equity and redress.

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- Activities undertaken by the Special Rapporteur between July 2019 and June 2020.
- Objectives and regulatory framework of memorialization processes.
- Memory as a battlefield.
- Memorialization in times of conflict (Temporality, Limits of transitional justice, Managing victims’ expectations).
- Memory work in situations of transition
  - The challenge of ownership,
  - Good practices,
  - Follow-up and ownership of the recommendations of truth-seeking mechanisms,
  - Access to the archives,
  - Role of the United Nations.
- Weaponization of memory through social networks
  - Balance between the right to information and the prohibition of incitement to hatred,
  - Criminal responsibility of ideologues and propagandists,
  - Responsibility of the media and the need to adapt laws,
- Progressive development of memory and non-regression
### Country Reports prepared by the Special Mandate Holders (Special Rapporteurs, Individual Experts, Working Groups)

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<tr>
<td>Title: Visit to Togo.</td>
<td>- The Special Rapporteur examines as a matter of priority the worst forms of child labour, including domestic servitude.</td>
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<td>- The Special Rapporteur provides the following examples of manifestations of the worst forms of child labour:</td>
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<td>- Domestic servitude as part of the <em>confiage</em> system,</td>
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<td>- Facilitation by criminal networks; and internal and regional trafficking.</td>
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<td>- She also includes other contemporary forms of slavery and slavery-like practices affecting children, such as:</td>
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<td>- Child marriage,</td>
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<td>- Placement of children in convents (including the so-called “witch children”).</td>
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<td>The Special Rapporteur acknowledges the solid legislative framework that Togo had in place to prevent and address child labour, but draws attention to need for closing policy gaps and for more effective and coordinated implementation of existing laws.</td>
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<td>Title: Visit to Switzerland.</td>
<td>- The report focuses on:</td>
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<td>- Application of the legal framework and recent cases,</td>
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<td>- International initiatives related to private military and security companies,</td>
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<td>- Regulation of Swiss-based private military and security companies operating abroad,</td>
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<td>- Private military and security companies operating within Switzerland.</td>
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<td>- The report addresses domestic regulation of private security providers where diverse practices exist at the cantonal level demonstrating the need for a nationwide framework.</td>
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<td>- The lack of uniform standards within the industry represents a particular concern as the number of private security personnel outnumbers police officers and there is a growing market for private security services, including through contracts with public authorities in sensitive areas, such as asylum centres.</td>
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<td>- The report underlines that Switzerland has been at the forefront of several international initiatives and has also taken concrete action to prevent the risks that are associated with exporting private military and security services abroad by putting in place relevant federal legislation.</td>
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<td>The report also considers legislation covering mercenaries and related actors.</td>
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1 Including the reports by country-mandates and the reports of the thematic mandates who implemented country visits.
- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/10/Add.2  
**Title:** Follow-up on the visit of the Special Rapporteur to India.  
**Report of the Special Rapporteur** on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Mr Léo Heller (Brazil).

The Special Rapporteur seeks to enhance the effectiveness of his official country visits by undertaking a follow-up analysis of the recommendations included in the country visit report. The report of the official visit to India (A/HRC/39/55/Add.1) was presented to the Human Rights Council in September 2018. The main findings of the follow-up are presented in this report, introducing the level of development of the recommendations and highlighting further recommendations derived from the current status. The progress on the following recommendations is analysed:
- Recommendations on legislative frameworks, on institutional framework, on independent regulatory mechanism, on human rights impact assessments, on monitoring national policies on water and sanitation, on monitoring informal service providers, on reconciling access to water and sanitation facilities with the obligations to respect and protect human rights, on monitoring those without access to sanitation facilities, on disaggregation of data, on safety of sanitation, on accessibility of water and sanitation, on water quality, on acceptability, on water and sanitation in public spaces, on informal settlement, resettlement and homeless.

According to the 6 levels of development, the 20 recommendations are classified as: 7 “progress on-going”, 5 “progress not started”, and 8 “progress limited”.

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- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/10/Add.3  
**Title:** Follow-up on the visit of the Special Rapporteur to Mongolia.  
**Report of the Special Rapporteur** on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Mr Léo Heller (Brazil).

The Special Rapporteur seeks to enhance the effectiveness of his official country visits by undertaking a follow-up analysis of the recommendations included in the country visit report. The report of the official visit to Mongolia (A/HRC/39/55/Add.2) was presented to the Human Rights Council in September 2018. The main findings of the follow-up are presented in this report, introducing the level of development of the recommendations and highlighting further recommendations derived from the current status. The progress on the following recommendations is analysed:
- Recommendations on legal recognition of the human rights to water and sanitation, on policies and programmes, on Sustainable Development Goals, on institutional arrangements, on designated governmental agency – ger areas, on accountability mechanisms, on regulatory framework, on accessibility and equality, on availability, on quality, on affordability.

According to the 6 levels of development, the 19 recommendations are classified as: 1 “good progress”, 6 “progress on-going”, 3 “progress not started”, 5 “progress limited” and 4 “no assessment can be made due to lack of information”.

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- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/12/Add.1 (Advance Unedited Version)  
**Title:** Visit to Canada.  
**Dates of the visit:** from 24 May to 6 June 2019.
Report of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Mr Baskut Tuncak (Turkey/USA).

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 36/15.

The Special Rapporteur visited Ottawa, Toronto, Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (also formerly known as Grassy Narrows First Nation), Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Sarnia, Fort McMurray, Edmonton, Vancouver, and Montréal.

Improvements: new energy, finding pathways to pollution prevention, informed consent, and working in partnership with Indigenous peoples and other disproportionately affected groups.

Challenges: limited degree of protection of human health and ecosystems, lack of environmental information and monitoring in areas of high risk, long delays or absences of health impact assessment in affected communities, inadequate compliance with and enforcement of policies.

The report focuses on:

- Implications of toxics for Canada’s human rights obligations.
- Canadian businesses and human rights.
- Cooperation, collaboration and shared jurisdiction.
- Implementation of international obligations.
- Right to life, health and bodily integrity.
- Non-discrimination, including that of indigenous peoples, as well as based on age, gender, occupation, income, race and ethnicity.
- Rights to information, freedom of expression, participation and free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).
- Access to justice and remedies.
- Extraterritorial impacts of business enterprises.
- Recommendations to the country concerned.

Dates of the visit: from 2 to 13 December 2019.

The report addresses the following issues:

- Sustainable development in Brazil.
- Duties and responsibilities to protect life and prevent exposure, touching upon such topics as extractive industries, manufacturing, pesticides, forest fires, and industrial chemicals.
- Protecting the most vulnerable (particularly, Indigenous, Afro-Brazilian and low-income communities, workers and children).

The report likewise focuses on human rights defenders’ participation, right to information, access to justice and right to an effective remedy.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/12/Add.2 (Advance Unedited Version)

Title: Visit to Brazil.

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Mr Baskut Tuncak (Turkey/USA).

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 36/15.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/13/Add.1

Title: Visit to Tajikistan

Report of the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances

The delegation was composed of the Chair of the Working Group, Mr Bernard Duhaime (Chair, Canada), and a member of the Working Group, Mr Henrikas Mickevičius (Lithuania).

Dates of the visit: from 1 to 5 July 2019.

The Working Group visited Dushanbe and Vahdat.

- The Working Group has transmitted 10 cases of enforced disappearance to the Government of Tajikistan.

The report focuses on Enforced disappearances as the legacy of civil war.
- Civil war in Tajikistan, which lasted from 1992 to 1997, devastated the country, killing an estimated 50,000 to 100,000 people from a population of 5.1 million, and displacing about one tenth of the population.
- The Working Group received credible reports from the conflict period regarding patterns of disappearances, particularly in the early stages of the civil war, as well as of the existence of “informal prisons” or clandestine detention centres.
- The WG also received reports of the existence of a number of unopened mass graves, and information that some individuals may have disappeared in Afghanistan, to where at least 60,000 people fled during the conflict.
- There is an urgent need to engage in a process of investigation, exhumation and identification of the remains of disappeared and missing persons so that they can be handed over to those persons’ families.
Tajikistan has made welcome legislative improvements in protection against enforced disappearances in recent years, particularly by strengthening notification and registration requirements during arrest and detention. However, additional measures are needed to ensure fuller protection from enforced or involuntary disappearances, notably from the prevalent problem of short-term enforced disappearances.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/13/Add.2
Title: Visit to Kyrgyzstan.
Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances
The Working Group was represented by Mr Bernard Duhaime (Chair, Canada) and Mr Henrikas Mickevicius (Lithuania).

- The report concludes that the Government of Kyrgyzstan has made significant legislative improvements in the protection against enforced disappearance in recent years. However, substantive changes in practice are still lacking.
- A concerted effort is needed, in particular, to eradicate the widespread problem of enforced disappearance of short duration following the initial apprehension of suspects, as now defined in the Code of Criminal Procedure.
- There continues to be a small number of individuals missing and of bodies pending identification in relation to the inter-ethnic violence that broke out in the southern provinces in 2010.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/13/Add.4
Title: Follow-up to the recommendations made by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances in its report on its visit to Turkey from 14 to 18 March 2016 (A/HRC/33/51/Add.1).
Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances
The report contains information supplied by the Government of Turkey, civil society and other stakeholders relating to follow-up measures to the recommendations.
- The Working Group continues to offer its assistance to the Governments that have received a visit, to comply with the recommendations made.
- On 18 November 2019, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances requested the Government of Turkey to provide information on measures taken to implement the recommendations that were made in the report A/HRC/33/51/Add.1 after its visit to the country in March 2016. On 14 February 2020, the Government of Turkey provided the requested information.
The Working Group’s report is presented in a form of a table featuring:
- All 102 recommendations made in its previous report A/HRC/33/51/Add.1,
- Situation during the visit,
- Measures taken/current situation.

Level of implementation and observations (to be completed by the WGEID)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: A/HRC/45/13/Add.7</th>
<th>The Government of Turkey recalls that the follow-up report should be strictly limited to the observations and recommendations formulated in the initial report issued within the scope of the visit.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Follow-up to the recommendations made by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances in report on its visit to Turkey from 14 to 18 March 2016 (A/HRC/33/51/Add.1).</td>
<td>The Government brings to the Working Group’s attention that some of the “civil society organizations” that have contributed to the follow-up report of the Working Group are FETÖ affiliated persons and entities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments of the Government of Turkey.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: A/HRC/45/14/Add.1</th>
<th>Dates of the visit: from 25 November to 3 December 2019. The main objective of the visit was to identify both best practices and gaps in the implementation of existing laws relating to the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Visit to China – Report of the former Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Ms Rosa Kornfeld-Matte (Chile).</td>
<td>- In her report following the mission, the Independent Expert assesses, to the extent possible, the implementation of existing international instruments, laws and policies pertaining to the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons in China.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- In line with her tenure’s priorities, the Independent Expert specifically examines the area of automation, assistive and robotics technology.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The report also includes the Independent Expert’s main findings, which concern:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Discrimination,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Violence, maltreatment, neglect and abuse,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Education, training and lifelong learning,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Adequate standard of living,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Social protection and the right to social security,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Care.</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: A/HRC/45/14/Add.2</th>
<th>Dates of the visit: from 2 to 12 March 2020. The main objective of the visit was to identify both best practices and gaps in the implementation of existing laws and policies relating to the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Visit to New Zealand.</td>
<td>Independent Expert’s main findings concerned:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Older persons and them being potentially at risk from ageist attitudes, employment discrimination, lower incomes, material hardship, poor health, abuse and neglect, isolation, and loneliness.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- The older persons’ group itself is ageing. This has direct implications for health expenditure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Her other findings also covered:
- Education, training and lifelong learning,
- Adequate standard of living,
- Social protection and the rights to social security and work,
- Digitalization, artificial intelligence and robotics technology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: A/HRC/45/15/Add.1</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Visit to Switzerland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to development,</strong> Mr Saad Alfarargi (Egypt).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dates of the visit:</strong> from 23 September to 2 October 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Special Rapporteur visited the capital and the cantons of Bern, Ticino and Zug.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The main objectives of the visit:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- to assess the advancement of the realization of the right to development in Switzerland,</td>
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<tr>
<td>- to identify remaining challenges, with a view to formulating recommendations on implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The report focuses on the following areas of development:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- International cooperation policy,</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and integration of the right to development,</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Social Security,</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The report also highlights the following aspects:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Women and the right to development,</td>
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<td>- Persons living in poverty, and other vulnerable parts of the population,</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Persons with disabilities.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: A/HRC/45/16/Add.1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Visit to Greece.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Report of the Working Group on arbitrary detention</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Working Group was represented by Mr José Antonio Guevara Bermúdez (Mexico), Ms Leigh Toomey (Australia) and Mr Sètondji Roland Adjovi (Benin), and accompanied by staff from the OHCHR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dates of the visit:</strong> from 2 to 13 December 2019.</td>
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<tr>
<td>This was the second official visit of the Working Group to Greece, the first visit having been conducted in 2013.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Working Group visited 21 places of deprivation of liberty and was able to confidentially interview over 150 persons deprived of their liberty (full list of detention facilities visited is available in the Appendix to the report).</td>
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<tr>
<td>The report focuses on:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Overview of the institutional and legal framework in the context of international human rights obligations and national legal framework.</td>
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<td>- Positive measures and initiatives:</td>
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<tr>
<td>o Ratification of international human rights instruments,</td>
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<tr>
<td>o Alternatives to detention,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Provisions for early release.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Main findings concerning the right to personal liberty:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Deprivation of liberty in the context of the criminal justice system,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Detention of persons in the context of migration,</td>
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</table>
Deprivation of liberty in the context of psychosocial disability and social care. The Working Group identified certain challenges in the criminal justice system, such as widespread pretrial detention, insufficient awareness of the right to legal assistance and instances of short trials.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: A/HRC/45/16/Add.2</th>
<th>Dates of the visit: from 3 to 14 November 2019. The Working Group visited 12 places of deprivation of liberty in and outside the capital as well as the Naufar Center for drug dependency and addiction. It was able to confidentially interview over 200 persons deprived of their liberty. The report addresses the following issues:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Visit to Qatar.</td>
<td><strong>Overview of the institutional and legal framework (International human rights obligations and National legal framework).</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report of the Working Group on arbitrary detention.</td>
<td><strong>Good practices and positive developments.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The delegation was composed of Ms Leigh Toomey (Australia), Ms Elina Steinerte (Latvia) and Mr Sètondji Roland Adjovi (Benin), accompanied by staff from the OHCHR.</td>
<td><strong>Deprivation of liberty in the context of the criminal justice system.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Observance of fair trial rights.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Other forms of deprivation of liberty.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Civil society in Qatar.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Implementation of opinions adopted by the Working Group.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Working Group commends progress made in Qatar and identifies a number of positive developments. The Working Group also identifies significant challenges in the criminal justice system with regard to preventing arbitrary detention, such as ensuring prompt presentation of detainees before a judicial authority, guaranteeing detainees access to legal assistance and interpretation during trial proceedings, and excessive reliance on detention before trial. A large number of individuals are said to be detained due to inability to repay a debt. State security and counter-terrorism legislation, as well as laws for the protection of the community, allow for unsupervised administrative detention. The existing legal framework and practices permit de facto deprivation of liberty by private actors. There is also an urgent need for a significant strengthening of the independence of civil society and the legal profession.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

| Symbol: A/HRC/45/31 | The report presents the findings based on investigations conducted from 11 January 2020 to 1 July 2020. In producing the present report, the Commission of Inquiry relied primarily on 538 interviews, conducted in person in the region as well as from Geneva. Official documents, reports, photographs, videos and satellite imagery were collected and analysed from multiple sources, including following the Commission’s call for submissions. The Commission’s investigations remain curtailed by the denial of access to the country and protection concerns in relation to interviewees. |
The report analyses political and military developments, as well as conduct of hostilities and violations outside the context of the conduct of hostilities on the following territories:
- Government-held areas,
- Afrin and Ra’s al-Ayn regions,
- Dayr al-Zawr, Raqqah and Hasakah,
- Idlib Governorate and western Aleppo.

Given its findings on violations in the present report, the Commission repeats its recommendation for all Member States to continue seeking accountability, and reiterates its readiness to continue to assist in this endeavour, in close cooperation with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism.

In 2020, the Commission presented two oral briefings to the Human Rights Council. The report summarizes the final conclusions of its investigations, which will be detailed in a separate document (A/HRC/45/CRP.1).

The report focuses on:
- Main developments in Burundi and within international and regional bodies.
- Situation of human rights, including main trends, violations in the context of the electoral process and other violations, economic underpinnings of the State and responsibilities.
- International crimes, including constituent elements and types of crimes and individual responsibility
- Risk factors.

Annexes include, among others, correspondence with the Government of Burundi and Previous recommendations made by the Commission.

Numerous serious human rights violations have been documented since May 2019 in connection with the 2020 elections. The report concludes that the perpetrators were seeking to deprive the main opposition party of any chance of winning the election. These violations were mainly committed by members of the Imbonerakure youth league of the ruling party and by local officials who continue to enjoy nearly total impunity. Officers of the National Intelligence Service and the police often participated in or supported such violations or, in the case of the police, sometimes stood by and allowed the perpetrators to act. The judiciary has also taken part in this repression.

The survey on the economic underpinnings of the State has shown that corruption and illicit financial flows have a negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights in Burundi. Aside from the political transition currently under way, most risk factors still remain, and far reaching reforms are required to improve the situation in the medium and long term.

The report contains an overview of the fact-finding mission’s findings with respect to extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and torture and other
Title: Report of the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Submitted pursuant to the Human Rights Council resolution 42/25.

cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment, committed in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela since 2014.
The Mission also produced an extended conference room paper, providing more detail on incidents, analysis and conclusions.
The Mission sent the Government official correspondence on 6 occasions between January and August 2020, but did not receive any response and was not able to meet with Venezuelan authorities, either within or outside of the country.
The Mission investigated 223 individual cases, out of which 48 are included as detailed case studies in the full report.
The report also focuses on the following aspects:
- Structural Factors Contributing to Violations,
- Targeted Political Repression (including the sub-sections on victim profiles, violations by intelligence agencies SEBIN and DGCIM).
- Violations in a Social Control or Security Context (including the Operations for People’s Liberation (OLP) and the Operations for People’s Humane Liberation (OLHP), and other extrajudicial executions by police forces and violations in the context of protests).
The Mission concludes the report with its assessment of responsibilities, including individual criminal responsibilities, for the violations found.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/34/Add.1
Title: Visit to the Congo
Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Ms Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (Philippines)

Dates of the visit: from 14 to 24 October 2019.
Main findings of the report:
- Since the visit of the previous Special Rapporteur in 2010, the Government of the Congo has adopted a solid legal framework and appointed a number of mechanisms within the Government to protect and promote indigenous peoples’ rights.
- Indigenous peoples in the Congo are slowly gaining recognition in society, with direct discrimination in some instances receding, but continue to suffer from severe indirect and systemic discrimination.
- Indigenous peoples live in a markedly worse state of poverty and disempowerment than the Bantu population.
- Major concerns: access to health care, education, employment, lack of security of tenure and restrictions on the indigenous way of life due to encroachment on their traditional lands by private actors, including without their informed consent.
- The Special Rapporteur did not observe any significant improvement in indigenous peoples’ right to participate in public life.
- Climate change, in spite of the Congo basin being considered one of the richest areas in terms of biodiversity, has an impact on the way of life of those still dependent on the forest for survival.
| Symbol: A/HRC/45/44/Add.1 | Dates of the visit: from 16 to 20 December 2019. This visit was conducted in follow-up to the Working Group’s official visit to Ecuador in 2009 and its subsequent report to the Human Rights Council in 2010 (A/HRC/13/59). As part of its fact-finding mission, the Working Group visited Quito, San Lorenzo and Esmeraldas. The report includes:  
- Historical overview and population of Ecuador.  
- Legal framework and steps taken for the protection of the human rights of people of African descent.  
- Manifestations of racial discrimination, including:  
  o Environmental racism, insecurity and lack of access to protection and justice;  
  o Disparities in access to education, health, housing and employment;  
  o Multiple forms of discrimination.  
The Working Group describes the situation, highlights good practices and the main challenges identified, and makes specific recommendations. |
| Title: Visit to Ecuador | Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent. The delegation of the Working Group consisted of the following members:  
Mr Ahmed Reid (Chairperson, Jamaica) and Mr Ricardo A. Sunga III (Philippines). |
| Symbol: A/HRC/45/44/Add.2 | Dates of the visit: from 25 February to 4 March 2020. The Working Group visited Lima, Yapatera, Piura, Chiclayo, Chinch a and Ica. During the visit, the Working Group assessed the situation of human rights of people of African descent, and gathered information on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, Afrophobia and related intolerance that they face. It examined the official measures taken and mechanisms intended to prevent structural racial discrimination and protect victims of racism, and the responses to multiple forms of discrimination according to the concept of intersectionality. The report includes:  
- Historical overview and population.  
- Legal framework and steps taken to protect the human rights of people of African descent.  
- Manifestations of systemic racial discrimination, including:  
  o Systematic denial of access to public administration, goods and services;  
  o Invisibility, lack of recognition, and stereotyping;  
  o Barriers in access to education, health, housing and employment;  
  o Intersectional and multiple forms of discrimination.  
The report also highlights good practices and the main challenges it identified, and makes concrete recommendations. |
| Title: Visit to Peru | Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent. The members of the delegation were Mr Ahmed Reid (Chair, Jamaica), Ms Dominique Day (Vice-Chair, United States of America) and Mr Sabelo Gumede (South Africa). |
| Symbol: A/HRC/45/45/Add.1 | Dates of the visit: from 10 to 23 October 2017. In the report, the former Special Rapporteur examines the progress made in implementing transitional justice measures in Sri Lanka following the 25-year conflict that ended in May 2009.  
- In Colombo, the Special Rapporteur had the honour of being received by the President, Maithripala Sirisena, and the Prime Minister, Ranil Wickremesinghe. |
- The Special Rapporteur travelled extensively throughout the country. He held discussions in Aluthgama, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Matara, Mullaitivu, Puttalam and Trincomalee and visited locations emblematic for being sites of violations and abuses, memorialization and land disputes.

- The report was sent to the Government for comments on 28 August 2019 and was finalized on 24 January 2020.

- In the report, the Special Rapporteur acknowledges the capacities developed by civil society and parts of the Government in addressing transitional justice issues and notes the progress made in some areas, including the establishment of the Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms, the creation of the Office on Missing Persons and the Office for Reparations and the opening up of space for discussion about transitional justice.

- The Special Rapporteur also notes the Government’s failure to adopt and implement a comprehensive transitional justice policy with the four constitutive elements of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence. Progress has been hindered by a lack of commitment on the part of the Government. As a result, Sri Lanka appears to have missed an historic opportunity to provide lessons to the world about how sustainable peace ought to be achieved.

The Special Rapporteur concludes with recommendations addressed to the Government concerning confidence-building measures, truth-seeking mechanisms, accountability, reparation programmes and guarantees of non-recurrence.

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- Symbol: A/HRC/45/45/Add.2
- Title: Visit to El Salvador.
- Report of the Special Rapporteur on truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Mr Fabián Salvioli (Argentina).

- Dates of the visit: from 23 April to 3 May 2019.

In the report, the Special Rapporteur acknowledges the progress made in the implementation of transitional justice measures to address the serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations committed during the armed conflict.

- The Special Rapporteur visited San Salvador, Morazán, La Paz and San Vicente.

- Over the course of the visit, the Special Rapporteur had the honour to meet with the President of the Republic, Salvador Sánchez Cerén, and the Vice-President elect of the Republic, Félix Ulloa, among others.

- The report was sent to the Government for comments on 21 April 2020 and was completed on 18 June 2020.

- The report acknowledges the progress made following the signing of the El Salvador Peace Agreement (the Chapultepec Agreement) in terms of truth and guarantees of nonrecurrence, the more recent initiatives in the search for adults and children who have disappeared, the public apologies issued and the initial steps taken to move forward with the criminal investigation of the violations committed during the armed conflict.
The report also highlights setbacks and delays that are cause for great concern, such as the impunity mechanism that lasted for more than two decades after the adoption of the Amnesty Act and the slow pace of criminal investigations after the Act was declared unconstitutional; the obstacles to gaining access to the military archives; the inadequacy of the reparation and historical memory processes; and the bills on national reconciliation debated in the Legislative Assembly.

The report emphasizes the abandonment of the victims more than 30 years after the end of the conflict and urges the Government to move forward with those aspects of the transitional justice agenda that are still pending.

The period under review: **June 2019–June 2020.**

The Special Rapporteur concludes that the socioeconomic impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is particularly concerning, while restrictions in relation to democratic and civic space and key issues expressed in previous reports remain unresolved.

**Main issues addressed in the report:**
- **Situation of human rights in Cambodia:**
  - Civic space and fundamental freedoms.
  - Land and housing rights.
  - Leaving no one behind.
- **Human rights and the COVID-19 response:**
Restrictions to human rights in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Right to the highest attainable standard of health.
- Rights of women.
- Administration of justice.
- Right to work and adequate standard of living.
- Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.
- Engagement of Cambodia with the human rights mechanisms.
- Communications to the Government.

The report covers the period from 27 September 2019 to 16 July 2020.
- During the period under review, the Independent Expert was not able to visit Sudan as planned in April 2020 owing to the global health measures imposed to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. The report is based on remote consultations and information made available by the Government of the Sudan and by civil society organizations working in the Sudan.

Main issues addressed in the report:
- Recent developments: political, institutional and economic trends.
- Main human rights challenges:
  - Economic, social and cultural rights,
  - Legal reforms and ratification of human rights instruments,
  - Civic space, Press freedom and harassment of journalists,
  - National Human Rights Commission,
  - Women’s rights,
  - National Committee on the dismantling of the former regime,
  - Human rights situation in conflict-affected areas (Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile, East Sudan).
- National accountability mechanisms.
- Investigations on cases against leaders of former regime.
- Technical assistance and capacity-building.

Sudan reiterates its stance that the report, as the previous IE reports, follows the same methodology applicable to reports considered under Item 4 of HRC Agenda, a matter that is considered as departure from the actual mandate which focuses on the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan, as mentioned in the HRC resolution 39/22.

The report also includes:
- Key Developments
- Recent Development: in the political, institutional and economic fields: Paragraphs (9-18)
The report further includes information on:
- Civic Space
- Freedom of the Press and the Harassment of Journalists
- National Human Rights Commission, Women’s Rights
- The National Committee on the Dismantling of the Former Regime
- Human Rights Situations in Conflict-affected Areas/ Darfur
- Independent National Investigation Committee of 3rd June 2019
- Technical Assistance, and
- Capacity Building

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<tr>
<th>Symbol: A/HRC/45/55</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title: Situation of human rights in the <strong>Central African Republic</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Report of the <strong>Independent Expert</strong> on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, <strong>Mr Yao Agbetse</strong> (Togo)</td>
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</table>

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/36.

The report covers the period **from July 2019 to June 2020**.

The reporting period was marked by the approach of the presidential election scheduled for December 2020. Note must be taken of the difficulties associated with the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the CAR, further hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reforms are under way in the security sector, and the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation process has begun.

The Independent Expert documented different human rights abuses and violations during the reporting period, which include killings, death threats, conflict-related sexual violence such as rape, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, arbitrary deprivation of liberty, confiscation of property, destruction and looting of property, abductions, attacks against humanitarian personnel, hospitals and peacekeepers, denial of humanitarian assistance and recruitment of children into armed groups. The prefectures most affected by human rights abuses and violations were those of Ouaka, Haute-Kotto, Bamingui-Bangoran, OuhamPendé and Ouham.

**Main issues addressed in the report:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>General situation:</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Health situation in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Political context and peace process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Security context.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human rights situation:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- General situation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Violations attributed to armed groups.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Abuses and violations attributed to State officials.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Women’s rights.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Situation of children and young people.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Economic, social and cultural rights.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
- Humanitarian situation (Observations; Refugees and internally displaced persons).
- Transitional justice and efforts to fight impunity.
The Independent Expert emphasizes that justice is key to resolving the crisis in the Central African Republic and will be the decisive factor in the success of the peace process.

### Reports prepared by the United Nations Secretary-General\(^2\) and/or by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights\(^3\)

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<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>(^2)A/HRC/45/4</td>
<td>Geographical composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</td>
<td>The report includes data as at 30 June 2020 on staff members in regular budget posts subject to geographical distribution, as well as data on staff in temporary posts funded from general temporary assistance and extrabudgetary resources or in technical cooperation project posts, none of which are included in the definition of posts subject to geographical distribution. - As at 30 June 2020, OHCHR had a total of 905 staff members in the Professional and higher categories, of whom 710 are regular staff. Nationals from 121 countries were represented in the Professional and higher category workforce, in both geographical and non-geographical posts. Of these 121 nationalities, 13 were from underrepresented countries, 79 were considered within range, while 25 nationalities were overrepresented in the Secretariat. OHCHR also had nationals from the State of Palestine. The tables in annex I provide a breakdown of all OHCHR staff. - The report also contains a description of the measures for improvement taken by the High Commissioner under the staff selection systems in force in 2020. - As at 30 June 2020, women had increased to 38% at the senior levels of OHCHR (P-5 to D-2) while men increased to 41% of OHCHR professional staff at the P-1 to P-4 levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(^3)A/HRC/45/19</td>
<td>Good practices and challenges to respecting, protecting and fulfilling all human rights in the elimination of preventable maternal mortality and morbidity</td>
<td>The report is based on submissions received in response to a note verbale circulated on 11 November 2019, and on research and information obtained from relevant stakeholders. <strong>Main issues covered in the report:</strong> - Implementation of a human rights-based approach to the reduction of preventable maternal mortality and morbidity:  - National-level multi-stakeholder processes,  - Legislation, planning and budgeting,  - Programmes and capacity-building,  - Monitoring, review, oversight and remedies. - Challenges for the implementation of the technical guidance. - Maternal morbidity as a human rights issue:  - Overview of maternal morbidities,  - Maternal morbidity and human rights,</td>
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\(^2\) Mr António Guterres, the ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations, took office on 1 January 2017.

\(^3\) Ms Michelle Bachelet is the seventh UN High Commissioner, assumed her functions on 1 September 2018.
In the report, the Secretary-General confirms the trend towards the universal abolition of the death penalty and highlights initiatives limiting its use and implementing the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty. A minority of States continued to use the death penalty, in contravention of their international human rights law obligations. The report focuses on the following issues:

- Changes in law and practice:
  - Abolition of the death penalty or initiatives taken for its abolition, including commitments provided to abolish it,
  - Restrictions on the use and scope of the death penalty or limitations of its use,
  - International and regional instruments contributing to the abolition of the death penalty,
  - Reintroduction of the use of the death penalty, extension of its scope or resumption of executions.
- Information on the use of the death penalty.
- Safeguards guaranteeing the protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty:
  - Restriction of the use of the death penalty to the “most serious crimes”,
  - Prohibition of the mandatory use of the death penalty,
  - Fair trial guarantees,
  - Right to seek pardon or commutation,
  - Methods of execution and prohibition of public executions.

The report also includes information on the use of the death penalty against children and persons with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities, as well as on the human rights of children of parents sentenced to the death penalty or executed.

The report further includes Supplementary data and tables, including:
- Table 1 Status of capital punishment as of May 2020: retentionist States (30),
- Table 2 Status of capital punishment as of May 2020: fully abolitionist States (111),
- Table 3 Status of capital punishment as of May 2020: abolitionist States for ordinary crimes only (8), and
- Table 4 Status of capital punishment as of May 2020: de facto abolitionist States (49).

The report contains an overview of the activities of the OHCHR on the promotion and realization of the right to development undertaken between June 2019 and May 2020. It also contains an analysis of the implementation of the right to development in LDCs, taking into account existing challenges, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and recommendations on how to overcome them.
| Symbol: A/HRC/45/22 | Title: Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the rights of indigenous peoples. | **-** The report outlines the activities undertaken by the OHCHR, between 1 May 2019 and 31 May 2020, at headquarters and in the field that contribute to the promotion, follow-up and full application of the provisions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and of the provisions in relevant international human rights treaties. Main issues covered in the report:  
- Overview of the activities of the OHCHR and recent developments in human rights bodies and mechanisms:  
  - COVID-19 pandemic and the rights of indigenous peoples,  
  - Free, prior and informed consent and the consultative mechanisms, including in the context of business and the extractive industries,  
  - Land rights,  
  - Human rights defenders and reprisals,  
  - Early warning mechanisms and the monitoring of human rights violations,  
  - Access to justice and legal protection of the rights of indigenous peoples,  
  - Indigenous languages and other issues,  
  - Rights of indigenous women and girls,  
  - Development of national plans.  
- Participation of indigenous peoples in United Nations processes. |

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 37/27 and 42/18.

It also sets out the main requirements under international human rights law to ensure the rights of victims to an effective remedy and reparation.

Main issues of human rights concern covered in the report: accountability and the rights of victims:
- Human rights and accountability.
- Impediments to criminal accountability:
  - Counter-terrorism legislation,
  - Due process and fair trial guarantees,
  - Implementation of counter-terrorism legislation,
  - Prosecution of suspected foreign fighters.
- Rights of victims.
- The final section offers some guidance to States on how to strengthen efforts towards ensuring accountability and upholding the rights of victims in accordance with international human rights law.

The report explores thematic issues related to the protection of the human rights of migrants, specifically protecting the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations, including migrants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and missing migrants, and implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

The report also summarizes information received from Governments regarding the implementation of General Assembly resolution 74/148 (a total of 37 written submissions was received from Member States and from intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations). Finally, the report presents conclusions and recommendations on respecting, protecting and fulfilling the human rights of migrants.

The Secretary-General’s report contains information on alleged acts of intimidation and reprisals, including follow-up to cases included in the previous report (A/HRC/42/30) and prior to that.

The report also outlines:
- (United Nations) activities in response to acts of intimidation and reprisal.
- Policy developments and good practices within the United Nations system and beyond to address intimidation and reprisals against those seeking to cooperate or having cooperated with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights.
- Groups facing particular risks and challenges.
- Ensuring access to the UN, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights.
- Information received on cases of intimidation and reprisal for cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights (summary of cases).

More information on selected cases is included in Annex I.

Information on follow-up to cases included in previous reports is in Annex II.
The report concludes with a summary of trends and recommendations to address and prevent intimidation and reprisals. 

Main issues covered in the report:

- Support provided by the OHCHR to national human rights institutions:
  - Advisory services in five geographic regions of the United Nations,
  - Support provided for regional and subregional initiatives of national human rights institutions,
  - Contributions to international initiatives supporting national human rights institutions.
- Best practices among national human rights institutions during the pandemic.
- Support provided by the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to national human rights institutions.
- Cooperation between United Nations human rights mechanisms and national human rights institutions:
  - Human Rights Council and its mechanisms,
  - United Nations treaty bodies,
  - Other United Nations mechanisms and processes.
- Cases of reprisal or intimidation against A status national human rights institutions.

The report also includes:

- Annex I with a list of Submissions from national human rights institutions to the Human Rights Council (submitted between August 2019 and July 2020).
- Annex II “Engagement of national human rights institutions in the third cycle of the universal periodic review (2019–2020)”, and

The report contains information on the activities carried out from October 2018 to June 2020 by the Subcommittee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions.

- During the period under review, the Subcommittee convened 3 times: on 15-19 October 2018, on 11-15 March 2019, and on 14-18 October 2019. The session scheduled to be held from 16 to 20 March 2020 was postponed owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Amendments to the accreditation process
  - Amendments to the Statute of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions
  - Amendments to the rules of procedure of the Subcommittee on Accreditation
- Participation by institutions with A status in United Nations mechanisms and processes
- Annex to the report includes a list “Status of national institutions accredited by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions” (Accreditation status as of 27 November 2019)

Symbol: A/HRC/45/42
Title: National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights
Report of the Secretary-General
Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 39/17.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/43
Title: Activities of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions in accrediting national institutions in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles)
Report of the Secretary-General
Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 39/17.
The mid-term report is submitted as protests and movements against racial discrimination are taking place in many countries across the globe, sparked in May 2020 by the killing of an unarmed African-American, Mr. George Floyd, at the hands of the police in the US, and drew the attention of the world to the pervasive racial discrimination experienced by people of African descent worldwide.

The report includes:
- Background and current context of the Decade, including:
  - The impacts of COVID-19 on people of African descent;
  - The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA+20);
  - The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and people of African descent;
  - Systemic and structural racism, including racial discrimination in law enforcement and racial profiling.
- Implementation at the mid-term of the Decade: High Commissioner’s activities in follow-up to the Decade, including:
  - Debate on the midterm review of the International Decade for People of African Descent;
  - Assisting implementation of the Programme of Activities of the Decade by States;
  - Launching the International Decade for People of African descent;
  - Supporting policies, programmes and national action plans;
  - Organizing regional meetings and engagement with various regional organizations;
  - Supporting and engaging with intergovernmental bodies and human rights mechanisms.
- Working with United Nations entities to implement the Programme of Activities of the Decade.
- Supporting civic space for people of African descent, especially young people of African descent.
- Conducting research, gathering information and capacity-building.
- Communications and raising awareness about the Decade.
- Accountability and reparatory justice.
- The Forum on People of African Descent.
- Further necessary actions:
  - increasing State engagement and actions,
  - communicating better and digitally about the Decade,
  - consulting and collaborating with people of African descent, including through youth engagement,
  - discussing accountability and reparatory justice,
  - establishing the Forum on people of African descent,
  - negotiating the Draft Declaration on people of African descent,
  - funding the Decade.

The report contains an overview of the human rights situation and the activities of the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020. The
Title: Human rights situation and the activities of the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The report assesses the progress made by the Government in implementing recommendations previously made by the OHCHR and other United Nations human rights mechanisms. The High Commissioner commends the efforts of the authorities in the fight against impunity, in the area of economic, social and cultural rights, and in the fight against sexual violence. The continued opening up of democratic space requires sustained efforts, including legislative efforts, to remove persistent restrictions on fundamental freedoms.

The High Commissioner remains concerned about the deterioration of the human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in the provinces affected by the armed conflict, namely the provinces of Bas-Uélé, Haut-Uélé, Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, Maniema, Kasai, Kasai Oriental, Kasai Central and Tanganyika.

The report focuses on the following aspects:

- Principal human rights developments (Current situation and action taken by the Government, and Action taken by the Joint Human Rights Office):
  - Fundamental freedoms and democratic space
  - Protection of civilians in conflict areas
  - Sexual violence
  - Efforts to combat impunity

- Cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms and national mechanisms to promote and protect human rights:
  - Action to implement the recommendations of the universal periodic review and other United Nations mechanisms
  - Update on national mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights (National Human Rights Commission, and Other national mechanisms)

The High Commissioner invites the Government to implement all the recommendations set out in the report and reaffirms the commitment of the OHCHR to supporting the authorities in their efforts to promote and protect human rights.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/52

Title: Situation of human rights in Somalia

First report of the new Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, Ms Isha Dyfan (Sierra Leone).

The report covers the period from 1 August 2019 to 30 June 2020.

The report focuses on the following aspects:

- Situating the mandate of the Independent Expert

- Engagement with international and regional human rights systems:
  - Recent developments, including:
  - Political, security and economic developments
  - Humanitarian situation
  - Human rights implications of the coronavirus disease

- Main human rights challenges, including:
- Violations of the right to life (protection of civilians during armed conflict, death penalty, inter-clan conflicts and water and land resources),
- Violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression,
- Strengthening the rule of law and accountability,
- Economic, social and cultural rights (access to education, improving access to health rights, promoting youth participation),
- Promoting women’s rights and gender equality (women’s participation in public life, sexual and gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, harmful practices),
- Protecting children from armed conflict.
- Technical cooperation.

The newly appointed Independent Expert on the human rights situation in Somalia assumed her functions on 1 May 2020. Since May, she has held online meetings on a broad range of issues with the Minister of Women and Human Rights Development of the Federal Government of Somalia and representatives of the African Union Mission in Somalia, the United Nations, other international organizations, civil society, the media and the diplomatic community. She has also carried out extensive background research on the prevailing security, political, socioeconomic, human rights and humanitarian situation in Somalia. In her report, the Independent Expert notes the commitment of the Federal Government of Somalia to improving the situation of human rights in the country and to ensuring the enjoyment of all human rights by all. She also notes provides an analysis of the human rights challenges that remain to be addressed. The report also outlines seven areas for the proposed transition plan.

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<tr>
<td>Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/37.</td>
<td>The report outlines the technical assistance provided by the OHCHR between 1 June 2019 and 31 May 2020 to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights in Georgia. Main issues covered in the report:</td>
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- Technical assistance by the OHCHR and human rights developments:  
  - Support for the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan,  
  - Administration of justice and law enforcement,  
  - Combating torture and other forms of ill-treatment  
  - Combating discrimination,  
  - Promoting gender equality and combating domestic violence,  
  - Business and human rights, |
- Situation of human rights in and around Abkhazia and South Ossetia:  
  - Access to Abkhazia and South Ossetia,  
  - Main human rights issues in and around Abkhazia and South Ossetia. |
- Situation of internally displaced persons and refugees. |
The report outlines the role and achievements of the OHCHR in Cambodia from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020.

- OHCHR received factual comments on the draft report from the Government of Cambodia on 1 July 2020, and these have been included where appropriate.
- The period was marked by shrinking civic space and continued political tensions. OHCHR continued its provision of technical cooperation in key areas, including strengthening the administration of justice, and protecting fundamental freedoms and economic, social and cultural rights. It also addressed the human rights implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Enhancing participation and protecting civic space
- Administration of justice
  - Legal and judicial reform
  - Strengthening the rule of law and access to justice
  - Access to justice for persons with disabilities
  - Supporting prison reform
- Economic and social rights
  - Situation of land rights and housing
  - Access to land for indigenous peoples
  - Situation of ethnic minorities
  - Economic and social rights in the context of COVID-19
- Gender and LGBTI rights: Rights of women and girls and Situation of LGBTI persons.
- Increasing implementation of the outcomes of international human rights mechanisms.

The report provides an overview of the technical assistance and capacity building that the OHCHR provided between March 2016 and August 2020 to the National Commission of Inquiry to investigate allegations of violations and abuses committed by all parties to the conflict in Yemen.

The report explains the Mandate, Composition, Secretariat, Resources of the Commission, and describes the progress achieved and the challenges the Commission has been facing in implementing its mandate. The report concludes with a set of recommendations, calling upon all stakeholders to implement the recommendations made in the previous reports of the High Commissioner and of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts to the Human Rights Council.

At its 45th session, the Human Rights Council will elect, in accordance with its annual programme of work, Advisory Committee members for the seven vacant seats. Of the 7 vacancies, there are 2 vacancies for African States, 2 for Asia-Pacific States, 1 for Eastern European States, 1 for Latin American and Caribbean States, and 1 for Western European and other States.

The nominations received are listed in the Note; with biographical data relating to the candidates contained in the annex.
# Reports prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/24  
  **Title:** Evaluation of the implementation of the third phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education  

  Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/7.

  The report contains an overview of action undertaken during the third phase (2015–2019) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education at the national level, as reported by 26 States (noted in Annex).

  - Action taken at the national level to strengthen the implementation of the first two phases of the World Programme:
    - National strategies and plans of action,
    - Primary and secondary school systems,
    - Higher education,
    - Civil servants,
    - Law enforcement officials,
    - Military.
  
  - Action taken at the national level to promote human rights training for media professionals and journalists.

- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/25  
  **Title:** High-level panel discussion marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action  

  - Pursuant to its resolution 42/14, the Human Rights Council convened a high-level panel discussion to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women.
  
  
  - Marking the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action:
    - Moderated by the President of the Human Rights Council;
    - Opening statements (by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Secretary of State for Development Policy of Denmark, and the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva).
    - Overview of presentations (by the Executive Director of UN-Women, the Vice-Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and expert on human rights and gender equality)
  
  - Statements by representatives of States and observers.

# Other documents prepared by the OHCHR Secretariat

- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/1  
  **Title:** Agenda and annotations

  - Agenda of the 45th regular session of the Human Rights Council (10 agenda items)
  
  - Annotatons for 10 items of the 45th regular Human Rights Council’s session
  
  - See as well A/HRC/45/1/Corr.1 for Corrigendum (errors corrected in Paragraphs 1, 31, 34, 50 and 72).

- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/17  
  **Title:** Report of the Working Group on the Right to Development on its twenty-first session

  - Owing to the measures put into place as a result of the coronavirus disease pandemic, the Working Group on the Right to Development was obliged to postpone its 21st session, originally scheduled to be held from 4-8 May, to 2-6 November 2020.
Note by the Secretariat - The Secretariat therefore informs the Human Rights Council that the Working Group will submit the report on its 21st session, together with the report on its 22nd session, to the Council at its 48th session.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/18 (Advance Unedited Version)
Title: Report of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework relating to the activities of private military and security companies on its second session.
Note by the Secretariat - The 2nd session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework, without prejudging the nature thereof, to protect human rights and ensure accountability for violations and abuses relating to the activities of private military and security companies, which was to be held from 11 to 15 May 2020, did not take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The open-ended intergovernmental working group will therefore submit to the Human Rights Council its report at a future date to be determined.

Symbol: A/HRC/45/37
Title: Annual report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee.
Note by the Secretariat - The annual report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, consisting of the reports of its 2 sessions held in 2020, was to be considered by the Council at its 45th session.
- The Advisory Committee held its 24th session from 17 to 21 February 2020, however its 25th session, scheduled to be held from 17 to 21 August 2020, was postponed to February 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The annual report of the Advisory Committee (subject of an interactive dialogue with the Chair of the Committee) will consist only of the report of the Committee on its 24th session.
- The report of the Advisory Committee on its 24th session is contained in document A/HRC/AC/24/2.

Title: Report of the Advisory Committee on the negative effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms
Note by the Secretariat - In its resolution 34/8 of 23 March 2017, the Human Rights Council requested the Advisory Committee to conduct a study and prepare a report on the negative effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a particular focus on economic, social and cultural rights, including as a result of diverting foreign direct investment, reducing capital inflows, destroying infrastructure, limiting foreign trade, disturbing financial markets, negatively affecting certain economic sectors and impeding economic growth, and to recommend actions to be taken by Governments, UN human rights mechanisms, regional and international organizations and civil society organizations in that regard, and to present the report to the Council at its 39th session, to be discussed during the interactive dialogue.
- At its 38th and 42nd sessions, the Human Rights Council decided, respectively, to extend the time for the Advisory Committee to complete the study and submit the report thereon to the Council at its 42nd and subsequently at its 45th sessions.
- At its 24th session, held from 17 to 21 February 2020, the Advisory Committee took note of the draft report prepared by the drafting group and requested the drafting group to continue its work on the report in the intersessional period.
- Given the highly specific and complex character of the mandate, and that it required further thorough discussion, the Advisory Committee then decided to hold further discussions on the draft report at its 25th session, with a view to finalizing the report for submission to the Council at its 45th session.
- However, the 25th session of the Advisory Committee, initially scheduled to be held from 17 to 21 August 2020, was postponed until 15–19 February 2021 owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Given these circumstances, the Advisory Committee will only be able to finalize the report at its 25th session, in February 2021.
- The report of the Advisory Committee on the negative effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms will therefore be submitted to the Human Rights Council subsequent to the discussions of the Committee to be held at its 25th session, in February 2021.

**Symbol:** A/HRC/45/46

**Title:** Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards on its eleventh session.

**Note by the Secretariat**

- The 11th session of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards, which was to be held from 20 April to 1 May 2020, has been postponed owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Ad Hoc Committee will therefore submit to the Human Rights Council the report on its 11th session after the rescheduled session has been held.

**Symbol:** A/HRC/45/58

**Title:** Intersessional round table on the participation of indigenous peoples in meetings of the Human Rights Council on issues affecting them.

**Note by the Secretariat**

- The Council requested the chairs of the round table and the OHCHR to prepare a summary report on the round table to be presented to the Council at its 45th session.
- The round table was to be held on the margins of the 13th session of the Expert Mechanism, which was scheduled to take place from 8 to 12 June 2020. The 13th session was postponed to 30 November to 4 December 2020, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- It is anticipated that the Council will hold the intersessional round table on the margins of the rescheduled 13th session of the Expert Mechanism.
- The above-mentioned report will therefore be submitted to the Human Rights Council for consideration at its 46th session.

**Symbol:** A/HRC/45/61

**Title:** Annual report of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

**Note by the Secretariat**

- The 13th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which was scheduled to take place from 8 to 12 June 2020, was postponed to 30 November to 4 December 2020, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Expert Mechanism will therefore submit its annual report for 2020 to the Human Rights Council for consideration at its 46th session.
Reports prepared by other OHCHR mechanisms and groups of experts

- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/6 (Advanced Unedited Version)
- **Title:** Comprehensive report of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen.
- The Commission is composed of: Mr Kamel Jendoubi (Tunisia), (Chairperson) Ms Melissa Parke (Australia) Mr Ardi Imseis (Canada).

In the report, the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts highlights incidents and patterns of conduct since September 2014, including those between September 2014 and June 2019 not covered in previous reports (A/HRC/39/43 and A/HRC/42/17), and incidents and patterns between July 2019 and June 2020 in the context of the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crisis. The Group of Experts finds that the parties to the conflict continue to show no regard for international law or the lives, dignity, and rights of people in Yemen, while third states have helped to perpetuate the conflict by continuing to supply the parties with weapons.

**Main topics covered in the report:**
- Military, political and humanitarian context (July 2019 – June 2020).
- Findings on violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law:
  - Attacks affecting civilians or civilian objects,
  - Arbitrary deprivation of life/murder of civilians,
  - Violations related to the humanitarian situation,
  - Enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention, torture and other forms of ill-treatment,
  - Gender-based violence,
  - Child recruitment and use in hostilities and related violations,
  - Treatment of specific groups,
  - Violations related to the administration of justice.
- Accountability.

Annex 1 also includes Mapping of the Main Actors.

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- **Symbol:** A/HRC/45/29
- **Title:** First annual report of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development.
- On 13 March 2020, the Human Rights Council appointed Mr Koen De Feyter (Belgium), Mr Armando Antonio De Negri Filho (Brazil), Mr Bonny Ibahwuh (Nigeria), Mr Mihir Kanade (India) and Ms Klentiana Mahmutaj (Albania) as members of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development for a three-year period starting from 1 May 2020.

**Meetings of the Expert Mechanism:**
- The Expert Mechanism meets twice annually for 3 days each in Geneva and in New York.
- The 1st session of the Expert Mechanism was scheduled to be held in New York from 30 June to 2 July 2020. It could not be held as an in-person meeting owing to the lockdown measures imposed in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The 1st session was held virtually, composed of a series of private meetings.

**The Expert Mechanism agreed on conducting the following thematic studies:**
- Operationalizing the right to development in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on the targets incorporated as means of implementation.
- Racism, racial discrimination and the right to development.
- Inequalities and the right to development.
- Right to development in international investment law.
- Non-State actors and the duty to cooperate (a field study).
**Symbol**: A/HRC/45/35  
**Title**: Repatriation of ceremonial objects, human remains, and intangible cultural heritage under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples  
In 2019-2020, the EMRIP consisted of the following members: Ms Kristen Carpenter (United States of America), Ms Megan Davis (Australia), Mr Belkacem Lounes (Algeria), Mr Binota Moy Dhamai (Bangladesh), Mr Rodion Sulyandziga (Russian Federation), Ms Laila Vars (Norway), Ms. Erika M. Yamada (Brazil).  
- On 4 and 5 March 2020, the Expert Mechanism held a seminar in Vancouver, Canada, on the repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains under the Declaration. The report also addresses the following issues:  
  - Legal, ethical and political framework on the repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains.  
  - Repatriation and intangible cultural heritage.  
  - Good practices and lessons learned, including on:  
    - Repatriations (National and International),  
    - Relationships between museums and indigenous peoples.

**Symbol**: A/HRC/45/38  
**Title**: Right to land under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: a human rights focus  
**Study of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**  
In 2019-2020, the EMRIP consisted of the following members: Ms Kristen Carpenter (United States of America), Ms Megan Davis (Australia), Mr Belkacem Lounes (Algeria), Mr Binota Moy Dhamai (Bangladesh), Mr Rodion Sulyandziga (Russian Federation), Ms Laila Vars (Norway), Ms. Erika M. Yamada (Brazil).  
- The Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples carried out the present study pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 33/25. The study concludes with Expert Mechanism advice No. 13 on the right to land of indigenous peoples added in the Annex. The report also addresses the following issues:  
  - Significance of land rights for indigenous peoples:  
    - Land is not a commodity,  
    - Respect for customs, traditions and land tenure systems,  
    - Collective rights.  
  - Link between land rights and other rights  
  - Overview of a legal framework and State recognition of land tenure rights.

**Symbol**: A/HRC/45/39  
**Title**: Study on national policies and human rights  
**Report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee.**  
The drafting group of the Advisory Committee is currently composed of Ms Milena Costas Trascasas (Spain), Mr Ion Diaconu (Rapporteur, Romania), Mr Ludovic Hennebel (Belgium), Mr Ajai Malhotra (India), Ms Mona Omar (Egypt), Mr Javier Palumbo (Uruguay), Ms Elizabeth Salmon (Peru), Mr Dheeruljall Seetulsingh (Mauritius), Mr Changrok Soh (Chair, Republic of Korea) and Mr Cheikh Tidiane Thiam (Senegal). Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 35/32.  
- Evaluation of activities in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
  - Good practices and examples of measures adopted by States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals:  
    - Indigenous peoples  
    - Legislation concerning other vulnerable groups  
    - Poverty reduction strategies  
  - Leaving no one behind  
    - Ending extreme poverty in all its forms everywhere  
    - Vulnerable groups and leaving no one behind  
    - Development as a means of building societies in which no one is left behind  
    - Protecting nature and the environment.
| Symbol: | A/HRC/45/40 | Title: Importance of a legally binding instrument on the right to development |
| Report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee |
| Drafting group composed of Mr Lazhari Bouzid (Algeria), Ms Milena Costas Trascasas (Spain), Mr Ion Diaconu (Romania), Mr Ludovic Hennebel (Chair, Belgium), Mr Xinsheng Liu (China), Mr Ajai Malhotra (Rapporteur, India), Ms Elizabeth Salmón (Peru) and Mr Cheikh Tidiane Thiam (Senegal). |

| Symbol: | A/HRC/45/48 | Title: Preparations for marking the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action |
| Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/29. |

| Symbol: | A/HRC/45/50 | Title: Final report of the Team of International Experts on the situation of human rights in Kasai |
| The report, preceded by an oral report from early March whose presentation was postponed to 17 June 2020, covers the period from July 2019 to August 2020. Its submission takes place in the context of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, which has had a negative impact on the implementation of the mandate of the team of international experts. The period in question was marked by a relative lull in the violence in |
the Kasai region, despite daily human rights violations, continuing crime and a worsened humanitarian situation. There is a serious humanitarian crisis there due to the massive return of several hundred thousand Congolese nationals, most of whom were expelled by the Angolan authorities, supposedly to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by relieving crowding at prisons and expelling undocumented foreigners. Despite this difficult context, the team of international experts has noted definite progress in the judicial processing of cases opened in the context of the crisis affecting Kasai between 2016 and 2018. Such progress, however, falls short, as the fight against impunity is still a challenge that is far from being met. Several recommendations made in previous reports have not yet been implemented by the State.

The team of international experts notes that there has been progress in the implementation of the project entitled Peace, Justice, Reconciliation and Reconstruction in Kasai Central, with community consultations and the establishment of a drafting committee tasked with drawing up a decree for the implementation of the recommendations. Some victims have formed associations to take legal action. The team of international experts welcomes this initiative and urges all those involved to support them in their struggle for the respect of their rights.

The report focuses on the following aspects:

- Cooperation between the team of international experts and the authorities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Current situation in the Kasai region.
- Monitoring, evaluation and support for implementation by the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the recommendations made by the team of international experts:
  - Monitoring of accountability for the events in the Kasai region
    - Efforts to combat impunity,
    - Problem of the resources required to facilitate the administration of justice in the Kasai region,
  - Support for victims and witnesses.
- Reconciliation and transitional justice in the Kasai region:
  - Community consultations in Kasai Central Province,
  - Question of how the provincial, regional and national dimensions of the truth and reconciliation commissions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo fit together,
  - Disarmament and socioeconomic reintegration measures,
  - Socioeconomic and humanitarian situation.

In its first year of operations, the Mechanism has been focused on its operational and administrative processes, engagement with relevant entities and stakeholders, and the implementation of its substantive mandate. The COVID-19 pandemic forced disruptions in the Mechanism’s onboarding of staff and its operational plans for 2020. It has also created some uncertainty regarding its operations for the remainder of 2020 and
2021, particularly with respect to its ability to conduct missions for engagement and evidence-collection purposes.
The Mechanism aims to resolve the various challenges that are likely to arise and collect all relevant evidence in an efficient and effective manner, in order to enable perpetrators of serious international crimes in Myanmar to be brought to justice.

Main topics covered in the report:
- Progress made by the Mechanism in 2019 and 2020.
  - Operational and administrative processes.
  - Engagement with relevant stakeholders and public
  - Implementation of its mandate
- Strategy and plans moving forward
  - Further expansion of its collection, consolidation, preservation and analysis activities
  - Missions for engagement and collection of information, documentation and evidence
  - Sharing of information, documentation and evidence
  - Procurement of necessary technical equipment, software and capabilities to assist in the substantive work
  - Engagement with relevant stakeholders and public outreach

Additional documentation
- Symbol: A/HRC/45/CRP.10
- Title: The human right to an effective remedy: the case of lead-contaminated housing in Kosovo.
- Report of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Mr Baskut Tuncak (Turkey/USA).

Submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 36/15.

- The report focuses on the human right to an effective remedy for victims of toxics. The Special Rapporteur has chosen to illustrate the implementation of this right through the case of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian (RAE) populations, housed on lead contaminated wasteland by the UN from 1999-2013, during and after the Kosovo conflict.
- These communities are still waiting for remediation and compensation for the serious human rights violations that they have suffered. The victims of exposure, most of whom were women of reproductive age or children, continue to suffer an ongoing violation of their human rights by the failure of the UN and its Member States to provide a timely and effective remedy, now over 20 years from the start of this unnecessary and preventable tragedy on this marginalized minority community.
- In March 2019, as a follow up to previous engagement described herein, the Special Rapporteur met with the Roma community that continue to bear the burden of years of toxic exposure, within the framework of an academic visit. The Special Rapporteur held meetings with affected community members, the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) and Head of United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), and other representatives of the international community.
### Reports not released on the official [OHCHR website](https://ohchr.org) as of 22 October 2020

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<td>Symbol: A/HRC/45/10/Add.1</td>
<td>Title: Follow-up on the visit of the Special Rapporteur to Mexico – Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation</td>
<td>Available only in Spanish, as of 22 October 2020.</td>
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<td>Symbol: A/HRC/45/23</td>
<td>Title: Study of OHCHR on the contribution of the special procedures in assisting States and other stakeholders in the prevention of human rights violations and abuses – Note by the Secretariat</td>
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<td>Symbol: A/HRC/45/34/Add.2</td>
<td>Title: Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on her visit to the Congo – Comments by the State</td>
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<td>Title: Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on her visit to Peru – Comments by the State</td>
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