



# **ANGOLA COUNTRY REPORT**

**April 2004**

**Country Information & Policy Unit**

**IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY DIRECTORATE  
HOME OFFICE, UNITED KINGDOM**

<b><u>CONTENTS</u></b>		
<b>1.</b>	<b><u>Scope of the document</u></b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b><u>Geography</u></b>	<b>2.1</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b><u>Economy</u></b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b><u>History</u></b>	
	<b><u>Post-Independence background since 1975</u></b>	<b>4.1</b>
	<u>Multi-party politics and the 1992 Elections</u>	4.2
	<u>Lusaka Peace Accord 1994</u>	4.3
	<u>UNAVEM III and MONUA 1995 – 1999</u>	4.4
	<u>Developments in the civil war September 1999 - February 2002</u>	4.7
	<u>End of the civil war and Political situation since February 2002</u>	4.11
<b>5.</b>	<b><u>State Structures</u></b>	
	<b><u>The Constitution</u></b>	<b>5.1</b>
	<u>Citizenship and Nationality</u>	5.4
	<b><u>Political System</u></b>	<b>5.5</b>
	<u>Government of Unity and Reconciliation (GURN)</u>	5.9
	<u>Presidential and legislative election plans</u>	5.12
	<u>Government amnesties</u>	5.13
	<b><u>Judiciary</u></b>	<b>5.15</b>
	<u>Court Structure</u>	5.16
	<u>Traditional Courts</u>	5.19
	<u>UNITA - operated Courts</u>	5.20
	<u>The effect of the Civil War on the Judiciary</u>	5.21
	<u>Legal Documents</u>	5.25
	<b><u>Legal Rights/Detention</u></b>	<b>5.26</b>
	<u>Death Penalty</u>	5.32
	<b><u>Internal Security</u></b>	<b>5.33</b>
	<u>Angolan National Police (ANP)</u>	5.34
	<u>Armed Forces of Angola (Forças Armadas de Angola, FAA)</u>	5.35
	<b><u>Prison and Prison Conditions</u></b>	<b>5.36</b>
	<b><u>Military Service</u></b>	<b>5.40</b>
	<u>Forced Conscription</u>	5.42
	<u>Draft Evasion and Desertion</u>	5.45
	<u>Child Soldiers</u>	5.46
	<b><u>Medical Services</u></b>	<b>5.47</b>
	<u>HIV/AIDS</u>	5.53

	<u>People with disabilities</u>	5.57
	<u>Mental Health Treatment</u>	5.61
	<b><u>Educational System</u></b>	<b>5.62</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b><u>Human Rights</u></b>	
<b>6.A</b>	<b><u>Human Rights Issues</u></b>	
	<b><u>General</u></b>	<b>6.1</b>
	<b><u>Freedom of Speech and the Media</u></b>	<b>6.3</b>
	<u>Journalists</u>	6.7
	<b><u>Freedom of Religion</u></b>	<b>6.10</b>
	<u>Religious Groups</u>	6.12
	<b><u>Freedom of Association and Assembly</u></b>	<b>6.13</b>
	<u>Political Activists – UNITA</u>	6.18
	<u>Political developments since April 2002</u>	6.22
	<u>MPLA-UNITA dialogue</u>	6.24
	<u>Political Activists – FLEC</u>	6.25
	<u>Recent FLEC activity</u>	6.28
	<b><u>Employment Rights</u></b>	<b>6.31</b>
	<u>Position of Trade Unions</u>	6.34
	<u>The Right to Strike</u>	6.37
	<u>Child Labour</u>	6.39
	<b><u>People Trafficking</u></b>	<b>6.41</b>
	<b><u>Freedom of Movement</u></b>	<b>6.43</b>
<b>6.B</b>	<b><u>Human Rights – Specific Groups</u></b>	
	<b><u>Ethnic Groups</u></b>	<b>6.45</b>
	<u>Indigenous Persons</u>	6.46
	<u>The Bakongo Group</u>	6.49
	<u>Cabindan Population</u>	6.51
	<b><u>Women</u></b>	<b>6.54</b>
	<u>Violence Against Women</u>	6.55
	<u>Demobilisation</u>	6.58
	<u>Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)</u>	6.59
	<b><u>Children</u></b>	<b>6.60</b>
	<u>Children Affected by War</u>	6.62
	<u>Child Prostitution and Street Children</u>	6.64
	<u>Medical Care</u>	6.67
	<u>Child Care Arrangements</u>	6.68
	<b><u>Homosexuals</u></b>	<b>6.69</b>
<b>6.C</b>	<b><u>Human Rights – Other Issues</u></b>	

<b><u>Humanitarian Situation</u></b>	<b>6.70</b>
<b><u>Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and returning Refugees</u></b>	<b>6.75</b>
<b><u>Forced Eviction</u></b>	<b>6.81</b>
<b><u>Corruption</u></b>	<b>6.82</b>
<b><u>Treatment of Returned Failed Asylum Seekers</u></b>	<b>6.83</b>
<b><u>Treatment of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/Human Rights Monitoring</u></b>	<b>6.84</b>
<b><u>Landmines</u></b>	<b>6.87</b>
<b><u>UN Office in Luanda</u></b>	<b>6.90</b>
<b><u>Annexes</u></b>	
<b><u>Chronology of Major Events</u></b>	<b>Annex A</b>
<b><u>Political Organisations</u></b>	<b>Annex B</b>
<b><u>Prominent People – Past and Present</u></b>	<b>Annex C</b>
<b><u>Tribes and Languages</u></b>	<b>Annex D</b>
<b><u>Election Results</u></b>	<b>Annex E</b>
<b><u>Glossary</u></b>	<b>Annex F</b>
<b><u>The Media</u></b>	<b>Annex G</b>
<b><u>Political Makeup of Government</u></b>	<b>Annex H</b>
<b><u>Child Care</u></b>	<b>Annex I</b>
<b><u>List of Source Material</u></b>	<b>Annex J</b>

# 1. Scope of the Document

**1.1** This Country Report has been produced by the Country Information and Policy Unit, Immigration and Nationality Directorate, Home Office, for use by Home Office officials involved in the asylum / human rights determination process. The Report provides general background information about the issues most commonly raised in asylum / human rights claims made in the United Kingdom. It is not a detailed or comprehensive survey.

**1.2** The Report is compiled from a wide range of recognised sources and does not contain any Home Office opinion or policy. All information in the Report is attributed, throughout the text, to original source material, which has been made available to those working in the asylum / human rights determination process. The Report aims to provide only a brief summary of the source material quoted. For a more detailed account, the relevant source documents should be examined directly.

**1.3** The information contained in this Country Report is, by its nature, limited to information that we have been able to identify from various well-recognised sources. The contents of this Report are not exhaustive and the absence of information under any particular heading does not imply that any analysis or judgement has been exercised to exclude that information, but simply that relevant information on the subject has not been identified from the sources that have been consulted. Equally, the information included in the Reports should not be taken to imply anything beyond what is actually stated.

**1.4** The great majority of the source material is readily available in the public domain. Copies of other source documents, such as those provided by government offices, may be provided upon request.

**1.5** All sources have been checked for currency, and as far as can be ascertained, contain information, which remained relevant at the time, this Report was issued. Some source documents have been included because they contain relevant information not available in more recent documents.

**1.6** This Country Report and the accompanying source material are publicly disclosable. Where sources identified in this Report are available in electronic form the relevant link has been included. The date that the relevant link was accessed in preparing the report is also included. Paper copies of the source documents have been distributed to nominated officers within IND.

**1.7** It is intended to revise this Report on a six monthly basis while the country remains within the top 35 asylum producing countries in the United Kingdom. Information contained in Country Reports is inevitably overtaken by events that occur between the six monthly publications. Caseworkers are informed of such changes in country conditions by means of Country Information Bulletins.

[Return to Contents](#)

## 2. Geography

**2.1** The Republic of Angola (República de Angola) is situated in southern Africa on the Atlantic coast. Land borders are shared with Namibia to the south, Zambia to the east and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), formerly Zaire, to the north and east. The enclave of Cabinda in the north is bordered by DRC to the south and the Republic of Congo to the north. [1a] (p39) [2c] (p2) [17e] Angola covers an area of 1,246,700 sq. km and is composed of 18 provinces ranging in area from 2,500 sq. km to 223, 000 sq. km. [1a] (p54) The provinces comprise of Bengo, Benguela, Bié, Cabinda, Cuando Cubango, Cuanza Norte, Cuanza Sul, Cunene, Huambo, Huila, Luanda, Lunda Norte, Lunda Sul, Malanje, Moxico, Namibe, Uige, Zaire [1a] (p54) [8a] [17e]

**2.2** Luanda is the country's capital city and other principal cities include Huambo, Lobito, Benguela, Lubango and Malanje. The UN officially estimated the population of Angola in 2003 to be 13.6 million, [7a] with an annual growth rate of 1.97 percent. [10]

**2.3** Angola has three main ethnic groups - Ovimbundu 37 percent, Kimbundu 25 percent, Bakongo 13 percent. Mixed racial (Mestiço) make up 2 percent, European account for 1 percent and other make up the other 22 percent of the population. [10] Portuguese make up the largest non-Angolan population, with at least 30,000 (though many native-born Angolans can claim Portuguese nationality under Portuguese law). In 2001 it was estimated that approximately 68 percent of the population were Roman Catholics, 20 percent adhered to various protestant religions and 12 percent conformed to more traditional indigenous beliefs. The official and predominant language of Angola is Portuguese, but various Bantu languages are also spoken (mainly Ovimbundu, Kimbundu and Kikongo). [2c] (p1,2)

For further information on geography, refer to Angola in 'Africa South of the Sahara 2003', (33<sup>rd</sup> Edition), source [1a]

[Return to Contents](#)

## 3. Economy

**3.1** Angola is a country rich in mineral wealth and natural resources including diamonds, petroleum, iron ore, gold, extensive forests, Atlantic fisheries, phosphates, copper, feldspar, bauxite and uranium. [1a] (p47, 57)[10] The largest source of income for the country is petroleum mining, production and export. [1a] (p47, 57) [2a] (p1) The end of the civil war saw commercial and agricultural activity increase. About 85 percent of the population were employed in subsistence farming. [10] During 2003 the economic growth increased by 4 percent. However, according to several sources, the economy has been severely mismanaged and is in disarray, as a direct consequence of the civil war. [1a] (p47) [5c] (p2, p91) For this reason the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been pushing for greater economic transparency in Angola. [5c] (p2)

[\(See the section on Corruption for more information\)](#)

**3.2** Although the Government took some steps to improve its management of the economy, its commitment to reform remained uncertain. [2a] (p1) Extreme poverty exists in

Angola despite a wealth of natural resources. [14e] (p13) The number of people living below the poverty line in Angola has increased since 1995. [5c] (p40) Approximately 80 percent of the population were living in poverty during 2003. [2a] (p1) The International Bar Association (IBA) report 2003 stated that “Angola is one of the poorest countries in the world and is ranked 161 out of 173 countries in the Human Development Index (HDI) value, 2000.” [14] (p11)

**3.3** The currency used in Angola is the kwanza. There are 100 lwei to 1 kwanza. [1a] (p56) The exchange rate on 1 March 2004 was £1 sterling to 108.703 kwanza. [20]

For further information on economy, refer to Angola in ‘Africa South of the Sahara 2003’, (33rd edition), source [1a]

[Return to Contents](#)

## **4. History**

### **Post-Independence background since 1975**

**4.1** Angola gained independence from Portugal on 11 November 1975. This followed an armed struggle against the Portuguese and internecine conflict between the liberation movements, the Movimento Popular de Liberatacao de Angola (MPLA), its rival Uniao Nacional Para a Independencia Total de Angola (UNITA) and the Frente Nacional de Libertacao de Angola (FNLA). With backing from international supporters the MPLA quickly gained control of the capital, Luanda, and established itself as the superior power and governing body of Angola, although UNITA with its own backers (and initially in concert with the FNLA) fought on. Since independence the two main opponents, MPLA and UNITA continued a bitter conflict for control of the country. [1a] (p40-41)

For history prior to 1975 refer to Angola in ‘Africa South of the Sahara 2003’ (33rd Edition), Source [1a].

### **Multi-party politics and the 1992 Elections**

**4.2** The first multi-party presidential and legislative elections were held on 29 and 30 September 1992 as scheduled. [1a] (p42) [2a] (p10) International observers, half of whom were provided by the United Nations (UN), monitored the voting. They subsequently announced that the conduct of the elections had been free and fair. [1a] (p43) [2a] (p10) The results were not accepted by UNITA and as a result intense fighting erupted in Luanda, in which thousands of people across the country lost their lives. [1a] (p43) The UN reacted by imposing sanctions on UNITA in September 1993 which in turn led to UNITA publicly accepting the results of the elections [4a] (p2) ([see Annex E](#))

### **Lusaka Peace Accord 1994**

**4.3** The first attempt at a peace process began in 1989 and resulted in the signing of the Bicesse Accords in May 1991 and a ceasefire. [1a] (p42) [4a] (p1) Further talks led to the signing of the Lusaka Protocol of 20 November 1994 by representatives of the MPLA and UNITA. [1a] (p43) A formal ceasefire was declared two days later. [4a] (p2) The Lusaka Protocol set out a series of measures designed to bring an end to the civil war. The Human Rights Watch (HRW) report ‘Angola Unravels: The Rise and Fall of the Lusaka Peace Process’ dated

September 1999 stated “The Lusaka Protocol provided for a cease-fire, the integration of UNITA generals into the government’s armed forces (which were to become nonpartisan and civilian controlled), demobilization (later amended to demilitarization) under U.N. supervision, the repatriation of mercenaries, the incorporation of UNITA troops into the Angolan National Police under the Interior Ministry, and the prohibition of any other police or surveillance organization.” [5a] (p1) In January 1995, the Forças Armadas de Angola (FAA) and UNITA agreed to the immediate cessation of hostilities and the disengagement of troops. Despite these endeavours the hostilities continued. [1a] (p43)

### **UNAVEM III and MONUA 1995 - 1999**

**4.4** In February 1995 a UN Security Council (UNSC) resolution authorised the deployment of a 7,000 strong peacekeeping force, United Nations Angola Verification Mission III (UNAVEM III), to oversee implementation of the Lusaka Protocol, in particular the demobilisation of troops on both sides. [1a] (p43) [4a] (p2) UNAVEM’s mandate included monitoring the process of national reconciliation and the cease-fire; assisting with the establishment of quartering areas; the disengagement of troops and the disarming of civilians. [17b] The UN declared that all military tasks were officially completed on 13 December 1996. [4a] (p2)

**4.5** In June 1997 the UNSC unanimously approved a recommendation that UNAVEM III be disbanded and replaced by a UN Civilian Observer Mission (MONUA). [1a] (p44) MONUA was given a mandate to oversee the remaining tasks of the Lusaka Accord. [17] (p1) Following UNITA’s failure to comply with its obligations under the Lusaka Protocol, the UNSC imposed a second package of sanctions against UNITA in late October 1997, including restrictions on the travel of UNITA personnel. [17a] (p2)

**4.6** Towards the end of January 1998, the UNSC extended MONUA’s mandate until 30 April 1998. It was further extended on 29 April 1998 until 30 June 1998. [17a] (p2) In June 1998 Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye (the UN Secretary General’s Special representative to Angola) was killed in a plane crash in Côte d’Ivoire whilst on an extensive international mission. He had been seeking to persuade influential supporters of Savimbi to persuade him to return to the peace process. Despite the efforts by MONUA, the situation in Angola deteriorated. Hostilities between the Government and UNITA subsequently increased. Several more extensions to the MONUA mandate followed. In February 1999, however, the decision was taken to withdraw MONUA as there was no longer a tangible peace process for them to oversee. The human rights element of the mission nevertheless continued to operate. [17a] (p7)

### **Developments in the civil war September 1999 - February 2002**

**4.7** In mid-September 1999 Government forces launched a major offensive against UNITA. [1a] (p44) By 20 October 1999 the Government formally announced that it had pushed UNITA out of its stronghold in the Central Highlands. [1a] (p44) [17j] (p3) [48a] Throughout late 1999 the Government continued to make considerable advances into rebel territory. [17j] (p3) [48a] In December 1999 the FAA captured UNITA’s former headquarters at Jamba and claimed to have gained control of almost the entire southern border. [17e] [17j] (p3) In the south, the Namibian Government closed the border in the Caprivi Strip to prevent UNITA troops from retreating to Namibian soil. [17e] [17j] (p3) During the first half of 2000, the Government reclaimed territory held by UNITA in the south and east of the country. [17j] (p3) At this time, UNITA adapted back to guerrilla attacks and high-profile hit-and-run ambushes, particularly along the border with Zambia. [1a] (p44) [80] [17e] [17j] (p3) The FAA and the police



protected the diamond rich provinces of Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul, limiting UNITA to acts of banditry against the civilian population. [17j] (p3)

**4.8** In the first six months of 2001, UNITA continued their guerrilla activities with new outbreaks of violence being reported daily. [17k] (p1) UNITA had begun to target civilians with greater force. [17k] (p4) Fighting also continued between UNITA and the FAA throughout early and mid 2001. The worst affected areas were the provinces of Bié and Cuanza-Norte. [1a] (p45)

**4.9** Between June and October 2001, UNITA struck hard at land routes in the Government strongholds. [7i] These included an attack on a train in Kwanza-Norte that reportedly claimed the lives of over 250 passengers, and attacks on a bus in Malange province and a civilian road convoy in Kwanza Sul province. [1a] (p45) [7j] [8p] [49a] In May 2001, two UNITA units attacked the town of Caxito in a raid in which 70 people were reported to have been killed, and a number of children abducted. [1a] (p45) [7h]

**4.10** In the last few months of the war, both FAA and UNITA increasingly turned to 'scorched earth' tactics. [1a] (p45) On 29 October 2001 Portuguese news agency Lusa reported that the FAA had killed 216 rebels following a month of clashes in Sumbe, south of Luanda. [51] In November 2001, there were increased instances of rebel soldiers defecting from UNITA to the FAA. [50] Between December 2001 and January 2002, there were few reports of significant conflict between the FAA and UNITA in the provinces. [1a] (p45) In early 2002, the FAA nevertheless continued to further weaken UNITA's position by depriving UNITA of its rural support and gaining control of a substantial proportion of Angola. [1a] (p45) On 17 February 2002, it was reported that five high-ranking UNITA generals were killed or captured in combat in Moxico. [36c]

## **End of the civil war and Political situation since February 2002**

**4.11** On 22 February 2002 UNITA's leader Jonas Savimbi was killed in a remote part of the eastern province of Moxico. [1a] (p45) [4a] (p2) His death was reported by the FAA on 22 February 2002, and confirmed in statements issued by the Government and UNITA sources in the days following. His death immediately accelerated UNITA's decline as a fighting force. [7j] UNITA's overall position continued to worsen on 5 and 6 March 2002 when a number of reports confirmed the demise of Savimbi's successor General Antonio Dembo. [1a] (p45) On 13 March 2002, the FAA announced that it had halted all military operations against UNITA and had entered into negotiations with the remaining UNITA forces. [1a] (p45) UNITA finally agreed to a ceasefire on 30 March 2002, and an official agreement was ratified in Luanda on 4 April 2002. [1a] (p45) [44b] The Luena Accords (also known as the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)), which were signed by the FAA and the UNITA military forces, ended the fighting between the Angolan Government, led by the ruling party MPLA and UNITA. [5b] (p5) The HRW 2003 report 'Struggling Through Peace: Return and Resettlement in Angola' August 2003 stated "The Luena Accords provide for the implementation of a cease-fire through the demilitarization, quartering and demobilization of UNITA's military forces, integration of UNITA officers into the government army and national police, and a general amnesty law for all crimes committed during the conflict." [5b] (p5)

**4.12** According to the terms of the agreement, within nine months 50,000 UNITA fighters and 300,000 family members were to be cantoned in 38 quartering centres; only some 5,000 UNITA fighters were to be integrated into the FAA, all weapons were to be handed over to the FAA. [1a] (p46) UNITA officials were to take up four ministerial positions allocated under the Lusaka accord. [1a] (p46) The process was to be supervised by a Joint Military Commission

(JMC), with a minor role for the UN, Russia and Portugal. [1a] (p46) A total of 400,000 soldiers and their dependants were moved to Family Reception Areas. By April 2003, little more than half had been demobilised. However by that time, the Government had closed 33 of the 35 Family Reception Areas and removed the remaining UNITA members and their families to quartering areas. [1a] (p46) On 15 July 2002 the FAA began recruiting 5,000 former rebels to join the military and police in the final stage of the demobilisation process. [4a] (p2) [44c] [44d]

**4.13** On 21 November 2002, a ceremony in the Angolan National Assembly declared the Lusaka Process, including the role of the Joint Commission, to have ended. On 9 December 2002, the UN Security Council voted unanimously to lift all remaining sanctions against UNITA. [4a] (p2) According to HRW, “A year after the signing of the peace accord, more than two million internally displaced persons and approximately 25 percent of refugees living abroad have already returned to their places of origin.” [5d] (p1)

[Return to Contents](#)

## **5. State Structures**

### **The Constitution**

**5.1** The Republic of Angola is governed by a Constitution promulgated in November 1975. It was amended several times, most recently in August 1992 when the word “People’s” was removed from the official name of the country. [1a] (p58) [3a]

**5.2** Article 18 of the Constitution stipulates that “All citizens shall be equal under the law and shall enjoy the same rights and be subject to the same duties, without distinction as to color, race, ethnic group, sex, place of birth, religion, ideology, level of education or economic or social status.” [3a] The Constitution also guarantees the freedom of expression, assembly, demonstration and all other forms of expression. At the same time, groupings whose aims and activities are contrary to the Constitutional order and penal laws, or that, even indirectly, pursue political objectives through organisations of a military, paramilitary or militarised nature, shall be forbidden. [1a] (p58)[3a]

**5.3** In March 2004 Angola was revising its constitution. On 27 January 2004 a draft of the new Constitution was presented to the Constitutional Commission of the National Assembly. [37a] (p1) The draft was drawn up by a technical team comprising twelve members from the MPLA, seven from UNITA and three representing the minor parties in parliament. [37a] (p1) The draft has not yet been made available for public discussion. [2a] (p10) [8b] Approval of the revised constitution is seen as a precondition to holding a general election. [8b] According to a news report by Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN) dated 12 February 2004, “[Isaias] Samakuva [the President of UNITA] claimed the government of President Eduardo Dos Santos was deliberately delaying the approval of a new constitution, a pre-condition for scheduling presidential and legislative elections.” [8c]

### **Citizenship and Nationality**

**5.4** Under Article 19 of the Constitution, “Angolan nationality may be by origin or acquired.” The Article also stipulates that “The requirements for the attribution, acquisition, loss, or re-acquisition of Angolan nationality be determined by law.” [3a] Under a 1991 law, citizenship can be obtained by birth, descent, marriage or naturalisation. Dual citizenship is not

recognised in Angola, with the exception of children up to the age of eighteen born abroad to Angolan parents, that obtain the nationality of the country of birth. [59]

## Political System

**5.5** The Constitution states that Angola shall be an independent and sovereign state that is democratic, unitary and indivisible. Sovereignty shall belong to the people, which shall exercise political power through universal suffrage. [1a] (p58) [3a] The Constitution provides for the right to vote by a universal, equal, direct, secret and periodic suffrage to all citizens over the age of eighteen years, other than those legally deprived of political and civil rights. [1a] (p58) [3a] The Constitution provides citizens with the right to change their government peacefully. [2a] (p10) [3a] [14] (p43) However, the last elections took place on 29 and 30 September 1992. [2a] (p10) [14] (p43)

**5.6** The executive is personified in the President, elected for a five-year term, which is renewable up to three times. The President is the Head of State, Head of Government and Commander in Chief of the FAA. The current president is José Eduardo dos Santos, who assumed office on 21 September 1979. [1a] (p59) The President has the power to appoint and dismiss the Prime Minister, the Council of Ministers and other government officials determined by law. [1a] (p59) ([See Annex H](#))

**5.7** Under the Constitution adopted at independence, the sole legal party was the Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola (MPLA). In December 1990, the MPLA announced that the Constitution would be revised to permit opposition parties and in March 1991 legislative approval was granted for the formation of political parties. [1a] (p42) Nevertheless, the MPLA has retained the presidency since independence in 1979. In the 1992 Presidential elections President dos Santos won 49.57 percent of the votes. The MPLA also holds majority of the seats in the National Assembly (Assembléia Nacional). In the legislative elections, held in September 1992, the MPLA obtained 129 of the seats in the National Assembly. [1a] (p60)

**5.8** The supreme organ of state legislature is the National Assembly, to which the Government is responsible. According to the Constitution the National Assembly should be composed of 223 deputies elected for a four-year term. However, three of the seats have never been filled. [1a] (p59) ([See Annex E](#))

## Government of Unity and Reconciliation (GURN)

**5.9** Established as part of the Lusaka Protocol, the Government of Unity and National Reconciliation (GURN) was inaugurated on 11 April 1997, after UNITA's military tasks under the agreement were officially declared completed on 13 December 1996. [1a] (p42) [9] In April 1997 UNITA representatives (four Ministers and seven Vice Ministers) finally took their places in the GURN. [1a] (p43) [2a] (p1) [9] A further ten minor political parties were represented in the GURN. [1a] (p43) [2a] (p1) [9] In 1998 seventy UNITA Deputies also filled the seats in the National Assembly won in 1992. [9] In August 1998 the Government suspended the UNITA Deputies from office [1a] (p43) Following a split within UNITA, those MP's adhering to the newly formed UNITA-R were reinstated, other UNITA deputies remaining loyal to Savimbi were reinstated at a later date following diplomatic pressure. [1a] (p44)

**5.10** In August 2000, FAA Chief of Staff, General Joao de Matos, indicated that a position would be made available for Savimbi in the National Assembly. [1a] (p45) In March 2001, the

Government rejected calls by Savimbi for a resumption of trilateral negotiations between the Government, UNITA and the UN, although it was willing to discuss the Lusaka Protocol with the Government sponsored UNITA-R. [1a] (p45) The death of Savimbi in February 2002, and the subsequent peace agreement between the Government and UNITA in April 2002, has enabled the provisions of the Lusaka Protocol to be implemented. [1a] (p45)

**5.11** On 5 December 2002, President dos Santos appointed the Minister of Interior, Fernando da Piedade Dias dos Santos "Nando", as the new Prime Minister of the GURN. [7k] [9] [17f] (p2) New cabinet ministers were subsequently appointed for the interior, finance, petroleum and energy and water portfolios; the Ministers of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Planning and Public Administration were re-appointed. [17f] (p2) [36r] [36s] The UNSC report dated February 2003 stated "In accordance with an understanding reached between the Government and UNITA, all former UNITA-Renovada Cabinet ministers were reappointed as representatives of the reunified UNITA." [17f] (p2) The report added "Some opposition parties and members of civil society felt, however, that the new cabinet did not represent sufficient change. Members of civil society also criticised the re-appointment of some senior Government officials who they alleged had embezzled and misappropriated funds." [17f] (p2)

### **Presidential and legislative election plans**

**5.12** The Constitution provides all adult citizens with the right to choose the President of the Republic and deputies in the National Assembly by secret ballot in direct multiparty elections. [3a] However, according to the US Department of State (USSD) report 2003, in practice citizens had no effective means to change their Government. [2a] (p10) At the time of the peace agreement on 4 April 2002, the Government had indicated that the next general elections were envisaged to take place in 2004. [1a] (p46) [17a] (p2) However, according to Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Angola dated 7 February 2003, indicated that representatives from both the MPLA and UNITA had proposed that elections should be postponed for one or two years further to create a more realistic time frame to revise the Constitution. [17f] (p2) Nevertheless, representatives from the MPLA and UNITA, as well as other smaller parties, felt that elections should be held as soon as possible. [17f] (p2) At his year end speech on 28 December 2002, President dos Santos promised to work towards a broad national consensus on fixing a date for the next general election. [17f] (p2) According to an IRIN news report dated 2 February 2004, various news reports have stated that the Government was considering delaying the general election until 2006. [8b] [25c] Approval of the revised constitution is seen as a precondition to holding a general election. [8b] [25c]

### **Government amnesties**

**5.13** In November 2000, in honour of Angola's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence and partly in response to international criticism of abuses of preventive detention, President dos Santos submitted an amnesty bill to legally guarantee clemency and formalise the practice, which the Government of Angola had been following for some time. [48b] (p1-2) On 29 November 2000 the Angolan National Assembly passed legislation that grants amnesty to all those who lay down their arms. [48b] (p1-2) The law covered all military crimes committed up to the date of its introduction, except those of a violent nature and which included death. [3a] It also covered crimes against the security of the state and low level crimes such as theft. [48b] (p1-2) [7i] Under the law, which came into force on 15 December 2000, those who wanted to be granted an amnesty had 90 days to report voluntarily to the

authorities and confirm their willingness to be reintegrated into society. (where applicable the war also had to be renounced). [3d] [48b] (p1-2)

**5.14** In the months prior to the end of the war, thousands of people from UNITA-controlled areas turned themselves over to the authorities. [48b] (p1-2) The Angolan Mission Observer dated November/December 2000, reported that most of the individuals that surrendered to the Government in the first few weeks of the Amnesty were ex-UNITA officials and traditional leaders. [48b] (p1-2) The Government press stated that Frente de Libertação do Estado de Cabinda – Forças Armadas de Cabinda (FLEC-FAC) rebels in Cabinda have also surrendered in response to the amnesty. [3d]

[Return to Contents](#)

## Judiciary

**5.15** Article 142 of the Constitution states “The Judicial Proctorate shall be an independent public body the purpose of which shall be to defend the rights, freedoms and guarantees of citizens ensuring by informal means the justice and legality of the public administration.” [3a] The USSD report 2003 noted that “The Constitution provides for an independent judiciary; however, the judiciary, where it functioned, was subject to executive influence.” [2a] (p6) The report added, “In practice the court system lacked the means, experience, training, and political backing to assert its independence.” [2a] (p6) Nevertheless, the IBA report 2003 stated “Angolan courts have ruled against the Government in cases involving free press and political demonstrations. International pressure is thought to have been a factor in these rulings.” [14] (p34)

## Court Structure

**5.16** The court system consists of the Supreme Court, the highest operating appeals court, plus municipal and provincial courts which operate under the authority of the Supreme Court. [2a] (p6) [14] (p29) Although the Supreme Court has 16 seats, the IBA report 2003 noted that only nine were filled. [14] (p29) In exceptional cases, the Supreme Court sits as a court of first instance, where it considers cases based on fact and law. When the Supreme Court sits as an appeals court, it decides cases based only on law. [14] (p30)

**5.17** The Constitution provides for a court above the Supreme Court, the Constitutional Court. [2a] (p6) [3a] [14] (p30) However, according to the IBA report 2003, the seven seats in the Constitutional court had not been filled. [14] (p30)

**5.18** The Accounting Court or ‘Anti-Corruption Court’ (Tribunal de Contas) was established in 1996 but did not begin operating until 2001 and it was headed by a judge who was also a deputy in the National Assembly. [2a] (p6) [14] (p31) According to the IBA report 2003 “The Accounting Court is supposed to operate with seven judges, but currently only five including the court’s President, have been appointed.” [14] (p31) The report added that although 88 cases have been presented to the Accounting Court since January 2003, the Court only issued its first written opinion on 26 March 2003. [14] (p31)

## Traditional Courts

**5.19** Community-based courts and judges practise traditional law, outside the jurisdiction of the Constitution and the official legal system. Community-based courts and judges are

not a substitute for those that the Constitution provides for. The IBA report 2003 explained that “The reason is that traditional notions of justice often violate the Angolan Constitution and international legal norms that Angola adheres to.” [14] (p35)

### **UNITA-operated Courts**

**5.20** The IBA report 2003 raised questions as to whether or not a UNITA court system ever existed within the areas of the country that were not controlled by the Government. [14] (p35) The report stated “The national Government does not yet control all parts of the country. UNITA had and probably still has its own system of prisons, which were overcrowded. The United Nations is trying to determine if UNITA had and still has a rudimentary court system. (According to the US State Department [report 2002], UNITA established a civilian court system and a civil code. But ‘there was no indication that UNITA maintained this system in the isolated pockets of territory it controlled at the end of the war.’) Therefore, the absence of the governmental justice system in some parts of the country does not mean that those locales either have *no* justice system or have a system of traditional justice. It might mean that in some areas, UNITA operates a system of justice or operates entities exercising forms of justice, which need to be replaced by, or integrated into, the governmental system of justice.” [14] (p35)

### **The effect of the Civil War on the Judiciary**

**5.21** As a result of the civil war, the judicial system was significantly hampered. [2a] (p6) [8e] The IBA report 2003 noted that “Only 23 of the 168 municipal courts were operational. All 19 provincial courts are functioning [Benguela Province has two] and in areas without municipal courts, cases are sent to the provincial courts. The situation has created delays and a large backlog of cases. Many courts are in a poor state of repair.” [14] (p4) The USSD report 2003 explained that “During the year [2003], the Government continued to rebuild courts; however, where provincial courts existed, there was often only one judge to cover all cases, civil and criminal, in the province.” [2a] (p6)

**5.22** IBA stated in its 2003 report “Angola needs more lawyers and there are very few lawyers practising in the provinces, which means there is little access to justice for many Angolans.” [14] (p4) The provinces of Moxico, Kuando Kubango, Luanda Norte and Bié had no lawyers and a further five provinces only had one lawyer. [14e] (p23)

**5.23** The Constitution provides defendants with the presumption of innocence until a judicial decision is taken by the court and the right to appeal the decision. [2a] (p6) [3a] The USSD report 2003 stated “Legal reform in 1991 established the right to public trials, a system of bail, and recognised the right of the accused to counsel; however, the Government did not always respect these rights in practice.” [2a] (p6) Trials are open to the public, but each court has the discretion to close proceedings arbitrarily. Defendants do not have the right to confront their accusers. The judge and two lay persons elected by the full court, act as the jury. [2a] (p6)

**5.24** During 2003, human rights training was provided to municipal magistrates with support from the Human Rights Division of the UN Mission in Angola (UNMA). The USSD observed that “Approximately 100 magistrates to (sic) work in municipal police stations and intervene to protect the rights of individuals in police custody.” [2a] (p6)

### **Legal Documents**

**5.25** Under the law, a person caught in the act of committing a crime may be arrested and detained immediately. Otherwise, the law requires that a judge or a provincial magistrate should issue an arrest warrant. Arrest warrants also may be signed by members of the judicial police and confirmed within five days by a magistrate. [2a] (p6)

[Return to Contents](#)

## **Legal Rights/Detention**

**5.26** Article 36 of the Constitution states that “No citizen may be arrested or put on trial except in accordance with the law, and all accused shall be guaranteed the right to defense and the right to legal aid and counsel.” [3a]

**5.27** The IBA report 2003 stated that the cost of legal representation varied considerably from one lawyer to another. It was therefore often difficult for members of the public to afford legal costs. [14e] (p24) The report goes on to say that one of the Angolan Bar Association functions is to provide lawyers to clients who cannot afford the legal fees, providing the client can demonstrate the financial need to the Government. According to the report “One [Non-Governmental Organisation] NGO criticised this process for taking three months.” [14e] (p27) The Angolan Bar Association was able to provide criminal defence lawyers to 122 defendants during 2002. [14] (p37)

**5.28** The Constitution protects against arbitrary detention. According to Articles 37 and 38 respectively, “Preventive detention shall be permitted only in cases provided for by the law, which shall establish the limits and periods thereof” and “Any citizen subject to preventive detention shall be taken before a competent judge to legalize the detention and be tried within the period provided for by law or released”. [3a]

**5.29** The IBA report 2003 explained that “Angolan law allows: people suspected of crimes punishable for up to two years in prison to be detained for a maximum of 120 days; people suspected of crimes punishable for over two years in prison to be detained for a maximum of 135 days; and people suspected of crimes against state security to be detained for a maximum of 215 days.” [14] (p37-38) However, several sources reported that these limits were often violated. [2a] (p5) [5b] (p2) [14] (p38)

**5.30** Article 7 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights, to which Angola has acceded, states that everyone has “The right to be tried within a reasonable time by an impartial court or tribunal” [11d] (p19) HRW explained in its overview 2003 “Arbitrary arrest and imprisonment without due process are among the most common abuses in Angola.” [5b] (p2) The IBA report 2003 added “Pre-trial detentions lasting two or three years are not unusual.” [14] (p39) The problem was largely as a result of the lack of resources in the justice system as well as the lack of personnel. [14] (p39)

**5.31** The Constitution also provides prisoners with the right to receive visits by family members and friends without prejudice. [2a] (p5) [3a] However, the USSD report 2003 noted that these rights were not guaranteed because there was a lack of resources and personnel in the legal system. [2a] (p5)

## **Death Penalty**

**5.32** Angola abolished the death penalty for all crimes in 1992. [11a] [11b] (p2) Article 22 of the Constitution stipulates that “The State shall respect and protect the life of the human person.” It also states that the death penalty is prohibited. [3a] [11b] (p2,7) [22]

[Return to Contents](#)

## Internal Security

**5.33** The USSD report 2003 noted “The Ministry of Interior, through the Angolan National Police (ANP), is responsible for internal security. The internal intelligence service is directly answerable to the Office of the Presidency... The civilian authorities maintained effective control of the security forces.” [2a] (p1)

### Angolan National Police (ANP)

**5.34** The ANP are responsible for internal security and law enforcement. The ANP are under the Ministry of the Interior. The USSD report 2003 stated that “Other than those personnel assigned to elite units, police were poorly paid, and the practice of supplementing their income through the extortion of the civilian population was widespread.” [2a] (p1)

### Armed Forces of Angola (Forças Armadas de Angola, FAA)

**5.35** In agreement with the Bicesse Accords, signed in May 1991, a new Armed Forces of Angola (FAA) was established comprising of an equal proportion of Government forces, Forças Armadas Populares de Libertação de Angola (FAPLA) and UNITA soldiers, Forças Armadas de Libertação de Angola (FALA). [1a] (p66) The FAA was estimated to consist of between 100,000 and 131,000 men, including 90,000 to 120,000 strong army, 3,000 to 4,000 men navy and 6,000 to 8,000 men air force. [1a] (p66) [30a] (p5) The FAA is responsible for external security as well as domestic responsibilities. [2a] (p1)

[Return to Contents](#)

## Prisons and Prison Conditions

**5.36** The USSD report 2003 observed that “Prison conditions were harsh and life threatening.” [2a] (p4) According to the report cells were overcrowded. It stated “The prison system held approximately 5 times the number of prisoners that it was built to hold and in some jails up to 10 inmates were held in cells built for 2 inmates.” [2a] (p4) The HRW overview 2003 confirmed that the prisons in Luanda suffered from overcrowding. [5b] (p2) The USSD report 2003 added that “In August [2003], there were approximately 1,750 inmates in the Luanda prison designed for 800.” [2a] (p4) The report added that the prisons outside Luanda were notably worse, “Warehouses in Bengo, Malange, and Lunda Norte provinces were used to hold prisoners [2a] (p4) The USSD report 2003 noted “Many rural prisons, such as Chitato in Lunda Norte, were cited by local human rights organizations for not having toilets, beds, mattresses, water, or medicines.” [2a] (p4)

**5.37** Both the USSD report 2003 and the HRW overview 2003 noted that many prisons suffered from corruption, ill treatment, poor sanitary conditions, inadequate food and health care. [2a] (p4) [5b] (p2) The USSD report 2003 stated “There were credible reports from local NGOs that prisoners died of malnutrition and disease. At the Luanda prison, malnutrition



and disease were pervasive problems.” The report noted that prisoners had to rely on family members, friends and relief organisations to provide basic assistance, including supplying food. [2a] (p4) However, the HRW overview 2003 noted that “Visits by family, friends and others, including rights defenders are limited and arbitrary.” [5b] (p2) Prison officers were severely underpaid and often resorted to stealing and extortion from the prisoners and their families. [2a] (p4)

**5.38** The USSD report 2003 noted that “Female prisoners were held separately from male prisoners; however, there were reports that prison guards sexually abused female prisoners.” [2a] (p4) The report added “Juveniles, often incarcerated for petty theft, were housed with adults and suffered abuse by guards and inmates.” and “Pretrial detainees frequently were housed directly with sentenced inmates, and prisoners serving short-term sentences often were held with inmates serving long-term and life sentences for violent crimes.” [2a] (p4) The USSD observed that there were no reports of political prisoners held in Angola. [2a] (p6)

**5.39** According to the USSD report 2003, “The Government permitted foreign diplomatic personnel and local and international human rights observers to visit prisons during the year; however, the Government did not consistently report the arrest of foreign nationals to the appropriate consular authorities.” [2a] (p4)

[Return to Contents](#)

## **Military Service**

**5.40** Laws on conscription have been extant since 26 March 1993. Article 152 of the Constitution stipulates that “The defence of the country shall be the right and the highest indeclinable duty of every citizen.” [3a] [21] The Constitution also specifies that “Military service shall be compulsory.” [3a] [23] (p1) Law 1/93 made conscription compulsory for all males between 20 and 45 years of age. [4b] [23] (p1) Females within the same age range could also be conscripted if it was considered necessary by the Council of Ministers. [4b] [21] According to the Coalition to Stop the use of Child Soldiers Report 2001 “Women between the ages of 20 and 45 could also be called up, but were not actually recruited.” [21] The report added “In November 1998 the Council of Ministers approved the compulsory conscription of Angolans born in 1981, thus lowering the minimum age for conscription to 17 years.” [21] The War Resisters' International report 1998 observed that “Those over the age of 30 only serve in the Reserve Force.” [23] (p1) Military Service in the army is for a period of two years including training time. [4b] In the navy and air force service is for three years. For those in higher ranks service is for four years, and some may be reserved longer. [23] (p1)

**5.41** Service can be postponed if the person is still in full time education. The same applies to teachers, both with formal and without formal qualifications, who are in full time teaching posts. Additionally, the Council of Ministers approve annually a list of technicians and specialists who are exempt from conscription. In practice, compulsory service is only applied during times of crisis or shortage. [4b]

## **Forced Conscription**

**5.42** The HRW world report 2003 stated that “During the civil war, both the government and UNITA committed widespread abuses against the civilian population.” The abuses included forced conscription. [5d] (p6) According to the USSD report 2003, there were no

reports of the FAA, police or UNITA forcibly recruiting persons into military service during 2003. [2a] (p16)

**5.43** According to a news report by Angola Press Agency (briefly referred to as ANGOP report dated 6 January 2004, “[Also according to the release], the national citizens that for unjustified reason failed to turn up in the registration offices, will be considered as in fault and will be subject to punishment according to the law on the military service.” [36b]

**5.44** According to a note from the office of the FAA in Luanda dating from 1993 an alternative is available to military service, called community service. Individuals are allowed to conscientiously object to military service and are able to perform community service instead. [22]

### **Draft Evasion and Desertion**

**5.45** Draft evasion and desertion is punishable under the 28 January 1994 Military penal code 4/94. Desertion in peacetime carries a prison sentence of between two and eight years. If carried out during a time of war or on military operations, the penalty increases to between eight and twelve years. Those who fail to report for compulsory service and are subsequently apprehended face between three days and two years after which new call-up papers may be issued. [23] (p3)

### **Child Soldiers**

**5.46** The Coalition to Stop the use of Child Soldiers Report 2001 noted that “The UN estimates that at least 3,000 children are among the ranks of the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA). [11] Forced recruitment of youth (‘Rusgas’), some as young as 14, continued after the 1993 law on military service. The legalisation of the conscription of 17-year-olds in 1999 further increased the recruitment of minors... As the recruitment drive failed to reach its quota, government forces increasingly resorted to ‘press-ganging’ youths, often in nocturnal round-ups. Soldiers and police rounded up men and boys – reportedly including many under the age of 18 - who were sent to military bases throughout the country. However, some very young children initially recruited were reportedly ‘thrown back’ by receiving military commanders and desertion rates for these children were high – although their fate remains unclear.” [11]

([See section on Children for more information on child soldiers](#))

[Return to Contents](#)

### **Medical Services**

**5.47** Although much of the medical care was provided free of charge, [39] its availability was limited by the lack of resources. [2d] (p8) [30b] Under-investment in health, coupled with three decades of conflict, has caused an almost complete break down in health services. [5c] (p64-66) [30b] According to an IRIN news report dated 2 March 2004 and HRW report ‘Some Transparency, No Accountability: The Use of Oil Revenue in Angola and Its Impact on Human Rights’ dated January 2004, an estimated 60 percent of Angola’s health infrastructure was destroyed. [8n] An IRIN news report dated 20 February 2004 added that “Most infrastructure in the interior is still destroyed, and there is no basic health care in 60 or 70 percent of the country.” [8f] A Reuters report dated 26 February 2004 stated that “Even after

two years of peace, medical institutions struggle to provide adequate treatment even for common illnesses.” [30b]

**5.48** Many diseases including tuberculosis, acute diarrhoea and acute respiratory diseases were endemic in many parts of the country and preventative services were very limited. [18a] [34b] [36x] The Health Ministry announced that 1 million cases of malaria had been recorded throughout the country and 6,325 persons had died from the disease during the first quarter of 2003. [36a] 8,594 new cases of tuberculosis were also recorded in Angola during the same period, in comparison to 7,118 recorded cases in 2002. [36a] Figures show that Angola has the world’s third-highest child mortality rate with 25 percent of children likely to die before reaching the age of five. [30b] [38a] (p4) The US Committee for Refugees (USCR) report 2003 stated that childbirth mortality was extremely high and nearly two percent of all births resulted in maternal deaths. [31a] The USSD post report mentioned that “Because of poor living conditions, the average life expectancy for local citizens is only 45 years.” [2d] (p8)

**5.49** The Ministry of Health’s National Health Plan, initiated in 2000, focused on improving treatment to control epidemic diseases, malnutrition, malaria, STD including HIV/AIDS and reproductive health. [32a] In some remote regions all, basic health services were provided by humanitarian agencies such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Medecins Sans Frontiers (MSF) and the World Health Organisation (WHO). [17c] [17d] (p2-3) [18c] [32a] [33a] [34a]

**5.50** According to various reports, Angola has few qualified medical personnel. President dos Santos stated that there was one doctor for every 13,000 Angolans, [30b] [8f] the vast majority of which were in Luanda. [30b] An IRIN report dated 20 February 2004 noted that in some provinces the situation is much worse. “In the central province of Bié, which was at the heart of the fighting, it is estimated that there are only three Angolan doctors to look after one million people, and Moxico in the east, where hundreds of thousands of displaced people have returned since the end of the war, there are two doctors for half a million people.” [8f] The report added that there was also a poor supply of medicines and equipment in Angolan hospitals, [2d] (p8) [8f] with drugs often failing to arrive at the hospitals at the right time or in the right quantities. [8f]

**5.51** According to a report by WHO dated 29 August 2003, WHO, UNICEF and the other NGO’s supported the country by providing a minimum health care package including vaccinations, HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, leprosy, trypanosomiasis and other disease control measures. [18c] However, the country’s infrastructure was not restored to a level that would enable any significant improvement in the state provision of healthcare and medical treatment. [30b] [38a] (p4)

**5.52** Despite significant challenges, the national immunisation campaigns against polio and measles proved to be a success. [18c] [3b] [35] During the period September 2002 to August 2003 over five million children received the vaccine against polio. As a result no cases of polio have been found in Angola since September 2001 in comparison to 1999 when Angola had the largest outbreak of polio in Africa. [18c] During the same period, 7.3 million children under 15 were inoculated against measles as part of the National Measles “catch-up” Campaign. The nation-wide campaign was launched in April 2003 with the aim of vaccinating all children nine months and 15 years of age. [18c] [33b] Two hundred suspected measles cases were recorded between June and July 2003, compared with an estimated 2781 during the same period the year before. [18c]

## HIV/AIDS

**5.53** The first case of AIDS in Angola was reported in 1985. An ANGOP news report dated 3 March 2004 stated “In Angola, over 500,000 people are infected with the HIV/AIDS virus, which is equal to 5.5 per cent of the adult population. Of this number, 53 per cent of the cases were women.” [36a] A World Vision report dated 20 February 2004 noted that the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS among commercial sex workers was 33 percent. [38b] [39] [40a] A study conducted by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in conjunction with the WHO in September 2002, revealed that total recorded cases of HIV/AIDS increased threefold between 1999 and 2001. [18d] (p2)

**5.54** According to the Ministry of Health 1999 estimations, approximately 30 to 40 percent of infants born to infected mothers became infected with HIV. Mother-to-child transmission accounted for about 14 percent of all HIV infections. [38b] The USAID country profile 2003 noted that the most common mode of HIV transmission in Angola was multiple partner heterosexual activity. [38b]

**5.55** According to a UNICEF report, 32 percent of women between the ages of 15 and 49 years had never heard of HIV/AIDS. The report added that only eight percent of Angolan women, of the same age, had adequate knowledge of HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention. [33c] (p3)

**5.56** In August 2003, the first of four youth centres, which aimed to promote safe sex and HIV prevention, was opened in Luanda. [8q] In 2002, the Angolan Government formed the National Commission in the Fight Against AIDS. The Commission involved the civil society and NGOs, and was led by President dos Santos. [36a] The country’s first hospital for HIV/AIDS patients was inaugurated in Luanda on 3 March 2004. [36f] [41a] According to the Portuguese RTP Internacional TV news report dated 3 March 2004, the hospital, which is called “Esperança” (Hope), was a pilot project with the capacity to cater for 200,000 patients per year. [41a] The report added, “The government will assist by providing patients with free treatment.” [41a]

## People with disabilities

**5.57** Angola had a large proportion of persons with physical disabilities essentially as a result of landmines, polio, war and poverty. [8g] According to an ANGOP news report dated 3 December 2002, the Angolan Government estimated the number of people with a disability to be 150,000. [36g] The USSD report 2003 noted that this figure included more than 80,000 landmine survivors. [2a] (p14) The report stated that Handicap International estimated that up to 10 percent of the population had a physical disability. [2a] (p14) The report added “While there was no institutional discrimination against persons with disabilities, the Government did little to improve their physical, financial, or social conditions. There is no legislation mandating accessibility for persons with disabilities in public or private facilities, and, in view of the degradation of the country’s infrastructure and high unemployment rate, it was difficult for persons with disabilities to find employment or participate in the education system.” [2a] (p14)

**5.58** In 2001, the Government drafted a new law, with the assistance of the international community, to increase the rights of disabled persons. In October 2003 the fourth draft of the new law was being discussed. [8g]

**5.59** The National Association of Handicapped (ANDA) has resettled 183 people disabled persons and their families in 14 of the country's provinces during the period September 2002 to September 2003. [36h]

**5.60** The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provided support to the ministry of health rehabilitation centres in Luanda, Huambo and Kuito. It also assisted over 3,000 disabled people from seven provinces. Patients were provided with artificial limbs, crutches and wheelchairs, free of charge. [19]

### **Mental Health Treatment**

**5.61** Mental health is not a part of the primary healthcare system and actual treatment of severe mental disorders, as well as community care facilities for patients with mental conditions is lacking. NGOs were involved with mental health in the country mainly in advocacy and rehabilitation. [18b]

[Return to Contents](#)

### **Educational System**

**5.62** Although primary and secondary education was free and compulsory until the sixth grade, students often had to pay significant additional expenses. [1a] (p66) [2a] (p13) Primary education began at the age of six and lasted for four years. It was compulsory, but there were not enough schools, and many children had to work to support their families. Secondary education began at the age of 10 and lasted up to seven years. [1a] (p66) The USSD report 2003 noted that "Teachers were chronically unpaid and often demanded unofficial payment or bribes from students." [2a] (p13) According to the USSD report 2003 40 percent of children in the relevant age group enrolled into school. [2a] (p13) An IRIN news report dated 14 January 2004 stated that primary school attendance was just over 50 percent. [8k] The USSD report added that only 30 percent of children remained in school after grade five. There was a significant gender gap in the enrolment rate, favouring boys over girls. [1a] (p66) [2a] (p13) According to a report by the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children in December 2003, two million children did not have access to the education system. [47] The report added that an estimated 58 percent of the adult population was illiterate. [47] The USSD report 2003 stated the illiteracy rate for women was significantly higher than that of men. [2a] (p13) [8t]

**5.63** The educational infrastructure was severely damaged during the civil war. [2a] (p13) [8k] [8r] [8t] According to the HRW report 'Some Transparency, No Accountability: The Use of Oil Revenue in Angola and Its Impact on Human Rights' dated January 2004, about 5,000 schools were destroyed during the war. [5c] (p67) As a result there was a lack of schools and many children were forced to work instead of attending school. [2a] (p13) [8k] [8t] An IRIN news report dated 27 October 2003 observed that "The war destroyed at least 4,000 classrooms in Angola." [8r] During 2003, several strikes over pay and work conditions took place, involving the teaching profession. [2a] (p13) [36m]

**5.64** Since the end of the civil war in April 2002 there have been notable developments in terms of pupil and teacher intakes and the provision for new schools and facilities. [8r] [8s] [8t] [33e] [33f] [36t] In February 2003, the Government announced that 661,440 new pupils had been registered for the forthcoming academic year, this included 40,000 in Luanda. [36t] In light of the increase in pupil intake, the Government initiated regional campaigns to enlist more

teachers, as well as construction projects to expand the number of schools and classrooms nation-wide. [33e] During 2003, UNICEF initiated a 'back to school' campaign in the two central highland provinces of Bié and Melange province in the north. [7a] [33f] According to the UNICEF report 'The State of the World's Children 2004', about 250,000 children went back to school under the programme. [33e] In addition, the Angolan Government announced funding for a further 29,000 teachers across the country with the aim of increasing the number of children in the first four grades by 90 percent during 2004. [8r] [8s] [8t] [33e] [33f]

**5.65** The UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) monthly analysis February 2004 noted that "February marked the official start of the academic year with a massive increase in both the number of children enrolled and teachers posted at schools. School systems remain very weak and the rainy season put a hold on construction of classrooms and rehabilitation projects, but now that populations are more settled, there are signs of improvement in the educational system in most provincial capitals and semi-rural locations." [17m] (p1)

**5.66** The Government approved legislation allowing the establishment of private education institutions in 1991. [1a] (p66) There were two Universities in Luanda; one was state funded and the other was supported by the Catholic Church. [17l] There was also a University in Huila, which offered a limited range of courses and had a lack of lecturers. [36u] According to the USSD report 2003 "The Government did not restrict academic freedom, and academics actively criticized government policy and participated in civil society-based advocacy campaigns." [2a] (p13) The report added "Academics did not practice self-censorship and frequently served as commentators for independent media and spoke at public forums in Luanda. Students were permitted to speak and read freely; however, the Government tightly controlled student and other protests or demonstrations." [2a] (p13)

[Return to Contents](#)

## **6. Human Rights**

### **6.A Human Rights Issues**

#### **General**

**6.1** Article 23 of the Angolan Constitution stipulates:

"No citizen may be subjected to torture or any other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

**6.2** Since the end of the cessation of hostilities in April 2002 substantial improvements have been made in much of the country. However, according to a HRW overview 2003:

"While Angola's transition to peace after almost thirty years of civil war has been characterized by substantial improvements in much of the country, serious human rights abuses continue. Among the most pressing issues in Angola are the return and resettlement of those displaced by the war; violations of freedom of expression and association; lack of due process for criminal suspects and poor prison conditions; forced evictions; inadequate responses to HIV/AIDS and AIDS-related discrimination; and high levels of corruption." [5b] (p1)

The UNSC report dated February 2003 also noted:

“Although war-related violations of human rights have virtually disappeared since the cessation of hostilities, other human rights abuses continue to occur. Violations against war-affected populations, including harassment, looting, extortion, intimidation, physical abuse, rape and arbitrary detention have continued, particularly in areas where State administration is weak or has been extended only recently and where mechanisms for redress remain inadequate. Many of those violations have affected internally displaced persons and have included forced resettlement and return as well as exclusion from social services and humanitarian assistance. A number of violations have also been reported in reception areas, where populations have only limited access to the formal judicial system.” [17f] (p6)

[Return to Contents](#)

## Freedom of Speech and the Media

**6.3** Article 32 and 35 of the Constitution provides for freedom of expression and the freedom of the press respectively. The Constitution states that “Freedom of press shall be guaranteed and may not be subject to any censorship, especially political, ideological or artistic.” [3a] The media were nationalised in 1976 and a press law in 1992 formed part of the amendments to the Constitution. [3c] However, several reports stated that press freedom was restricted in practice during 2003. [2a] (p7) [14] (p45) [24] [25a] [26] The USSD report 2003 noted that “There were fewer restrictions on journalists during the year; however, the Government continued to harass, beat, and detain journalists“ [2a] (p7) This notion was endorsed in the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) report 2003, which mentioned that while the situation had improved problems still remained, particularly concerning the independent media. [26] Reporters sans frontières (RSF) explained in their 2003 annual report that “An end to the fighting between the armed forces and the UNITA rebels brought something of a let-up for Angola's journalists. With his regime's main opponent out of the way, President José Eduardo dos Santos felt less threatened and showed more tolerance toward his critics in the privately-owned news media. [24] However, the report added “The peace accord signed by the armed forces and UNITA on 4 April did not make a great difference to press freedom in Angola.” [24]

**6.4** The majority of the media was state-run and carried very little criticism of the Government. [2a] (p7) [26] Independent press was confined almost to Luanda. [26] There were seven private weekly publications with circulation in the low thousands. Angola's national daily newspapers included, ‘Jornal de Angola’ with an estimated circulation of 41,000; and the news sheet ‘Diario da Republica’. Both were owned and operated by the Government. [3c] According to a HRW overview 2003, “Government authorities often confiscate independent publications; and the state-owned airline will not carry private media publications into the provinces.” [7b] Angola's only news agency is ANGOP. [1a] (p62) [7a] [24]

**6.5** There were five commercial radio stations, which, according to the USSD report for 2003, willingly criticised Government policies. They included the Roman Catholic run Radio Ecclesia, and Radio Luanda Antena Comercial (LAC). [2a] (p7) [7a]

**6.6** The only television channel in Angola was state owned. [1a] (p63) [2a] (p7) [25a] In June 2003, the media minister, Hendrick Vaal Neto, announced plans to change the existing

Press Bill, to allow private TV channels as well as privately run short wave radio stations and newspapers. [25a] An Afrol news report dated 13 June 2003 stated “The media legislation now in force stipulates that radio and television broadcasting is the domain of the state.” [25a]

## **Journalists**

**6.7** A number of reports claimed that the situation for journalists has improved during 2003 and there fewer restrictions, but problems still remain. [2a] (p7) [26] The HRW overview 2003 noted that “Journalists criticizing the government face a series of abuses, including physical abuse, threats, lawsuits and defamation campaigns, as well as limited access to official information, including data on public expenditure and other public policies.” [5b] (p1)

**6.8** According to the USSD report 2003 “There were reports that the Government paid journalists to publish pro-government stories.” [2a] (p7) Several sources noted that corruption was a particularly sensitive subject for the media. [2a] (p7) [26] The USSD report 2003 added “There were reports that the Government limited access by independent journalists to certain events and interviews, and journalists acknowledged that they exercised self-censorship when reporting on highly sensitive matters.” [2a] (p7)

**6.9** Graca Campos, the Semenario Angolense director, was sentenced to 45 days imprisonment in March 2004 and the payment of compensation for publishing an article about the wealthiest Angolans and their fortunes. [41b]

[Return to Contents](#)

## **Freedom of Religion**

**6.10** The Constitution provides for freedom of religion including the separation of church and state. [2a] (p9) [2a] (p1) [3a] According to the USSD International Religious Freedom report of December 2003, this right was respected by the state and Government policy continued to contribute to the generally free practice of religion. [2b] (p1) An ANGOP report dated 2 March 2004 explained that according to the Minister of Justice, Paulo Tjipilica, his department have officially recorded 83 churches or religious congregations, up until the year 2002. 880 others were still awaiting legalisation. [36i]

**6.11** The Government specified that religious groups must register with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Culture. [2b] (p1) In May 2003 a draft law to establish stricter criteria for the registration of religious groups was sent by the Council of Ministers to the National Assembly for approval. [2b] (p1) [36c] In early 2004, the Angolan Parliament approved the draft law on the exercise of freedom of conscience of cult and religion. [36i] Colonial-era statutes banned all non-Christian religious groups from the country; while those statutes still exist, they are no longer enforced. Early in 2002, the colonial-era law granting civil registration authority to the churches was reinstated. [2b] (p1) While the colonial-era law banning non-Christian religions was not enforced it still was the law and could be enforced against any radical religious groups advocating terrorism or public disturbances. [2b] (p2)

## **Religious Groups**

**6.12** The vast majority of the country’s population adhere to Christianity, with Roman Catholicism as the largest denomination. [1a] (p62) [2b] (p1) According to USSD report 2003 the



Roman Catholic Church claimed to have five million adherents, but precise figures could not be verified. [2b] (p1) According to the USSD International Religious Freedom report 2003 “A small portion of Angola’s rural population practises animism or traditional indigenous religions. There is a small Islamic community based around migrants from West Africa. There are few atheists in the country.” [2b] (p1)

## **Freedom of Association and Assembly**

**6.13** Article 32 of the Constitution and article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), ratified by Angola in 1992, provides for the right of association. [3a] [14] (p46) [16a] (p8) The Constitution, however, prohibits groups whose aims or activities violate the penal Law and essential principles of the Constitutional Law, and specifically forbids paramilitary, military, and secret organisations and groups with racist, and fascist and tribalist ideologies. [3a] [14] (p46)

**6.14** The USSD report 2003 emphasised “The Constitution provides for the right of association; however, the Government sometimes restricted this right in practice.” [2a] (p8) The report observed that the Government approved most applications, including those for political parties. However, the Ministry of Justice failed to grant the registration of the Association for Justice, Peace, and Democracy (AJPD) the application originally filed in 2000. [2a] (p8) [14] (p46) AJPD, nevertheless, continued to function throughout 2003 without government interference. [2a] (p9) [14] (p46)

**6.15** Article 32 of the Constitution and article 21 of ICCPR provides for the right of assembly. [3a] [11c] (p12) However, according to the USSD report 2003, the Government restricted this right in practise. [2a] (p8) The report states that “There were fewer reports than in previous years that demonstrations were dispersed or applications for assemblies denied.” Under the law a minimum of 3 days' prior notice must be given before public or private assemblies are to be held. [2a] (p8) The law also stipulates that the Government must respond to applications for permits to hold demonstrations. [14] (p46)

**6.16** According to the HRW overview 2003 “Excessive administrative and bureaucratic burdens, such as the imposition and arbitrary enforcement of onerous registration requirements, undermine the work of civil society associations, including journalists' and university professors' unions.” [5b] (p1) The USSD report 2003 added “Applications for pro-government assemblies were granted routinely without delay; however, applications for protest assemblies were sometimes denied.” [2a] (p8)

**6.17** Although official tolerance for public protest increased during 2003, [2a] (p8) the HRW overview 2003 noted that “Angolan police continue to break up demonstrations violently.” [5b] (p1)

## **Political Activists - UNITA**

**6.18** Between the declaration of independence in November 1975, and April 2002, the Uniao Nacional Para á Independencia Total de Angola (UNITA) and the MPLA continued a bitter conflict for control of the country. [1a] (p40-46) During the conflict, UNITA comprised at least two major groups; in addition to which there were also known sympathisers. The main distinction was between the military wing, led by Jonas Savimbi, and those who formed the parliamentary wing UNITA-Renovada (UNITA-R). [1a] (p44) [42] (p1)

**6.19** Until its dissolution UNITA's military wing or army was known as the Forças Armadas de Libertação de Angola (FALA). [7b] [12b] 42] (p11) Like many other liberation movements UNITA also had both women's and youth sections. The women's section was known as the Liga da Mulher Angolana (LIMA) [4d] [5d] (p2,23) whilst the youth section was known as the Angolan Youth Movement, known as Jura. [4d] According to the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the Parliamentary faction, UNITA-R, had very little credibility, any it did have was lost with its recognition as the official opposition and de facto inheritor to UNITA's obligations under the Lusaka Protocol. [4c] During 2003, UNITA-R ceased to exist. [2a] (p11)

**6.20** The death of Jonas Savimbi at the hands of Government forces on 22 February 2002 left UNITA's military wing in disarray. [5f] (p1) According to HRW World Report 2003, UNITA continued to commit human rights abuses until the end of the war. [5f] (p1) The USSD report 2003 stated "Following the cessation of the war in 2002, there were no reports that UNITA committed human rights abuses." [2a] (p2)

**6.21** The demobilisation, resettlement and reintegration of UNITA ex-combatants since June 2002 have comprised one of the areas of continued and acute concern, and was considered one of the Government's main priorities in order to ensure stability in the country. [43a] (p6,7,25-26) [55] (p2) According to HRW World report 2003, the demobilisation of UNITA ex-combatants was successfully completed on 30 July 2002. [5f] (p2) The UNSC report dated February 2003 noted that "By the end of January 2003, approximately 90,000 ex-combatants had undergone the registration process, while an estimated 15,000 were still waiting to move to their designated reception areas from the provinces and neighbouring countries." [17f] (p3) The Government prioritised the reintegration of demobilised UNITA soldiers in January 2004. [55] (p2-3) Government figures released in January stated that approximately 92,000 demobilised soldiers and 286,000 dependants returned to their areas of origin by the end of December 2003. [17d] (p4)

### **Political developments since April 2002**

**6.22** In April 2002 UNITA began the process of redefining itself as the main political opposition to the MPLA by establishing a Reconciliation and Reunification Commission to support and monitor the peace process, and encourage a move toward unifying the movement. [7d] [36j] In June 2003, Isaias Samakuva became the new leader UNITA. Samakuva was elected with 78 percent of the vote, beating his rival Lukamba Paulo, UNITA's interim head since the death of founder president Jonas Savimbi in 2002. [7c] [8i]

**6.23** In February 2003, UNITA continued to emphasise its political rehabilitation by highlighting to the public the role it had played in the successful completion of the Lusaka Protocol, pointing out that the international community recognised that role by lifting all sanctions against it. [46] The party took a further step towards national reconciliation when, in early January 2003, several of its representatives publicly apologised for the role of UNITA in the atrocities committed during the protracted conflict. [7e] [25d] [36j] Since UNITA became Angola's main opposition party, its members have campaigned for the election to be held in mid-2005. [8c]

### **MPLA-UNITA dialogue**

**6.24** The political commissions of the ruling MPLA and UNITA held talks in Luanda from 2-5 December 2002, in which it discussed issues of national interest, including the review of

the Constitution. [17f] (p1) The UNSC report dated February 2003 noted “In the course of those talks, the parties agreed on four main issues, namely that the President should remain head of State and Government, as well as party leader, the President would appoint provincial Governors, upon the recommendation of the majority party in each province, the legislature would be unicameral and a National Council would be established in addition to the legislature, as a consultative body in which "traditional rulers" could participate.” [17f] (p1) According to the UNSC, those decisions were not supported universally. Some political parties argued that the bilateral agreements between MPLA and UNITA had circumvented the Parliament's Constitution Drafting Committee, in which other parties are represented. [17f] (p1)

## **Political Activists – FLEC**

**6.25** Frente de Libertação do Estado de Cabinda (FLEC) was formed in 1963 as a nationalist movement seeking separate independence for Cabinda, a 2,807 sq mile (7,300 sq km) oil-rich enclave on the Atlantic coast sandwiched between the DRC and the Congo Republic. [45] FLEC split into a number of factions (See Annex B); some of which engaged in rebel activity in their attempt to achieve their aim of an independent Cabinda. [1a] (p43) [8] The main FLEC factions, FLEC-Renovada (FLEC-R) and FLEC-Forças Armadas Cabindes as (FLEC-FAC) were deeply divided. [1a] (p43)

**6.26** Throughout its existence FLEC has been marginalised. FLEC did not enter the political process with the introduction of multi-party politics, arguing that the September 1992 elections were for Angolans not Cabindans. The Angolan law on political parties' dictates that, in order to register, a party must possess support in at least 10 of the 18 provinces, this effectively disqualified FLEC. [43c] (p4) Following the Election results FLEC-FAC escalated its activities prompting the Government to deploy approximately 15,000 troops in the Cabinda province at the beginning of 1993. [43c] (p4)

**6.27** There were reports that members of the security forces mistreated persons believed to support FLEC. [2a] (p2) [11g] [43c] (p5) The USSD report 2003 stated “In Cabinda province, periodic reports that security forces executed civilians for supporting FLEC continued.” [2a] (p2)

## **Recent FLEC activity**

**6.28** According to an Agence France-Presse (AFP) report dated 19 September 2003 “Clashes in the tiny enclave, where armed groups have been fighting for independence from Angola, have left some 30,000 people dead over the last 25 years.” [44f] Unaffected by the April 2002 peace declaration, FLEC-FAC resumed their campaign attacking Government forces in Cabinda and reportedly killing 12 members of the FAA. [7m] [43b] In August 2002, FLEC-FAC called for an end to the hostilities in the enclave and a role in the peace process. [8u] Though the Government had expressed willingness to hold 'broad consultations' on the status of Cabinda earlier in 2002, a separate rebel faction FLEC-R viewed any such dialogue with the Government as premature. [52] Any possibilities of an immediate reconciliation over the status of the province was brought to an abrupt halt following a major offensive launched by the FAA in mid September 2002. [43c] (p8)

**6.29** On 7 February 2003, the Government confirmed contact with representatives from FLEC-FAC over the feasibility of exploratory talks aimed at ending the conflict. [8v] Toward the end of February 2003, the Government was reportedly working on a joint political

programme for peace in conjunction with the separatists. In terms of a lasting solution, there have not, as yet, been any substantial outcomes. [36w] On 5 March 2003 the separatists renewed their defiant stance by announcing the establishment of a new sub-unit - the Secret Army for the Liberation of Cabinda (ELSC). [56]

**6.30** In July 2003 seven top FLEC-FAC military officials, including the groups' chief general staff, Francisco Luemba, handed themselves over to government authorities. The defectors claimed that the separatist group lacked morale and was under-resourced following a government offensive in the area in October 2002. Despite the defections, the various factions of FLEC continue their commitment to an independent Cabinda. [8w] The government stated its willingness to discuss autonomy as a preferred solution. [8j] The FCO advised "In March 2004 a joint UN/Angolan Government team visited Cabinda. It concluded that reported human rights violations were mostly accurate, but also noted that since the arrival of General Marques in late 2003, the situation had improved considerably: FAA had adopted a new policy to refrain from abuses and to punish the guilty. In April 2004 the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Angolan Armed Forces, paid a brief visit to Cabinda reportedly to investigate alleged human rights violations by FAA units. He acknowledged that a "low-intensity war" was going on in Cabinda and said that there had been incidents of indiscipline, but he pledged to take measures with a view to improving relations between Angolan soldiers and local residents." [4f]

[Return to Contents](#)

## Employment Rights

**6.31** The Constitution stipulates that "No citizen shall suffer discrimination in respect of employment, education, placement, professional career or social benefits to which he or she is entitled owing to political posts held or to the exercise of political rights." [3a]

**6.32** According to the USSD report 2003, "In May 2003, the minimum wage was held by the Ministry of Public Administration, Employment, and Social Security at the equivalent of \$50 (4,000 Kwanza) per month despite widespread calls for an increase. Many urban workers earned less than \$20 (1,600 Kwanza) per month. Neither the minimum wage nor the average monthly salary, which was estimated to be between \$40 and \$150 (3,200 to 12,000 Kwanza) per month, were sufficient to provide a decent standard of living for a worker and family. As a result, most wage earners held second jobs or depended on the informal sector, subsistence agriculture, corruption, or support from abroad to augment their incomes. The Government pegged the minimum wage to inflation but did not consistently adjust the rate quarterly. Employees receiving less than the legal minimum wage have the right to seek legal recourse; however, it was uncommon for workers to do so." [2a] (p15-16) The report added "A government decree limits the legal workweek to 44 hours; however, the Ministry was unable to enforce this or occupational safety and health standards. Workers cannot remove themselves from dangerous work situations without jeopardizing their continued employment." [2a] (p16)

**6.33** The USSD report 2003 noted "Foreign workers (legal or illegal) are not protected under the labor law. They receive legal protection only if they work under contract; otherwise, they receive protection only against criminal acts." [2a] (p16)

## Position of Trade Unions

**6.34** The Constitution provides for the right to form and join trade unions and engage in union activities. [2a] (p14) [3a] However, according to the USSD report 2003, the Government did not always respect these rights in practice. [2a] (p14) The report observed that the National Union of Angolan Workers (UNTA), was affiliated with the ruling MPLA party and was dominated by the Government. It also noted that there were two main independent unions, the General Center of Independent and Free Labor Unions of Angola (CGSILA), with approximately 50,000 members, and the small Independent Union of Maritime and Related Workers (SIMA). [2a] (p14) According to the report “There continued to be division and pending legal suits between member unions of CGSILA over accusations of administrative malfeasance. Independent unions did not have a particular political affiliation.” The report added “Restrictions on civil liberties potentially prevent any labor activities not approved by the Government; however, the major impediment to labor’s ability to advocate on behalf of workers was the 60 percent formal sector unemployment rate...The law requires that the Government recognize labor unions. Nevertheless, SIMA has encountered difficulty with provincial government authorities in registering branch associations and organizing dock and rig workers.” [2a] (p14)

**6.35** The USSD report 2003 noted “Legislation prohibits discrimination against union members and calls for worker complaints to be adjudicated in regular civil courts. Under the law, employers found guilty of anti-union discrimination are required to reinstate workers who have been fired for union activities. In practice, neither the Labor Code nor the judicial system were capable of defending or enforcing these rights.” [2a] (p14)

**6.36** The Constitution stipulates that “All citizens shall have the right to organize and take part in trade union activity, which shall include the right to constitute and freely join trade unions.” It added that “Adequate protection for the elected representatives of workers against any form of restriction, constraint or limitation on the performance of their duties shall be established by law.” [3a] The USSD report 2003 observed that “The Constitution provides for the right to organize and for collective bargaining; however, the Government did not respect these rights in practice. The Government did not facilitate a positive environment for constructive labor management negotiations. The Ministry of Public Administration, Employment, and Social Security set wages and benefits on a semi-annual basis” [2a] (p15)

## **The Right to Strike**

**6.37** Article 34 of the Constitution provided all workers the right to strike. [3a] Legislation passed in May 1991 provides the legal framework for strikes, [5e] (p1-2) and strictly regulates them. [2a] (p15)

**6.38** The USSD report 2003 noted “The law prohibits lockouts and worker occupation of places of employment and provides protection for nonstriking workers. It prohibits strikes by armed forces personnel, police, prison workers, and fire fighters. The law does not effectively prohibit employer retribution against strikers; it permits the Government to force workers back to work for breaches of worker discipline and participation in strikes.” [2a] (p15) During 2003, several strikes over pay and work conditions took place, involving the teaching profession, the health sector and the judicial sector. [36m] [36n] [36o] [38c] According to the USSD report 2003, “Union members complained of being threatened with dismissal and receiving physical threats during the strike.” [2a] (p15)

## Child Labour

**6.39** The law in Angola states that the legal minimum age for employment is 14 years [2a] (p15) [6] [8k] However, many younger children work on family farms, as domestic servants, and in the informal sector. [2a] (p15) [8k] According to the USSD report 2003 “Children between the ages of 14 and 18 may not work at night, in dangerous conditions, or in occupations requiring great physical effort, and children under 16 years of age are prohibited from factory work; however, these provisions generally were not enforced.” [2a] (p16) An IRIN news report dated 14 January 2004 stated that an estimated 30 percent of children between the age of five and 14 were forced to work. [8k]

**6.40** The USSD report 2003 noted “The Inspector General of the Ministry of Public Administration, Employment, and Social Security is responsible for enforcing labor laws, and child labor law enforcement is under the jurisdiction of the courts; however, in practice, the court system did not provide adequate protection for children.” [2a] (p15) On 16 June 2003, a Juvenile Court under the Ministry of Justice, was established as part of Luanda's provincial court system. [2a] (p15) [17g] The USSD report 2003 added “Child labor violations are punishable with fines and restitution. There is no formal procedure for inspections and investigations into child labor abuses outside of the family law system, although private persons can file claims for violations of child labor laws.” [2a] (p15)

[Return to Contents](#)

## People Trafficking

**6.41** According to the USSD report 2003 “The Constitution prohibits human bondage; however, no laws exist to combat trafficking in persons, and there were reports of trafficking.” [2a] (p15) According to the OCHA monthly analysis February 2004, “The small village of Santa Clara, on the Angola-Namibia border in Cunene Province, has for many years been a centre of child trafficking. Children have been recruited from neighbouring provinces, particularly Huíla, and used in exploitative labour such as carrying good (sic) across the border, prostitution, illegal money exchange and hawking goods. Reports also indicate that some children were being trafficked out of Angola to Namibia and possibly South Africa to work as domestic workers and child prostitutes.” [17m] (p4) The USSD report 2003 also reported that children were trafficked to Europe during 2003. [2a] (p13,16)

**6.42** The USSD report 2003 noted that no specific assistance available to victims of people trafficking. [2a] (p16) However, the OCHA monthly analysis February 2004 observed that the 'Cunene Initiative' was introduced following support and training by UNICEF in January 2004 on child labour, sexual exploitation and the prevention of trafficking. The initiative aimed to control child exploitation, assist children involved, and prevent more children from getting involved. [17m] (p4)

[Return to Contents](#)

## Freedom of Movement

**6.43** Article 25 of the Constitution stipulates that “Any citizen may move freely and reside in any part of the national territory, and shall not be impeded from so doing for political or any other reasons, except in cases provided for under Article 50 of the present Law, and where for the protection of the economic interests of the nation the law determines

restrictions on citizens having access to or residing in reserve or mining areas.” It also states that “All citizens shall be free to leave and enter the national territory, without prejudice to limitations stemming from the fulfillment of legal duties.” [3a]

**6.44** The USSD report 2003, however, noted that the Government occasionally restricted these rights in practice. The report goes on to say “There were fewer reports than in previous years that extortion and harassment at government security checkpoints in rural and border areas interfered with the right to travel. Police routinely harassed returning refugees at border checkpoints. The Government restricted access to areas of Cabinda that were deemed insecure or beyond the administrative authority of the Government. During the year, increasing stretches of previously inaccessible areas were opened to transit and a growing number of persons were able to travel around the country. Poor infrastructure and landmines were the principal obstacles to free movement of persons throughout the country.” [2a] (p9)

## **6.B Human Rights – Specific Groups**

### **Ethnic Groups**

**6.45** Angola has considerable ethnic diversity. The population consists of nine ethnolinguistic groups. They include: the Quicongo (or Bakongo), (estimated 13 percent of the population), the Quimbundu, (25 percent), the Luanda-Quioco (or Tchokwe), the Mbundo, (or Ovimbundu), (37 percent), the Ganguela, the Nhaneca-Humbe, the Ambo, the Herero, and the Xindonga. The groups are further divided into approximately one hundred tribes. The largest of the groups are the Ovimbundu, and the Bakongo. [3e] [3f] (p1-2) [10]. There is also a small percentage of Mestiço (the term for people of mixed white and African ancestry), and Europeans (mainly Portuguese). [2c] (p1,2) [10]

### **Indigenous Persons**

**6.46** The USSD report 2003 stated that “The population included 1 to 2 percent of Khoisan and other linguistically distinct hunter-gatherer tribes.” [2a] (p14) The hunter-gatherer San people were the original inhabitants of Southern Africa. At least 3,400 San people lived in 72 small dispersed communities in Huila, Cunene, and Kuando Kubango provinces. [2a] (p14) An IRIN news report dated 2 February 2004 wrote “All poor Angolans have suffered from war and government neglect, but the San are at the bottom of the pile.” [8d]

**6.47** A joint report by the Irish Catholic Agency for World Development (TROCAIRE/Angola), the Working Group of Indigenous Minorities in Southern Africa (WIMSA) and Organizacao Crista de Apoio ao Desenvolvimento (OCADEC) dated August 2003 observed that “San communities throughout Southern Angola experience social exclusion, discrimination and social exploitation. Their human rights are routinely disrespected and violated.” [29] (p1) The report noted that many San said that they are not regarded as human beings and had fewer rights. “San of all ages reported being abused, insulted and treated disrespectfully by non-San.” [29] (p28)

**6.48** According to the USSD report 2003, “Hunter-gatherer communities as a whole did not participate actively in the political or economic life of the country, and they had no ability to influence government decisions concerning their interests.” [2a] (p14) The report added that there was insufficient protection of property rights for indigenous persons and reports of

illegal land grabs in Huila province by government officials were increased during 2003. [2a] (p14)

## **The Bakongo Group**

**6.49** The Bakongo group was the third largest ethnic grouping in Angola (Ovimbundu are the largest followed by Kimbundu), although the tribe is spread over three countries: DRC, Congo and Angola. [53a] Their main language, Kikongo is also one of DRC's four national languages, and they traditionally also speak French, a relic of DRC's colonial past. [4e] The Bakongo live in Cabinda and the northeastern part of Angola between the Atlantic Ocean and the river Cuango. [3f] (p1) The USSD report 2003 noted that the National Liberation Front of Angola (FNLA) traditionally derived support from the Bakongo ethnic group. [2a] (p11)

**6.50** According to a Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) report dated January 1998, there was no discrimination in law against those of Bakongo origin, but there had been times when they had come under suspicion and been attacked as a group. A substantial Bakongo community continued to live in Luanda and had been able to join the major political parties, including the MPLA. There was no evidence of a systematic persecution or targeting of Bakongo. [4e]

## **Cabindan Population**

**6.51** In Cabinda there are two main ethnic groups; the Bakongo and the Mayombe. The Bakongo speak Kikongo and are the majority ethnic group in Cabinda, [43c] (p7) [53b] (p1) while the Mayombe speak a closely related dialect of Kikongo. The Mayombe occupy the mountain forests of eastern Cabinda and are a small minority in the province. The Roman Catholic faith is prominent in the province. [53b] (p1) According to the IRIN web Special on Cabinda October 2003, "Cabindan separatists claim the enclave has its own distinct and separate identity, history and culture, and that it was illegally occupied by the ruling MPLA government following independence in 1975." [8z] However, the deputy governor of Cabinda Province, João Santos de Carvalho Mesquita, told IRIN "There is so much mixing and intermarriage in Cabinda that it is really very difficult to tell who is a true Cabindan." [8z]

**6.52** Several reports have observed that human rights abuses, such as summary executions, murders, disappearances, arbitrary detention, torture and rape occurred in Cabinda. [2a] (p1-5,12) [8z] [8aa] [43c] (p1-2) The abuses were committed by members of the Government security forces and FLEC. [2a] (p1-5,12) [8z] [8aa] The USSD report noted that abuses on civilians continued throughout 2003. [2a] (p1-5,12) Women in particular were victims of abuses. [2a] (p12)

**6.53** According to the IRIN web special of Cabinda, the Government are aware of Human rights violations in Cabinda but insist that they are committed by "individual soldiers" and they were not "institutional behaviour." [8z] Civil rights activists have complained of ongoing harassment by the authorities in Cabinda. [8y]

[Return to Contents](#)

## **Women**

**6.54** The Constitution and Family Code provide for equal rights without regard to gender. [2a] (p12) [3a] [14] (p41) The Constitution also stipulates that discrimination against women shall



be severely punishable. [3a] [14] (p41) Angola has also acceded to a number of international agreements that protect the equal rights of women, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. [14] (p41-42) [36p] The USSD report 2003 confirmed that "The Constitution and Family Code provide for equal rights without regard to gender; however, societal discrimination against women remained a problem, particularly in rural areas." [2a] (p12) The report said "In addition, a portion of the Civil Code includes discriminatory provisions against women in the areas of inheritance, property sales, and participation in commercial activities. There were no effective mechanisms to enforce child support laws, and women carried the majority of responsibilities for raising children." [2a] (p12)

## **Violence Against Women**

**6.55** According to the USSD report 2003 and the IBA report 2003 violence against women was widespread in Angola. [2a] (p12) [14] (p41) The USSD noted in its 2003 report, that the Ministry of Women and Family, who dealt with violence against women, reported receiving an average of 40 domestic violence cases a month. [2a] (p12) However, an IRIN news report dated 23 October 2002, stated that statistics on domestic violence cases were unreliable because most cases go unreported. [8i] The IBA report 2003 explained that domestic violence cases were more commonly reported in Luanda than any other area in Angola. [14] (p41) The report continued to suggest that women who report domestic violence are treated poorly by the police and urged by family members not to pursue the case. [14] (p41) Domestic violence is prosecuted under rape and assault and battery laws. The USSD report 2003 noted "The Government continued its project to reduce violence against women and improve the status of women." [2a] (p12)

**6.56** Various reports noted that Government forces, UNITA soldiers and members of the police reportedly raped and sexually abused women and children during the conflict. [5d] (p23) [5f] (p1) [8m] [11e] The Amnesty International report 2003 explained that women and girls were sometimes raped by soldiers in front of family members. [11e] The HRW world report 2003 stated that "UNITA fighters sexually abused women and girls, including using them as sexual slaves, as well as forcing them to wash uniforms, prepare campsites, and cook." [5f] (p1) The USSD report 2003 noted that women and girls were raped and forced into sexual slavery in the Cabinda province. [2a] (p4) The end of the civil war did not improve the situation of women in Angola. The HRW 2003 report 'Struggling Through Peace: Return and Resettlement in Angola' August 2003 accused military personnel of raping and sexually assaulting women and girls during the returns process. [5d] (p23) The Amnesty International report 2003 confirmed that during the return process "Police reportedly raped or otherwise sexually assaulted women and girls. In rural areas, both military personnel and police demanded bribes at control posts. There were also reports of torture in police stations." [11e]

**6.57** Rape is punishable by up to eight years in prison. The law treats sex with a minor under the age of 12 as nonconsensual. [2a] (p12) Angolan police and judicial authorities were required by articles of the ICCPR to investigate and prosecute those responsible for grave abuses of women's right to physical and sexual integrity. [5d] (p13) The Amnesty International report 2003 noted that "The authorities claimed that police officers who disobeyed regulations or laws were dismissed or tried, but most perpetrators of human rights violations were not brought to justice." [11e] The USSD report 2003 confirmed that prosecution was prevented in most cases because of the poor judicial system. [2a] (p12)

## Demobilisation

**6.58** According to HRW 2003 report 'Struggling Through Peace: Return and Resettlement in Angola',

"The official demobilization process has largely excluded women and child soldiers from its ambit... Currently, the demobilization and reintegration efforts target male combatants, aged eighteen or older. However, the majority of the population in the gathering areas is comprised of women and children in need of humanitarian aid and other assistance." [5d] (p23)

## Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

**6.59** There have been rare occurrences of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in remote areas of Moxico province, bordering the DRC and Zambia according to the Afrol Gender Profiles report. The report added that indigenous groups in Angola do not practice FGM. [25b]

[Return to Contents](#)

## Children

**6.60** During 2003, approximately 60 percent of the population of Angola was believed to be under 18 [8n] [33a] and about half of the population was believed to be under the age of 15. [2a] (p13) Angola had one of the worst child mortality rates in the world. [7f] [33a] One in four children die before their fifth birthday. [7f] [17h] Malaria, respiratory and diarrhoeal diseases and HIV/AIDS are the main causes of child deaths in the country. [8m] [17h] However the Government has pledged to halve child mortality by 2008 by improving access to health facilities, improving the treatment available and increasing vaccination projects. [7f] [8n] [17h] [17m] (p3)

**6.61** A UNICEF report stated that the situation of children in Angola remained appalling. [33a] The USSD report 2003 observed that the Government gave little attention to children's rights and welfare. [2a] (p13) It added "The Ministry of Education and Culture (MEC) barely functioned due to a lack of resources and poor administration." [2a] (p13) During 2003 UNICEF launched a campaign aimed at returning children to school. [2a] (p13) [7..] [33a] [33d] The 'Back-to-School' campaign was launched in Bié and Malanje to increase education access for all school-aged children. [2a] (p13) [33d]

## Children Affected by War

**6.62** Both the government and UNITA used children during the Angolan civil war. [5g] (p2-14) [8ab] Children's rights groups have estimated that as many as 11,000 children were involved in the final years of the conflict. [5g] (p2) [8ab] Since the end of the war the Angolan government has been criticised for not including former child soldiers in its demobilisation plan, this applies particularly in respect of girls. [5g] (p15) According to HRW, some UNITA soldiers who had turned 18 during the conflict were incorporated into the FAA and police, whilst others were demobilised in a national programme and received identity documents, resettlement kits and food assistance from the government. [5g] (p2) [8ab] However, child soldiers who had not turned 18, many of whom who had nevertheless performed the same duties as adults, were denied

these benefits. [5g] (p2) According to HRW, "Some children recruited during the civil war remained within the Angolan armed forces (FAA), although many have reached the age of majority. Some under-age soldiers remain in the FAA." [15] The USSD report 2003 noted that "Some children reportedly continued to be recruited into the armed forces as a result of the absence of civil registration and the inability to prove dates of birth." [2a]

**6.63** In March 2003 the Angolan Government, UNICEF and civil society partners approved their policy on former child soldiers. [15] The Ministry of Assistance and Social Reintegration pledged its commitment to birth registration, family tracing and reunification. [15] The USSD report 2003 noted that between January and October 2003, the National Family Tracing and Reunification Programme reunited 1,479 separated children with their families. It also trained 539 tracing activists in 10 provinces. [2a] (p13)

### **Child Prostitution and Street Children**

**6.64** The USSD report 2003 noted that "Child prostitution is prohibited by a general criminal statute; however, an international NGO estimated in June [2003] that there were as many as 1,000 underage prostitutes in Luanda." The law treats sex with a minor under the age of 12 as non-consensual and is considered rape. Sexual relations with a child between the ages of 12 and 15 may be considered sexual abuse. [2a] (p12-13) The OCHA monthly analysis February 2004 noted that children were trafficked from Angola primarily to Namibia and South Africa to work as child prostitutes during 2003. [17m] (p4)

**6.65** The Institute for Security Studies (ISS) report 2002 stated that there were over 10,000 street children in Angola, of which an estimated 5,000 were in Luanda. [43d] Many of the street children were orphaned or abandoned and others escaped abusive environments and families and Government institutions that were unable to support them. [2a] (p13) [43d] According to several reports, children in the rural areas of Angola were increasingly being abandoned by their parents because they had been accused of witchcraft. [8ae] [17p] The USSD report 2003 noted that approximately another 30,000 children worked or begged on the streets of Luanda, and a report by OCHA estimated that approximately 100,000 children throughout the country have been separated from their families. [2a] (p13) [3h] (p5)

**6.66** In order to survive, street children resorted to odd jobs such as shining shoes, washing cars, and carrying water. However, many turned to petty crime, begging, scavenging and prostitution. [2a] (p13-14) [8ac] [43d] The USSD report 2003 observed that "The Government-sponsored National Institute for Children was established to enforce child protection, but it lacked the capacity to work effectively with international NGOs." [2a] (p14) The Government publicised the problems of street and homeless children during 2003 and held a conference in May 2003 on the problem of street children. [2a] (p14) [3h] (p5-6)

### **Medical Care**

**6.67** According to the USSD report 2003 "The Government provides free medical care for children at the pediatric hospital in Luanda, in addition to supporting child immunisation programs and general medical care at public hospitals and clinics around the country; however, in practice, such care was limited at many facilities." [2a] (p13) Malnutrition was a particular problem facing children in Angola. [2a] (p13)

### **Child Care Arrangements**

**6.68** Orphanages were overcrowded and admission to schools difficult because the children often did not have the necessary identification papers. The National Institute for Children (INAC) provided information about the network of state-run orphanages and childcare facilities; as of September 2002 there was provision of facilities in all provinces except Kansa Norte and Kansa Sul. Information on provision of state orphanage facilities on a provincial basis was produced by the National Institute for Children in Angola (INAC) in September 2002. ([See Annex I](#)) Some larger centres in the more populous regions also offer further academic and vocational training as well as counselling and social integration services. In September 2002, the Government began a programme of family reunions and foster parent placements. [54]

## Homosexuals

**6.69** The law states that 'Homosexual acts are illegal' and are “described as offences against public morality.” [27] The Angolan Government voted against the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) having consultative status at the UN in April 2002. [28]

[Return to Contents](#)

## 6.C Human Rights – Other Issues

### Humanitarian Situation

**6.70** On 26 July 2002 the UN Special Adviser on Africa, Abraham Jamboree provided an interim assessment of the humanitarian situation in the months following the completion of the peace accord. It included the following overview:

“The end of the war brings real opportunities to reduce poverty and systematically address the humanitarian needs of the Angolan people. However, the peace dividend is still far from visible to millions of people. One in four Angolans is internally displaced as a direct result of the conflict. Hundreds of thousands of people, particularly in interior regions, are in critical condition, and at least three million, or 30 percent of the population, will require some form of emergency assistance in the next six months.” [17n] (p4-5)

“The implications of the cessation of hostilities for Angola's humanitarian crisis are noteworthy. On the one hand, the end of the war has markedly improved humanitarian access to vulnerable populations but, on the other hand, the intensification of military activity during the final stages of the war resulted in massive displacements and extreme human suffering. Recent assessments confirm that the majority of people in newly accessible areas are in serious distress, having been deprived of social services for many years and having lost their sources of livelihood during the prolonged war. Furthermore, the Government-led quartering process has meant the concentration of more than 300,000 UNITA combatants and their families, many of whom are also in critical condition and require life-saving assistance to survive. The humanitarian community, including 100 international non-governmental organisations, 340 national organisations and 10 United Nations agencies, has moved rapidly to expand the emergency operation to cover the critical needs of acutely affected populations.” [17n] (p4-5)

**6.71** The humanitarian situation stabilised during 2003, though the need for emergency assistance remained in many regions. [49b] The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) position paper on return of rejected failed asylum seekers to Angola noted that “ While the general situation is gradually improving, living conditions in Angola remain precarious.” [17o] AFP reported on 10 September 2003, that according to a joint report by the government and the United Nations, approximately 2.7 million people, including ex-combatants and their family members, who decided to return to their villages between April and August 2003, required food assistance. [44e]

**6.72** Mortality and morbidity rates remained at high levels, particularly in remote locations where people did not have regular access to basic health-care services, potable water and appropriate sanitation. [31a] Child mortality rates were among the highest in the world with UN figures showing that 25 percent of Angolan children die before the age of five. [7f] [30b] [33a] [38a] (p4) As many as 50 percent of the children suffer from chronic malnutrition and only 27 percent of one year old children were fully immunised against preventable diseases. [8ad] [17d] (p2) The Government launched one of the most significant health care initiatives since the end of the civil war. The initiative aims to reduce child mortality by 50 percent and maternal mortality by 30 percent by 2008. [7f] [8n] [17h] [17m] (p3) The OCHA monthly analysis February 2004 observed “During the month [February 2004] UNICEF held seminars in Moxico and Huambo on the early detection of malnutrition, completing the training in nine of provinces considered at high risk.” [17m] (p3)

**6.73** The USCR report 2003 noted that according to the UN Office for Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 10 UN humanitarian agencies, 112 international aid organisations, and more than 350 local charitable groups provided relief and reconstruction assistance in Angola. The report added “Health workers administered vaccinations against polio and inoculations against measles and 40 therapeutic feeding centres have opened since the cease-fire to help approximately 100,000 severely malnourished children, although many of these centres have now been closed as the worst of the cases have been dealt with. Aid programmes repaired and constructed more than 400 water systems and distributed agricultural tools, fertilisers and 5,000 tons of seeds to more than 500,000 families.” [31a]

**6.74** The OCHA monthly analysis January 2004 reported that a joint inter-agency and government mission was being organised for February 2004 to assess the humanitarian situation in Cabinda. [17d] (p1)

[Return to Contents](#)

## **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Returning Refugees**

**6.75** According to the HRW 2003 report ‘Struggling Through Peace: Return and Resettlement in Angola’ August 2003, approximately 4.1 million people were displaced and another 400,000 fled to the neighbouring countries of Zambia, Congo, DRC and Namibia. [5d] (p5,6,8) Since the end of the civil war in April 2002, almost 3.8 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) returned to their homes by the end of December 2003. [17d] (p4) The OCHA monthly analysis January 2004 noted that “There are no more IDPs in the provinces of Bengo, Cunene, Kuanza Sul, Lunda Norte, Malanje and Zaire.” [17d] (p4) The OCHA monthly analysis February 2004 added that there are approximately 458,694 IDPs to settle. [17m] (p4) They were mainly located in the provinces of Kuando Kubango, Bié, Kuanza Norte, Huambo, Moxico, Huíla and Luanda. [55] (p2)

**6.76** The USCR 'Refugee Return to War-Devastated Angola' report January 2004 estimated that 200,000 refugees have repatriated since the end of the ceasefire. [31b] According to various reports many of the Angolan refugees have returned to Angola on their own without waiting for assistance from UNHCR. [5d] (p8) [40b] The HRW of August 2003 observed that as they have returned spontaneously, their treatment was not governed by the formal repatriation agreements, only national Angolan law applies. [5d] (p8) The USCR report of January 2004 noted that in June 2003 the UNHCR launched the Angolan Organised Voluntary Repatriation Program to assist with the return of Angolan refugees living in the neighbouring countries. However, UNHCR temporarily suspended refugee repatriation in mid-November 2003 due to the harsh weather conditions. [31b] Despite the suspension, seven UNHCR reception centres continued to provide assistance to spontaneous returnees during February 2004. [17m] (p4)

**6.77** The Government prioritised the reintegration of demobilised UNITA in January 2004. [55] (p2-3) Several reports stated that since the end of the war, between 80,000 and 85,000 former UNITA troops have been demobilised, and 5,000 of them were included in the FAA. [7d] [36k] [44a] Government figures released in January 2004 stated that approximately 92,000 demobilised soldiers and 286,000 dependants returned to their areas of origin by the end of December 2003. [17d] (p4)

**6.78** Although the Norms for the Resettlement of IDPs and their implementing regulations require that return of displaced persons should be voluntary and consensual, several reports stated that IDPs have been forced by local authorities to return to places of origin by violence or threat of violence. [2a] (p6,9) [5b] (p1) [5d] (p10) The HRW report of August 2003 goes on to suggest that many IDPs do not have identity documents, thus preventing them from accessing education, humanitarian aid, medical or social services. They may also be prevented from voting in Angola's elections. [5d] (p14)

**6.79** The USSD report 2003 noted that "In March, independent media reported returning refugees were required to pay illegal taxes at border posts and alleged that officials had raped some refugee women." [2a] (p10) The HRW report of August 2003 suggested "Those who have returned have often encountered abysmal conditions such as food shortages, poor hygiene, lack of infrastructure, limited access to social services such as health services, and landmine infestation." [5d] (p1) The report of January 2004 also reported the same problems. The report noted that as a result slowed return and resettlement to areas deemed safe. [31b] The report added "Return and resettlement conditions are often unsafe and Angolans in transit have been the victims of violations that include discrimination, extortion, physical abuse and death." [5d] (p26)

**6.80** The OCHA monthly analysis February 2004 noted "There have been allegations of discrimination against recently returned refugees and demobilised soldiers in Huíla, Namibe and Moxico in land allocation and hiring practices. However, for the time being, the anecdotal evidence of discrimination as well as some isolated incidents of physical and verbal abuse does not indicate a more widespread trend." [17m] (p4)

## **Forced Eviction**

**6.81** According to the Amnesty International report 'Mass forced evictions in Luanda – a call for human rights-based housing policy' dated November 2003 People in over 5,000 households were evicted and their homes were demolished in three mass evictions between 2001 and 2003." [11f] (p1-13) [11h] According to the report, members of the police force

arbitrarily evicted thousands of inhabitants at gun point from overcrowded shanty towns (musséques), which resulted in injuries and deaths. Many of the evicted had to move to temporary camps and become dependent on humanitarian assistance. [11f] (p6) [55] (p2)

The HRW overview 2003 added,

“For a number of years, the government of Angola has carried out forced evictions in the capital, Luanda, on a massive scale. These evictions have been carried out in violation of international standards of due process and without the justification of any apparent wider public benefit. In Benfica and Boa Vista, two of Luanda's neighborhoods, Police and other officials have evicted long-term residents, leaving them without shelter, seizing or destroying their belongings. In same (sic) cases, police violence during evictions has resulted in death, injury or miscarriage.” [5b] (p2)

For further information refer to Mass forced eviction in Luanda – a call for a human rights-based housing policy, November 2003, Accessed 24 February 2004, source [11f]

[Return to Contents](#)

## Corruption

**6.82** In October 2003, Transparency International (TI) ranked Angola 124<sup>th</sup> out of 133 countries in its Corruption Perceptions Index (1 being the least corrupt and 133 the most corrupt country). [13a] (p5) The HRW report ‘Some Transparency, No Accountability: The Use of Oil Revenue in Angola and Its Impact on Human Rights’ dated January 2004 stated “Due at least in part to such mismanagement and corruption, the government also has impeded Angolans’ ability to enjoy their economic, social, and cultural rights. It has not provided sufficient funding for essential social services, including healthcare and education. As a result, millions of Angolans continue to live without access to hospitals and schools, in violation of the government’s own commitments and human rights treaties to which it is a party.” [5c] (p1)

For more information on Corruption, refer to source [5c], Some Transparency, No Accountability: The Use of Oil Revenue in Angola and Its Impact on Human Rights, January 2004, Vol.16 No. 1(A),

## Treatment of Returned Failed Asylum Seekers

**6.83** The UNHCR position paper on return of failed asylum seekers to Angola January 2004 stated:

“UNHCR is no longer advising against involuntary return of rejected asylum seekers to Angola, except for return to Cabinda Province. Nonetheless, UNHCR would ask governments to carefully assess the risk to individuals upon return. There may well be persons who, while not having a demonstrated need for international protection, would be particularly vulnerable upon return. This would include, for example, separated children, unaccompanied elderly people, and people with physical disabilities or in need of specialized or ongoing medical care.”

“UNHCR would also urge caution with the return of persons originating from rural areas that remain inaccessible or beyond reach of humanitarian assistance. These

areas include municipalities in Bié, Kuando Kubango, Lunda Norte, Malanje, Moxico and Uíge provinces.” [17o]

[Return to Contents](#)

## **Treatment of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/ Human Rights Monitoring**

**6.84** According to the USSD report 2003 “The Government does not prohibit independent investigations of its human rights abuses; however, it failed to cooperate and often used security conditions as a justification to deny access to Cabinda.” [2a] (p11) The report added that more 100 international NGOs and 350 national NGOs operated within the country during 2003. However, the Government continued to block the registration of the AJPD by not responding to its application. [2a] (p11-12) [14] (p46)

**6.85** Several international organisations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the UN, have a permanent presence in the country. [2a] (p12) HRW visited the country in August 2003 and subsequently published and released the ‘Struggling Through Peace: Return and Resettlement in Angola’ report. [2a] (p12) [5d] However the Government has strongly criticised much of the report. [2a] (p12)

**6.86** The USSD report 2003 noted that “Human rights organizations had increased access to the country following the April 2002 ceasefire.” [2a] (p12)

## **Landmines**

**6.87** Angola ratified the Mine Ban Treaty on 5 July 2002. [57] (p1) Although precise figures on the number of landmines scattered across Angola was unknown, Angola was believed to be one of the most heavily mined countries in the world. [31b] Angola also had one of the highest landmine injury rates in the world with more than 75 percent of all mine accidents involving civilians. [40c] The problem was most acute in Kuando Kubango, Benguela, Bié, Huambo, Malange, Huila and Moxico provinces. [17f] (p5) According to the Refugees International country report 2003, landmines killed at least 70,000 people including IDPs and refugees attempting to return home. [40c] The OCHA monthly analysis January 2004 noted that in recent months there was an increase in the number of mine related incidents. In January 2004 alone there were 19 mine incidents and 21 related casualties or deaths. [17d] (p1)

**6.88** The USCR ‘Refugee Return to War-Devastated Angola’ report January 2004 observed that “Lack of funding and cooperation from the government of Angola has slowed the detection and removal of landmines and unexploded ordnance. At the same time, the government of Angola continues to pressure mine-detection organizations to clear more landmine-contaminated areas faster.” [31b]

**6.89** The OCHA monthly analysis February 2004 noted that the Government, with the support of various partners, continued to prepare a national mine action plan for 2004-2005 that will help mobilise resources, release state budget funding and create a framework for implementation. [17m] (p2) The report observed in February 2004 “In Huíla, mine signals were stolen and used as decorations in houses and trucks...Humanitarian partners have raised the need for more mine awareness activities with local authorities. Additionally, UNICEF is in the midst of developing a national media campaign including television, radio and music spots in response to be launched in May [2004].” [17m] (p2)



## UN Office in Luanda

**6.90** In February 2003, the UN Mission in Angola (UNMA) officially completed its mandated political tasks, as set out in resolution 1433 (2002) of 15 August 2002. The United Nations agencies and programmes provided essential humanitarian and development assistance throughout the period covered by the mandate of the Mission and will continue to work closely with the Government to implement a post-conflict strategy. However, the residual tasks foreseen under resolution 1433 (2002), including in the areas of human rights, mine action, reintegration and resettlement of ex-combatants, humanitarian assistance, economic recovery and electoral assistance, will continue to require attention and support. [171] (p9)

[Return to Contents](#)

### Chronology of Major Events

<b>1975, Jan</b>	Meeting between MPLA, UNITA and FNLA in Kenya: Common political programme reached Agreement reached between the three nationalist parties and Portuguese government establishing date of independence and transitional government structure. July: fighting breaks out between the MPLA and FNLA. MPLA expels FNLA from capital; UNITA becomes fully involved in fighting. In October and November South African troops enter Angola to support UNITA and FNLA. Cuban troops assist MPLA.
<b>11 Nov</b>	Independence from Portugal
<b>1976, Feb</b>	Organisation of African Unity (OAU) recognises Angola as member state.
<b>1977, Dec</b>	MPLA formulates rigorous Marxist/Leninist programme for party and changes name to MPLA - Pt: Partido de Trabalho.
<b>1979, Sept</b>	President Jose Eduardo dos Santos takes over after death of Dr Agostinho Neto.
<b>1980, Nov</b>	People's assembly inaugurated
<b>1981- 3</b>	South African troops occupy large areas of territory in Angola whilst fighting war with Namibian nationalists.
<b>1987</b>	South Africa confirms support for UNITA & engages in direct military action with Cuban & Soviet troops in Angola.
<b>1988, 22 Dec</b>	Bilateral agreement signed by Angola & Cuba and tripartite accord by Angola, Cuba & South Africa.
<b>1989, Jan</b>	UN Security Council authorise creation of a UN Angola verification (UNAVEM) to monitor withdrawal of Cuban troops.
<b>Feb</b>	The MPLA government offers a 12 month amnesty to member rebel organisations
<b>1990, Jun-July</b>	MPLA - Pt decide that Angola would move towards a multi-party political system.
<b>Oct</b>	Marxist/Leninist ideology replaced with a commitment to democratic socialism.
<b>1991, Mar</b>	Political parties legalised
<b>1 May</b>	Estoril peace agreement

<b>June</b>	Joint military and political committee meets for first time
<b>15 July</b>	New amnesty law introduced
<b>1992, May</b>	Suffix 'pt' deleted from MPLA's name
<b>Aug</b>	Country name changed to Republic of Angola
<b>27 Sept</b>	FAPLA and UNITA forces disbanded and new national army, the Forças Armadas de Angola (FAA) established
<b>29/30 Sept</b>	Presidential and legislative elections take place (see Annex D)
<b>5 Oct</b>	UNITA withdraw from FAA
<b>11 Oct</b>	Heavy fighting breaks out in Luanda, Malanje, Huambo and Huila provinces
<b>1993, 22 Jan</b>	Bloody Friday: riots against French speaking Angolans and Zairians in Luandan market areas. 69 Bakongo killed.
<b>19 May</b>	US government officially recognises Angolan Government
<b>26 Sept</b>	UN imposes arms and petroleum embargo against UNITA
<b>1994, 20 Nov</b>	Lusaka Peace Accord signed
<b>1995, Feb</b>	UN III created by UN Security Council
<b>May</b>	Dos Santos & Savimbi meet in Lusaka for direct talks.
<b>1996, 8 May</b>	National Assembly new amnesty law covering period of 31 May 1991 to 8 May 1996.
<b>Aug</b>	UNITA decline appointment of Savimbi to the position of National Vice-President.
<b>Nov</b>	National Assembly adopt constitutional revision extending its mandate for between two and four years.
<b>1997, 11 Apr</b>	Government of unity and reconciliation inaugurated.
<b>1 July</b>	Establishment of MONUA, successor to UNAVEM III.
<b>July</b>	Integrated Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) officially inaugurated.
<b>30 Oct</b>	UN imposes additional sanctions against UNITA.
<b>1998, 9 Jan</b>	Government and UNITA agree timetable for implementation of remaining tasks under Lusaka protocol

<b>Feb</b>	Timetable agreed on 9 Jan expires with key areas remaining outstanding
<b>28 June</b>	Death of Martin Beye, UN Secretary General's special representative to Angola in a plane crash in Côte d'Ivoire.
<b>Aug</b>	Arrival of Issa Diallo, Beye's replacement
<b>24 Aug</b>	Angolan troops cross the border into DRC to support DRC President Laurent Kabila in the rebellion against him
<b>1 Sept</b>	UNITA MP's and ministers suspended from Parliament
<b>15 Sept</b>	Angolan government announce they will only negotiate with UNITA-R, SADC recognise UNITA-R
<b>Dec</b>	UN decide to withdraw MONUA, begin evacuation of personnel to Luanda
<b>Dec</b>	Two UN aircraft shot down over UNITA-held territory.
<b>1999, Jan</b>	Five UNITA MPs arrested and charged with subversion and treason
<b>Feb</b>	UN observer mission closed down.
<b>May</b>	One UNITA MP detained in January 1999 released. Plane carrying aid downed over UNITA territory, crew taken hostage.
<b>Jul</b>	Further plane downed with crew taken hostage. UNITA attack town of Catete, killing 9 and abducting 22.
<b>Sept</b>	FAA launch major offensive against UNITA
<b>Oct</b>	Angolan Government approve details for new UN mission with certain restrictions. Announced several of UNITA's central highland strongholds fallen to FAA. Four remaining UNITA MP's detained since January 1999 released on orders of the Supreme Court
<b>Nov</b>	Government claims 80 percent of UNITA's conventional war capacity has been destroyed. Senior UNITA Commander General Bandua surrenders
<b>Dec</b>	UNITA forces driven towards Namibia and Zambian borders. Namibia provides support to Angolan government and permits attacks from UNITA soil. UNITA launch attacks into Namibia.
<b>2000, Jan</b>	Government announces it is creating conditions for Presidential and Legislative elections in 2001. Thousands of refugees reported to cross into Zambia as UNITA forced towards border region.
<b>Mar</b>	Countries involved in sanction busting operations to supply UNITA named in UN report. Journalist Rafael Marques convicted of defamation of dos Santos, bailed pending appeal.

<b>Apr</b>	Package of measures to aid economic recovery agreed with IMF.
<b>May</b>	FAA launch a new offensive in the east of Moxico Province. Activity on Zambian border increases tension between the two countries. Five Russian pilots held hostage for about a year by UNITA set free.
<b>June</b>	Reorganisation by Savimbi of UNITA's military ranks. Government sanctioned peace march and service held in Luanda.
<b>July</b>	Angola and Zambia agree to work together to improve the security situation on the border. Angola boycotts OAU summit in Lomé in protest at Togo's alleged involvement in sanction busting.
<b>Aug</b>	FAA Chief de Matos suggests Savimbi would not face prosecution.
<b>Sept</b>	FAA captures strategic UNITA base of Cazombo. Zambia denies UN reports that some senior UNITA officials have fled there.
<b>Oct</b>	Editor of Angolan State Radio found dead during a visit to Zambia.
<b>Nov</b>	Dos Santos submits new amnesty bill to National Assembly.
<b>Dec</b>	Dos Santos announces elections will not now take place until 2002. Government estimate total of four million displaced persons.
<b>2001, Jan</b>	Angolan courts find in favour of supporters of opposition PADPA arrested for demonstrating outside Presidential Palace. General de Matos - FAA chief, replaced by Armando de Cruz Neto.
<b>Feb</b>	FAA launch fresh operations in Cabinda against factions of FLEC secessionist movements.
<b>Mar</b>	New Government offensive reported to have been launched on 12 March 2001, activity in at least 10 of 18 provinces. Human rights allegations against Government forces in Cabinda. Savimbi tells Voice of America Radio he is ready to discuss peace.
<b>Apr</b>	FAA report that UNITA adopt new guerrilla tactics which resulted in successful operations in six central/eastern provinces.
<b>Aug</b>	Dos Santos says he plans to stand down at next election
<b>Sept - Nov</b>	FAA successes increase pushing UNITA further south and east to Moxico and Cuando. FAA attempt to discourage UNITA's use of guerrilla tactics.
<b>Dec</b>	Savimbi re-iterates readiness to discuss peace
<b>2002, Feb</b>	Five senior UNITA Generals killed

<b>22 Feb</b>	Jonas Savimbi killed in Moxico province
<b>Mar</b>	Savimbi's successor, General Dembo, is reported dead. FAA halt its offensives against UNITA Peace talks between UNITA committee led by the then interim leader Paulo Lukamba "Gato", FAA and government officials. Peace deal informally agreed
<b>Apr</b>	Peace accord formally signed. Provisions to be supervised by a military committee. UNITA troops to be absorbed into the FAA. 50,000 UNITA troops to be demobilised. UN Special Representative issues an interim assessment of the implementation of the peace accord.
<b>May</b>	UNITA's military commander says 85 percent of his troops have gathered at demobilisation camps. But there are concerns that food shortages and starvation in the camps could threaten the peace process. UN lifts travel ban on UNITA officials.
<b>June</b>	The UN appeals for aid for thousands of refugees who have started returning home after the ceasefire. Medical charity MSF says half a million Angolans are facing starvation, a legacy of the long-running civil war.
<b>July</b>	Over 80,000 former UNITA troops quartered.
<b>Aug</b>	UNITA officially scraps its armed wing. "The war has ended," proclaims Angola's defence minister.
<b>Sept</b>	UN report that 570,000 IDPs have returned to their homes, a further 750,000 to be returned by January 2003. Angola becomes non-permanent member of the UN Security Council
<b>Dec</b>	UN Security Council removed all remaining sanctions on UNITA Dos Santos announces a new Prime Minister and cabinet
<b>2003, Feb</b>	UNMA - the UN Mission in Angola is wound up having completed its mandated political tasks. Government begins exploratory talks with FLEC on a potential peace agreement in Cabinda.
<b>Mar</b>	Government deadline for the closure of the remaining quartering centres. Government announced repatriation agreements with Zambia, Namibia and DRC.
<b>25 May</b>	All sheltering areas around Angola were declared extinct and 387,161 people were transported to their destination
<b>27 June</b>	Isaias Samakuva became the new leader of UNITA after winning 78 percent of the vote
<b>20 June</b>	UN sponsored repatriation programme began. Since then at least 25,000 Angolans have returned home

- July** Seven top FLEC-FAC military officials, including the groups' chief general staff, Francisco Luemba, handed themselves over to government authorities
- Dec** According to Government figures approximately 92,000 demobilised soldiers and 286,000 dependants had returned to their areas of origin by the end of the year
- 2004, Jan** The Government prioritised the reintegration of demobilised soldiers
- 27 Jan** A draft of the new Constitution was presented to the Constitutional Committee of the National Assembly
- 3 March** The first HIV/AIDS hospital was inaugurated in Luanda

[1a][7][8][17]

### Political Organisations

A law enacted in May 1991 specifies that political parties "must be national in character and scope." Specifically prohibited are parties that "are local and regional in character. foster tribalism, racism, regionalism or other forms of discrimination against citizens or affect national unity and territorial integrity; use or propose the use of violence to pursue their aims; adopt a uniform for their members or adopt clandestine parallel structures; use military, paramilitary or militarised organisation; or are subordinate to the policy of foreign governments, bodies or parties." The 1991 law also makes provision for registered parties to receive state financial assistance on the basis of their support in the most recent general election and the number of candidates presented. There are over 120 registered political parties, of which only 12 (marked \*) have seats in the National Assembly. [3i]

#### Main Parties

**\* Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola (MPLA)**

*Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola*

Founded in 1956 and backed by USSR. Between 1961 and 1974 conducted guerrilla operations against colonial rule, has been the ruling party since independence achieved from Portugal in 1975. In 1990 replaced Marxist-Leninist ideology with a commitment to democratic socialism. Chair is Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Secretary-General is Joan Manuel Goncalves Lourenco.

**\* Uniao Nacional Para a Independencia Total de Angola (UNITA)**

*National Union for the Total Independence of Angola*

Founded in 1966 to secure independence from Portugal and later received support from Portugal to oppose the MPLA. Joined forces with FNLA (see later) and conducted guerrilla campaign against the MPLA government with aid from some Western nations. Received intermittent support from South Africa and USA. Signed peace agreement with MPLA - PT in November 1994. Implementation of the terms of the peace agreement remains incomplete. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, former President of UNITA was killed in battle on 22 February 2002. The new leader is Isaias Samakuva.

**\* Forum Democratico Angolano (FDA)**

*Angolan Democratic Forum*

Registered in 1992 the FDA was allocated one cabinet post in the "unity" government announced in December 1992. Leader is Jorge Rebelo Pinto Chicoti.

**\* Frente Nacional de Libertacao de Angola (FNLA)**

*National Front for the Liberation of Angola.*

Founded in 1962. Party is split with one group headed by Holden Roberto, the founder, the other by Lucas Ngonda.

**Partido Democratico Liberal Angolan (PDLA)**

*Angolan Democratic Liberal Party*

Founded after the move to multi - party democracy in May 1991. Leader is Honorato Lando. Not represented in the National Assembly.



**Partido Democratico Angolana (PDA)**

*Angolan Democratic Party*

Founded in 1992 - opposes both the government party MPLA and UNITA. The leader, Antonio Alberto Neto was placed third in the first round of Presidential elections in 1992 but the party failed to gain any representation in the National Assembly.

**\* Partido Nacional Democratico de Angola (PNDA)**

*Angolan National Democratic Party*

Founded during the transition to multi party democracy in May 1991 (formally called the Angolan National Democratic Convention). The leader is Pedro Joao Antonio and the party is represented with one seat in the National Assembly.

**\* Alianca Democratica de Angola (ADA)**

*Democratic Alliance of Angola*

The ADA was created by a number of opposition parties prior to the September 1992 multi-party elections. Taking 0.9 percent of the popular vote in the Assembly balloting, the party won one seat. Leader is Simba Da Costa.

**\* Partido Democratico Para Progresso-Alianca Nacional Angola (PDP - ANA)**

*Democratic Party for Progress - Angolan National Alliance*

Right-wing party formed in 1991 advocates capitalism and humanism. Led by Mfulumpinga Lando Victor and has one seat in the National Assembly.

**\* Partido Renovador Democratico (PRD)**

*Democratic Renewal Party*

Founded by surviving dissidents of the MPLA-PT who staged an abortive coup in 1977. Led by Luis da Silva dos Passos, the party has one seat in the National Assembly.

**\* Partido Liberal Democratico (PLD)**

*Liberal Democratic Party*

Founded in 1991, the leader Amalia de Vitoria Pereira came tenth out of eleven candidates in the first round of presidential elections but gained three of the two hundred and twenty seats in the National Assembly.

**\*Partido da Alianca da Juventude, Operarios e Camponeses de Angola (PAJOCA)**

*Party of the Alliance of Youth, Workers and Peasants of Angola*

Founded in May 1991 and led by Miguel Joao Sebastiao, the party has one seat in the National Assembly.

**\* Partido Social Democratico (PSD)**

*Social Democratic Party*

Formed in May 1991, the Presidential candidate, Bengue Pedro Joao was placed seventh in elections whilst the party gained one seat in the National Assembly.

**Democratic Civilian Opposition:** Founded 1994, opposition alliance that includes:

- Convencao Nacional Democrata de Angola (CNDA). Leader Paulino Pinto Joao.
- Movimento de Defesa dos Interesses de Angola - Partido Consciencia Nacional Leader: Isidoro Klala.
- National Ecological Party of Angola. Leader: Sukawa Dizizeko Ricardo.

- National Union for Democracy. Leader: Sebastiao Rogerio Suzama.
- \* Partido Renovado Social (PRS) *Social Renewal Party*  
The centrist PRS was formed in May 1991 and subsequently joined other opposition parties in calling for a national conference to agree a new political system. The party took third place in the Assembly balloting winning six seats. President: Eduardo Kwangana.
- Party of Solidarity and the Conscience of Angola. Leader: Fernando Dombassi Quiesse.
- United Independent Union of Democratic Parties (UNIDO) Founded June 2000, a coalition of five political parties not represented in the national assembly. Leader: Jose Julia.

**Other parties in Angola and Cabinda include:**

**Partido de Apoio Democratico e Progresso de Angola (PADPA)**

*Party for the Support of Democracy and Progress in Angola* President: Carlos Leitao. This party has organised small anti-government demonstrations in both 2000 and 2001.

**Partido Angolano Liberal (PAL)**

*Angolan Liberal Party* Acting leader: Manuel Francisco Lulo.

**Partido Social Democratico de Angola (PSDA)**

*Angolan Social Democratic Party* Leader: Andre Milton Kilandamoko.

**Frente de Libertação do Estado de Cabinda (FLEC)**

*Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda.* Founded in 1963 as a nationalist movement seeking separate independence for Cabinda province. Comprises of several factions.

**The significant FLEC factions with a military wing are:**

**FLEC/FAC – Forces Armadas de Cabinda (FLEC/NOIR or FLEC/NEGRA)** Chair: Henrique Tiago N'Zita, Chief of State Commdr Estanislau Miguel Bomba.

**FLEC-R-FLEC/Renovada (FLEC/Matando BRAZ):** President: Antonio Bento Bembe, Secretary-General Arturo Chibasa.

FDC: Frente Democratic de Cabinda: Leader Francisco Xavier Lubota.

[1a][45]

### Prominent People - Past and Present

<b>Beye</b> Alioune Blondin	UN Secretary general's special representative to Angola (died in an air crash over Côte d'Ivoire in June 1998) [17a] (p7)
<b>De Sousa</b> Bornito	Chairman of the MPLA Parliamentary Party [36w]
<b>Dembo</b> (General) Antonio Sebastiao	Vice President of UNITA (died 25 February 2002) [7h]
<b>Diallo</b> Issa	UN Secretary General's Special Representative to Angola 1998 – 1999 (Mr Beye's replacement). [17a] (p7)
<b>dos Santos</b> Jose Eduardo	President of the Republic of Angola since September 1979 [9]
<b>Dos Santos</b> , Fernando da Piedade Dias “Nando”	Prime Minister, installed in December 2002 [9]
<b>Gambari</b> Ibrahim	UN Secretary General's Special Representative to Angola [17r]
<b>Jaime</b> Aguinaldo	Deputy Prime Minister [3j]
<b>Lukamba</b> Armindo Lucas Paulo “Gato”	Interim leader of UNITA - March 2002 to June 2003 [37b] (p2)
<b>Manuvakola</b> Eugenio Antonino Ngolo	Former Secretary-General of UNITA - signed Lusaka Protocol on behalf of UNITA [8x]
<b>Matos</b> (General) Joao de	FAA Chief of Staff [1a] (p45)
<b>Mesquita</b> João Santos de Carvalho	Deputy Governor of the Cabinda province [8z]
<b>Moura</b> Dr Venancio da Silva	Foreign Minister - signed Lusaka Protocol on behalf of MPLA (Died 1999) [48c]
<b>Neto</b> Armando da Cruz	Chief of staff of the armed forces from

January 2001 until June 2003

[37b] (p5)

**Pena** (General) Arlindo Chenda Isaac “Ben-Ben”

Deputy Chief of Staff, FAA. (Died October 1998)

[3i]

**Samakuva** Isaias

President of UNITA. Returned to Angola in October 2002 after working as UNITA’s treasurer in London and UNITA’s representative in Paris.

[7c] [8c] [8i]

**Sapalalo** (General) Altino “Bock”

Former UNITA Chief of General Staff - executed on Savimbi's orders in 2000

[25e]

**Savimbi** Dr Jonas

former president of UNITA (killed in battle 22 February 2002)

[1a] (p45)

### Tribes and Languages

#### **Ovimbundu (Singular: Ocimbundu). Language - Umbundu**

This is a homogeneous group divided into 22 chiefdoms. The tribe is exclusive to Angola within the Central Plateau region.

#### **Mbundu (usually Kimbundu). Language - Kimbundu**

There are twenty main tribes: Ambundu, Luanda, Luango, Ntembo, Puna, Dembo, Bangala, Holo, Cari, Chinje, Minuungo, Bambeiro, Quilbala, Haco, Sende, Ngola, (or Jinga), Bondo, Songo, Quissama and Libola. This tribe is exclusive to Angola in the Luanda area fanning outwards to Cuanza Norte and Malange.

#### **Bakongo (Singular Mukongo). Language - Kikongo**

There are eight main tribes: Xikongo, Susso, Zombo, Sorongo, Iacas, Congo, Pombo and Suco. The Bakongo tribes are not exclusive to Angola - they are also found in neighbouring DRC and Congo (Brazzaville).

#### **Lunda - Chokwe**

There are seven main tribes: Lunda, Lunda-lua-Chindes, Lunda-Ndembo, Mataba, Cacongo, Mai, and Chokwe. The Luanda are not exclusive to Angola, found also in neighbouring DRC (Shaba Province) and Zambia (Western province) but the Chokwe proper are exclusive to Angola, in the Mexico region.

#### **Ganguela**

There are twenty main tribes: Luimbe, Lovale, Lutchazi, Bunda, Ganguila, Ambuela, Ambuila-Mambumbo, Econjeiro, Ngonoielo, Mbande, Cangale, Iahuma, Gengista, Nicoia, Canachi, Ndungo, Nhengo, Nhemba, and Avico.

#### **Nyaneka - Humbe**

There are ten main tribes: Muilas, Gambos, Humbles, Donguenas, Hingas, Cuanguas, Handas, Quipungos, Quilengues-Humbles and Quilengues-Musos. The tribe is exclusive to Angola in Huila and Cunene provinces of the South.

#### **Ambo (pl. Ovambo). Language - Oshivambo**

There are four main tribes inside Angola: Cuanhama, Cuamatui, Evale and Cafima. The Cuanhama (or Cuanyama) is also found in neighbouring Namibia.

## Election Results

The results of the Presidential and Legislative elections published on 17 October 1992 were as follows:

### Presidential

Candidate	Number of votes	Percent of votes
Jose Eduardo dos Santos (MPLA)	1,953,335	49.57
Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi (UNITA)	1,579,298	40.07
Antonio Alberto Neto (PDA)	85,249	2.16
Holden Roberto (FNLA)	83,135	2.11
Honorato Lando (PDLA)	75,789	1.92
Luis dos Passos (PRD)	59,121	1.47
Bengui Pedro Joao (PSD)	38,243	0.97
Simao Cacete (FPD)	26,385	0.67
Daniel Julio Chipenda (Independent)	20,646	0.52
Analla de Victoria Pereira (PLD)	11,475	0.29
Rui de Victoria Pereira (PRA)	9,208	0.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,940,884</b>	<b>100.00</b>

### National Assembly

Party	Votes	Percent of votes	Seats
MPLA	2,124,126	53.74	129
UNITA	1,347,636	34.10	70
FNLA	94,742	2.40	5
PLD	94,269	2.39	3
PRS	89,875	2.27	6
PRD	35,293	0.89	1
AD COALITION	34,166	0.86	1
PSD	33,088	0.84	1
PAJOCA	13,924	0.35	1
FDA	12,038	0.30	1
PDP-ANA	10,620	0.27	1
PNDA	10,281	0.26	1
CNDA	10,237	0.26	-
PSDA	19,217	0.26	-
PAI	9,007	0.23	-
PDLA	8,025	0.20	-
PDA	8,014	0.20	-
PRA	6,719	0.17	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,952,277</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>220</b>

According to the Constitution the total number of seats in the National Assembly is 223. On the decision of the National Electoral Council, however, elections to fill three seats reserved for Angolans resident abroad were abandoned.

[1a] (p60)

### Glossary

<b>AFP</b>	Agence France Presse
<b>AJPD</b>	Association for Justice, Peace and Democracy
<b>ANDA</b>	National Association of Handicapped
<b>ANP</b>	Angolan National Police
<b>CGSILA</b>	General Centrale of Independent and Free Labour Unions of Angola
<b>CIVPOL</b>	Civilian Police
<b>COIEPA</b>	Inter-Ecclesial Committee for Peace
<b>CPJ</b>	Committee to Protect Journalists
<b>DRC</b>	Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>ELSC</b>	Secret Army for the Liberation of Cabinda
<b>FAA</b>	Forças Armadas de Angola / Angolan Armed Forces
<b>FALA</b>	Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola
<b>FAPLA</b>	Forças Armadas Populares de Libertação de Angola
<b>FGM</b>	Female Genital Mutilation
<b>FLEC</b>	Frente de Libertação do Estado de Cabinda / Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave
<b>FNLA</b>	Frente Nacional de Libertacao de Angola / National front for the liberation of Angola
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GURN</b>	Government of Unity and Reconciliation
<b>HDI</b>	Human Development Index
<b>HRMG</b>	Human Rights Monitoring Group
<b>HRW</b>	Human Rights Watch
<b>IBA</b>	International Bar Association
<b>ICCPR</b>	International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights
<b>ICESCR</b>	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
<b>ICRC</b>	International Committee of the Red Cross
<b>IDP</b>	Internally Displaced Person/People
<b>ILGA</b>	International Lesbian and Gay Association
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>INAC</b>	National Institute for Children
<b>ISS</b>	Institute for Security Studies
<b>JMC</b>	Joint Military Commission
<b>JURA</b>	United and Revolutionary Youth of Angola
<b>KZR</b>	Readjusted Kwanza



<b>LAC</b>	Radio Luanda Antena Comercial
<b>LIMA</b>	Liga da Mulher Angolana
<b>MONUA</b>	UN Observer Mission in Angola
<b>MPLA</b>	Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola / Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola
<b>MSF</b>	Medecins sans Frontiers
<b>NCPSRDSDP</b>	National Commission for the Productive Social Reintegration of Demobilised Soldiers and Displaced People
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>OCHA</b>	UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>PIR</b>	Rapid Intervention Police
<b>SGSR</b>	(UN) Secretary General's Special Representative
<b>SIMA</b>	Independent Union of Maritime and Related Workers
<b>SJA</b>	Angolan Journalists Union
<b>TI</b>	Transparency International
<b>TPA</b>	Television Popular Angola
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNAIDS</b>	UN Programme of HIV/AIDS
<b>UNAVEM</b>	UN Angola Verification Mission
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNHCR</b>	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNICEF</b>	UN Children's Fund
<b>UNITA</b>	Uniao Nacional Para a Independencia Total de Angola National / Union for the Total Independence of Angola
<b>UNMA</b>	UN Mission in Angola
<b>UNOA</b>	UN Office in Angola
<b>UNSC</b>	UN Security Council
<b>UNSG</b>	UN Secretary-General
<b>UNTA</b>	Union of Angolan Workers
<b>USCR</b>	US Committee for Refugees
<b>USSD</b>	US Department of State
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organisation

### The Media

The press was nationalised in 1976. The following is a list of major newspapers, radio, and television stations in Angola. If known, an indication is given as to whether the publication (or channel) is state run or independent.

#### DAILIES

**Diario da Republica:** CP 1306, Luanda - official govt bulletin.

**O Jornal De Angola:** Rua Rainha Ginga 18-24, CP 1312, Luanda: Director General Luis Fernando. A government publication founded 1923 issued daily: circulation. 41,000. Newspapers are also published in several regional towns.

#### PERIODICALS

**Actual:** Rua Pedro Felix Machado, Luanda. (Independent)

**Agora:** Rua Comandante Valodia, Luanda. (Independent)

**Angola Norte:** CP 97, Malanje, published weekly.

**A Celula:** Luanda, political journal of MPLA, published monthly.

**Comercio Actualidade:** Rua Da Missao 81, Luanda. (Independent)

**Comercio Externo:** Rua da Missao 85, CP 6375, Luanda;

**Correio da Semana:** Rua Rainha Ginga 18-24, CP 1213, Luanda, published weekly. Editor-in-Chief: - Manuel Dionisio.

**Eme:** Rua Ho Chi Minh, Luanda; 1996; MPLA publication.

**Fohla 8:** Rua Conselheiro Julio de Vilhena 24, 5º andar, Luanda; (Independent)

**Horizonte:** Rua da Samba 144, 1º andar, Luanda.

**Jornal de Benguela:** CP 17, Benguela, published twice a week.

**Kwacha Review:** A UNITA weekly published in English.

**Lavra & Oficina:** CP 2767-C, Luanda; founded 1975, journal of the Union of Angolan Writers; published monthly, circulation - 5,000.

**Militar:** Luanda, founded 1993. Editor-in-Chief: Carmo Neto.

**Novembro:** CP 3947, Luanda - tel. (2) 331660, published monthly. Director: Roberto De Almeida.

**O Planalto:** CP 96, Huambo. Published a week.

**Tempos Novos:** Avda Combatentes 244, 2º andar, CP 16088, Luanda.

**A Voz do Povo:** Rua Jaoa de Deus 99-103, Vila Alice, Luanda.

**A Voz do Trabalhador:** Avda 4 de Fevereiro 210, CP 28, Luanda -Journal of Uniao Nacional de Trabalhadores Angolanos (National Union of Angolan Workers) published monthly.

### **RADIO STATIONS**

**Luanda Antenna Comercial:** Largo Luther King, Luanda. (Independent) *Broadcasts in Luanda Only*

**Radio Ecclesia:** Rua Comandante Bula 118, Luanda. (Independent/Catholic) *Broadcasts in Luanda only*

**Radio Nacional de Angola:** Avenida Comandante Gika, Luanda. (State) *Broadcasts countrywide and has regional stations.*

**Radio Morena:** Benguela based (Independent)

### **TELEVISION**

**Televisao Popular de Angola:** Avenida Comandante Valodia, Luanda. (State) *Broadcasts nationally.*

**WT Mundovideo:** Local broadcaster in Luanda

[1a] (p62)

## Political Makeup of Government

### Head of State

**President:** Jose Eduardo dos Santos (MPLA)

### Council of Ministers

<b>Prime Minister:</b>	Fernando da Piedade Dias dos Santos "Nando" (MPLA)
<b>Deputy Prime Minister:</b>	Aguinaldo Jaime (MPLA)
<b>Minister of National Defence:</b>	Gen. Kundi Paihama (MPLA)
<b>Minister of the Interior:</b>	Fernando da Piedade Dias dos Santos "Nando" (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Foreign Affairs:</b>	Joao Bernardo de Miranda (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Justice:</b>	Dr. Paulo Tjipilica (FDA)
<b>Minister of Territorial Administration:</b>	Fernando Faustino Muteka (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Planning:</b>	Ana Afonso Dias Lourenco (f) (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Finance:</b>	Jose Pedro de Morais (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Petroleum/Oil:</b>	Desiderio da Graca Verissimo da Costa (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Fisheries:</b>	Salomão Luheto Xirimimbi (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Industry:</b>	Joaquim Duarte da Costa David (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development:</b>	Gilberto Buta Lutukuta (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Geology and Mines:</b>	Manuel António Africano (UNITA)
<b>Minister of Public Administration, Employment and Social Welfare:</b>	Dr. António Domingos Pitra da Costa Neto (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Health:</b>	Albertina Júlia Hamukuya (f) (UNITA)
<b>Minister of Education:</b>	António Burity da Silva Neto (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Culture:</b>	Boaventura Cardoso (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Science and Technology:</b>	João Baptista Ngandagina (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Transport:</b>	André Luís Brandao (MPLA)

<b>Minister of Posts and Telecommunications:</b>	Licínio Tavares Ribeiro (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Family and Women's Advancement:</b>	Cândida Celeste da Silva (f) (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Ex-servicemen and War Veterans:</b>	Pedro José van-Dúnem (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Youth and Sports:</b>	José Marcos Barrica (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Public Works:</b>	Francisco Higino Carneiro (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Commerce:</b>	Victorino Domingos Hossi (UNITA)
<b>Minister of Hotels and Tourism:</b>	Jorge Alicerces Valentim (UNITA)
<b>Minister of Assistance and Social Reintegration:</b>	João Baptista Kussumua (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Information:</b>	Dr. Pedro Hendrik vaal Neto (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Energy and Water:</b>	José Maria Botelho de Vasconcelos (MPLA)
<b>Minister of Urban Affairs and the Environment:</b>	Virgílio Ferreira Fontes Pereira (MPLA)

(Information correct on 27 January 2004)

[1a] (p59) [9]

## Child Care

The following table details the services provided by province. The information therein refers to the level of state provision for children as of September 2002.

Province	Number of Centres	Total number of children	Age range	Educational level /support
Bengo	1	150	No figures	No information
Benguela	18	1,545	1-17 years	Primary - Under graduate (G12)
Bié	1	98	No figures	No information
Cabinda	3	326	0-17 years	Primary - Secondary (G7)
Cuene	2	No figures	No figures	No information
Huambo	10	440	No figures	No information
Huíla	6	No figures	3-17 years	Primary - Secondary (G8)
Kuando Kubango	1	78	12-17 years	Secondary (G5-6)
Kuanza Norte	No facilities available			
Kuanza Sul	No facilities available			
Luanda	21	3,484	0-20 years	Primary - High school (G9-10)
Lunda Norte	2	50	No figures	No information
Lunda Sul	2	79	3-15 years	Primary - Secondary (G6)
Malange	8	503	5-17 years	Primary - High school (G9-10)
Moxico	2	239	0-17 years	Primary - Secondary (G5)
Namibe	1	38	0-17 years	Primary - Secondary (G8)
Uíge	4	204	0-17 years	Primary to Secondary (G6)
Zaire	1	23	10-16 years	Primary (G1-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>7756</b>	-	-

(G7, 8 etc. refers to the specific school year)

[54]

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