

# ANNUAL REPORT 2003

IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES AND USE OF FUNDS



ANNUAL REPORT 2003



OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2003

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Palais des Nations - CH-1211 Geneva 10 - Switzerland

Telephone: 41 22/917 90 00 - Fax: 41 22/917 90 08

Web site: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org)



OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

## HUMAN RIGHTS



ANNUAL REPORT  
2003



OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Prepared by the Resource Mobilization Unit of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Editorial Consultant: Marilyn Achiron

Design and Desktop Publishing by Latitudesign, Geneva

Printed by Atar SA, Geneva

Photographs: UNICEF/HQ02-0219/Nicole Toutounji; UNICEF/HQ97-0544/Maggie Murray-Lee; UNICEF/HQ98-0196/William Torres; UN/186386C; UN/156238C; UN/140198C; UN/159225C; UN/211840C; UN/149179C.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Introduction by the Acting High Commissioner</b> . . . . .	5	<b>Activities administered through UNOG and UNOPS</b> . . . . .	125
<b>The Annual Report 2003: A reader's guide</b> . . . . .	7	<b>Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities</b>	
<b>Funding of OHCHR</b> . . . . .	9	Introduction . . . . .	127
<b>Human rights trust funds established by the United Nations General Assembly</b>		Angola . . . . .	131
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture . . . . .	25	Burundi . . . . .	133
Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery . . . . .	28	Democratic Republic of the Congo . . . . .	137
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations . . . . .	30	Colombia . . . . .	139
Voluntary Fund for the International Decade for the World's Indigenous People . . . . .	32	Cambodia . . . . .	144
<b>Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance</b> . . . . .	35	Iraq . . . . .	150
<b>Technical cooperation activities</b>		Bosnia and Herzegovina . . . . .	153
Introduction . . . . .	39	Serbia and Montenegro . . . . .	158
<b>Global projects</b> . . . . .	46	<b>Democracy, development and human rights</b> . . . . .	163
UN decade for human rights education . . . . .	46	<b>Support to human rights bodies and organs</b> . . . . .	169
Human rights and counter-terrorism . . . . .	48	<b>Response to allegations of human rights violations: Support to the special procedures</b> . . . . .	173
Human rights training for peacekeepers . . . . .	49	<b>Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS</b> . . . . .	179
Trafficking in persons . . . . .	52	<b>Minorities and indigenous peoples</b>	
<b>Africa</b> . . . . .	55	Introduction . . . . .	183
Regional and sub-regional activities . . . . .	55	Minorities . . . . .	184
Country projects . . . . .	59	Indigenous peoples . . . . .	185
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b> . . . . .	68	<b>Building the capacity of OHCHR</b>	
Regional and sub-regional activities . . . . .	68	Introduction . . . . .	187
Country projects . . . . .	70	Executive office, media relations, communications and NGO partnerships . . . . .	189
<b>Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus</b> . . . . .	79	Policy analysis and methodology . . . . .	192
Regional and sub-regional activities . . . . .	79	Resource mobilization . . . . .	193
Country projects . . . . .	80	Core management system . . . . .	197
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b> . . . . .	89	Human rights knowledge management . . . . .	200
Regional and sub-regional activities . . . . .	90	Staff security . . . . .	203
Country projects . . . . .	91	<b>Miscellaneous</b> . . . . .	207
<b>Arab region</b> . . . . .	102		
Regional and sub-regional activities . . . . .	103		
Country projects . . . . .	107		
<b>Support to national institutions</b> . . . . .	113		
<b>Support to the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission</b> . . . . .	119		





# INTRODUCTION BY THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER

This Annual Report details the use of voluntary funds received by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2003. The activities described, which cover a wide range of human rights issues, were implemented concurrently with internal reforms recommended by the Office of Internal Oversight Services and as the Office streamlined its operations in accordance with the Secretary-General's second reform report.

The reporting year began with great expectation, as the newly appointed High Commissioner, Sergio Vieira de Mello, defined his priorities for OHCHR. On 19 August 2003, however, exhilaration was lost to mourning when the High Commissioner and 21 colleagues were killed in a terrorist attack on United Nations headquarters in Baghdad.

Despite the terrible loss in Iraq, OHCHR continued working with governments and other United Nations agencies to promote human rights and human rights-based approaches to development strategies. In addition to providing technical support to governments and promoting equality, non-discrimination and the rule of law, OHCHR undertook several initiatives to strengthen the work of the Commission on Human Rights and related bodies. To underscore the importance of the special procedures in monitoring and reporting on human rights conditions around the world, a new Branch, the Special Procedures Branch, was created within OHCHR in 2003. Throughout the year, OHCHR worked to improve its internal management and to disseminate human rights messages to partners and the general public.

The Office introduced a range of management reforms to sharpen administrative processes and priority-setting, improve communication with the non-governmental community, expand our network of donors, and secure greater decision-making authority for OHCHR within the United Nations system. These reforms resulted in a more focused and streamlined plan for the 2004

budget, and won praise from the United Nations's Office of Internal Oversight Services and from donors.

In 2003, OHCHR's income amounted to US\$ 47.4 million and the Office spent US\$ 52.5 million on its worldwide activities. The Office's funding base is still fragile, with one-third of its budget coming from the United Nations regular budget and two-thirds from voluntary contributions; however, donors are providing funds with greater flexibility and stability. Since the way in which funds are contributed greatly affects our ability to perform, we welcome the trend towards lighter earmarking.

During the past year, we have tried to maintain stability at a difficult time in the Organization's history, and to ensure that the United Nations Secretariat and other OHCHR constituencies could rely on the Office to discharge all of its responsibilities.

We welcome the incoming High Commissioner, Justice Louise Arbour, and look forward to a renewed sense of excitement and expectation upon her arrival.



Bertrand Ramcharan

*United Nations Acting High Commissioner for Human Rights*





# THE ANNUAL REPORT 2003: A READER'S GUIDE

This is OHCHR's fourth Annual Report to donors. It aims to provide a transparent and consolidated view of the achievements and impact of the Office's work in one calendar year, highlighting the commitment to establish a structured approach to reporting and improve financial management at all levels. It provides accurate information about the use of voluntary contributions in one comprehensive publication and thus eliminating the need for multiple, and often similar, tailor-made reports to individual donors.

As in previous years, the financial statements provided by OHCHR's main partners, the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), were reconciled in order to present a cohesive picture of the various trust funds and projects that constitute the Office's extra-budgetary activities. At the time of this report's publication these statements still require auditing.

The additional tables and graphic illustrations that were included in the previous year have been maintained in order to better visualize and analyse the use and management of funds that OHCHR received. The budget and expenditure tables make a distinction between projects and/or trust funds implemented by UNOG and those implemented by UNOPS; and there is a clear indication of our revised mid-year budgetary requirements. This year again, the middle section of the report contains a summary of the various trust funds administered by UNOG (table I) and two summary tables for the main trust fund (support activities of OHCHR) under which all UNOPS-implemented projects are covered (tables II and III). In addition, several charts illustrating the Office's performance have also been included in the chapter on funding and budget.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Four main types of financial statements are provided for each main activity in this report:

- ♥ statement of income and expenditure
- ♥ budget and expenditure
- ♥ expenditure breakdown
- ♥ voluntary contributions (summary tables by main activity)

As part of the United Nations Secretariat, OHCHR's financial accounting is done biennially (2002-2003). This implies that expenditures reported in the first year of the biennium are likely to change when final accounts for the whole biennium are processed. The main reason for this is that most of the unliquidated obligations reported at the end of the first year (2002) become disbursements in the second year (2003). As a result, final disbursements for 2002 only became apparent at the end of 2003. For the sake of transparency a second column entitled "2002 final" has therefore been added to all expenditure reports in order to indicate this final amount.

In addition to the many footnotes, a number of explanatory notes accompany the statements. It is hoped that they will help readers analyze the report.

The closing balances reported in the **statement of income and expenditure** include the cash operating reserves (not available for activities in 2004); the statement summarizes the total funds available, total expenditure and unspent balances for the trust fund and/or group of projects concerned.

**Budget and expenditure** tables are presented for each main activity and include budgets presented in the 2003 Annual Appeal and revised budgets (as per the mid-year review) compared to consolidated expenditure. When the budget for an activity is reported as zero and expenditure is nevertheless reported,



in some instances these activities were undertaken based upon a budget approved in previous years.

**Voluntary contributions** tables show total pledges by donor and corresponding income for each main activity and/or project. In a number of cases, pledges were made in 2002 while payment was received in 2003. Similarly, some pledges were made in 2003 but the payment was not received until 2004. This explains the difference between amounts shown in the pledge and income columns. Another reason is that the rate of exchange often fluctuates between the time of the pledge and the time of the payment.

**Expenditure breakdown** tables are presented for each project; they contain the standard breakdown of expenditure by item as defined in the United Nations financial system; the associated activities are described in the narrative report.

## COMMON TERMINOLOGY

The most common financial terms used in this report are defined below:

- ~ **Opening balance:** Represents the total amount of funds available for the trust fund and/or activity on 1 January 2003. The actual funds available for implementation are, however, lower since a 15 per cent cash operating reserve must be kept to cover any unforeseen expenditure.
  - ~ **Adjustment:** Includes prior period adjustments, savings, refunds and transfers made in 2003.
  - ~ **Pledge:** A commitment by a government, foundation, association or individual donor to provide, at a future date, a financial contribution towards OHCHR's activities. In cases where donors pay without first making a pledge, OHCHR reports the pledged amount as being identical to the amount paid.
  - ~ **Income:** Paid contributions that have been debited to the United Nations general account and credited to one of OHCHR's trust funds during 2003.
  - ~ **Other funds available:** Includes interest and miscellaneous income.
  - ~ **Total funds available:** Includes opening balance, adjustment, income from contributions and other funds available.
  - ~ **Expenditure:** Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.
  - ~ **Closing balance:** Represents funds carried over into 2004. The standard 15 per cent operating cash reserve as well as reserves for allocations are included as appropriate. The net carry-over is therefore lower. A large proportion of the carry-over was obligated in the first half of 2004 to allow for the continuation of activities and avoid unnecessary delays or interruptions.
- The following budget lines are included in the expenditure tables:
- ~ **Staff costs:** Salaries and associated benefits of personnel holding United Nations contracts, administered either through UNOG or UNOPS.
  - ~ **Experts/consultants' fees and travel:** Salaries, associated benefits and travel expenses of external experts and consultants hired for a specific time-limited mandate and purpose.
  - ~ **Travel:** Sub-divided into OHCHR staff, Commission members and representatives and other participants. This includes travel and related expenses incurred on official business by staff, members of the Commission on Human Rights, special rapporteurs, members of the boards of trustees and other representatives of the High Commissioner.
  - ~ **Contractual services:** Payments for services purchased from external suppliers, such as printing, vehicle maintenance, translation, security services, etc.
  - ~ **General operating expenses:** Payments for office rent, communications, fuel, etc.
  - ~ **Supplies and acquisitions:** Payments for office supplies and equipment, including computers, printers, fax machines, office furniture, etc.
  - ~ **Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars:** Payments in the form of grants to external entities, including NGOs, institutes, universities and other organizations working in partnership with OHCHR. Contributions to joint projects with other United Nations organizations. Payments to training institutes, universities and other educational institutions for the organization of seminars and/or training courses.
  - ~ **Programme support costs:** Calculated at 13 per cent of total project costs. This amount is generally shared at a varying ratio among OHCHR, UNOG, UNOPS and UNDP.



# FUNDING OF OHCHR

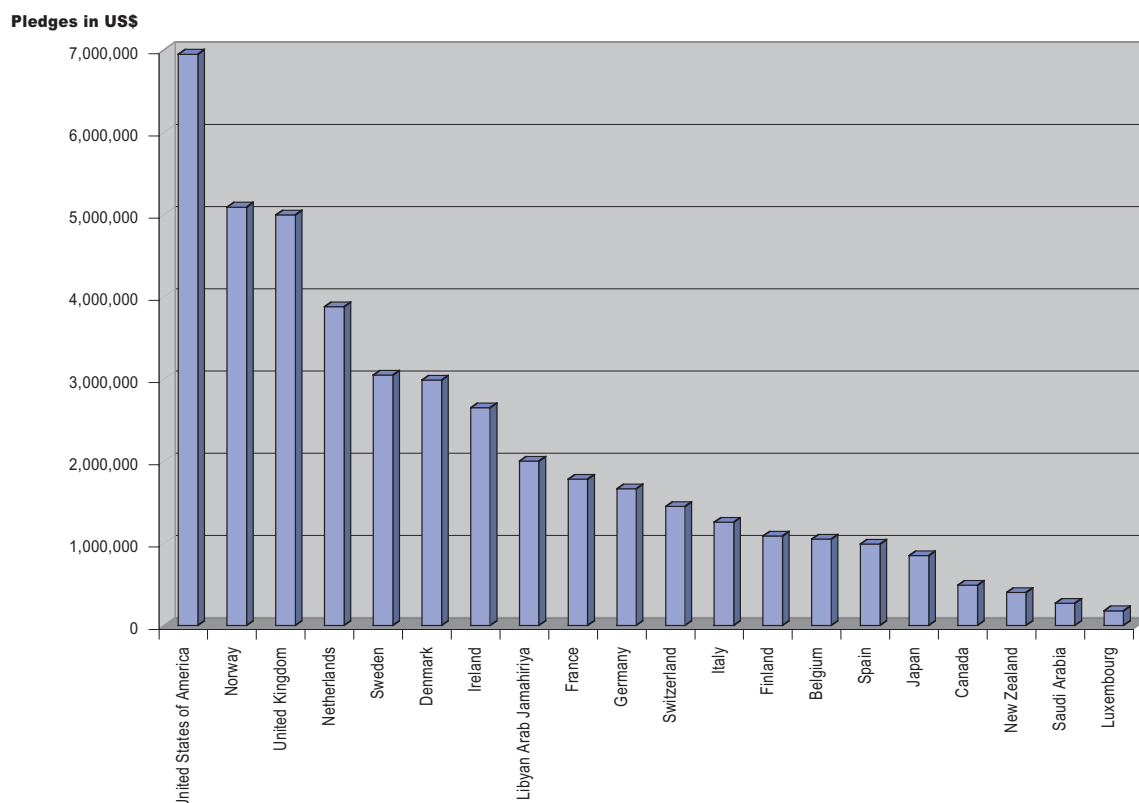
## ■ HOW IS OHCHR FUNDED?

OHCHR is funded from the United Nations regular budget and from voluntary contributions. Funds from the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 2002-2003 totaled US\$ 50.4 million, or 1.8 per cent of the full US\$ 2.9 billion United Nations regular budget for the biennium. This represented a 0.1 per cent increase over funding from the regular budget appropriated for the 2000-2001 biennium. US\$ 47.5 million was received under section 24 (human rights), of which US\$ 25.8 million was appropriated in 2003; US\$ 2.9 million was received under section 23 (technical cooperation), of which US\$ 1.6 million was appropriated in 2003. In addition, OHCHR received voluntary contributions from

donors towards activities outlined in the 2003 Annual Appeal. That Appeal asked for US\$ 62.5 in contributions. However, the budget was revised at mid-year to US\$ 53.8 million.

Funding from the United Nations regular budget covered 33 per cent of OHCHR's activities during 2003 (expenditure of US\$ 25.8 million), while voluntary contributions covered 67 per cent of activities (expenditure of US\$ 52.5 million). OHCHR's activities funded by the United Nations regular budget are described in the Secretary-General's reports to the General Assembly on the use of the regular budget (sections 23 and 24). This Annual Report details the use of voluntary contributions received by OHCHR.

## Voluntary contributions to OHCHR in 2003



## OHCHR'S DONORS

During the reporting period, 59 governments, one foundation, and various associations and individuals provided voluntary contributions, both large and small, to OHCHR. Although efforts to broaden OHCHR's donor base have been successful, the Office remains dependent on too few donors. Ten major donors provided 78.4 per cent of OHCHR's total voluntary contributions in 2003; the 20 top donors provided 97.9 per cent of those contributions. Those top 20 donors were all governments who provided US\$ 43.1 million in pledges and US\$ 42.1 million in paid contributions.

## FUNDING TRENDS

### Level of funding

Voluntary contributions increased by US\$ 4 million in 2003 as compared with the previous year. Total pledges reached US\$ 44 million, compared to US\$ 40 million in 2002, and paid contributions totaled US\$ 47.4 million in 2003, up from US\$ 40.2 million in 2002. Pledges covered 70 per cent of total voluntary funding requirements (US\$ 62.5 million) in 2003, similar to the coverage obtained in 2002 (71.7 per cent).

### Predictability

Donors are helping to improve the Office's ability to plan its activities by increasingly making contributions under arrangements that ensure predictability and stability. Nine donors—Belgium,

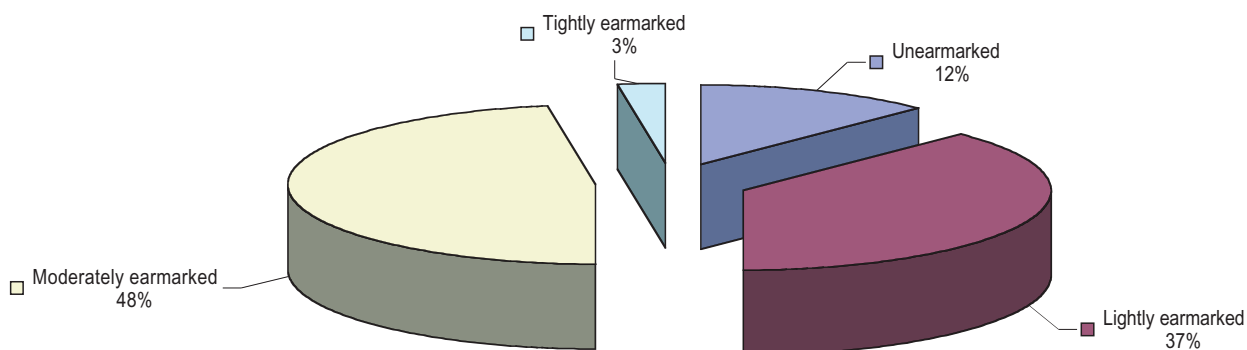
Canada, the European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland—have multi-year arrangements with OHCHR.

### Earmarking

A trend towards less earmarking continued in 2003, with US\$ 5.5 million contributed with no earmarking at all. The amount of unearmarked funds almost doubled from the previous year (US\$ 2.8 million was unearmarked in 2002). Several major donors gave a portion of their annual contribution unearmarked; and many of the governments who are not among OHCHR's major donors did not earmark at all. The following governments, listed in descending order of amount contributed, provided unearmarked contributions or provided a portion of their contribution unearmarked: Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Spain, New Zealand, Italy, France, Saudi Arabia, Norway, Sweden, Algeria, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Greece, Thailand, Indonesia, South Africa, Monaco, Bahrain, Hilton Foundation, Costa Rica, Cameroon, Bhutan, Croatia, Pakistan, Hungary, Malta and Armenia. The entire annual contribution from the Netherlands was also essentially unearmarked.

Funds are increasingly earmarked for major areas of work or according to the major headings listed in the Annual Appeal, rather than for individual projects. The table and pie chart below represent earmarking as divided into four categories (unearmarked, lightly earmarked, moderately earmarked and tightly earmarked), showing how funds are made available to the Office.

Earmarking trend in 2003



## EARMARKING TREND IN 2003 FOR PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS BY DESCENDING ORDER

Donor	Total pledge	Unearmarked	Lightly earmarked	Moderately earmarked	Tightly earmarked
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
United States of America	6,950,000		1,500,000	5,450,000	
Norway	5,090,448	136,986	2,660,959	2,210,311	82,192
United Kingdom	4,996,706		158,730	4,706,828	131,148
Netherlands	3,879,279		3,229,279	500,000	150,000
Sweden	3,045,204	58,208	1,455,180	1,531,816	
Denmark	2,984,933	2,060,222		924,711	
Ireland	2,650,313	626,307	1,919,622	104,384	
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2,000,000		1,000,000	1,000,000	
France	1,780,409	208,562	576,290	235,033	760,524
Germany	1,663,648		358,011	1,277,065	28,572
Switzerland	1,448,845		964,029	484,816	
Italy	1,257,143	228,572	285,714	742,857	
Finland	1,090,655	635,873	306,501	148,281	
Belgium	1,050,709		968,382	82,327	
Spain	990,518	626,251		364,267	
Japan	850,092		666,876	183,216	
Canada	490,225			417,297	72,928
New Zealand	403,692	403,692			
Saudi Arabia	270,000	200,000	40,000	30,000	
Luxembourg	180,269	46,083	114,025	20,161	
Australia	131,551			129,032	2,519
Korea, Rep. of	110,000		100,000	10,000	
Austria	80,000		40,000	40,000	
Algeria	65,000	50,000		15,000	
Greece	58,300	25,000	13,500	19,800	
Qatar	55,000		55,000		
Liechtenstein	48,488	41,135		7,353	
South Africa	47,467	17,800	11,867	17,800	
Poland	25,000		10,000	15,000	
Estonia	23,632			23,632	
Andorra	21,696			21,696	
Guatemala	20,616	5,002	600	15,014	
India	20,000		20,000		
Thailand	20,000	20,000			
Indonesia	20,000	20,000			
Monaco	20,000	10,000		10,000	
Israel	20,000			20,000	
Chile	13,000			13,000	
Bahrain	10,000	10,000			
Hilton Foundation	10,000	10,000			
Kuwait	10,000			10,000	
Costa Rica	9,754	9,754			
Cameroon	9,059	9,059			
Kenya	7,494			7,494	
Bhutan	5,240	5,240			
Croatia	5,000	5,000			
Czech Republic	5,000			5,000	
Pakistan	5,000	5,000			
Venezuela	5,000			5,000	
Iceland	4,650			4,650	
Mauritius	3,000			3,000	
Hungary	2,482	2,482			
Sudan	2,000			2,000	
Holy See	2,000			2,000	
Tunisia	1,694			1,694	
Malta	1,500	1,500			
Armenia	1,250	1,250			
Botswana	1,003			1,003	
Panama	1,000		1,000		
Haiti	109			109	
Other (private donors)	7,643	100		7,543	
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,982,716</b>	<b>5,479,078</b>	<b>16,455,565</b>	<b>20,820,190</b>	<b>1,227,883</b>

**Unearmarked:** this column includes totally unearmarked contributions by donor.

**Lightly earmarked:** this column includes contributions earmarked to the major headings of the Annual Appeal (i.e. follow-up to the WCAR, technical cooperation, support to national institutions, field offices, democracy, development and human rights, support to human rights organs and bodies, support to special procedures, gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS, minorities and indigenous peoples and building the capacity of OHCHR).

**Moderately earmarked:** this column includes earmarked contributions to the Human Rights Trust Funds, support to the Sierra Leone TRC and earmarked contributions to projects within technical cooperation, within field offices and within building the capacity of OHCHR.

**Tightly earmarked:** this column includes earmarked contributions to specific activities within a project.

**Planned activities versus income**

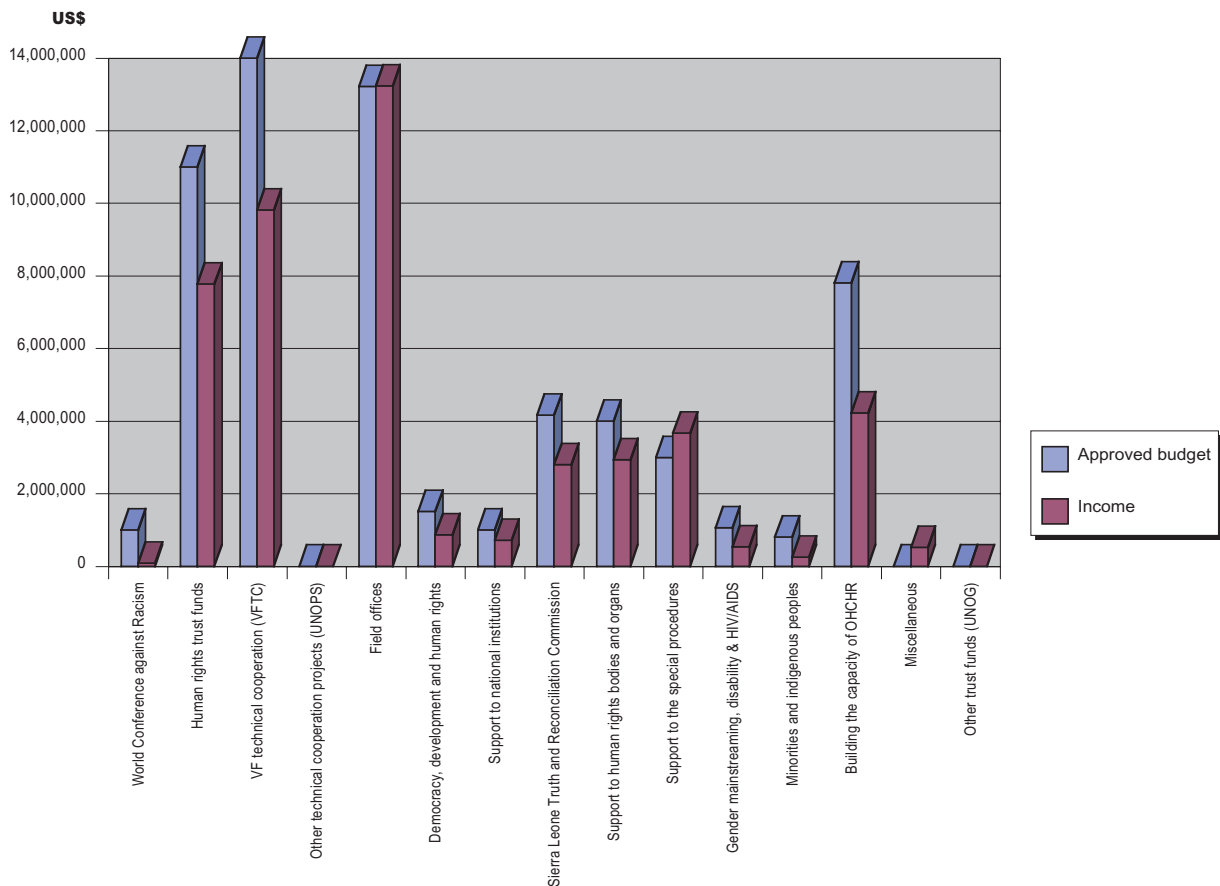
As can be seen from the graph below, funding received by OHCHR does not cover its estimated budgets. Pledges represented 70 per cent of the initial budget of US\$ 62.5 million and 82 per cent of the revised budget of US\$ 53.8 million. While OHCHR's extra-budgetary requirements grew considerably throughout the 1990s, they have remained fairly stable at an average of US\$ 55 million per year since the publication of the first Annual Appeal in 2000. The gap between planned activities and actual income implies that unless there is an increase in contributions, the Office will not, in the long-run, be able to carry out all of its planned activities and may have to curtail or eliminate some. In 2003, income received fell short of covering the revised budget of US\$ 53.8 million by some US\$ 6.5 million.

**■ HOW DONORS CAN HELP**

OHCHR encourages donors to provide adequate, timely and predictable funding. While OHCHR works to improve management,

planning and prioritization, the way in which donors provide their contributions greatly affects the Office's performance and efficiency. Donors can help the Office to improve its performance by providing multi-year contributions, pledge and pay annual contributions early in the year, earmark to major headings listed in the Annual Appeal, and provide some funds with no earmarking at all. The efforts made by several major donors to pledge and pay their contributions early in the year are greatly appreciated; however, more can be done. Out of all contributions pledged in 2003, only 4 per cent (17 per cent in 2002) were paid in the first quarter. Most funds, 55 per cent (42 per cent in 2002) were paid in the second quarter, and 41 per cent (the same as in 2002) were paid during the second half of the year. First-quarter pledges and payments made by several major donors could dramatically improve programme planning and management. Earlier pledges and payments would also improve the contractual situation for field-based staff, help to avoid delays in implementation of activities, and reduce the need for substantial carry-over funds to start activities in the beginning of the year.

**Planned activities versus income in 2003**



## ■ FINANCIAL SITUATION

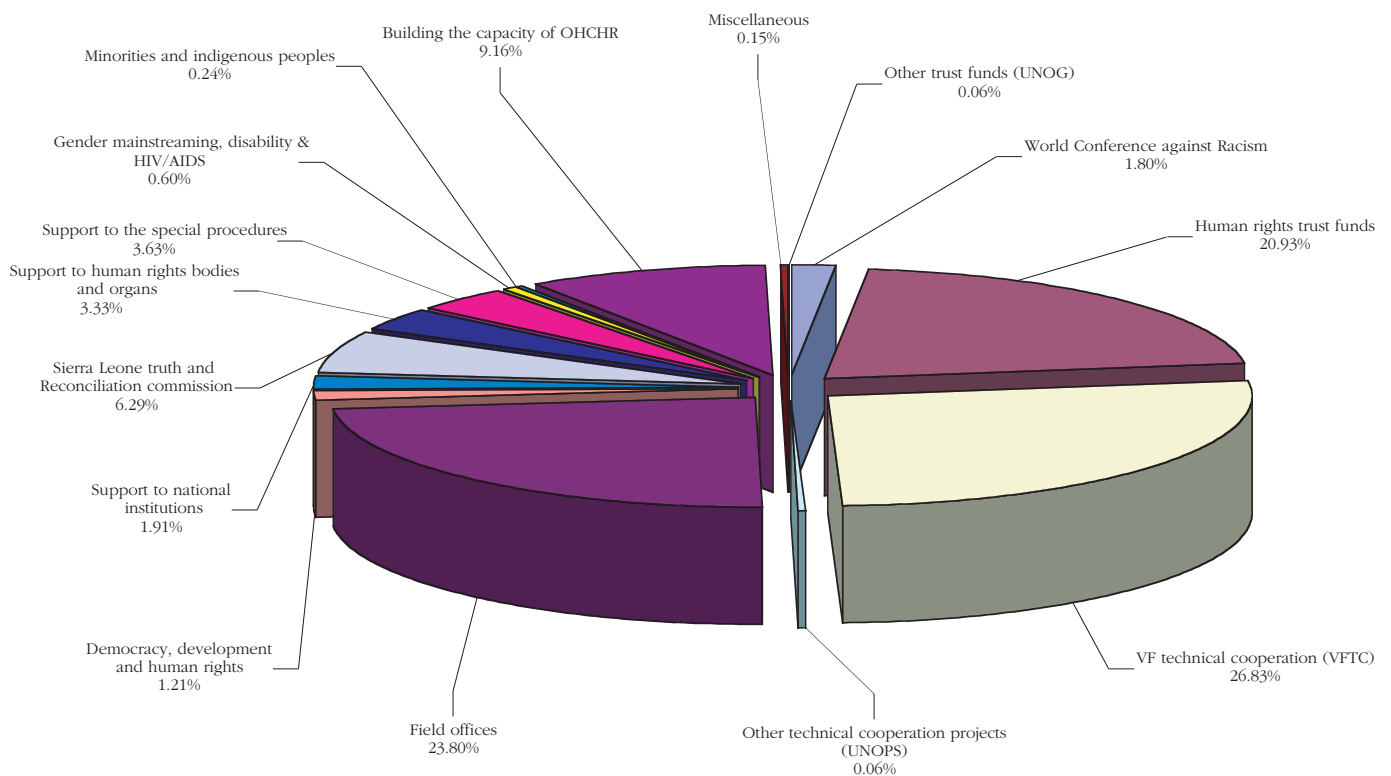
OHCHR's rate of implementation during the reporting period was better than in previous years. On the basis of the revised budget of US\$ 53.8 million, the overall expenditure rate was close to 98 per cent (it was 84 per cent compared to the initial budget presented in the 2003 Annual Appeal). Total expenditure from extra-budgetary activities as at 31 December 2003 amounted to US\$ 52.5 million, consolidating expenditure reported by UNOG and UNOPS on behalf of OHCHR. This represents a 23 per cent increase over the previous year, when US\$ 42.7 million was spent on extra-budgetary activities. This increase in expenditure can mainly be attributed to the expanded scope of activities in the field, particularly the creation of a new OHCHR office in Angola and the implementation of human rights activities in cooperation with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Iraq (until the attack on the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad on 19 August 2003). The increased scope of

activities undertaken in connection with the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission also contributed to the higher expenditure level.

In other areas, such as in technical cooperation, quarterly financial reviews of all projects resulted in more efficient use of resources and a higher rate of expenditure than in 2002. Close monitoring of the financial situation of projects under the heading "Building the capacity of OHCHR" allowed the Office to direct resources to projects with the greatest needs. Regular information-sharing with project managers, including through the mid-year review, led to more effective planning and implementation of activities. An increase in unearmarked contributions also resulted in more effective and efficient use of funds.

The pie chart below shows the percentage share of total expenditure (US\$ 52.5 million) for each main activity described in this report.

### Expenditure by main activity in 2003



## FUNDING OF OHCHR

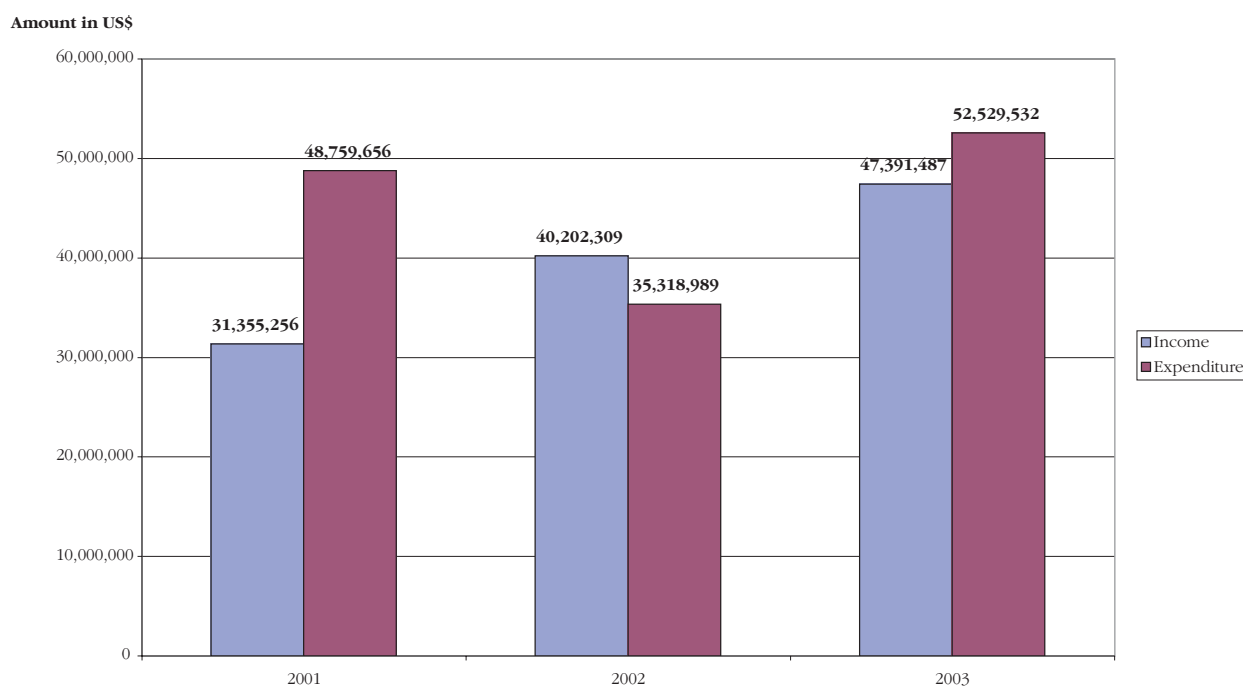
A reasonable carry-over is essential for the effective functioning of any international organization, particularly those, like OHCHR, that are dependent on voluntary contributions and that cannot spend funds before they are received. Without an adequate carry-over, which, at a minimum, should cover needs arising during the first four to six months of the year, OHCHR would be unable to ensure the continuation of many staff contracts and would be incapable of carrying out planned activities during the first months of the year. The fact that only four per cent of the contributions provided to the Office in 2003 were paid in the first quarter of the year clearly illustrates the need for a substantial carry-over.

Net carry-over into 2004 amounted to US\$ 31.4 million. This was US\$ 2.7 million higher than the net carry-over into 2003, which was US\$ 28.7 million. In accordance with United Nations financial rules and regulations, part of the carry-over (usually 15 per cent per trust fund) consists of cash reserves that are not available for implementing activities. In 2003, these cash reserves amounted to US\$ 7.4 million and have been deducted from the above net amount.

The financial rules and regulations to which OHCHR is subject require that funds be allotted (i.e., "locked in" and not available for other activities) for the duration of staff members' contracts. Hence, if a 12-month contract is awarded to a staff member, an allocation for 12 months is usually required. Although this secures staff members' contracts, resulting cash-flow problems early in the year especially make it difficult for the Office to implement its activities. The intermediate solution for the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation only, has been to allot funds for staff salaries for a six-month period, then to request the remainder at mid-year, thus ensuring the availability of funds for activities as early in the year as possible.

The graph below illustrates the comparison between funds received and those spent during the 2001-2003 period. The gap that existed between income and expenditure in a given year has been steadily reduced, but more must be done to ensure that planning and implementation of projects reflect the level of donor contributions.

### Income versus expenditure 2001-2003



## ■ FINANCIAL MONITORING AND CONTROL

A number of financial management measures introduced in 2001-2002 were further consolidated in 2003. Monthly reports on projects implemented through UNOG are now provided to all project managers so they can review their projects' financial status. The implementation rate of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation is reviewed quarterly. Funds reserved for projects that have low implementation rates are released for use by those with higher implementation rates. The results of the mid-year review process, which was introduced in 2001, were shared with donors in September 2003. The enhanced procedures for tracking and following up on voluntary contributions and related information-sharing with project managers ensures that donors' wishes are fully respected and that project managers have com-

prehensive financial information available when they make decisions about their projects.

The development of a new management system, containing functions for more effective project management, financial management, contributions management and reporting on extra-budgetary resources, remains a high priority. It is expected that the new system will replace today's largely manual procedures and build on information collected from OHCHR's main partners. In order to be able to move this initiative forward, OHCHR plans to enlist the support of other United Nations departments as well as the IT development team at UNOG Geneva. The section entitled "Building the capacity of OHCHR" has more details on this activity (see page 187).

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary <sup>1</sup>	Activities implemented through UNOG US\$	Activities implemented through UNOPS US\$	Total US\$
Opening balance <sup>2</sup>	33,919,525	1,723,028	35,642,553
Adjustment <sup>3</sup>	5,454,821	1,149,454	6,604,275
Income from contributions <sup>4</sup>	47,391,487	0	47,391,487
Other funds available <sup>5</sup>	1,931,298	53,156	1,984,454
Allocations from UNOG to UNOPS <sup>6</sup>	(9,619,588)	9,619,588	0
Total funds available <sup>7</sup>	79,077,543	12,545,226	91,622,769
Expenditure <sup>8</sup>	41,014,167	11,515,365	52,529,532
<b>Closing balance<sup>9</sup></b>	<b>38,063,376</b>	<b>1,029,861</b>	<b>39,093,237</b>

<sup>1</sup> All figures are subject to audit.

<sup>2</sup> The opening balance reflects the situation as at 1 January 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings, refunds and transfers.

<sup>4</sup> Includes all contributions received in UNOG accounts in 2003.

<sup>5</sup> Includes interest income and miscellaneous income in 2003.

<sup>6</sup> Represents allocations issued to UNOPS inclusive of 8% programme support costs.

<sup>7</sup> Includes all of the above figures.

<sup>8</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>9</sup> Includes operating cash reserves of US\$ 7.4 million which were not available for activities in 2003. Therefore, the net closing balance for 2003 was US\$ 31.7 million



## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE OVERALL SUMMARY

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003 US\$	Mid-Year Review budget 2003 US\$	Income 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2002 (final) US\$
Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance	995,643	906,836	84,787	947,193	485,233
Human rights trust funds	11,000,000	7,900,000	7,777,746	10,991,965	7,514,369
Voluntary fund for technical cooperation					
Global projects	2,373,986			2,061,056	1,189,586
Africa	2,789,518			3,553,124	1,450,268
Latin America and the Caribbean	2,529,433			2,821,964	902,720
Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus	2,245,660			1,738,184	963,963
Asia and the Pacific	2,207,173			1,890,852	925,155
Arab region	1,842,867			2,027,245	951,055
<b>sub-total</b>	<b>13,988,637</b>	<b>11,698,228</b>	<b>9,808,623</b>	<b>14,092,425</b>	<b>6,382,747</b>
Technical cooperation projects (implemented by UNOPS)	0	0	0	33,587	7,259
HR support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities	13,207,370	15,619,296	13,231,622	12,499,946	11,635,508
Democracy, development and human rights	1,510,132	1,191,769	867,956	635,696	507,819
Support to national institutions	995,643	1,118,327	719,292	1,004,310	866,948
Support to the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission	4,167,033	3,356,301	2,797,904	3,306,352	0
Support to human rights bodies and organs	3,988,674	2,399,087	2,936,264	1,749,915	1,799,056
Response to allegations of HR violations: support to the special procedures	2,994,726	2,518,337	3,665,421	1,909,312	1,677,041
Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS	1,058,471	539,461	527,527	312,780	478,602
Minorities and indigenous peoples	800,718	384,058	241,483	124,709	382,275
Building the capacity of OHCHR	7,803,554	6,159,350	4,213,424	4,812,060	3,338,712
Miscellaneous	0	0	519,438	78,597	243,420
Rwanda trust fund	0	0	0	30,685	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,510,601</b>	<b>53,791,050</b>	<b>47,391,487</b>	<b>52,529,532</b>	<b>35,318,989</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS PLEDGES AND PAYMENTS MADE IN 2003

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Pledge	Income	Donor	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$		US\$	US\$
United States of America	6,950,000	6,675,000	India	20,000	20,000
Norway	5,090,448	5,280,481	Indonesia	20,000	19,945
United Kingdom	4,996,706	2,935,764	Israel	20,000	20,000
Netherlands	3,879,279	4,160,371	Monaco	20,000	20,000
Sweden	3,045,204	3,151,882	Thailand	20,000	20,000
Denmark	2,984,933	2,800,477	Chile	13,000	10,000
Ireland	2,650,313	2,930,006	Bahrain	10,000	10,000
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2,000,000	0	Hilton Foundation	10,000	10,000
France	1,780,409	1,923,622	Kuwait	10,000	0
Germany	1,663,648	1,708,709	Costa Rica*	9,754	0
Switzerland	1,448,845	2,094,758	Cameroon*	9,059	0
Italy	1,257,143	1,257,143	Kenya	7,494	7,494
Finland	1,090,655	2,034,444	Bhutan	5,240	5,240
Belgium	1,050,709	1,747,363	Croatia	5,000	5,000
Spain	990,518	905,607	Czech Republic	5,000	5,000
Japan	850,092	875,397	Pakistan	5,000	5,000
Canada	490,225	733,048	Venezuela	5,000	0
New Zealand	403,692	399,710	Iceland	4,650	4,650
Saudi Arabia	270,000	270,000	Mauritius	3,000	3,000
Luxembourg	180,269	174,704	Hungary*	2,482	0
Australia	131,551	131,640	Holy See	2,000	2,000
Korea, Republic of	110,000	110,000	Sudan*	2,000	0
Austria	80,000	80,000	Tunisia	1,694	1,694
Algeria	65,000	59,957	Malta	1,500	1,500
Greece	58,300	48,000	Armenia	1,250	1,250
Qatar	55,000	54,975	Bostwana	1,003	1,003
Liechtenstein	48,488	48,488	Panama	1,000	1,000
South Africa	47,467	46,774	Haiti	109	109
Poland	25,000	25,000	European Commission	0	4,231,817
Estonia	23,632	23,632	MacArthur Foundation	0	250,000
Andorra	21,696	21,696	Other private donors	7,643	11,531
Guatemala	20,616	15,606	<b>Total</b>	<b>43,982,716</b>	<b>47,391,487</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* These contributions were paid in 2003, but registered as income in early 2004 due to OHCHR's administrative procedures.

■ VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR IN 2003 FROM THE TOP 20 DONORS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	5,000,000	5,000,000
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	1,500,000	1,225,000
Sierra Leone TRC	200,000	200,000
Colombia	250,000	250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,950,000</b>	<b>6,675,000</b>

NORWAY

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	136,986	140,813
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	136,986	140,814
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	47,945	49,168
International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	47,945	49,168
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	667,808	686,675
Somalia	51,370	52,847
Sudan	51,370	52,847
Mexico	51,370	52,847
Field offices <sup>2</sup>	684,932	704,068
Angola	285,307	296,714
Colombia <sup>3</sup>	784,593	807,577
Cambodia (election programme)	82,192	85,871
Balkans <sup>4</sup>	684,932	745,579
Democracy, development and human rights	136,986	140,813
HR bodies and organs	273,973	281,627
Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS	75,342	77,598
Protection of minorities	68,493	70,574
Building the capacity of OHCHR <sup>5</sup>	547,945	563,254
Contingency fund	273,973	281,627
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,090,448</b>	<b>5,280,481</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to Sierra Leone TRC.

<sup>2</sup> Allocated to: Burundi US\$ 404,068; Colombia US\$ 200,000 and Serbia and Montenegro US\$ 100,000.

<sup>3</sup> Pledge amount consists of: NOK 3.5 M (US\$ 499,287) for 2003 and NOK 2 M (US\$ 285,306) for 2004. It was paid in one single instalment in 2003 and therefore had to be reported as a 2003 contribution (according to OHCHR financial rules).

<sup>4</sup> Allocated to: Bosnia and Herzegovina US\$ 305,950 and Serbia and Montenegro US\$ 439,629.

<sup>5</sup> Allocated to: resource mobilization US\$ 100,000; human rights knowledge management US\$ 263,254 and staff security US\$ 200,000.

UNITED KINGDOM

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	238,095	237,044
Voluntary Fund on Contemporary forms of Slavery	16,026	17,036
Mexico	47,619	48,523
Nepal	104,100	104,356
Sudan	79,365	80,894
National institutions	158,730	123,056
Colombia	158,730	161,787
Cambodia – national elections	131,148	133,333
Iraq	655,738	666,667
NGO, media and communication <sup>1</sup>	0	923,318
Policy planning and methodology <sup>1</sup>	0	439,750
Resource mobilization	504,403	0
Core management system	756,925	0
Information technology and management	821,806	0
IT support to treaty bodies	456,559	0
NGO, media and communication	684,838	0
Support to UN country teams in integrating HR	182,624	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,996,706</b>	<b>2,935,764</b>

<sup>1</sup> Pledged in 2002.

In addition, unspent funds from the United Nations Mission in Angola (i.e. US\$ 79,860) were transferred to OHCHR.

NETHERLANDS

	Pledge/Allocation	Income
	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	500,000	500,000
Voluntary Fund for Contemporary Forms of Slavery <sup>1</sup>	0	53,042
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	900,000	900,000
Sierra Leone TRC <sup>1</sup>	0	228,050
Field offices <sup>2</sup>	900,000	900,000
Cambodia – national elections	150,000	150,000
Democracy, development and human rights	250,000	250,000
Support to special procedures	500,000	500,000
Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS	100,000	100,000
Building the capacity of OHCHR <sup>3</sup>	579,279	579,279
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,879,279</b>	<b>4,160,371</b>

<sup>1</sup> 2nd instalment of a 2002 pledge.

<sup>2</sup> Allocated to: Angola (temporary loan) US\$ 100,000; Burundi US\$ 300,000; Colombia US\$ 100,000; Bosnia and Herzegovina US\$ 50,000; Croatia US\$ 50,000 and Serbia and Montenegro US\$ 300,000.

<sup>3</sup> Allocated to: resource mobilization US\$ 150,000; human rights knowledge management US\$ 400,000 and staff security US\$ 29,279.

Netherlands pledged EURO 9 million for 3 years to be used flexibly according to the major headings of the Annual Appeal.

## SWEDEN

	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	58,208	60,503
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	232,829	242,009
Somalia	193,050	187,970
National institutions	116,414	121,004
Colombia	582,072	605,022
Cambodia	523,865	543,824
Development, democracy and human rights	116,415	121,004
HR bodies and organs	291,036	302,511
Support to special procedures	349,243	363,013
Building the capacity of OHCHR <sup>2</sup>	349,243	363,013
Resource mobilization	232,829	242,009
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,045,204</b>	<b>3,151,882</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: HR bodies and organs US\$ 33,156 and staff security US\$ 27,347.

<sup>2</sup> Allocated to: human rights knowledge management US\$ 44,000, core management system US\$ 120,000, resource mobilization US\$ 34,933, public information US\$ 39,080 and staff security US\$ 125,000.

In addition, unspent funds from the United Nations Mission in Angola (i.e. US\$ 666,667) were transferred to OHCHR.

## DENMARK

	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	2,060,222	1,897,810
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	289,855	283,668
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	43,478	42,121
International Decade of World's Indigenous People	115,942	112,656
Iraq	475,436	464,222
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,984,933</b>	<b>2,800,477</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: VFTC US\$ 816,145; HR bodies and organs US\$ 294,551; special procedures US\$ 294,551; minorities US\$ 38,260; evaluations US\$ 132,730; victims of torture US\$ 148,920; media relations and communication US\$ 100,000; core management system US\$ 50,000 and staff security US\$ 22,653.

## IRELAND

	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	626,307	692,360
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	104,384	115,442
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	365,344	403,755
National institutions	208,768	230,884
Field offices <sup>2</sup>	197,286	217,992
HR bodies and organs	365,344	403,755
Support to special procedures	313,152	346,327
Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS	260,960	288,606
Building the capacity of OHCHR <sup>3</sup>	208,768	230,885
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,650,313</b>	<b>2,930,006</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: Sierra Leone TRC US\$ 200,000; HR bodies and organs US\$ 85,000; special procedures US\$ 357,360 and minorities US\$ 50,000.

<sup>2</sup> Allocated to DRC.

<sup>3</sup> Allocated to: human rights knowledge management US\$ 120,885 and resource mobilization US\$ 110,000.

## LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	2,000,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>0</b>

<sup>1</sup> To be allocated when the contribution is paid.

## FRANCE

	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	208,562	219,260
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	87,816	94,277
Voluntary Fund for Contemporary Forms of Slavery	32,931	34,620
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	219,539	230,800
Centre for HR and Democracy in Central Africa <sup>2</sup>	0	286,094
Haiti	144,696	146,415
Field offices <sup>3</sup>	290,889	305,809
Burundi <sup>2</sup>	0	422,821
Iraq	114,286	114,286
Support to special procedures	65,862	69,240
2nd instalment of the multi-year partnership OHCHR-DGCID	615,828	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,780,409</b>	<b>1,923,622</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: Sierra Leone TRC US\$ 150,000 and HR bodies and organs US\$ 69,260.

<sup>2</sup> Pledged in 2002.

<sup>3</sup> Allocated to: DRC US\$ 200,000 and Burundi US\$ 108,809.

## GERMANY

	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	139,935	139,935
Afghanistan <sup>1</sup>	0	805
Afghanistan	102,138	102,138
VFTC – Africa	86,114	92,166
VFTC – Latin America and the Caribbean	86,114	92,166
VFTC – Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus	86,114	92,166
VFTC – Asia and the Pacific	86,114	92,166
VFTC – Arab region	86,114	92,166
National institutions	107,643	115,207
Sierra Leone TRC	281,561	289,823
Iraq	117,786	114,286
Colombia	34,286	35,211
Field offices – BiH + S+M <sup>2</sup>	170,789	165,336
HR bodies and organs	164,654	176,678
Support to special procedures	85,714	81,345
Regional consultation on women and housing	28,572	27,115
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,663,648</b>	<b>1,708,709</b>

<sup>1</sup> Adjustment to the contribution made in 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Allocated to: Bosnia and Herzegovina US\$ 65,336 and Serbia and Montenegro US\$ 100,000.

## SWITZERLAND

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	57,554	58,824
Follow-up to the WCAR (anti-discrimination unit)	35,971	36,765
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation <sup>1</sup>	0	227,941
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation <sup>2</sup>	208,633	213,236
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation <sup>3</sup>	647,482	681,818
Sierra Leone TRC	215,828	222,222
Sierra Leone TRC <sup>4</sup>	0	215,827
Colombia <sup>4</sup>	0	143,885
Colombia	141,844	151,515
HR bodies and organs	17,986	18,382
Treaty reporting in Bosnia and Herzegovina	19,231	18,519
Support to special procedures	17,986	18,385
Support to special procedures	35,971	35,971
Support to special procedures (SR human rights defenders)	35,971	36,762
Protection of minorities	14,388	14,706
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,448,845</b>	<b>2,094,758</b>

<sup>1</sup> 2002 portion of the multi-year pledge made in 2000 (for 2000-2001-2002).  
<sup>2</sup> Additional contribution to the 2002 portion of the multi-year pledge made in 2000.  
<sup>3</sup> 2003 portion of the multi-year contribution pledged in 2003.  
<sup>4</sup> Pledged in 2002.

## ITALY

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	228,572	228,572
VFTC - Africa (Addis Ababa and Pretoria)	228,572	228,572
Democratic Republic of the Congo	285,714	285,714
Bosnia and Herzegovina	228,571	228,571
HR bodies and organs	285,714	285,714
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,257,143</b>	<b>1,257,143</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to Colombia.

In addition, unspent funds from the United Nations Mission in Angola (i.e. US\$ 493,050) were transferred to OHCHR.

## FINLAND

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	635,873	653,039
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	33,996	33,996
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation <sup>2</sup>	0	175,563
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	192,215	199,748
Field offices <sup>3</sup>	0	474,015
Activities related to Africa <sup>4</sup>	114,285	117,371
Activities in developing countries <sup>5</sup>	0	263,341
Support to special procedures	114,286	117,371
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,090,655</b>	<b>2,034,444</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: information technology US\$ 250,000; executive office US\$ 100,000; HQ support to field offices US\$ 200,000 and staff security US\$ 103,039.  
<sup>2</sup> Pledged in 2002.  
<sup>3</sup> Pledged in 2002. Allocated to: Burundi US\$ 104,384; Bosnia and Herzegovina US\$ 137,898; Croatia US\$ 73,069 and Serbia and Montenegro US\$ 158,664.  
<sup>4</sup> Allocated to Burundi.  
<sup>5</sup> Pledged in 2002. Allocated to Burundi.

## BELGIUM

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	82,327	81,345
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	129,381	141,660
Field offices <sup>1</sup>	388,142	424,955
Democratic Republic of the Congo <sup>2</sup>	0	626,301
Democracy, development and human rights	258,762	283,301
Support to special procedures	192,097	189,801
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,050,709</b>	<b>1,747,363</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: Burundi US\$ 250,000 and DRC US\$ 174,955.  
<sup>2</sup> Pledged in 2002.

## SPAIN

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	214,823	214,823
Unearmarked <sup>2</sup>	411,428	410,490
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	48,000	47,890
Colombia	164,571	164,196
Gender mainstreaming	32,931	34,208
Gender mainstreaming	118,765	0
Public information <sup>3</sup> (Exhibition in Palais Wilson)	0	34,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>990,518</b>	<b>905,607</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: victims of torture US\$ 5,000; Burundi US\$ 150,000; minorities US\$ 25,000; human rights knowledge management US\$ 19,823 and resource mobilization US\$ 15,000.  
<sup>2</sup> Additional unearmarked contribution allocated to: core management system US\$ 50,000; media relations, communications and NGO partnerships US\$ 8,798; protection of minorities US\$ 30,490; indigenous peoples US\$ 11,202; democracy, development and human rights US\$ 50,000; HR bodies and organs US\$ 60,000 and VFTC US\$ 200,000.  
<sup>3</sup> Was paid by cheque in late December 2002, and cashed in early January 2003.

## JAPAN

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	70,975	73,628
Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	59,425	61,643
International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	29,708	30,821
Decade to combat racism	19,809	20,548
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	647,067	664,785
Cambodia	23,108	23,972
<b>Total</b>	<b>850,092</b>	<b>875,397</b>

All contributions were pledged and paid in two instalments.

## CANADA

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	43,193	43,193
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	9,747	9,747
International Decade for the World's Indigenous People	9,747	9,747
Sierra Leone TRC <sup>1</sup>	0	243,838
Colombia	354,610	383,471
Independent expert's study on impunity	30,882	22,837
Experts' meeting SR on violence against women	22,901	20,215
Experts' workshop on best practices to combat impunity	19,145	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>490,225</b>	<b>733,048</b>

<sup>1</sup> Pledged in 2002, paid in two instalments.

## NEW ZEALAND

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	112,994	111,191
Unearmarked <sup>2</sup>	290,698	288,519
<b>Total</b>	<b>403,692</b>	<b>399,710</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: VFTC US\$ 71,014; Croatia US\$ 20,000 and human rights knowledge management (information and communication project) US\$ 20,177.

<sup>2</sup> Additional unearmarked contribution allocated to VFTC.

## SAUDI ARABIA

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	200,000	200,000
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	10,000	10,000
Voluntary Fund on contemporary forms of slavery	20,000	20,000
Trust Fund to combat racism	10,000	10,000
Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation	20,000	20,000
Building the capacity of OHCHR	10,000	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>270,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to: HR bodies and organs US\$ 100,000 and special procedures US\$ 100,000.

## LUXEMBOURG

	Pledge	Income
	US\$	US\$
Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	46,083	46,083
Voluntary Fund for victims of torture	20,161	20,161
Field offices <sup>2</sup>	114,025	108,460
<b>Total</b>	<b>180,269</b>	<b>174,704</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated to Sierra Leone TRC.

<sup>2</sup> Allocated to Colombia.

## 2003 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS – TOP 20 DONORS PLEDGES TO OHCHR BY ACTIVITY

The distribution of funds in this table reflects earmarking by donors.

Earmarking	United States of America	Norway	United Kingdom	Netherlands	Sweden	Denmark	Ireland	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	France	Germany	Switzerland	Italy
Unearmarked		136,986			58,208	2,060,222	626,307		208,562			228,572
VF victims of torture	5,000,000	136,986	238,095	500,000		289,855	104,384		87,816	139,935	57,554	
Trust Fund for contemporary forms of slavery			16,026						32,931			
VF indigenous populations		47,945				43,478						
VF international decade of the world's indigenous people		47,945				115,942						
Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism											35,971	
Voluntary Fund for technical cooperation	1,500,000	821,918	413,708	900,000	425,879		365,344		364,235	430,570	856,115	228,572
Support to national institutions			158,730		116,414		208,768			107,643		
Support to Sierra Leone TRC	200,000									281,561	215,828	
Field offices (including Cambodia)	250,000	2,521,956	945,616	1,050,000	1,105,937	475,436	197,286		1,021,003	322,861	141,844	514,285
Democracy, development and human rights		136,986		250,000	116,415							
Support to human right bodies and organs		273,973	456,559		291,036		365,344			164,654	37,217	285,714
Support to the special procedures				500,000	349,243		313,152		65,862	85,714	89,928	
Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS		75,342		100,000			260,960			28,572		
Minorities and indigenous peoples		68,493									14,388	
Building the capacity of OHCHR		547,945	2,767,972	579,279	582,072		208,768					
Miscellaneous		273,973						2,000,000		102,138		
<b>Total pledges by donor</b>	<b>6,950,000</b>	<b>5,090,448</b>	<b>4,996,706</b>	<b>3,879,279</b>	<b>3,045,204</b>	<b>2,984,933</b>	<b>2,650,313</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>1,780,409</b>	<b>1,663,648</b>	<b>1,448,845</b>	<b>1,257,143</b>

## 2003 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS – TOP 20 DONORS PLEDGES TO OHCHR BY ACTIVITY

The distribution of funds in this table reflects earmarking by donors.

Earmarking	Finland	Belgium	Spain	Japan	Canada	New Zealand	Saudi Arabia	Luxembourg	Other donors	Total pledges by activity	Annual Appeal budget	Revised budget (Mid Year Review)
Unearmarked	635,873		626,251			403,692	200,000	46,083	238,322	5,469,078		
VF victims of torture		82,327	48,000	70,975	43,193		10,000	20,161	172,517	7,001,798	9,908,000	7,000,000
Trust Fund for contemporary forms of slavery				59,425			20,000		20,475	148,857	300,000	300,000
VF indigenous populations	33,996				9,747				40,739	175,905	350,000	300,000
VF international decade of the world's indigenous people				29,708	9,747				21,502	224,844	442,000	300,000
Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism				19,809			10,000		22,511	88,291	995,643	906,836
Voluntary Fund for technical cooperation	192,215	129,381		647,067			20,000		243,867	7,538,871	13,988,637	11,698,228
Support to national institutions									129,032	720,587	995,643	1,118,327
Support to Sierra Leone TRC										697,389	4,167,033	3,356,301
Field offices (including Cambodia)		388,142	164,571	23,108	354,610			114,025	10,000	9,600,680	13,207,370	15,619,296
Democracy, development and human rights		258,762			50,027					812,190	1,510,132	1,191,769
Support to human right bodies and organs									2,519	1,877,016	3,988,674	2,399,087
Support to the special procedures	114,286	192,097			22,901				5,000	1,738,183	2,994,726	2,518,337
Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS			151,696							616,570	1,058,471	539,461
Minorities and indigenous peoples										82,881	800,718	384,058
Building the capacity of OHCHR							10,000			4,696,036	7,803,554	6,159,350
Miscellaneous	114,285								3,144	2,493,540		
<b>Total pledges by donor</b>	<b>1,090,655</b>	<b>1,050,709</b>	<b>990,518</b>	<b>850,092</b>	<b>490,225</b>	<b>403,692</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>180,269</b>	<b>909,628</b>	<b>43,982,716</b>	<b>62,510,601</b>	<b>53,791,050</b>



## FUNDING OF OHCHR

In 2003, OHCHR had 26 junior professional officers (JPOs) who were supported by the following governments: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), Spain, Switzerland and Sweden. Of the total number of JPOs, seven were non-nationals supported by Belgium, Finland, Italy, the Netherlands and the OIF. The table below indicates the distribution of JPOs by government sponsor.

Government sponsor	Number of JPOs	Number of non-nationals
Belgium	2	1
Denmark	2	0
Finland	3	1
France	3	0
Germany	2	0
Italy	3	2
Korea, Republic of	1	0
Netherlands	2	1
Norway	1	0
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie	2	2
Spain	1	0
Switzerland	3	0
Sweden	1	0
	<b>26</b>	<b>7</b>



# HUMAN RIGHTS TRUST FUNDS ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

### ■ BACKGROUND

The physical and psychological after-effects of torture, which affect both victims and members of their families, can be long-lasting and may be irreversible. The General Assembly established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture to distribute grants to NGOs that provide humanitarian assistance to victims of torture and members of their families. The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General, in accordance with the financial regulations of the United Nations, with the advice of a Board of Trustees. The secretariat of the Fund and Board is located at OHCHR Headquarters in Geneva.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

At its 21st session (May 2002), the Board estimated that it would need US\$ 13 million to cover all requests made in 2003. OHCHR's Annual Appeal for 2003 invited donors to contribute US\$ 9,908,000 to meet the financial needs of the more than 240 organizations assisting victims of torture and their relatives around the world.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

At the 22nd session of the Board (May 2003), US\$ 7,222,691 was available for new grants; this amount was allocated to 186 projects in 68 countries. The Board also reviewed follow-up actions undertaken by the secretariat concerning 249 projects, including analysis of narrative, financial and audit reports.

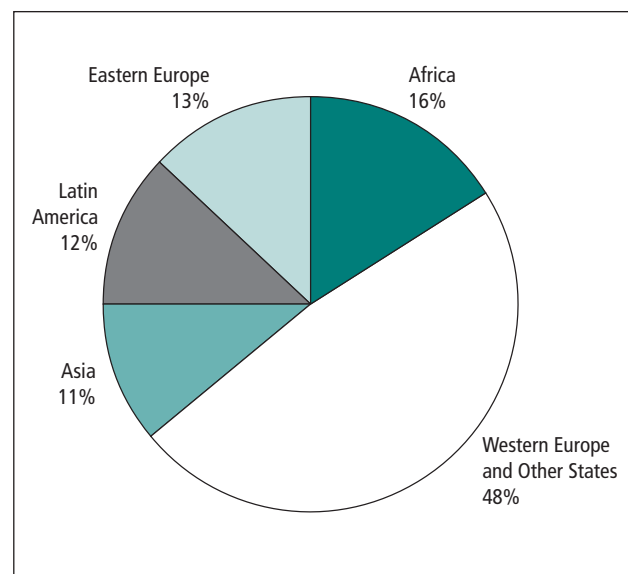
Since the last session of the Board in May 2003, US\$ 5.8 million in grants was disbursed. Some US\$ 1.5 million allocated for grants may be disbursed by the next session of the Board, scheduled to take

place from 10 to 27 May 2004, pending the receipt and approval of additional information requested by the Board or the Fund secretariat from the organizations concerned. The list of organizations subsidized in 2003 is published in the report to the 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2004/53).

Travel costs for the 22nd session of the Board amounted to US\$ 21,000. An allocation of US\$ 11,660 allowed the secretariat of the Fund to conduct on-the-spot assessments of funded projects.

In 2006, OHCHR will publish a book commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Fund: It will contain testimonies from torture victims, health professionals, lawyers and social workers who received assistance from the Fund and contributions from former or current Board members.

### Grant distribution per region



### Number of subsidized projects in 2003 by region

Region	Number of projects	Amount in US\$
Africa	29	761,000
Asia	20	696,000
Latin America	23	915,000
Eastern Europe	25	558,800
Western Europe and Other States	89	4,207,000

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

Given the discrepancy between the amount requested by NGOs and the amount available, for the second consecutive year the Board did not recommend grants for training or seminars intended to allow professionals assisting victims of torture to exchange information and broaden their expertise in the field. The Board recommended that only US\$ 50,000 be set aside for emergency requests from NGOs and individual cases half the amount set aside in previous years.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Beneficiary organizations were informed of the Board's recommendations and of the conditions attached to the disbursement of grants, including access to detailed information on the expenses of each project. They were also informed that the members of the Board, the Fund's secretariat or United Nations presences in the field might visit their projects and meet with project staff and the victims of torture who have benefited from the grant in order to evaluate the impact of the project. OHCHR's field presences and desk officers were informed about projects in their respective regions.

### ■ COORDINATION

The OHCHR exchanges information with the European Commission's Unit for Human Rights and Democratization on projects financed by both entities and on funding policies. The Board cooperates with the Committee against Torture and the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

Victims of torture and members of their families benefit directly from NGO projects that provide psychological, medical, economic, social, legal or other forms of direct humanitarian assistance.

### ■ EVALUATION

Every year the Fund assists thousands of victims of torture and members of their families. In resolution 2003/32, the Commission on Human Rights asked that an independent evaluation of the Fund be conducted with the aim of enhancing the Fund's effectiveness. The Office of Internal Oversight Services and two external consultants are currently undertaking this evaluation, which entails a review of the Fund's impact both at Headquarters and in the field. All regions where projects are funded and a cross-section of projects will be visited in order to ensure as comprehensive a review as possible. An interim report of the evaluation will be submitted to the 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/200453/Add.1); the final evaluation report will be submitted to the 61st session one year later.

OHCHR field presences were informed about projects financed by the Fund in their regions and, when necessary, invited to provide relevant information to the Fund's secretariat on the projects concerned. In some instances, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR or other relevant United Nations organizations were also asked to provide information about projects. Visits by OHCHR staff or by United Nations field presences were made to Bolivia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Pakistan, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Tanzania. Members of the Fund's secretariat visited projects in Bosnia, Chile, Croatia, Italy, Serbia and Montenegro and the United

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE UNVF VICTIMS OF TORTURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary <sup>1</sup>	US\$
Opening balance	2,468,083
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	1,534,332
Income from contributions	7,156,275
Other funds available <sup>3</sup>	278,865
Total funds available	11,437,555
Expenditure <sup>4</sup>	9,651,003
<b>Closing balance<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>1,786,552</b>

<sup>1</sup> This statement reflects figures reported for the UN financial year. Due to the different reporting periods covered, these figures may differ from those reported for the Fund to the UN General Assembly.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments/savings to prior period expenditure.

<sup>3</sup> Includes interest income of US\$ 243,631.

<sup>4</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>5</sup> Includes US\$ 1,215,029 in operating cash reserves. This amount was not available for activities in 2003.

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

### UNVF VICTIMS OF TORTURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	9,908,000	7,000,000	9,651,003	6,534,914
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,908,000</b>	<b>7,000,000</b>	<b>9,651,003</b>	<b>6,534,914</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

### UNVF VICTIMS OF TORTURE

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>		
Algeria	5,000	5,000
Andorra	21,696	21,696
Austria	40,000	40,000
Belgium	82,327	81,345
Botswana	501	501
Canada	43,193	43,193
Chile	6,000	5,000
Costa Rica*	4,754	0
Czech Republic	5,000	5,000
Denmark	438,775	432,588
France	87,816	94,277
Germany	139,935	139,935
Greece**	10,300	0
Haiti	109	109
Hungary*	2,482	0
Iceland	4,650	4,650
Ireland	104,384	115,442
Israel	10,000	10,000
Japan	70,975	73,628
Kenya	7,494	7,494
Korea, Rep. of	10,000	10,000
Kuwait	10,000	0
Liechtenstein	7,353	7,353
Luxembourg	20,161	20,161
Monaco	10,000	10,000
Netherlands	500,000	500,000
Norway	136,986	140,814
Poland	5,000	5,000
Saudi Arabia	10,000	10,000
South Africa	11,867	11,693
Spain	53,000	52,891
Switzerland	57,554	58,824
Thailand	10,000	10,000
Tunisia	1,694	1,694
United Kingdom	238,095	237,044
United States of America	5,000,000	5,000,000
Venezuela	5,000	0
<i>Other donors</i>		
private donors	853	943
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,172,954</b>	<b>7,156,275</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* Paid in late 2003 from an unearmarked contribution and recorded as income in 2004.

\*\* Paid in NY in 2003 and transferred to Geneva in early 2004.

States (New York). The Board has encouraged this practice as a way of ensuring that the grants awarded are spent in conformity with the Fund's guidelines. These visits also provide an opportunity to answer questions and give beneficiary organizations more detailed information on the Fund's reporting requirements.

the Board of Trustees in January/February so that the money can be allocated and disbursed during the year.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN UNVF VICTIMS OF TORTURE

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	18,255	9,818
Commission members	27,031	28,499
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	8,495,425	5,744,793
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>8,540,711</b>	<b>5,783,109</b>
Programme support costs	1,110,292	751,804
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,651,003</b>	<b>6,534,914</b>

## VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND ON CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

### ■ BACKGROUND

The objective of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery is to allow representatives of NGOs that work in the area of contemporary forms of slavery, including former victims, to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery. This is done by providing them with travel grants, and extending, through established channels of assistance, humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery (project grants).

Funding is obtained through voluntary contributions from governments, NGOs and other private or public entities. Contributions to the Fund must be paid before the annual session of

### ■ BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General, in accordance with the financial rules and regulations of the United Nations, with the advice of a Board of Trustees. The Board is composed of five persons with relevant experience in the field of human rights, particularly in contemporary forms of slavery, who serve in their personal capacities. The members of the Board are appointed by the Secretary-General in consultation with the current Chairman of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, with consideration given to equitable geographical distribution. Members are appointed for three-year renewable terms. The current five members of the Board of Trustees are Swami Agnivesh (India, Chairman), Mr. Cheikh Saad-Bouh Kamara (Mauritania), Ms. Tatiana Matveeva (Russian Federation), Mr. José de Souza Martins (Brazil) and Mr. Theo van Boven (The Netherlands).

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

According to the criteria established by the General Assembly, the beneficiaries of the Fund are representatives of NGOs dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery who are so considered by the Board of Trustees of the Fund, who would not, in the opinion of the Board, be able to attend the sessions of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery without the Fund's assistance, and who would contribute to a deeper knowledge of the problems related to contemporary forms of slavery; and individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery and who are so considered by the Board.

### ■ THE GRANTS-APPROVAL CYCLE

Applications for travel and project grants have to be submitted by 15 September each year for analysis by the secretariat of the Fund. Admissible applications are examined by the Board of Trustees at its annual session in January/February. The Board adopts recommendations for the approval of the High Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary-General. The grants are paid in March/April. Beneficiaries have to provide satisfactory narrative and financial reports on the use of project grants. Until satisfactory reports on the use of previous grants are received, no new grant can be disbursed.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

About 90 applications for travel and project grants were received for consideration by the Board of Trustees at its 8th session (20-24 January 2003). After examining the applications according to the established criteria, the Board recommended that eight travel grants, amounting to US\$ 21,995, be allocated to representatives of NGOs to allow them to participate in the 28th session of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, and that 28 project grants, amounting to US\$ 130,420, be awarded. These recommendations were approved by the High Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary-General.

In accordance with the Fund's guidelines, organizations were asked to submit narrative and financial reports on the use of project grants allocated in 2003 by 1 November of that year. The secretariat analyzed these reports in preparation for the 9th session of the Board of Trustees. In addition, two members of the Board conducted evaluation missions of two projects, one in France, one in Senegal, which were funded in 2003. At no cost to the Fund, the secretariat visited another two projects, one in Italy, one in Chile, that were subsidized by the Fund in 2002. These evaluation missions allowed for an exchange of information with project leaders and staff who work on the projects to better understand the implementation and use of the grant as well as the functioning of the Fund. Satisfactory reports were submitted

thereafter by the project grantees on the use of funds which will be presented to the 9th session of the Board in 2004.

## ■ REPORTING

Updated information on the activities of the Fund and Board are available in the report of the Secretary-General to the 58th session of the General Assembly (A/58/306) and to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2003/83 and E/CN.4/2003/83/Add. 1).

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

#### UNVTF CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary <sup>1</sup>	US\$
Opening balance	331,586
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	38,425
Income from contributions	208,827
Other funds available <sup>3</sup>	28,284
Total funds available	607,122
Expenditure <sup>4</sup>	235,108
<b>Closing balance<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>372,014</b>

<sup>1</sup> This statement reflects figures reported for the UN financial year. Due to the different reporting periods covered, these figures may differ from those reported for the Fund to the UN General Assembly.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments/savings to prior period expenditure.

<sup>3</sup> Includes interest income of US\$ 12,952.

<sup>4</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>5</sup> Includes US\$ 29,567 in operating cash reserves. This amount was not available for activities in 2003.

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS UNVTF CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>		
Botswana	502	501
France	32,931	34,620
Holy See	1,000	1,000
Israel	5,000	5,000
Japan	59,425	61,643
Mauritius	3,000	3,000
Netherlands	0	53,042
Saudi Arabia	20,000	20,000
South Africa	5,933	5,847
Sudan*	2,000	0
United Kingdom	16,026	17,036
<i>Other donors</i>		
Students of Archway School	0	4,098
Private donors	3,040	3,040
<b>Total</b>	<b>148,857</b>	<b>208,827</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* Paid by cheque in late 2003, and cashed in early January 2004.

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE UNVTF CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	300,000	300,000	235,108	150,021
<b>Total</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>235,108</b>	<b>150,021</b>

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN UNVTF CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	0	0
Commission members	23,600	19,288
Representatives and other participants	20,575	18,439
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	163,885	95,035
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>208,060</b>	<b>132,762</b>
Programme support costs	27,048	17,259
<b>Total</b>	<b>235,108</b>	<b>150,021</b>

## VOLUNTARY FUND FOR INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

### ■ BACKGROUND

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations provides financial assistance to representatives of indigenous communities and organizations so they can participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 50/156 of 21 December 1995, decided that the Fund should also be used to support

the participation of authorized representatives of indigenous communities and organizations in the deliberations of the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission of Human Rights on the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous people. In December 2001, the General Assembly extended the mandate of the Fund further by deciding that the Fund should also be used to help representatives of indigenous communities and organizations attend the sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as observers.

Funding is obtained through voluntary contributions from governments, NGOs and other private or public entities. Contributions to the Fund must be paid before the annual session of the Board of Trustees in March/April so that the money can be allocated or disbursed during the year.

### ■ BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General in accordance with United Nations financial rules and regulations and with the advice of a Board of Trustees. The Board is composed of five persons with relevant experience on indigenous issues who serve in their personal capacities. The members of the Board are appointed by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, for a three-year, renewable term. At least one member of the Board of Trustees is a representative of a widely recognized organization of indigenous peoples.

The members of the Board of Trustees appointed by the Secretary-General are, themselves, indigenous persons: Mr. Lars Anders Baer (Saami), Mr. Nadir Bekirov (Crimean Tatar), Mr. Ahmed Mahiou (Amazigh), Mr. José Carlos Morales Morales (Brunca) and Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (Igorot). The Board's Chairperson for the ongoing term is Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

According to the criteria established by the General Assembly, the Fund's beneficiaries are representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations and communities who are so considered by the Board of Trustees; who would not, in the opinion of Board, be able to attend the sessions of the working groups without the Fund's assistance; and who can contribute to a deeper knowledge of the problems affecting indigenous populations. Broad geographical representation is also sought when beneficiaries are selected.

## ■ THE GRANTS-APPROVAL CYCLE

Applications for grants must be submitted by 1 October for analysis by the Fund's secretariat. Admissible applications are examined by the Board of Trustees at its annual session in March/April. The Board adopts recommendations for approval by the High Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary-General. Beneficiaries are informed of the decisions in April/May.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

The Secretariat received more than 200 applications from indigenous representatives to attend the first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. At its 16th session, in April, the Board also considered 233 applications for travel grants for indigenous representatives to attend the 21st session of the Sub-Commissions Working Group on Indigenous Populations (21-25 July) and 23 applications for travel grants to attend the 9th session of the Working Group established by the Commission of Human Rights on the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous people (15- 26 September).

The Board recommended awarding 43 travel grants to allow representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to attend the Permanent Forum, 80 travel grants to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, and 15 grants for indigenous representatives to attend the Working Group on the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people. All the recommendations were approved by the High Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary-General. The secretariat of the Fund disbursed the travel grants to the beneficiaries during the year.

In order to meet the requests for funding received in 2003, the Fund would need US\$ 800,000 before its next session, which is scheduled to be held in Geneva from 11 to 19 March 2004.

## ■ REPORTING

Information on the activities of the Fund and Board can be found in the biennial report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (A/57/296) on the status of the fund, in the annual report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on the Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (A/58/289), in the annual report of the High Commissioner to the Commission on Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (E/CN.4/2003/89), and in the note by the secretariat to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2003/12). Updated information will also be available in the 58th session of the General Assembly in the report of the Secretary-General on the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN UNVF INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	8,530	3,619
Commission members	80,403	33,792
Representatives and other participants	480,456	340,009
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>569,388</b>	<b>377,420</b>
Programme support costs	74,020	49,065
<b>Total</b>	<b>643,409</b>	<b>426,485</b>



## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

### UNVF INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	350,000	300,000	643,409	426,485
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>643,409</b>	<b>426,485</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

### UNVF INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>		
Algeria	5,000	4,978
Canada	9,747	9,747
Chile	1,000	0
Denmark	43,478	42,121
Estonia	11,816	11,816
Finland	33,996	33,996
Greece	6,500	6,500
Guatemala	10,003	10,004
Holy See	1,000	1,000
Israel	5,000	5,000
Norway	47,945	49,168
<i>Other donors</i>		
Hilton Foundation	10,000	10,000
Private donors	420	420
<b>Total</b>	<b>185,905</b>	<b>184,750</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

### UNVF INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary <sup>1</sup>	US\$
Opening balance	954,833
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	127,585
Income from contributions	184,750
Other funds available <sup>3</sup>	40,238
Total funds available	1,307,406
Expenditure <sup>4</sup>	643,409
<b>Closing balance<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>663,997</b>

<sup>1</sup> This statement reflects figures reported for the UN financial year. Due to the different reporting periods covered, these figures may differ from those reported for the Fund to the UN General Assembly.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments/savings to prior period expenditure.

<sup>3</sup> Includes interest income of US\$ 35,238.

<sup>4</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>5</sup> Includes US\$ 75,828 in operating cash reserves. This amount was not available for activities in 2003.

## VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

### ■ BACKGROUND

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/163, the Secretary-General established a voluntary fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and was authorized "to accept and administer voluntary contributions from governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations and other private institutions and individuals for the purpose of funding projects and programmes during the Decade". As Coordinator of the Decade, OHCHR was asked to help to develop projects and programmes, in collaboration with governments, that would be supported by the Voluntary Fund.

## ■ THE ADVISORY GROUP

An Advisory Group for the Fund was created in April 1996. The Advisory Group is composed of Mr. José Carlos Morales Morales (Chairperson), Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Mr. Ahmed Mahiou, Mr. Lars Anders Baer, and Mr. Nadir Bekirov, who are also members of the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. The Group also includes the Chairperson of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, Mr. Miguel Alfonso Martínez, and Mr. José Luís Gómez del Prado, who were appointed by the Secretary-General.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The Fund's beneficiaries include indigenous peoples, communities and organizations, non-governmental and other organizations, and academic and similar institutions that seek small grants for projects and activities relating to the Decade, particularly those aimed at strengthening indigenous organizational structures and procedures through education, human rights training, and institution- and capacity-building. The organizations should be non-profit-making and should have the capacity to raise additional money from other sources.

## ■ THE GRANTS-APPROVAL CYCLE

Applications for grants have to be submitted by 1 October of each year for analysis by the secretariat of the Fund. The Advisory Group examines admissible applications at its annual session in April. The Group adopts recommendations for approval by the High Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary-General. Beneficiaries are informed of the decisions in May/June.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

At its 8th annual session, held from 8 to 11 April, the Advisory Group evaluated the Fund's activities during 2002 and the narrative and financial reports received from both the organizations benefiting from grants allocated by the Fund and those OHCHR programmes that were financed by the Fund in 2002.

The Advisory Group also reviewed nearly 200 admissible applications for project grants in Africa, Asia, Europe and South America, amounting to about US\$ 5,000,000. It allocated all the money available to the Fund at its 8th session and recommended 48 project grants, totaling US\$ 274,000, for approval by

the Secretary-General. Upon recommendation of the Advisory Group, US\$ 50,000 was also allocated to a community-led human rights training session, to be held in an as yet unspecified location, and to fund the participation of 10 indigenous representatives from all regions in a thematic seminar on indigenous peoples and the administration of justice. These activities are to be implemented by OHCHR.

Narrative and financial reports on the use of the grants were due on 1 October, however the secretariat granted some beneficiaries an extension for the submission of their reports. The Advisory Group will review the reports at its next session in March 2004.

An expert seminar on indigenous peoples and the administration of justice was held in Madrid from 12-14 November, in cooperation with the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED), to support the work of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, whose thematic main report to the 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights focuses on this topic. More than 100 people attended the seminar, including representatives from governments, indigenous organizations, universities and NGOs, and 24 indigenous experts, eight of whom were financed by the Voluntary Fund. The Fund contributed a total of US\$ 29,225 to this seminar. A report on the conclusions and recommendations of the seminar (E/CN.4/2004/80/Add.4) will be presented to the 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights. The complete narrative report will be available at the 22nd session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations in July 2004.

## ■ REPORTING

Relevant information on the activities of the Fund and Group can be found in the annual report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (A/58/289), in the annual report of the High Commissioner to the Commission on Human Rights on the Implementation of the Programme of Activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (E/CN.4/2004/79), and in the note by the secretariat to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2003/13).

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE UNVF INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary <sup>1</sup>	US\$
Opening balance	318,430
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	108,788
Income from contributions	227,893
Other funds available <sup>3</sup>	211,889
Total funds available	867,000
Expenditure <sup>4</sup>	462,445
<b>Closing balance<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>404,555</b>

<sup>1</sup> This statement reflects figures reported for the UN financial year. Due to the different reporting periods covered, these figures may differ from those reported for the Fund to the UN General Assembly.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments/savings to prior period expenditure.

<sup>3</sup> Includes interest income of US\$ 26,571 and US\$ 183,605 transferred from the sub-account for the voluntary fund for indigenous populations.

<sup>4</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>5</sup> Includes US\$ 53,048 in operating cash reserves. This amount was not available for activities in 2003. In addition, an amount of US\$ 136,115 was available under the sub-account for the voluntary fund for indigenous populations.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN UNVF INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	4,981	0
Commission members	9,235	8,828
Representatives and other participants	55,572	11,066
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	1,000	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	338,455	336,697
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>409,243</b>	<b>356,592</b>
Programme support costs	53,202	46,357
<b>Total</b>	<b>462,445</b>	<b>402,949</b>

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

### UNVF INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003 US\$	Revised budget 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2002 (final) US\$
International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	442,000	300,000	462,445	402,949
<b>Total</b>	<b>442,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>462,445</b>	<b>402,949</b>


## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

### UNVF INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>		
Algeria	5,000	0
Canada	9,747	9,747
Chile	1,000	0
Denmark	115,942	112,656
Estonia	11,816	11,816
Greece	3,000	3,000
Japan	29,708	30,821
Norway	47,945	49,168
Thailand	10,000	10,000
<i>Other donors</i>		
Private donors	686	686
<b>Total</b>	<b>234,844</b>	<b>227,894</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.



# FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA AND RELATED INTOLERANCE

## ■ BACKGROUND

The Secretary-General appointed five independent eminent experts to follow the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. The eminent experts are: Mr. Martti Ahtisaari (Finland), Prince El Hassan Bin Talal (Jordan), Ms. Hanna Suchocka (Poland), Ms. Edna Maria Santos Roland (Brazil) and Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim (Tanzania). They met for the first time from 16 to 18 September and issued a public statement (E/CN.4/2004/112).

In resolution 2002/68, the Commission on Human Rights provided for the establishment of an Inter-governmental Working Group (IGWG) with the mandate to make recommendations on the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action and to prepare complementary standards to strengthen and update international instruments against racism. The first session of the Working Group was held from 21 to 30 January (E/CN.4/2003/20).

The Commission on Human Rights also established a Working Group of five Independent Experts on People of African Descent (WGPAD) with the mandate to study the problems of racial discrimination faced by people of African descent and to propose measures to address those problems. The members of this Working Group are: Mr. Peter Lesa Kasanda (Zambia, Chairperson-Rapporteur), Mr. George N. Jabbour (Syrian Arab Republic), Ms. Irina Zlatescu (Romania), Mr. Roberto B. Martins (Brazil) and Mr. Joe Frans (Sweden). The first and second sessions of the WGPAD took place from 25 to 29 November 2002 and from 3 to 7 February 2003 respectively (E/CN.4/2003/21). At its third session held from 29 September to 10 October (E/CN.4/2004/21) the Working Group focused on the administration of justice, education and the media. At its next session, it will examine health, housing and employment for people of African descent.

During the 59th session of the Commission on Human Rights, the mandates of the two working groups were extended for three years (resolution 2003/30). The WGPAD and the IGWG each hold one session, lasting 10 days, each year.

Since 2001, the Anti-Discrimination Unit (ADU) within OHCHR has been working to combat racism and promote equality and non-discrimination.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

The principal focus of the ADU is to follow-up on the World Conference by gathering information on initiatives taken to implement the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and by encouraging states, national human rights institutions and international, regional and non-governmental organizations to implement the recommendations of the Conference. The work of Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is promoted in all activities undertaken by the ADU.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Panels, meetings, regional expert seminars

The ADU is responsible for servicing the meetings of the Independent Eminent Experts and the IGWG on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and meetings of the WGPAD.

The ADU has organized expert seminars to study modalities for the implementation of the Durban documents in each United Nations region. About 12 experts were invited to each seminar and asked to prepare background papers on specific subjects. The process began in 2002. The following year, a regional expert seminar for Eastern Europe was organized in

Prague in collaboration with the Czech Government, and a seminar for Western States was held in Brussels, in collaboration with the Government of Belgium. In May, OHCHR organized a regional workshop on affirmative action for Afro-descendants in Latin America and the Caribbean, in collaboration with the Government of Uruguay. Participants in the seminars included representatives of states, national human rights institutions and international, regional and non-governmental organizations.

### Technical cooperation

The ADU supported initiatives by states, national human rights institutions and NGOs aimed at eliminating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

- ♥ The Government of Argentina received a grant to facilitate the elaboration of a national action plan to combat racism.
- ♥ Financial support was provided to national human rights institutions in Mexico, Venezuela, Fiji, Mongolia and Niger for projects that raise awareness about racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.
- ♥ A small-grants scheme was developed under the Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project through which NGOs, grassroots communities and schools in 14 countries (Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Barbados, Colombia, Nicaragua and Uruguay) will receive financial support for action-oriented initiatives in the field of education against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. The objective of this scheme is to stimulate initiatives at the local level, where they are most likely to have a direct impact on the lives of the victims of racial discrimination and xenophobia. The project is made possible through a partnership between OHCHR (including its field presences), UNDP, and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). The grants will be disbursed in 2004; the maximum amount of the grants is US\$ 5,000.

### Mainstreaming the anti-discrimination agenda in the United Nations system

OHCHR being the lead agency responsible for United Nations anti-racism programmes, the ADU is working with other United Nations agencies to integrate the recommendations of the World Conference into their policies and programmes.

A joint OHCHR/UNESCO workshop to develop a publication to combat racism and foster tolerance was held from 19-20 February in Paris (E/CN.4/2003/19/Add.1). The results of the workshop will be published in 2004.

The ADU and ILO organized a panel discussion during the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and the 63rd session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to discuss national-level initiatives to foster equality and non-discrimination in the workplace and in the wider community.

ADU representatives made presentations at the thematic networking meeting organized by the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia, held in February in Vienna, and during the UNESCO regional consultations on follow-up to Durban, held in Dakar and Moscow.

### Awareness-raising and outreach activities

Together with WHO and UNAIDS, OHCHR produced a comic book, *HIV/AIDS: Stand up for Human Rights*, that addresses the issue of discrimination faced by people living with HIV/AIDS. The comic book was made available in electronic format in December 2003 and will be printed and distributed at the beginning of 2004.

The ADU publicizes 21 March as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination by organizing a panel discussion during the Commission on Human Rights. On 21 March 2003, the late High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr. Sergio Vieira de Mello, chaired a roundtable discussion on "Taking Steps against Racism".

OHCHR organized a drawing contest for students in five countries (Colombia, Mexico, Mongolia, South Africa, and the Former Republic of Macedonia) to highlight the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. The objective of the contest was to provide human rights training to the participants. In 2004, selected drawings will be used to illustrate new OHCHR posters on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

### Liaison with NGOs, including youth

Maintaining contacts with NGOs and youth organizations has included sharing information on a regular basis and facilitating NGO and youth participation in meetings, seminars and

workshops convened by the ADU. ADU representatives also attended NGO meetings, promoting awareness of OHCHR follow-up to the World Conference and encouraging NGO action against racism and discrimination.

### Reporting activities

In addition to the reports mentioned above, the ADU annually submits reports on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly. These reports include information on follow-up activities initiated by states, United Nations agencies, national human rights institutions, NGOs and youth groups. The ADU prepared 10 such reports for the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly during the year.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

The Durban conference concluded its deliberations on a positive note despite tensions generated by the dissatisfaction expressed by some delegations. It would be highly desirable that there be a greater participation of all actors, including NGOs and Members States from all regions to enable the unit to receive broad based support.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

The immediate beneficiaries are representatives of states, national human rights institutions, NGOs and academic institutions that participated in the activities described above or that received support for their own initiatives.

### ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Inviting panellist to present a paper on issues discussed at the third session of the WGPAD (i.e. administration of justice, the media and education) proved beneficial: it stimulated debate and provided the basis for the Group's recommendations. This approach was therefore adopted for the second session of the IGWG on the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action held in January – February 2004.

The recommendations emanating from the Independent Eminent Experts, the Inter-Governmental Working Group and the Working Group of People of African Descent have provided

useful guidance on the modalities of implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in the next biennium.

The regional seminars were particularly useful in bringing the outcome of the Durban Conference back to the regions and provided a platform for renewing efforts to combat racism, discussing good practices and networking.

### ■ FUNDING

In 2003, three professional posts, including a junior professional officer, a general service post and all activities were funded on extra-budgetary resources. The three follow-up mechanisms to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action were funded from the regular budget.

#### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	2,428,528
Adjustment <sup>1</sup>	(66,876)
Income from contributions	84,787
Other funds available <sup>2</sup>	69,258
Total funds available	2,515,697
Expenditure <sup>3</sup>	947,193
<b>Closing balance<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>1,568,504</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes adjustments/savings to prior period expenditure.

<sup>2</sup> Includes interest income of US\$ 91,227. However, refunds to donors were made of US\$ 160,485 which explains the lower amount reported here.

<sup>3</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Includes US\$ 123,814 in operating cash reserves. These amounts were not available for activities in 2003.

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003 US\$	Revised budget 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2002 (final) US\$
Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism	995,643	906,836	947,193	485,233
<b>Total</b>	<b>995,643</b>	<b>906,836</b>	<b>947,193</b>	<b>485,233</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Greece	Decade to combat racism	7,500	7,500
Guatemala	Decade to combat racism*	5,011	0
Japan	Decade to combat racism	19,809	20,547
Poland	Trust Fund to combat racism	5,000	5,000
Qatar	Follow-up to the WCAR	5,000	4,975
Saudi Arabia	Trust Fund to combat racism	10,000	10,000
Switzerland	Anti-discrimination unit	35,971	36,765
<b>Total</b>		<b>88,291</b>	<b>84,787</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* Paid in New York in 2003 and transferred to Geneva in early 2004.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	213,312	325,514
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	74,712	15,484
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	49,045	15,985
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	202,634	56,827
Contractual services	(9,940)	0
General operating expenses	48,037	0
Supplies and acquisitions	7,391	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	253,035	15,600
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>838,224</b>	<b>429,410</b>
Programme support costs	108,969	55,823
<b>Total</b>	<b>947,193</b>	<b>485,233</b>



# TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

## INTRODUCTION

The technical cooperation programme assists countries in incorporating international human rights standards into national laws, policies and practices and in building sustainable national capacities to adhere to these standards. Projects are formulated and implemented in cooperation with civil society, national institutions, and the judicial, legislative and executive branches of the government.

The programme focuses on four main areas: administration of justice, human rights education, national institutions, and national plans of action for promoting and protecting human rights. Economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development are emphasized, and issues such as racism, the rights of indigenous peoples, trafficking of women and children, gender and the human rights of women, and the rights of the child are also highlighted. Activities reflect national development objectives and United Nations coordinated assistance in support of those objectives.

Strengthening capacities at the national level is essential if progress is to be made in promoting and protecting human rights. As OHCHR does not have the capacity to be present in all countries, it has developed a regional approach through which inter-governmental cooperation is encouraged and common policies and programmes can be formulated. Regional representatives of OHCHR have been posted in the United Nations regional commissions in Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Beirut and Santiago de Chile, and sub-regional offices operate in Addis Ababa (Eastern Africa), Pretoria (Southern Africa) and Yaoundé (Central Africa). OHCHR collaborates with other United Nations actors, especially with UNDP and the United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) in the context of the Common Country Assessment/United Nations Development Assistance Framework (CCA/UNDAF) process. During the reporting period, OHCHR was actively involved in preparing an inter-agency action plan to strengthen human rights-related United Nations

actions at the country level. This plan of action reflects the recommendations made in the Secretary-General's report, *Strengthening of the United Nations: An agenda for further change (A/57/387)*.

The technical cooperation programme is primarily funded by the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights. Since 1993, a Board of Trustees, which meets semi-annually, has provided administrative and operational advice to the Fund. In 2003, the Board held its 19th (28-30 July) and 20th (20-22 November) sessions. During these sessions, the Board reviewed the programme by region, discussed thematic issues, methodologies and procedures, examined financial and administrative matters concerning the Fund, discussed fund-raising efforts, and briefed Member States. At its 20th session the Board held a one-day meeting with the heads of OHCHR field presences.

With the first Annual Appeal and Annual Report in 2000, OHCHR's planning and reporting capacity was significantly strengthened. This improvement is reflected in an increase in expenditure from US\$ 4.7 million in 2000 to US\$ 14.1 million in 2003.

### **OHCHR technical cooperation in 2003**

Afghanistan	Morocco
Azerbaijan	Nepal
China	Nicaragua
Republic of Congo	Palestine
Croatia	Peru
El Salvador	Russian Federation
Guatemala	Rwanda
Guinea Bissau	Solomon Islands
The Former Yugoslav	
Republic of Macedonia	Somalia
Mexico	Sudan
Mongolia	Timor-Leste



Several technical cooperation activities, totaling some US\$ 1.7 million, were funded by the United Nations regular budget. These include the salaries of support staff who service technical cooperation activities, the cost of hiring of consultants, support to the indigenous fellowship programme, general operating expenses, and travel for staff and other participants to various meetings and workshops, including the 11th workshop on regional cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asia and Pacific region (Islamabad, February), a regional workshop on affirmative action for people of African Descent in Latin America and the Caribbean (Montevideo, April), a training course on reporting obligations (Tegucigalpa, May), a sub-regional workshop on implementing concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Damascus, December) and the meeting of the heads of OHCHR's field presences (Geneva, November).

Technical cooperation projects are detailed in the sections below. Field offices are described in the section entitled "Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities"; OHCHR's substantive work in Angola and Iraq will also be described in this section.

The project management and technical cooperation unit, created late in 2002, trains staff on project management, including planning, implementation and evaluation, and develops methodologies and tools for managing project activities.

In 2003, OHCHR undertook a global review of its technical cooperation programme. A combination of thematic and country studies was conducted by the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights (SIM) and Mede European Consultancy, which was selected through tender. The review concluded that "OHCHR is recognized, acknowledged and valued by governments, NGOs and other members of the United Nations family as the United Nations expert organization in the field of human rights" and identified the need "to respond to growing expectations while continuing to develop expertise within limited resources" as the major challenge for the programme. To respond to this challenge, the authors recommended:

- ♥ Changing from an output-driven to a policy-driven strategy, that is, OHCHR should focus on defining its vision and strategies;
- ♥ Developing and using clear criteria for entering into activities to enhance priority-setting;
- ♥ Compiling best practices; and
- ♥ Enforcing the use of project-management tools, procedures and practices, especially monitoring and evaluation procedures, which are the weakest.

The findings of the global review were shared with Member States through briefings in Geneva. The synthesis report was made available on the Internet at (<http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/techcoop.htm>).

**OHCHR stand-alone field offices in 2003**

- Burundi
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Colombia
- Cambodia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Serbia and Montenegro

**OHCHR regional representation in 2003**

- Addis Ababa
- Bangkok
- Beirut
- Pretoria
- Santiago de Chile
- Yaoundé

**Human rights components of United Nations peace missions**

- Afghanistan (UNAMA)
- Angola (MONUA )
- Central African Republic (BONUCA)
- Cote d'Ivoire (MINUCI)
- The Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)
- Ethiopia/Eritrea (UNMEE)
- Georgia/Abkhazia (UNOMIG)
- Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS)
- Iraq (UNAMI)
- Liberia (UNMIL)
- Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL)
- Tajikistan (UNTOP)
- Timor-Leste (UNMISSET)

Activities related to UNCTs, human rights education, human rights training for police and military peacekeepers, eliminating trafficking and protecting the rights of trafficked persons, strengthening OHCHR's capacity on human rights and terrorism, and to the web sites of national institutions are all funded through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation, and are described in greater detail in the chapters on human rights in development and on national institutions, respectively.

In countries where OHCHR works closely with UNDP, there is often a delay in the reporting and recording of expenditures. For this reason, expenditures may be recorded for activities implemented during the previous year or as outstanding payments. In these cases, an explanation is provided in the introduction to the relevant geographic region.

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE PROJECTS ADMINISTERED BY UNOG

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	7,492,152
Adjustments <sup>1</sup>	3,934,052
Income from contributions	9,808,624
Other funds available <sup>2</sup>	428,182
Total funds available	21,663,010
Expenditure <sup>3</sup>	14,092,425
<b>Closing balance<sup>4,5</sup></b>	<b>7,570,585</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings and refunds to donors.

<sup>2</sup> Includes interest income of US\$ 398,423.

<sup>3</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Includes US\$ 1,333,084 in operating cash reserves and US\$ 559,235 in reserves for allocations to implementing agents. These amounts were not available for activities in 2003.

<sup>5</sup> Of the remaining balance (after deduction of the amounts indicated in no. 4 above) of US\$ 5.6 million, approximately US\$ 2.5 million was allotted in late 2003 to extend the work contracts of staff in the area of technical cooperation, both at headquarters and in the field for the first six months of the year.

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE PROJECTS ADMINISTERED BY UNOPS

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	369,931
Adjustment	0
Income from contributions	0
Other funds available <sup>1</sup>	3,653
Total funds available	373,584
Expenditure <sup>2</sup>	33,587
<b>Closing balance<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>339,997</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS.

<sup>2</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE PROJECTS ADMINISTERED BY UNOG

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
<i>Global projects</i>				
Board of trustees	48,000	24,440	48,558	27,625
Capacity to support UN Country Teams <sup>1</sup>	383,820	317,000	264,514	55,308
HR training for peacekeepers	294,786	247,420	172,806	42,187
National institutions website <sup>2</sup>	0	0	12,317	0
Project development, formulation and evaluation	375,000	322,500	491,245	207,219
Poverty reduction strategies <sup>1</sup>	0	0	21,160	263,237
Trafficking in persons	324,310	184,990	188,805	213,595
UN decade for HR education	948,070	1,178,890	764,168	380,415
Human rights and counter-terrorism	0	123,330	97,483	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,373,986</b>	<b>2,398,570</b>	<b>2,061,056</b>	<b>1,189,586</b>
<i>Africa</i>				
Regional and sub-regional activities <sup>3</sup>	1,836,702	1,324,440	1,070,006	208,327
Chad	0	0	0	11,725
Côte d'Ivoire	0	100,000	0	0
Guinea-Bissau	0	5,000	52,626	271
Madagascar	0	0	2,055	13,844
Malawi	0	0	5,311	2,260
Mauritania	0	0	39,411	33,402
Namibia	0	0	25,549	0
Nigeria	127,690	0	0	0
Republic of Congo	0	74,000	121,682	35,097
Rwanda	0	0	76,343	290,920
Sierra Leone <sup>4</sup>	313,914	99,970	1,658,997	444,674
Somalia	191,987	150,000	156,043	215,525
Sudan	319,225	271,630	345,101	194,223
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,789,518</b>	<b>2,025,040</b>	<b>3,553,124</b>	<b>1,450,268</b>
<i>Latin America and the Caribbean</i>				
Regional and sub-regional activities <sup>5</sup>	432,573	403,140	601,159	383,898
Brazil	87,000	0	0	0
Ecuador	0	0	242,985	110,552
El Salvador	163,100	113,960	105,302	323
Guatemala	655,600	679,260	653,869	169,493
Haiti	0	0	28,799	21,082
Mexico	1,191,160	954,300	893,050	50,896
Nicaragua	0	0	224,503	91,814
Peru	0	56,668	72,297	74,662
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,529,433</b>	<b>2,207,328</b>	<b>2,821,964</b>	<b>902,720</b>
<i>Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus</i>				
Regional and sub-regional activities <sup>6</sup>	623,237	0	194,254	69,217
Azerbaijan	218,836	213,000	197,098	196,473
Croatia	204,417	204,800	199,331	0
Serbia and Montenegro <sup>7</sup>	0	0	26,069	37,397
Georgia	0	0	27	13,071
FYR Macedonia	349,170	366,100	219,307	34,103
Russian Federation	850,000	714,750	902,098	613,702
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,245,660</b>	<b>1,498,650</b>	<b>1,738,184</b>	<b>963,963</b>

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE PROJECTS ADMINISTERED BY UNOG (cont.)

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003 US\$	Revised budget 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2002 (final) US\$
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>				
Regional and sub-regional activities <sup>8</sup>	872,635	619,680	629,599	221,908
Afghanistan	140,346	132,000	283,866	113,829
China	260,352	337,780	561,395	254,641
Mongolia	152,550	180,250	143,151	169,500
Nepal <sup>9</sup>	0	120,000	0	0
Sri Lanka	58,550	85,000	0	0
Solomon Islands	325,440	311,070	144,517	121,526
Timor-Leste	397,300	247,220	128,324	43,751
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,207,173</b>	<b>2,033,000</b>	<b>1,890,852</b>	<b>925,155</b>
<i>Arab region</i>				
Regional and sub-regional activities <sup>10</sup>	752,467	615,710	748,268	434,614
Morocco	158,200	158,200	277,572	0
Palestine	932,200	761,730	959,797	402,442
Yemen	0	0	41,608	113,999
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,842,867</b>	<b>1,535,640</b>	<b>2,027,245</b>	<b>951,055</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,988,637</b>	<b>11,698,228</b>	<b>14,092,425</b>	<b>6,382,747</b>

<sup>1</sup> The corresponding narrative is presented on page 163.

<sup>2</sup> The corresponding narrative is presented on page 113.

<sup>3</sup> Includes regional representation in Addis Ababa/Ethiopia and Pretoria/South Africa, support to the NEPAD initiative and the African Peer Review Mechanism process, African Dialogue II and activities carried out by the Yaoundé Centre for Human Rights Democracy.

<sup>4</sup> Includes expenditure for the preparatory phase of the Sierra Leone TRC.

<sup>5</sup> Includes regional representation in Santiago/Chile, outstanding charges for the Andean region project, the OHCHR/UNESCO regional conference on human rights education and promotion of reproductive rights for women through national institutions.

<sup>6</sup> Includes OHCHR's sub-regional strategy and outstanding charges for the Dubrovnik Conference.

<sup>7</sup> Includes training on treaty reporting. The corresponding narrative is presented on page 158.

<sup>8</sup> Includes regional representation in Bangkok/Thailand, the Asia-Pacific forum, the Asia-Pacific framework and outstanding charges for a workshop in Fiji.

<sup>9</sup> An amount of US\$ 164,284 was spent on human rights activities in Nepal using a different source of funding. The corresponding charges will be reversed as soon as a new project has been established.

<sup>10</sup> Includes regional representation in Beirut/Lebanon, promotion of human rights in the Arab region, human rights training for the League of Arab States and coordination and management of the Arab region team.

**BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE**
**PROJECTS ADMINISTERED BY UNOPS**

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
<i>Global projects</i>				
Act I - Assisting communities together	0	0	6,581	18,581
Act II - Assisting communities together	0	0	0	(9,963)
Global dissemination of the UDHR	0	0	(1,441)	(406)
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,140</b>	<b>8,212</b>
<i>Africa</i>				
Strengthening national and regional capacities in human rights in Southern Africa	0	0	5311	4,401
Somalia	0	0	(129)	(7,905)
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,182</b>	<b>(3,504)</b>
<i>Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus</i>				
The Balkans	0	0	6,222	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,222</b>	<b>0</b>
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>				
Afghanistan	0	0	(31,223)	2,552
Solomon Islands	0	0	48,266	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,043</b>	<b>2,552</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33,587</b>	<b>7,259</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TRUST FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Earmarking by donor	Allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Unearmarked contributions</i>			
Bahrain	VFTC	10,000	10,000
Bhutan	VFTC	5,240	5,240
Croatia	VFTC	5,000	5,000
Denmark	VFTC	882,410	816,145
Greece	VFTC	25,000	25,000
Guatemala	VFTC	5,002	5,002
New Zealand	VFTC	362,864	359,533
Pakistan	VFTC	5,000	5,000
Saudi Arabia	VFTC	100,000	100,000
Spain	VFTC	200,448	200,000
<i>Earmarking to VFTC</i>			
Austria	VFTC	40,000	40,000
Belgium	VFTC	129,381	141,660
Finland	VFTC	192,215	375,311
France	VFTC	219,539	230,800
Greece	VFTC	6,000	6,000
India	VFTC	20,000	20,000
Ireland	VFTC	365,344	403,755
Japan	VFTC	647,067	664,785
Korea, Republic of	VFTC	100,000	100,000
Monaco	VFTC	10,000	10,000
Netherlands	VFTC	900,000	900,000
Norway	VFTC	667,808	686,675
Panama	VFTC	1,000	1,000
Qatar	VFTC	50,000	50,000
Saudi Arabia	VFTC	20,000	20,000
South Africa	VFTC	11,867	11,693
Sweden	VFTC	232,829	242,009
Switzerland	VFTC <sup>1</sup>	856,115	1,122,995
United States of America	VFTC	1,500,000	1,225,000
<i>Specific earmarking</i>			
France	Cameroon (CHRD in Central Africa)	0	286,094
	Haïti	144,696	146,414
Germany	Afghanistan (adjustment)	0	805
	VFTC - Africa	86,115	92,166
	VFTC - Latin America and the Caribbean	86,114	92,166
	VFTC - Europe, Central Asia and Caucasus	86,114	92,166
	VFTC - Asia and Pacific	86,114	92,166
Italy	VFTC - Arab region	86,114	92,166
	VFTC - East Africa	114,286	114,286
Norway	VFTC - Southern Africa	114,286	114,286
	Mexico	51,370	52,847
Poland	Somalia	51,370	52,847
	Sudan	51,370	52,847
Sweden	Trafficking in persons	5,000	5,000
United Kingdom	Somalia	193,050	187,970
	Mexico	47,619	48,524
European Commission	Nepal	104,100	104,356
	Sudan	79,365	80,894
MacArthur Foundation	Support to UN country teams in integrating HR	182,624	0
European Commission	Morocco	0	68,022
MacArthur Foundation	Mexico	0	250,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>9,139,836</b>	<b>9,808,625</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

<sup>1</sup> Pledge amount consists of: US\$ 208,633 which is an additional contribution to the 2002 portion of the multi-year pledge made in 2000 and US\$ 647,482 which is the 2003 portion of a multi-year contribution pledged in 2003. Income amount consists of: US\$ 227,941 which is the 2002 portion of a multi-year contribution pledged in 2000 and US\$ 213,236 which is the additional contribution to the latter, and US\$ 681,818 which is the 2003 portion of the new multi-year pledge.



# GLOBAL PROJECTS

## UNITED NATIONS DECAD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION (1995-2004)

### ■ BACKGROUND

In December 1994, the General Assembly proclaimed the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004), during which governments, international organizations, national institutions, NGOs, professional associations, educational establishments, and all sectors of civil society were encouraged to promote a universal culture of human rights through human rights education, training and public information.

The General Assembly asked the High Commissioner to coordinate the implementation of a related Plan of Action (A/51/506/Add.1), which provides a strategy for strengthening human rights education programmes at the international, regional, national and local levels.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The objective of the programme is to support national and local capacities for human rights education and training by:

- Facilitating information-sharing among the Decade's actors;
- Ensuring appropriate support through OHCHR's technical cooperation projects;
- Supporting grassroots human rights education initiatives;
- Developing a selected number of human rights education and training materials;
- Disseminating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights globally; and
- Ensuring worldwide coordination for the Decade.

OHCHR's programme for the Decade is guided by the Decade's Plan of Action, the recommendations made in the Decade's mid-term global evaluation (2000), and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### Facilitating information-sharing among the Decade's actors

OHCHR developed and maintained its searchable database on human rights education, which provides information on related materials, programmes and organizations and is available through OHCHR's web site ([www.unhchr.ch/hredu.nsf](http://www.unhchr.ch/hredu.nsf)).

OHCHR continued to develop its Resource Collection on Human Rights Education and Training, which is accessible to the public at OHCHR's headquarters in Geneva. At the end of 2003, it included nearly 1,900 materials for human rights education and training, a number of audio-visual materials, and documents and correspondence related to the Decade.

OHCHR organized regional and sub-regional activities focusing on human rights education. The 11th workshop on regional cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian-Pacific region, held in Islamabad in February, included a specific component on human rights education (E/CN.4/2003/109). To implement this component, OHCHR is supporting a study on popular and non-formal human rights education methodologies used in the region and organized a sub-regional workshop on human rights education in the Gulf States school systems, which was held in Qatar in February 2004.

#### Support through OHCHR's technical cooperation projects

OHCHR participated in planning or organizing education and training activities in various countries in the Asia-Pacific region, notably in Afghanistan, China, Indonesia, and Iran; in the Arab region, specifically in Algeria, the Gulf States, and in Iraq; and in Europe, in The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Russian Federation.

#### Supporting grassroots human rights education initiatives

The Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project, implemented by OHCHR and UNDP, makes small grants available for organizations conducting human rights promotional activities in local communities. In 2003, 206 grants were allocated to

organizations in 29 countries. OHCHR financed 144 projects; UNDP financed 62 projects.

### Developing a selected number of human rights education and training materials

OHCHR completed the revision of *ABC: Teaching Human Rights—Practical Activities for Primary and Secondary Schools* and made it available, in English, on OHCHR's web site ([www.unhchr.ch/html/menu6/2/abc\\_text.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu6/2/abc_text.pdf)). OHCHR also completed *Human Rights in the Administration of Justice: A Manual on Human Rights for Judges, Prosecutors and Lawyers*, and also made it available, in English, on OHCHR's web site ([www.unhchr.ch/html/menu6/2/training.htm](http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu6/2/training.htm)). The Office finalized its draft human rights training package for prison officials and began revising its *Training Manual on Human Rights Monitoring*.

### Disseminating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Some language versions were revised according to comments received by on-line visitors and by relevant partners. OHCHR maintained its web page on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ([www.unhchr.ch/udhr/index.htm](http://www.unhchr.ch/udhr/index.htm)), which, in addition to providing the text of the Declaration in 329 languages, also lists more than 500 items, related to the Declaration, including printed and multimedia material and a broad array of related souvenirs. A selection of materials on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is permanently displayed on the ground floor of OHCHR's Headquarters in Geneva.

### Ensuring worldwide coordination for the Decade

In May, OHCHR sent notes verbales and correspondence to governments, NGOs and international organizations, requesting information on activities taking place in the context of the Decade. In August, it reported on those activities to the 58th session of the General Assembly (A/58/318). Recommendations included: governments should fulfill the commitments they made to develop national strategies for human rights education that are comprehensive and participatory; priority should be given to sustainable approaches, including training of trainers and integrating human rights into all relevant training and educational curricula; and regional and international organizations and institutions should continue to support national initiatives by sharing information and materials and by creating and strengthening networks.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Accessibility to the database on human rights education can be limited if visitors to the web site use old technologies. Technical improvements could be made to make the database accessible to a greater number of people, for example, audio versions could be devised for use by blind people. The accuracy of minority or indigenous peoples' language versions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is sometimes difficult to verify.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

OHCHR has a mailing list of about 2,000 organizations and individuals and receives about 600 requests every month for human rights publications, education materials and related information. Interested individuals and organizations visit OHCHR headquarters, and other OHCHR offices, every day to obtain human rights information. OHCHR carries out technical cooperation projects in more than 55 countries; most of those projects have an education and public information component. The Office also implements various regional and international training programmes. During the reporting year, OHCHR's web site received some 5 million hits per month. Activities organized under the ACT Project have benefited thousands of people at the grassroots level.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The number of hits recorded for OHCHR's database on human rights education jumped more than threefold, from 80,000 to 260,000 hits per month, from 2002 to 2003. The web page devoted to the Universal Declaration for Human Rights received an average of 400,000 hits per month, making it one of the most visited pages on OHCHR's web site.

During the reporting period, OHCHR received and responded to some 200 on-line or written requests and queries for information concerning national initiatives within the Decade and around 300 on-line queries and comments regarding the web page on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Library's Resource Collection on Human Rights Education and Training attracted visitors from all over the world.

Human rights activities conceived under the ACT project by grassroots organizations have been developed, implemented



and evaluated by United Nations staff at the local level. In 2003, the ACT project benefited from an external audit on its technical and financial aspects.

### ■ COORDINATION

In implementing the Decade's programme, OHCHR established *ad hoc* partnerships, on specific projects, with other United Nations agencies, particularly UNESCO and its national commissions, the Department of Public Information and its United Nations Information Centres, UNDP and its national offices, and the International Telecommunication Union, and with regional inter-governmental organizations, governments, national institutions, human rights institutes and NGOs.

#### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN UN DECADE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	197,580	216,309
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	2,500	7,600
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	5,262	5,349
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and+ acquisitions	5,000	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	465,913	107,392
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>676,255</b>	<b>336,650</b>
Programme support costs	87,913	43,765
<b>Total</b>	<b>764,168</b>	<b>380,415</b>

## HUMAN RIGHTS AND COUNTER-TERRORISM

### ■ BACKGROUND

Following the attacks of 11 September 2001 on the United States of America and other grave acts of international terrorism around the world, many States have moved rapidly to develop counter-terrorism legislation and policies. Most of these have significant human rights implications. Under Security Council resolution 1373, Member States were obligated to take urgent measures and to report to the Counter-Terrorism Committee on their efforts to reduce the threat of terrorism. International and regional bodies have already issued findings and judgments on human rights aspects of some of these counter-terrorism measures.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights and others have underscored the need to ensure that all counter-terrorism measures comply with international human rights standards. OHCHR's project is based on the premise that better access to and analysis of information can facilitate more practical assistance from OHCHR to Member States, so that United Nations objectives in combating terrorism may be achieved.

This project was initiated too late in the year for its inclusion in the Annual Appeal 2003. Implementation began in June 2003 following the appointment of a project coordinator.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Gather and analyze information on terrorism and on policies and measures adopted around the world in the campaign against terrorism;
- ♥ Provide practical advice, including through OHCHR's technical cooperation programme, to help protect human rights and respect for the rule of law in international action against terrorism;
- ♥ Contribute to the work of the Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee; and
- ♥ Make practical recommendations to the High Commissioner for short- and long-term actions, including through technical cooperation projects.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

OHCHR has gathered information on counter-terrorism measures, analyzed developments at the national, regional and international levels, supported regional meetings on the issue, and made recommendations for action. The Office has prepared regular updates for the Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee on relevant conclusions and observations of treaty bodies and special procedures. A conference on Human Rights, the United Nations and the Struggle against Terrorism, held in New York in November, was organized by OHCHR, the International Peace Academy and Columbia University. In addition, OHCHR funded a study on national review mechanisms for states of emergency.

The project has also produced the *Digest of Jurisprudence of the United Nations and Regional Organizations on the Protection of Human Rights while Countering Terrorism*, an initiative proposed in the report of the Secretary-General's Policy Working Group on the United Nations and Terrorism (A/57/273 - S/2002/875). The Digest, which has been widely distributed, details best practices in this field. OHCHR plans to update the Digest regularly.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project is implemented by a full-time coordinator, based in Geneva, who works closely with geographic desk officers, field presences and regional advisers. Cooperation and exchange of information with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, external partners, such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and other regional and sub-regional organizations, other international and non-governmental organizations, and national human rights institutions, is also encouraged.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The project, and the *Digest* in particular, are intended to help policy-makers, including government officials, parliamentarians, jurists, and human rights defenders and other members of civil society to develop counter-terrorism strategies that fully respect human rights and the rule of law.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN HUMAN RIGHTS AND COUNTER-TERRORISM

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	68,276	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	6,060	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	8,151	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	
Supplies and acquisitions	3,781	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>86,268</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme support costs	11,215	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>97,483</b>	<b>0</b>

## HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING FOR PEACEKEEPERS

### ■ BACKGROUND

The evolution of United Nations peacekeeping over the past decade, with the emergence of multi-dimensional operations with complex mandates, has underlined the need for training in human rights for peacekeeping personnel. While modern United Nations peace operations typically include a human rights mandate and specialized human rights staff, military and civilian police involved in peacekeeping also have a role to play in promoting human rights in the host country, particularly since they have also recently been given executive and enforcement authority.

The High-Level Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (the Brahimi Panel), convened in 2000 by the Secretary-General specifically stressed "the importance of training military, police and other civilian personnel on human rights issues and on the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law". The Panel also emphasized OHCHR's role in enhancing the effectiveness of peace operations by organizing human rights training for all personnel in peace operations, including law and order personnel.

The memorandum of understanding between OHCHR and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), renewed in November 2002, also calls for human rights training to be provided to all deployed peacekeeping personnel, and for DPKO and OHCHR to work together to integrate human rights in the training provided by Member States.

OHCHR has organized human rights training for civilian police and military personnel of peace operations for several years, both in mission and prior to deployment. It has also developed general and mission-specific training materials and guidelines.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The project aims to produce materials and resources to facilitate and support human rights training by Member States, peace operations and relevant institutions for civilian police and military personnel of peace operations, in keeping with the efforts of DPKO to standardize peacekeeping training.

The long-term objective is to contribute to peace and respect for human rights through improved effectiveness of United Nations peace operations in performing human rights functions that conform with international human rights standards.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

The project started in November 2002 with the recruitment of the peacekeeping training specialist and project manager.

#### Needs assessment, promotion and networking

The Office established contacts with a number of national peacekeeping training institutes to gather information on existing human trainings for military and civilian police prior to their deployment to peace operations. This information was used to assess training needs that could be met through the project.

In April, OHCHR visited the United Nations Police Officers Course, a longstanding training programme, organized by Norway, for international police officers who are to be deployed in United Nations and other international operations. The Office provided comments on the course with the aim of strengthening its human rights components and making it more consistent with the materials and approach recommended by OHCHR for civilian police (CIVPOL) training on human rights.

In October, OHCHR attended the 9th Annual Conference of the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres, which was held in Germany. Participants represented national peacekeeping training centres for military and police, and institutions that train civilian staff. OHCHR made a presentation on human rights training for peacekeepers.

### Development of training materials

In cooperation with DPKO's Training and Evaluation Service, OHCHR drafted a standard generic training module (SGTM) on human rights as part of a broader DPKO project to standardize the training provided by Member States to military personnel deployed to peace operations. The Office provided comments on other human rights-related training modules, including child protection, gender, and the United Nations system, and on the draft multi-dimensional handbook on peacekeeping operations.

Building on the experience gained in training military peacekeepers over the past years, the Office began drafting a training package on human rights for military personnel of peace operations. A concept for the Package was developed and widely circulated. Feedback on the concept was requested from experts and institutions, including national peacekeeping training centres. The draft of the package will be completed in the first quarter of 2004.

OHCHR's training package on human rights for civilian police personnel of peace operations was expanded to include new issues with human rights implications that emerged from CIVPOL experience over the past few years. The new draft is under review.

### Training

OHCHR participated in four United Nations Training Assistance Teams (UNTAT) training courses organized by DPKO. UNTAT courses aim to create national and regional pools of expertise on military aspects of peacekeeping and to strengthen Member States' capacities to train military personnel assigned to peace missions, in keeping with standardized materials developed by the United Nations. Participants include military trainers from the region concerned, mainly from national peacekeeping training centres or programmes. The four courses were held in Uruguay in April, in Namibia in June, in Sri Lanka in July, and in Zambia in December. The Office provided training on human

rights and on child protection issues, based on the relevant standard training modules.

After the Security Council approved a new peace mission in Côte d'Ivoire, MINUCI, in May, DPKO organized the first United Nations pre-deployment training for the United Nations military liaison officers to be deployed to MINUCI. Pre-deployment training was then replicated for military peacekeepers assigned to the new peace operation in Liberia, UNMIL, in October. In both cases, OHCHR held sessions on mission- and country-specific human rights issues.

In October, the Office participated in a DPKO training course for emerging troop and police contributing countries, which was held in India. The course was intended to prepare United Nations military observers and civilian police for participation in future United Nations missions. OHCHR led sessions on human rights, gender and child protection aspects of military observer tasks, and on human rights and law-enforcement issues for CIVPOL. It assisted in the development of human rights scenarios to be integrated in a field exercise based on a hypothetical peace operation.

In December, as a follow-up to its participation in the 9th IAPTC Annual Conference, the Office was invited to participate in the training course for Gendarmerie officers assigned to overseas missions organized by the French Gendarmerie international training school in Rochefort, France. OHCHR addressed participants on the issue of human rights in international peace missions, particularly the role of military and police personnel. It was the first time that the issue of human rights was included in the programme.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Difficulties in identifying consultants with the qualifications required to fulfil the relevant project tasks and who are available to undertake the assignment within the proposed time-frame resulted in some delay in beginning the drafting of the training package on human rights for military personnel of peace operations and the revision of the training package on human rights for civilian police personnel of peace operations. In addition, staff turnover in DPKO Training and Evaluation Service and Civilian Police Division required additional efforts to brief new management and staff on DPKO/OHCHR relations and establish a working relationship.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

This project builds on past cooperation between OHCHR and DPKO and was designed and implemented with DPKO. The two departments have been working together since 1994 towards a more systematic incorporation of human rights into peacekeeping training. Between 1996 and 2000, and in cooperation with UNHCR, OHCHR and DPKO organized nine training programmes for civilian police and military trainers on peacekeeping, human rights and humanitarian assistance. Several training programmes were also organized in cooperation with specific peace operations in Mozambique, Croatia, Eastern Slavonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Timor-Leste.

The project has been implemented in close coordination with DPKO's Training and Evaluation Service and Civilian Police Division. OHCHR participated in a number of DPKO-led activities, such as the development of standardized training modules and several training courses. DPKO advised on the design of new training materials on human rights for the military, and will be closely involved in reviewing and testing OHCHR training packages for military peacekeepers and for CIVPOL.

OHCHR has also worked with UNICEF and with the office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on children in armed conflict in developing training materials on children's issues, and with national peacekeeping training centres and programmes that have made recommendations on the formulation of OHCHR training materials.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries include national military and police trainers of personnel assigned to peace operations, and the institutions with which they are associated. Through participation in training, awareness-raising and networking activities, they have obtained information and materials to conduct basic-level training on human rights in their respective countries.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The production of a standard generic training module (SGTM) on human rights (level I) has ensured the incorporation of human rights in the standard training package provided by DPKO to Member States as guidance for basic-level national training.

Through participation in the UNTAT training courses organized by DPKO for Latin American, Asian, African English-speaking and SADC countries, the project ensured the dissemination of the SGTMs on human rights and child protection among military officers from the three regions who are in charge of training national contingents and military observers prior to their deployment to peace operations. Feedback from participants and DPKO indicates that the materials are being used at the national level.

The inclusion of human rights and OHCHR's participation in the first United Nations pre-deployment trainings for new missions in Côte d'Ivoire (MINUCI) and Liberia (UNMIL) set a precedent and is now regarded as an established practice.

### ■ LESSONS LEARNED

The project's original design did not include an external review of the training materials prior to testing and finalization. The project was adjusted to allow for such a review by experts and institutions before the materials are tested.

### ■ FUNDING

Activities were funded from the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation and the regular budget. The budget under the Fund was revised downwards in mid-2003 as regular budget funds became available for training of staff of peace operations.

EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING FOR PEACEKEEPERS		
This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).		
	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	130,771	37,334
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	22,155	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>152,926</b>	<b>37,334</b>
Programme support costs	19,880	4,853
<b>Total</b>	<b>172,806</b>	<b>42,187</b>

## TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

### ■ BACKGROUND

Trafficking in persons denies individuals' rights to liberty and security, to freedom from torture, violence, cruelty or degrading treatment, to freedom of movement, to protection of family, to health and education-in short, to every right that gives dignity to a life. Already high on the international human rights agenda, combating human trafficking gained new urgency during 2003 with the coming into force of the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

In 2002, OHCHR issued the *Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking* (E/2002/68/Add.1). A two-pronged approach to the problem was introduced the following year. This approach involves consolidating existing programmes, providing leadership at the policy and legal levels for implementing new activities created by other United Nations

agencies and NGOs, and piloting innovative, collaborative activities based on the *Recommended Principles and Guidelines*.

OHCHR focuses on legal and policy issues related to trafficking and does not undertake multiple or complex operational projects or technical cooperation activities. Its role is to act as a catalyst in ensuring that the rule of law and human rights is central to the anti-trafficking work of other organizations.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

OHCHR aims to integrate human rights into international, regional and national anti-trafficking initiatives through legal and policy development. The project has four main objectives:

- ♥ Enhance the capacity of the High Commissioner to provide policy guidance and leadership on the issue of trafficking;
- ♥ Strengthen the capacity of OHCHR and the United Nations human rights system to deal with the human rights dimension of trafficking;
- ♥ Ensure that a human rights perspective is integrated into the anti-trafficking work of other United Nations agencies and programmes, and raise awareness of trafficking as a human rights issue throughout the United Nations system; and
- ♥ Encourage governments, inter-governmental organizations, NGOs and national human rights institutions to consider the issue of trafficking in their policies and activities.

## ■ STRATEGY

OHCHR's trafficking project focuses on helping to set standards by formulating and disseminating human rights tools and instruments, by developing prevention strategies and by strengthening assistance to and protection of victims.

In pursuing its strategy, OHCHR follows a two-pronged approach:

- ♥ A *prevention* strategy against trafficking by articulating the linkages with development issues, such as the rule of law, irregular migration, forced labour and gender discrimination; and
- ♥ A *protection* strategy for victims of trafficking by strengthening legal and policy initiatives and programmes that assist and protect victims, such as shelters, skills-training and reintegration schemes.

This approach is realized by:

- ♥ Strengthening United Nations human rights-related action at the country level under the United Nations Development Group (UNDG)/Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs (ECHA) plan of action by building the capacity of United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) and integrating the prevention of trafficking in development issues;
- ♥ Mainstreaming the issue of trafficking into the work of the treaty bodies, special procedures, working groups, the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission; and
- ♥ Strengthening partnerships among agencies.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

- ♥ The *Legislative Guide on Trafficking and Human Rights*, produced jointly by OHCHR, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was finalized;
- ♥ The draft of a publication on *Frequently Asked Questions on Human Rights and Human Trafficking* was developed;
- ♥ A user-friendly version of the *Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking* was finalized;
- ♥ The legal commentary to the *Recommended Principles and Guidelines* was finalized;
- ♥ Training modules on trafficking and human rights were developed for integration into the activities planned under the UNDG/ECHA plan of action. These modules were field tested in Armenia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and are used in training courses;
- ♥ A report based on a ten-country study entitled, *Trafficking in Human Beings in Southeastern Europe*, a collaborative effort by OHCHR, UNICEF and OSCE/ODIHR, was produced;
- ♥ In partnership with UNHCR, a submission was presented to the European Union on the proposal for a Council Directive on the short-term residence permit issued to victims of action to facilitate illegal immigration or trafficking in human beings who cooperate with the competent authorities;
- ♥ The Inter-governmental Organizations (IGO) Contact Group on Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling, involving UNHCR, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, an NGO caucus on trafficking, UNICEF, WHO and OSCE, was coordinated and a monthly newspaper produced;
- ♥ A parallel seminar on trafficking, migration and development was held during the 55th session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

- A national rapporteur on trafficking in Nepal was appointed, and OHCHR was involved in the Joint UN Inter-agency Project on Trafficking (JIT) to end trafficking in Nepal;
- Substantial information on trafficking was provided at the high-level “Tripartite Plus” consultations, involving the Council of Europe, OSCE and the United Nations;
- The expert consultative meeting on human rights and regional integration in Africa, organized by OHCHR in collaboration with the Legon Centre for International Affairs (LECIA) was briefed on migration and trafficking. The meeting brought together 40 participants from the African regional economic communities to look at linkages between human rights issues and the Millennium Development Goals;
- OHCHR participated in the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings (CAHTEH), sponsored by the Council of Europe, and provided assistance in drafting the European Convention against Trafficking; and
- OHCHR participated in the twelfth session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, sponsored by UNODC.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

OHCHR's project on trafficking is located in the Research and Right to Development Branch and is administered by a programme manager based in Geneva. The project is supported by the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation. Collaboration with other United Nations entities, inter-governmental organizations and NGOs improved during 2003, primarily through the IGO Contact Group on Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The ultimate beneficiaries are the individual victims of trafficking and those vulnerable to this crime. Government representatives, organizations, groups and individuals who are involved in anti-trafficking activities also benefit from OHCHR's policy and legal advice. Activities also benefited OHCHR by strengthening internal expertise, building the capacity of field offices, ensuring stronger understanding and action on the issue within United Nations human rights mechanisms, and reinforcing cooperation between those dealing with trafficking and related issues.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Inter-agency coordination, fostered by OHCHR, has improved, and OHCHR now has direct access to key anti-trafficking players at the international and regional levels.

With the creation of the fundamental tools and instruments to integrate human rights into anti-trafficking policy and legislation, activities in the project's next phase will involve implementing these tools, producing handbooks for anti-trafficking advocates and practitioners, and creating pilot projects with other United Nations agencies.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	135,047	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	8,669	15,369
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	23,368	25,122
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	148,531
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>167,084</b>	<b>189,022</b>
Programme support costs	21,721	24,573
<b>Total</b>	<b>188,805</b>	<b>213,595</b>



# AFRICA

## INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the Secretary-General's reform agenda, OHCHR strengthened its cooperation with United Nations Country Teams (UNCT), and helped to mainstream human rights within United Nations and regional programmes, through its sub-regional presences, such as the Yaoundé Centre for Democracy and Human Rights in Central Africa, and its sub-regional offices in Southern and Eastern Africa. The office in Addis Ababa chairs the UNCT human rights working group and initiated several human rights activities, including workshops for United Nations staff on the human rights aspects of the Millennium Development Goals and rights-based programming, and a joint UNCT programme to strengthen local human rights resource centres.

OHCHR consults regularly with African governments, the commission of the African Union (AU), the secretariat of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), other institutions and civil society on how best to foster a human rights culture on the continent. OHCHR has taken the lead in ensuring that the implementation of NEPAD is rooted in the realization of human rights and the rule of law, especially at the national level. OHCHR facilitates United Nations initiatives on good governance and peace and has prepared a strategic work plan that was adopted by the relevant United Nations agencies in Maputo, Mozambique, in July.

During the reporting period, national activities were implemented in the Republic of Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Rwanda, Somalia and the Sudan. Most of these activities, all of which are described below, were implemented in collaboration with the relevant UNCT and national institutions. Other activities were implemented in Mauritania, and outstanding expenses were incurred in Madagascar, Malawi and Namibia.

Technical cooperation activities outlined in the 2003 Annual Appeal were not undertaken in Sierra Leone and Nigeria largely because of a lack of funds. In Sierra Leone, funds were prioritized for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), whose activities are described in a separate chapter entitled, "Support to the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission". Expenditures related to the Sierra Leone technical cooperation project supported a desk officer who assisted the human rights section of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone and the TRC. Funds for the TRC were initially channelled through the Sierra Leone technical cooperation project, which explains the large expenditure in the area.

OHCHR maintained its field presences in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The field presences in these two countries monitor and report on the human rights situation and assist in ongoing peace processes. As the United Nations Mission in Angola (UNMA) was drawing to a close, OHCHR established a human rights unit in the UNCT in Angola to carry out human rights tasks and build capacity, within the country, for human rights promotion and protection. Activities in Angola, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo are described in further detail in the section entitled, "Human rights support to peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities".

In addition to nine staff members in Geneva, OHCHR's work in Africa was implemented by more than 80 international and national staff members in the field offices in Angola, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in technical cooperation and sub-regional offices in Ethiopia, Cameroon, the Republic of Congo, Guinea-Bissau, South Africa, Rwanda, Somalia and Sudan.

OHCHR was involved in several peacekeeping and peace-building activities and provided support to the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) led operations in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Guinea-Bissau, and Sierra Leone, in West Africa, Eritrea and Ethiopia in East Africa, and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic and Angola in Central Africa.

OHCHR supports the Special Rapporteurs and Independent Experts on Somalia, Liberia, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It also provides information on the human rights situation in several African countries as required by various human rights treaty bodies, and assists the Secretary-General, the Executive Committee on Peace and Security, the United Nations Development Group, and the Security Council, as necessary.

## REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

### ■ REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF AFRICAN INITIATIVES

An expert regional consultative meeting on human rights and regional integration was organized by OHCHR and the Legon



Centre for International Affairs (LECIA) in March in Accra, Ghana. The meeting focused on human rights within the system of regional integration in Africa. The meeting brought together 47 participants from six regional economic communities, two regional community courts, the African Union, the African Development Bank, United Nations agencies, the World Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Capacity Building Foundation, NGOs in Africa, and a representative of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF).

Discussions during the three-day meeting focused on:

- ♥ The rule of law in Africa;
- ♥ The linkage between human rights and development in the context of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and NEPAD;
- ♥ The relationship between human rights, peace and security, and the role of the regional economic communities;
- ♥ The role of regional economic communities in the protection of the rights of vulnerable persons;
- ♥ Developing stronger protection mechanisms and tools at the national and regional levels; and
- ♥ Mainstreaming human rights into the programmes and activities of regional economic communities.

In July, the Acting High Commissioner led a delegation to the 2nd Summit of the African Union in Maputo, Mozambique. During the Summit, OHCHR organized a workshop on the role of human rights in peacekeeping and peace-building in Africa. The primary objective of the workshop was to keep African stakeholders and other OHCHR partners updated on its activities in the region and receive feedback. The 23 persons who attended, representing governments, United Nations agencies and civil society, offered suggestions on how to establish coordinated, sustainable regional and sub-regional human rights programmes that can be supported by OHCHR and the AU.

Through its participation in United Nations discussions on governance, peace and security, OHCHR ensured that human rights principles and considerations were incorporated into all NEPAD documents. The Acting High Commissioner participated in the inauguration of the Eminent Persons Panel for the Peer Review in July, in the High-Level Working Session, and in the launch of the Peer Review Mechanism.

In September, OHCHR held a retreat for members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Twenty-eight participants, including members of the

Commission, a member of the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Panel of Eminent Persons, the Chairperson of the African Coordinating Committee of National Institutions, Vice-Chairperson of the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, representatives of AU units and programmes, such as the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa (CSSDCA), and representatives of partner institutions and donors, reviewed the African Commission's mandate under Article 45 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights: the consideration of States Reports and the handling of Communications/Complaints. Other issues addressed included the structural relationship between the African Commission and the AU, the Members of the African Commission and its secretariat, the African Commission and other programmes and institutions of the AU, such as NEPAD, CSSDCA and the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, and the relationship between the African Commission and its partners, including OHCHR, national human rights institutions and NGOs.

In December, OHCHR co-sponsored a regional conference for parliamentarians and civil society on the African Peer Review Mechanism, organized by the Africa Leadership Forum. The conference attracted a cross-section of parliamentarians from twelve African countries that have acceded to the African Peer Review Mechanism, as well as representatives of civil society, NGOs, regional and international organizations. The main objective of the conference was to broaden parliamentarians' awareness of the evolution, aims and objectives of the APRM and NEPAD, and to strengthen the capacity of parliamentarians to develop adequate response mechanisms for the implementation of the APRM within their countries.

## SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

### ■ CENTRAL AFRICA

The United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (the Yaoundé Centre) completed its second year of operations in 2003. The Centre focuses on human rights capacity-building for sub-regional organizations, national institutions and civil society organizations, promoting human rights through mainstreaming and advocacy, raising awareness of the rights of vulnerable groups, notably women, indigenous minority groups, and persons living with HIV/AIDS and physical

disabilities, and promoting democracy and the rule of law as tools for preventing conflict. The Centre has established partnerships with universities, research institutions and civil society organizations in the sub-region and works closely with the secretariat of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and other United Nations entities in the sub-region.

A project on strengthening the capacity of civil society in Central Africa was launched with a seminar on the role of civil society in protecting and promoting the rights of vulnerable groups. Some 45 members of civil society organizations and government officials representing nine of the sub-region's 11 countries, attended the seminar, which was held in July in N'Djamena, Chad. A declaration and plan of action were adopted at the end of the seminar. The project's second workshop, on lobbying and advocacy techniques, was held in Libreville, Gabon, in December. Twenty-nine people from 10 countries took part in that workshop, which was held in collaboration with the ECCAS secretariat.

During the period under review, the Centre's Documentation Unit published and distributed its quarterly newsletter entitled, "Bulletin des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie". In the framework of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, a project entitled "Human Rights Progress and Challenges" was launched at the Centre. The project, which began in October and continues until May 2004, involves screening videos on human rights and democracy, conducting research and hosting debates.

The Centre participated in a policy seminar on peace, security and governance in the Great Lakes region, organized by International Peace Academy (New York) in collaboration with the Yaoundé Centre, the Centre for Conflict Resolution, the Centre for Policy Studies (South Africa), the African Dialogue Centre, and the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation (Tanzania). The seminar, which was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in December, was part of the process, begun by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region, to organize an international conference for the Great Lakes region in 2004. That conference will focus on peace and security, democracy and governance, economic development and regional integration, and social and humanitarian issues.

In addition:

- ♥ A workshop on military justice in Central Africa was held in Libreville, Gabon, in January. The workshop brought together

22 military judges and prosecutors from Member States of the Economic Community of Central African States.

- ♥ In late May, the Centre, in collaboration with the sub-regional office of UNESCO, held a workshop on media, human rights and democracy in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. UNDP Brazzaville and USAID also provided funding for participants. The workshop brought together 25 eminent private and government-owned media professionals to discuss the state of freedom of expression in the sub-region, new information and communications technologies, and women's access to and participation in the media. A declaration and a project to harmonize the different codes of ethics were adopted.
- ♥ The Centre and the ECCAS secretariat in Libreville, Gabon, organized a human rights training seminar in December for civil society organizations in the sub-region.
- ♥ The Centre helped draft the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) document for Cameroon. It also worked with the United Nations thematic group of UNAIDS and intensified its collaboration on joint programmes with UNDP and UNIC, ILO, and UNESCO.
- ♥ The Centre helped to integrate human rights into the curriculum of the faculty of law at the University of Marien Ngouabi. The Catholic University of Yaoundé (UCAC), which runs a Masters Degree programme on human rights, was invited to join in this project.
- ♥ The Centre provided human rights training to members of NGOs and to over 150 students and professors of the Marien Ngouabi University in Brazzaville.
- ♥ The Centre hosted four NGO representatives from Brazzaville for a three-month internship at the Centre (grants financed by UNDP Brazzaville).
- ♥ Participated in a workshop organized by UNESCO Yaoundé in Mbalmayo, Cameroon, in September, for managers of community radios in Cameroon.

## ■ SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Southern Africa office covers fifteen countries in the region, namely: Angola, Botswana, the Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In April, the office participated in the Swaziland United Nations Country Team's (UNCT) retreat. Most United Nations agencies expressed the need to strengthen collaboration with OHCHR and to receive training on a human rights-based approach to

development. After the retreat, the regional representative met with civil society human rights groups and representatives from the Office of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Education. Discussions were held on child abuse, human rights education, and ratification of international human rights instruments and reporting to the treaty bodies.

The office participated in the Imbizo Programme, an initiative that brings high-level government officials to local communities to present the government's plans of action and solicit feedback. This meeting, organized by the Department of Correctional Services and held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in April, was presided over by the Minister for Correctional Services and attended by several cabinet members of the South African national and provincial governments, senior officials of the department (ministry), representatives of community and NGO groups working in support of detainees, and representatives of detainees themselves.

Within the framework of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action, civil society organizations and the South African Ministry of Justice and Foreign Affairs launched the National Forum against Racism, which was held in July. The office attended preparatory events organized by civil society and the South Africa Human Rights Commission.

During her mission to Swaziland, the regional representative met the Minister of Justice of Swaziland. The Minister invited OHCHR to review the draft constitution and provide comments.

The office prepared two three-day training workshops for government officials and representatives of civil society. The first took place in June in Mbabane, Swaziland, and brought together 50 representatives of governments, national human rights institutions and parliaments from Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The second training workshop was held in Mauritius in September, and was attended by representatives from the Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, including the now-semi-autonomous Island of Rodrigues, and the French overseas department of La Réunion. A separate, additional training workshop for the newly elected members of the legislative council for Rodrigues was also organized. The fourth workshop for various civil society representatives from Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe was held in Pretoria, South Africa, in November.

The office had discussions with UNAIDS' regional team for Southern and Eastern Africa, and with UNHCR, UNICEF, and UNESCO, on creating a common framework for human rights issues related to HIV/AIDS, the abuse of women and children, and human trafficking.

The office participated in a regional conference on human rights defenders organized by Amnesty International. More than 50 African human rights defenders attended the conference, which was held in June in South Africa. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Human Rights Defenders met with human rights defenders from Zimbabwe and with the regional representative with the aim of strengthening collaboration on Zimbabwe and Southern Africa.

The office represented the High Commissioner at the African Consultative Conference on Disability, which took place in May in Johannesburg and was hosted by the Government of South Africa. The ILO and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) also attended the Conference, which highlighted the plight of persons living with disabilities in the conflict-torn societies of Africa.

### ■ EAST AFRICA

The year 2003 was the first full year of operation of the regional office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In addition to working with individual UNCTs in the sub-region, the office organized a workshop at which staff from sub-regional UNCTs shared experiences and agreed on a common framework to operationalize a rights-based approach in their work. Similar workshops are planned at the country level as direct follow-up to one of the recommendations of the sub-regional workshop.

A number of UNCTs in the sub-region are reviewing their Common Country Assessments (CCA) and United Nations Development Assessment Frameworks (UNDAF). The office has encouraged them to adopt a rights-based approach and is providing the necessary support to ensure that human rights principles and standards are incorporated in these important documents.

Through a sub-regional workshop for government officials and experts and national human rights institutions, the office initiated a dialogue to explore ways to sensitize governments in the sub-region to the importance of fulfilling their treaty obligations and to enhance their capacities to prepare periodic reports on

the human rights situation and cooperate with treaty bodies at the international and regional levels.

The office implemented a number of important programmes with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) with the aim of promoting a human rights outlook in the ECA's programmes. The office contributed to the human rights chapter of the African Governance Report (AGR) that ECA is producing from a survey of the state of governance in Africa. In October, ECA's African Centre for Gender and Development (ACGD) and the Addis Ababa office jointly organized a workshop on women's rights for members of the Forum of African Women Educationists (FAWE) of West African countries in Ouagadougou. A similar workshop for Eastern Africa is planned for 2004.

OHCHR's regional office in Addis Ababa provided much needed technical support and advice to the AU Commission, and made available a staff member on an almost full-time basis to support the Commission in institutionalizing human rights in its structure and strategic framework. The office assisted the AU Commission in developing and negotiating a grant from the European Commission to support human rights and governance activities, and is involved in planning the implementation of the EC/EU grant. The office also supported the Commission in finalizing the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa. It facilitated a forum of human rights NGOs and helped plan the second ministerial conference on human rights in Africa, held in Kigali, Rwanda, in May.

## ■ WEST AFRICA

OHCHR was not able to undertake coordinated activities in West Africa due to delays in recruiting a senior human rights adviser for the United Nations West Africa Office in Dakar, Senegal. However, OHCHR responded to requests from countries and regional structures in the sub-region. OHCHR has been working through and with peacekeeping missions in Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia to ensure the centrality of human rights in peace processes. For example, OHCHR supported the establishment of the human rights programme in Cote d'Ivoire and participated in the United Nations peace consolidation process in Liberia. It also provided support for transitional justice initiatives, such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in Sierra Leone, and supported human rights training for ECOWAS and United Nations peacekeepers in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea. OHCHR is working with ECOWAS to develop

a technical assistance programme aimed at strengthening its human rights capacity to be implemented in 2004.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	616,767	51,017
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	3,881	13,262
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	48,981	90,522
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	4,095	24,708
Contractual services	21,529	2,000
General operating expenses	19,839	2,351
Supplies and acquisitions	37,300	500
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	194,516	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>946,908</b>	<b>184,360</b>
Programme support costs	123,098	23,967
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,070,006</b>	<b>208,327</b>

## COUNTRY PROJECTS

### REPUBLIC OF CONGO

#### ■ BACKGROUND

Since the last presidential elections held in 1997, the Government of the Republic of Congo has demonstrated the political will to restore the rule of law which was previously neglected due to a civil war which started in 1997, by adopting a new constitution that promotes respect for human rights and the establishment of institutions to protect those rights. However, a weak judiciary, the marginalization of vulnerable groups such as women and children, and a civil society that is largely silent and powerless, undermines the Government's efforts to promote human rights.

## OBJECTIVES

- ~ Strengthen the capacities and expertise of civil society;
- ~ Provide NGOs with practical tools to monitor human rights;
- ~ Sensitize students and education authorities on the need to integrate human rights education into curricula; and
- ~ Strengthen the expertise of some human rights NGOs.

## IMPLEMENTATION

A seminar on integrating human rights education into the university curriculum in accordance with the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education was organized in June in Brazzaville. The seminar was led by an official from the Yaoundé Centre and an international consultant. Participants included 25 representatives of NGOs, academic institutions and students from the University of Brazzaville, the rector, the vice-rector, the vice-dean of the law faculty, professors and more than 180 students from the University of Brazzaville. The seminar included general introductions to human rights, international human rights law and international criminal law.

## IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Yaoundé and the UNDP office in Brazzaville implemented the project, which was administered by OHCHR/UNOG, with the assistance of the UNDP office in Yaoundé.

## COORDINATION

Activities were implemented in cooperation with national partners, including the University of Brazzaville, human rights NGOs, and national institutions.

## IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Human rights NGOs are now skilled in applying human rights monitoring and reporting techniques; and national authorities appreciate the need to develop a human rights education programme.

## EVALUATION

The project was evaluated in December. The consultant who conducted the evaluation recommended that training activities for civil society, students and professors should be continued;

training activities should be organized for officials from the Ministry of Justice; and the Yaoundé Centre should provide follow-up to the project, particularly by commenting on the reports submitted by NGOs to OHCHR. These reports provide information on programmes and activities of the civil society groups.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	82,083	31,059
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	15,600	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	10,000	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>107,683</b>	<b>31,059</b>
Programme support costs	13,999	4,038
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,682</b>	<b>35,097</b>

### GUINEA-BISSAU

## BACKGROUND

Following the end of the civil war in 1999 and the establishment of the United Nations Office for the Consolidation of Peace in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS), OHCHR, through the human rights component of UNOGBIS, established a technical cooperation project with the aim of strengthening the capacity of national institutions to promote and protect human rights.

Although hostilities ended and elections were held, political instability remains, hindering a smooth transition to national reconciliation and sustainable development. National institutions do not function; the Government has been unable to honour its obligation to the population to provide basic education and health care, pay salaries, reinforce the judicial system, provide security,



and protect human rights. In September, the newly elected President was toppled in a coup d'Etat and once again the country was thrown into another transition period.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

The project aims to assist the Government in promoting and protecting human rights by:

- ♥ Establishing a national human rights action plan;
- ♥ Providing training to magistrates, lawyers, parliamentarians, law enforcement officers and army officials on fundamental human rights principles; and
- ♥ Translating and disseminating international human rights instruments.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

During the reporting period, the office:

- ♥ Monitored the human rights situation in the country and engaged in dialogue with relevant authorities regarding recurring human rights violations.
- ♥ Maintained contacts with national institutions, NGOs and associations through weekly briefings and provided technical advice when requested
- ♥ Organized a human rights seminar for the army and police units from 8-11 July to impart human rights knowledge and methods of incorporating them into their daily work in accordance with human rights standards.
- ♥ A roundtable discussion comprising of civil society representatives, civilians, military and journalists was held on 7 August. The objective was to debate the role of the media in conflict situations and the need to consider human rights concerns in media reporting.
- ♥ 173 and 650 soldiers participated in human rights training sessions respectively from 10-13 June and 23-26 June and where deployed to Ivory Coast and Liberia. The aim was to provide soldiers with basic knowledge of human rights and international humanitarian principles to enable them to accomplish their peacekeeping responsibilities adequately.
- ♥ A human rights brochure was produced in Portuguese targeting scholars and professionals in the different Ministries involved in the application of international human rights instruments and its incorporation into national laws.
- ♥ A preliminary draft of the national human rights plan of action was completed in collaboration with local authorities, associations and NGOs. The draft will be distributed to members of

the Inter-Ministerial Committee and local representatives; upon completion of the draft a national conference will be held for the adoption of the final document and submission to the National Assembly for adoption.

- ♥ Translated and produced radio sketches in Creole of different articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and the Principle regulating the use of force and fire arms by law enforcement agents.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

It is extremely difficult to implement projects in the climate of political instability that has prevailed in the country since 2001. The lack of political will and the absence of effective interlocutors has been a constant barrier to progress. In the midst of this situation, OHCHR maintained dialogue with relevant authorities and helped diffuse tensions.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project was implemented by a national human rights officer under the immediate supervision of two international human rights officers from UNOGBIS. The Representative of the Secretary-General and OHCHR Headquarters provides overall guidance. Administrative support was provided by UNOGBIS and UNDP.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The primary beneficiaries are national institutions, the Government, the police, the military, the judiciary, and civil society organizations.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN GUINEA-BISSAU

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	24,000	240
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	772	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	0	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	10,000	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	1,800	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	10,000	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>46,572</b>	<b>240</b>
Programme support costs	6,054	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,626</b>	<b>271</b>

## RWANDA

### ■ BACKGROUND

In the aftermath of the 1994 genocide, the then-Government of Rwanda and the Rwanda Patriotic Front agreed to establish an independent national human rights commission. As part of the Arusha Peace Accords, the National Human Rights Commission was established in May 1999. In 2001, the Commission on Human Rights called on OHCHR to strengthen the country's national human rights capacities, including the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). A one-year project to build the NHRC's capacity was then developed and implemented and was subsequently extended for a second year, until December 2003.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The aim of the project was to strengthen the capacity of the NHRC by:

- ♥ Developing the Commission's capacity to define, implement and monitor a strategic plan, including identifying priorities for provincial offices and implementing a comprehensive staff-training programme;

- ♥ Enhancing the Commission's understanding of human rights principles;
- ♥ Supporting the establishment of a documentation centre to benefit the Commission and the public, and supporting the Commission's public education programmes; and
- ♥ Ensuring that the Commission has the tools and equipment needed to carry out its key programmes effectively and efficiently.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

Activities included developing a training guide and conducting training sessions for NHRC personnel on human rights monitoring, investigation techniques, mediation and conciliation, and reporting to human rights treaty bodies.

Brochures and pamphlets on the rights of the child, the commemoration of the genocide, electoral rights, the right to life, the rights of women in Rwanda, the role and functions of the NHRC, and the rights of workers were published and distributed. A Human Rights Charter was developed and incorporated into the country's constitution.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

Some of the activities initially planned, including the establishment of a documentation centre, were not implemented due to administrative problems. The computerization of the complaint-handling procedures was not achieved because of a lack of funds to purchase the necessary equipment. The development of such a system is considered a priority, as is further training on complaints handling.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The NHRC implemented the project and was accountable for all funds provided, in accordance with approved action plans and budgets. OHCHR was responsible for overseeing the implementation of the project and for managing it. UNDP provided administrative services for the project. Project implementation was supported by a national project coordinator and an international institutional development adviser. The project was monitored by a Project Steering Committee composed of OHCHR, UNDP, the NHRC, project staff and relevant Government ministries and NGOs.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The project was successful in providing support to the NHRC in a period of expansion. Participants praised OHCHR's training sessions, and the Commission's workload increased considerably as its role and functions became better known to the public. The inclusion of a human rights charter in the constitution is regarded as a significant achievement as it sets a solid foundation for the promotion and protection of human rights.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN RWANDA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	4,258	4,151
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	63,302	253,300
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>67,560</b>	<b>257,451</b>
Programme support costs	8,783	33,469
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,343</b>	<b>290,920</b>

## SOMALIA

### ■ BACKGROUND

OHCHR's first technical cooperation project in Somalia began in October 1999 on the recommendation of the then-United Nations Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia. A year later, UNDP-Somalia proposed that OHCHR and UNDP manage jointly the UNDP Somali Civil Protection Programme (SCPP). A new OHCHR project started on 15 April 2001, and a senior human rights adviser was seconded to UNDP-Somalia, based in Nairobi.

The original location, duration and scope of the project were revised in March 2002. Now based in Somalia, the project's activities were expanded to include new elements of the SCPP that focus on civil society, independent media, parliaments and school curricula. The project was extended until 28 February 2003.

From January 2003, OHCHR conducted an internal evaluation of the project and held extensive consultations with stakeholders, including the Independent Expert, United Nations counterparts, and Somali actors, with the aim of devising a new strategy. Among the key conclusions of the evaluation and the discussions was agreement to focus activities on providing support to Somali civil society and to an eventual United Nations role in the peace process. This new project was approved at the end of 2003; therefore no activities were undertaken in 2003 after February.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

*The Somali Civil Protection Programme:* provide technical advice on the formulation and implementation of UNDP rule-of-law and governance activities, particularly their judiciary and law-enforcement components.

*Human rights mainstreaming:* integrate a human rights component into the work of other United Nations agencies operating within the framework of the Office of the United Nations Resident Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia. The component focuses on governance, the judiciary, law enforcement, parliaments, civil society and the media.

*Mandate of the Independent Expert:* support the mandate of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia by providing information and assisting in field missions.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

During the reporting period, the project was active for the months of January and February. Activities included finalizing and submitting budgets and work plans for the judiciary and human rights components of the UNDP rule-of-law and security programme; and finalizing and submitting the UNDP Somalia-funded survey on past human rights abuses, undertaken by consultants under OHCHR supervision.



## ■ CONSTRAINTS

A key factor delaying implementation of the new project was ensuring that “Somaliland” was secure enough to establish a new office in Hargeisa.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The senior human rights adviser was the only OHCHR staff member in Somalia. Two UNVs based in “Somaliland” also worked with the adviser. UNDP was responsible for financing all activities, with the exception of the adviser’s salary, related travel, and the OHCHR internal evaluation. UNDP provided logistical, communication, transport and secretarial services. The project was administered by OHCHR with assistance from UNDP Nairobi.

The senior human rights adviser, with assistance from OHCHR Headquarters, executed his duties under the joint supervision of the United Nations Resident Representative and the Chief of OHCHR’s Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch. The adviser worked with the UNDP managers of the various rule-of-law components and implemented some activities. He was based in Hargeisa, “Somaliland”, and travelled to secure areas of Somalia and to Nairobi, where some departments of UNDP are still based.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries included local authorities, civil society groups and United Nations partners.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN SOMALIA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	119,018	186,425
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	11,374	60
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	7,699	4,245
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>138,091</b>	<b>190,730</b>
Programme support costs	17,952	24,795
<b>Total</b>	<b>156,043</b>	<b>215,525</b>

## SUDAN

### ■ BACKGROUND

In March 2000, OHCHR and the Government of the Sudan signed an accord for technical cooperation. One year later, an international human rights adviser was assigned to Khartoum to implement a technical assistance project in the field of human rights.

During the reporting period, several rounds of peace talks were held under the auspices of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in Karen, Nanyuki, Nakuru and Naivasha, Kenya. Both sides made substantial progress on the issues of security during the interim period, power- and wealth-sharing, the status of Sudan’s capital, Khartoum, and the status of the marginalized areas of the Nuba Mountains, the Funj Region (southern Blue Nile) and Abyei. The Government and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) agreed to resume negotiations in December. According to IGAD, a document setting the terms for the peace should be finalized in mid-2004 and is expected to be signed by both warring parties.

Arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture, executions, displacement of populations, cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, such as amputations, and harassment of members of the political opposition, students and NGOs remain widespread, as do restrictions on basic freedoms, including freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of movement. Since the beginning of 2003, gross human rights violations, including killings of civilians and looting and burning of villages in south, north and west Darfur have been reported.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Promote a human rights culture and strengthen the capacity of governmental and non-governmental institutions to promote and protect human rights.
- ♥ Integrate human rights in United Nations programming for post-conflict Sudan.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

A follow-up seminar for Sudanese NGOs on protecting and promoting human rights was held on 3 August and attracted 36 participants. The seminar brought together national human rights and humanitarian NGOs and donor representatives to discuss funding and assess activities undertaken during 2002 and 2003. Discussions focused on coordination and cooperation among NGOs and on developing plans of action for the post-conflict period. Participants agreed to establish a human rights centre in Khartoum.

OHCHR Khartoum participated in planning and drafting projects related to the United Nations assistance programme, including the Quick Start–Peace Impact Programme, the Contingency Plan for Peace in the Sudan, and the Sudan Assistance Framework for Humanitarian, Recovery and Development Assistance. OHCHR identified key areas of interventions, including disarmament, demobilization and re-integration of soldiers and child soldiers, human rights training programmes for the armed forces, human rights education, monitoring, police training and security-sector reform, and judicial and legislative reform.

The office prepared a strategy paper on human rights mainstreaming within United Nations agencies at the country level.

The office helped to implement the Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project by establishing a joint OHCHR/UNDP

task force to ensure the widest participation. Some 54 national NGOs working in human rights, peace-building and humanitarian relief submitted applications for the ACT project, which provides small grants of up to US\$ 5,000 to support projects implemented by community-based organizations. Six community-based organizations were awarded grants.

Some 48 people attended a seminar on the Convention against Torture, which was held in December. The seminar marked the first phase of the technical assistance programme targeting policy-makers at the government level. Discussions focused on the implications of ratification, issues related to the provisions of the Convention, the definition of torture, universal jurisdiction, reservations and their legal impacts, the experience of other States related to reporting obligations, and the development of international human rights law in relation to the Convention. Participants recommended that the Government ratify the Convention as soon as possible.

In July, five hundred people participated at a moot court session at the University of Khartoum, which was organized in cooperation with the University's Faculty of Law. The exercise, which provided an introduction to international human rights standards, involved conducting a full trial based on a verdict of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

In August, the Human Rights Committee at the National Assembly organized a seminar on the establishment of a national institution. One hundred parliamentarians, lawyers, NGO representatives, members of the legal councils at the Ministry of Justice, and others attended. Papers on international standards for establishing a national human rights institution, on the experience of other States in establishing similar institutions, and on criteria for selecting members of such an institution were presented. OHCHR Khartoum participated in the discussions, provided comments to the Advisory Council for Human Rights on the National Assembly's draft law on establishing a national institution, and highlighted the need to organize a series of workshops to inform the public about the work of a national human rights institution.

At the invitation of the Joint Monitoring Mission (JMM) and Joint Military Commission (JMC), Nuba Mountains, OHCHR Khartoum gave a lecture on human rights priorities in post-conflict Sudan, including expected outcomes and indicators. The seminar, which was held in November, was attended by representatives of the high command of the military and the SPLM/A. JMC and IRC

personnel were also present. The seminar helped to improve cooperation between the JMC and OHCHR on human rights issues in the Nuba Mountains.

OHCHR Khartoum was invited by the Abdel Majid Imam Centre for Culture and Humanitarian Studies and the Al Sala Women Association to celebrate Human Rights Day at the camp for internally displaced persons in Al Haj Yousif, Dar Es Salam and Khartoum. Over 150 children between five and 15 years were also invited to attend. The Abdel Majid Imam Centre for Culture and Humanitarian Studies declared the year 2004 as Human Rights Year and established a Foundation for awarding an Abdel Majid Imam Prize for Human Rights every year.

In December, the Khartoum Centre on Human Rights and Environmental Development organized a conference on cultural diversity, peace, challenges to human rights, and the current and potential role of the education system and the media. Members of various national NGOs, government officials and donor representatives attended a lecture given by OHCHR's representative on strategies for human rights education.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

- ♥ The training seminar on reporting in relation to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was cancelled at the request of the Government.
- ♥ The Humanitarian Aid Commission, which is responsible for registering national NGOs, rejected the application of national NGOs to participate in OHCHR workshops aimed at establishing a human rights network. The current law on NGOs prevents individuals from being members of human rights networks.
- ♥ There is insufficient transparency and accountability within the Advisory Council for Human Rights.
- ♥ More encouragement and assistance should be given to the Government to initiate a national debate on a human rights plan of action.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

The technical cooperation project benefited government officials and institutions, United Nations agencies working in the Sudan, educational institutions, particularly the Sudan Academy for Communication Sciences, the University of Khartoum, and the Institute for Training and Law Reforms, national NGOs, the

Sudanese People Liberation Movement/Army, military personnel and members of the joint military commission, and civil society.

### ■ COORDINATION

OHCHR implemented activities in cooperation with the Government, Sudanese NGOs working on human rights, and the United Nations Country team. UNICEF and ICRC participated in the training programmes.

### ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

OHCHR helped to identify human rights priorities in post-conflict Sudan for both the United Nations system and for donors. The number of activities, including workshops and seminars, focusing on human rights, peace-building, reconciliation and humanitarian relief increased over the previous year, as did the number of people who participated in those activities. Human rights training programmes for security and police forces have led to greater cooperation between the National Security Bureau and international organizations, such as the ICRC and United Nations agencies.

With the exception of two activities that were carried out in cooperation with the Government, all activities during 2003 were implemented by local NGOs. During the year, activities were expanded to reach new target groups, such as members of the SPLM/A, and the military and police forces and members of the civil society in SPLM/A-controlled areas. It was the first time that OHCHR was involved in human rights activities in southern Sudan.

### ■ EVALUATION

An independent evaluation of the project was undertaken in June. The evaluation concluded that:

- ♥ The project should be strengthened: joint projects with other agencies and programmes targeting vulnerable groups, such as internally displaced persons, women and children, should be explored.
- ♥ The project should be framed within an overall plan that may be revised periodically based on regular assessments by OHCHR in Khartoum and at Headquarters. Local funding possibilities should be factored into the overall plan.

- ♥ In anticipation of a peace agreement and subsequent accessibility to other regions in the Sudan, preparation should be made for a country-wide assessment that may lead to a major revision of the plan.
- ♥ In order to enhance delivery, cooperation between OHCHR Khartoum and the Advisory Council for Human Rights needs to be strengthened.
- ♥ The limited resources of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation should be taken into account in planning the delivery of technical cooperation. In establishing a clear-cut calendar for the delivery of technical cooperation, alternative funding sources should be explored.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN SUDAN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	193,993	146,048
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	9,098	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	7,117	13,941
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	43,632	4,755
Supplies and acquisitions	26,311	189
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	25,248	6,946
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>305,399</b>	<b>171,879</b>
Programme support costs	39,702	22,344
<b>Total</b>	<b>345,101</b>	<b>194,223</b>



# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

## INTRODUCTION

Although considerable progress has been made in institutional and legislative reform throughout the region, there is either no or limited capacity to translate human rights obligations into policies or to implement those policies. The elaboration of the 1999 Quito Framework was the first concrete step in the elaboration of OHCHR's strategy in the region. Since then, an agreement with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC) was reached which provides for the establishment of an office of an OHCHR regional representative. Furthermore consultations with United Nations partners, regional institutions and regional NGO networks are on-going on identifying joint priorities which address regional human rights concerns. During the reporting period OHCHR focused on implementing Action 2 of the Secretary-General's reform programme, which calls on OHCHR to work with United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) to strengthen national protection systems.

Several regional and sub-regional activities are described below. The Office also implemented national activities in El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Peru. OHCHR continued to provide support to its field office in Colombia, whose activities are described in the chapter entitled, "Human rights support to peace-keeping, peacemaking and peace-building".

The regional representative in Santiago de Chile helps to mainstream human rights within ECLAC and to implement technical cooperation projects in the region.

OHCHR's project in Ecuador, which provided support to a national human rights plan, was completed and evaluated in January 2003. The evaluation pointed out that many important activities were implemented, however, it was indicated that some activities undertaken were not in line with the project objectives. In Nicaragua, OHCHR's project to support the national police in elaborating a human rights strategy was also completed and evaluated. In Haiti a human rights adviser conducted a needs-assessment mission, which was concluded in January 2003, with the aim of developing a technical cooperation project during 2004. In October, a needs-assessment mission was fielded to Uruguay, in collaboration with UNDP and the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), with the aim of developing a joint project to strengthen the Parliament's human rights capacity. The planned needs assessment to Uruguay and the workshop on

reporting obligations to the treaty bodies for Spanish-speaking countries were implemented using regular budget funds.

Support is also provided to thematic rapporteurs who visit the region and to the independent expert for Haiti.

At the end of the year, 17 OHCHR staff members (five international and 12 national) were posted in El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Santiago de Chile. The Colombia field office had 74 staff at year end (25 international and 49 national). Another eight members of the Latin America and Caribbean team are posted in Geneva.

## REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Under the 1999 Quito Framework, OHCHR supports national human rights plans of action emphasizing the administration of justice, national human rights institutions, the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights, and the protection of vulnerable groups. The overall objective of the regional project is to promote and protect human rights by strengthening partnerships with regional human rights institutions and building the capacities of government human rights structures and NGOs. Activities aimed to:

- ♥ Facilitate the design of strategies to promote economic, social and cultural rights;
- ♥ Protect the human rights of vulnerable groups;
- ♥ Promote the ratification and accession to international human rights instruments;
- ♥ Promote the application of international human rights instruments by national courts; and
- ♥ Complete the formulation of OHCHR's regional strategy, which includes a targeted approach for the English-speaking Caribbean.

The following activities were implemented:

- ♥ A consultation was held with the United Nations and other international and regional partners in Barbados in March to develop a targeted approach for the English-speaking Caribbean. Some 30 representatives of United Nations agencies, international agencies and civil society organizations participated.

- ♥ A regional workshop on the adoption and implementation of affirmative action policies for Afro-descendants in the region was held in May in Montevideo. Some 65 persons participated, representing governments, associations of national institutions, international financial agencies and NGOs. Although included in the 2003 Annual Appeal, this activity was financed under the regular budget for technical cooperation.
- ♥ A workshop on reporting obligations for Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America and Equatorial Guinea was held in Tegucigalpa. In addition to the 20 representatives of governments, seven UNCTs, 14 national institutions and three NGOs participated in the workshop. This activity was financed from the regular budget for technical cooperation.
- ♥ In April, the Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders completed the study on prison conditions for women in Central American countries.
- ♥ In May, a grant was provided to the Inter-American Institute for Human Rights (IIHR) to support an OHCHR human rights Chair at the annual training course of the IIHR. The objective of the grant is to facilitate the dissemination of information about international human rights instruments, the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights, and the work of the Office. The grant funded the participation of five persons representing governments, NGOs and national institutions.
- ♥ In November, a human rights workshop for staff of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC) and the Caribbean and for members of the UNCT in Chile was held in Santiago de Chile. Some 35 persons participated.

## REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

The regional representative, based in Santiago de Chile, participated in the sub-regional workshop with the United Nations sub-regional group in Barbados in March, and in the regional workshop on affirmative action policies for Afro-descendants in May. He represented the Office at the regional working group on the proposed draft convention on persons with disabilities held in Quito, Ecuador, in April, and attended the annual assembly of the Organization of American States in May in Santiago de Chile. In addition, he was a resource person at a workshop on the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission in Paraguay, and provided advice to ECLAC and several UNCTs on human rights aspects of their activities.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

A number of UNCTs have established thematic human rights working groups to coordinate their work in helping governments to strengthen national protection systems. UNDP in Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Honduras, Peru, Uruguay and Trinidad and Tobago have appointed focal points to liaise with OHCHR.

Following the workshop on affirmative action for Afro-descendants, the Government of Uruguay began a dialogue with concerned NGOs on how to implement some of the recommendations that emerged from the workshop.

In Honduras, the training workshop on reporting to treaty bodies led to the creation of an inter-institutional mechanism to coordinate the preparation of reports.

Civil society organizations and national institutions have become more involved in preparing reports to treaty bodies and in following up on recommendations made by treaty bodies and special rapporteurs.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	300,105	201,088
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	24,381	1,284
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	50,064	61,636
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	7,000	37
Supplies and acquisitions	10,526	983
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	139,923	74,705
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>531,999</b>	<b>339,733</b>
Programme support costs	69,160	44,165
<b>Total</b>	<b>601,159</b>	<b>383,898</b>

## COUNTRY PROJECTS

### EL SALVADOR

#### ■ BACKGROUND

A new project to strengthen the capacities of national human rights institutions began in mid-April. It follows a request for technical cooperation made by the Government in 1999 and was based on recommendations made during an external evaluation of OHCHR's earlier activities in the country in 2000. A national technical coordinator was recruited for the project.

#### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ~ Assist the Office of the Ombudsman in implementing its mandate.
- ~ Strengthen the human rights capacity of the United Nations system and mainstream human rights into the work of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT).

#### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

The national technical coordinator participated in a needs-assessment exercise and then formulated OHCHR's work plan after holding extensive consultations with the Ombudsman's Office for the Defense of Human Rights (*Procuraduría para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos, PDDH*), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNDP and various other United Nations agencies.

#### Support to the Ombudsman's Office for the Defense of Human Rights (PDDH)

OHCHR organized the following activities:

- ~ A panel on migration, development and human rights was held in August with the participation of high- and mid-level officials from the PDDH, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNDP, the National Police and representatives of leading human rights NGOs.
- ~ A colloquium on the domestic law against juvenile gangs (*Ley Antimaras*) was held in September with the participation of officials from the PDDH, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Prison's National Direction and the Ministry of the Interior.
- ~ A forum on impunity, national justice and international mechanisms was organized by the NGO Commission on Human Rights of El Salvador (*Pro-Memoria Histórica*) and held

in September. Participants also discussed the 1993 Amnesty Law and the negative impact of this law on judicial proceedings for relatives and victims.

- ~ A conference on the domestic law against juvenile gangs (*Ley Antimaras*) and its impact was held in October. Some 150 people attended and were addressed by members of the Supreme Court of Justice, the legislature and civil society groups.
- ~ OHCHR organized a one-day workshop in December for 25 police officers on their roles and responsibilities in respecting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; it was followed by a conference on the same subject, for 40 high-level officials of the National Police.
- ~ A training on human rights and gender was offered to 50 persons representing various institutions: the PDDH, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Police, members of the legislature and representatives from the National Direction for Prisons, the Ministries of Health and Education, the National Institute for Children and Adolescents, and representatives from NGOs focusing on women's issues, such as *Flor de Piedra*, *Dignas*, *Las Melidas* and *CEMUJER*.

#### Support to the United Nations Country Team

- ~ A training seminar on human rights mainstreaming and a rights-based approach to development was organized for 10 officials of the World Health Organization in June.
- ~ Human rights technical advice was provided to the United Nations Resident Coordinator and representatives of other United Nations agencies as necessary. At the request of the Resident Coordinator, the national technical coordinator presented a study on the law against juvenile gangs (*Ley Antimaras*) in September.

#### ■ CONSTRAINTS

The mandate of the current Ombudsman ended in March and some of the high-level officials within this institution, which is the project's main beneficiary, have discontinued their work. Given this situation, OHCHR emphasized training activities to middle-management officials who are likely to remain at the Office of the Ombudsman.

#### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project is implemented by the national technical coordinator, who is assisted by a secretary and a driver. UNDP provides

technical, financial and managerial support. During the early months of the project, UNDP premises were used for some activities.

Consultants were recruited to implement training activities, in close coordination with the national technical coordinator.

## ■ COORDINATION

The national technical coordinator held regular meetings with representatives of UNDP, the PDDH and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Regular meetings were also held with the relevant officials within UNDP and other United Nations agencies to evaluate the needs and priorities for human rights training.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The project's main beneficiaries are officials from the PDDH, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations agencies operating in El Salvador. Participants in the training activities, including representatives from the PDDH, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Police, the legislature, the National Direction for Prisons, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the National Institute for Children and Adolescents and leading women NGOs, earned a diploma on gender and human rights.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN EL SALVADOR

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	37,906	286
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	16,160	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	5,008	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	8,000	0
General operating expenses	11,160	0
Supplies and acquisitions	6,954	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	8,000	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>93,188</b>	<b>286</b>
Programme support costs	12,114	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,302</b>	<b>323</b>

## GUATEMALA

### ■ BACKGROUND

OHCHR has been implementing technical cooperation projects in the country since 1997. Most of these have been aimed at strengthening the rule of law by enhancing the institutional capacity of state institutions and civil society to better promote and protect human rights. The Office elaborated a new project in 2000 to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples, enhance the capacity of the judiciary, national human rights institutions and civil society to monitor respect for international human rights norms and promote integration of human rights policies within these organizations and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT). Scheduled to end in June 2004, the project will be immediately replaced by an OHCHR office with a combined promotion and protection/monitoring mandate.

Human rights defenders and indigenous leaders are increasingly being threatened, intimidated and sometimes murdered; judges and law officials have been lynched. At the same time, the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) is planning to withdraw from the country over the next three years. OHCHR established a strategy with MINUGUA to coordinate activities during its last two years, particularly in the areas of indigenous peoples and human rights, starting from the beginning of the year. On 1 December, OHCHR signed an agreement with the Government to establish an OHCHR office in the country as follow-up to MINUGUA's departure.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The long-term objective of the project is to strengthen national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights. Its immediate objectives are to:

- ♥ Strengthen national capacities for verification/monitoring and reporting related to international and national human rights obligations;
- ♥ Provide technical advice on and facilitate coordination and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms, particularly for the Ombudsman's Office and the Office of the Defender of Indigenous Women;
- ♥ Provide assistance and advice to the United Nations system on human rights-related matters, particularly helping to



transfer MINUGUA's tasks to the United Nations system and by mainstreaming human rights throughout the system;

- ♥ Strengthen national capacities for verification of indigenous peoples' rights and promote multiculturalism; and
- ♥ Mainstream human rights into the curricula of the Judicial Studies School and provide training activities for judges on international human rights instruments and the mechanisms for applying these principles in domestic judicial processes.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

- ♥ OHCHR offered training on the preparation of reports to United Nations human rights mechanisms, and on follow-up to recommendations made by these mechanisms, to staff from Presidential Commission for the Coordination of Human Rights Policies (COPREDEH), the Ombudsman's Office, *Secretaría Presidencial de la Mujer* (SEPREM), leading NGO umbrella organizations, and staff from the UNCT.
- ♥ OHCHR established a programme with COPREDEH to prepare Guatemala's overdue reports to the Committee against Torture (CAT), the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Other state agencies, the Ombudsman's Office and leading NGOs were also involved in the programme. The State submitted its report to CAT in October; the report to CEDAW was submitted in January 2004. The CERD report is expected to be finalized in May 2004.
- ♥ OHCHR assisted civil society organizations in producing shadow reports. DESCGUA (*Organización no-gubernamental de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales de Guatemala*), a NGO that presented its report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in November, received technical and financial assistance from OHCHR. Once published, the Committee's concluding observations and recommendations were disseminated within the UNCT and in public statements and press releases.
- ♥ Fifty-two members of the National Council for the Assistance to Persons With Disabilities (CONADI) attended a workshop organized by OHCHR and held on the International Day of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to analyze a draft international convention on this issue and make recommendations.
- ♥ Training on international human rights mechanisms was provided to journalists.
- ♥ Universities were given assistance in incorporating human rights programmes into their legal and political curricula.
- ♥ An academic conference on human rights and the rule of law was held for more than 400 students and teachers at the State University.

- ♥ Local civil society networks in the interior of the country were offered training on international human rights mechanisms, including regional mechanisms. Through a six-month programme with the NGO *Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo* (GAM), OHCHR trained local leaders in seven departments and in Guatemala City on the use of international instruments. In a second phase of this programme, OHCHR and the National Human Rights Movement, another well-known umbrella NGO, is training leaders in five departments, with the support of the MINUGUA regional offices. This programme will be continued in 2004.

### Support to the Ombudsman, the Office of the Defender of Indigenous Women, and NGOs

OHCHR organized discussions following the recent visits by the Special Rapporteurs on the rights of indigenous peoples, on independence of the judiciary, and on human rights defenders. OHCHR published 25,000 copies of the report of the Special Rapporteur on indigenous peoples, and 5,000 copies each of the reports of the Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders and of the Special Rapporteur on independence of the judiciary. All general observations made by the different Committees and the specific country recommendations, conclusions and observations were compiled in nine brochures.

### Advice and support to the United Nations Country Team

OHCHR supported the United Nations system's efforts to integrate a human rights-based approach into the Common Country Assessment (CCA) process. It also devised development indicators in the area of human rights, and provided training in human rights to the UNCT staff. As part of the United Nations Coordination Board of the CCA/United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) process, OHCHR offered advice to the UNCT on how to integrate human rights into the CCA/UNDAF process. OHCHR's participation in formulating UNDP's sixth National Human Development Report led to the inclusion of a chapter on human rights.

In anticipation of MINUGUA's withdrawal from the country, OHCHR, the UNCT and MINUGUA began work on establishing an OHCHR office in the country with a combined technical cooperation and monitoring mandate.

## Indigenous peoples' rights and the promotion of multi-culturalism

- ~ OHCHR coordinated efforts with MINUGUA and the Ombudsman's Office to elaborate a draft manual for the verification of violations against indigenous peoples. The manual will contain legal descriptions of the specific rights of indigenous peoples, define the types of violations, and indicate how to report violations of indigenous rights before local, national and international mechanisms. It is expected to be completed in 2004.
- ~ OHCHR collaborated with MINUGUA and GRUTIM (*Grupo Interagencial sobre el tema indígena y multiculturalismo*) in conducting workshops for indigenous NGOs in the interior of the country and in the capital. OHCHR and MINUGUA also provided technical and financial support for the creation of a comprehensive umbrella organization for indigenous organizations, called the National Indigenous Peoples Council (CNPI, *Consejo Nacional de Pueblos Indígenas*). OHCHR also helped to improve indigenous participation in the electoral process.
- ~ OHCHR provided assistance to the Office of the Defender of Indigenous Women (DEMI, *Defensoría de la Mujer Indígena*) in analyzing the human rights situation of indigenous women and developing a manual on the specific rights of indigenous women. The Office also provided training to indigenous women through eight workshops in five departments where the DEMI is working.
- ~ OHCHR worked with the UCI (*Unidad de Capacitación Institucional*) to prepare a guide to the application of indigenous peoples' rights to illustrate how to integrate the rights of indigenous peoples' into judicial argumentations, decisions and sentences. A roster of national experts who could work as trainers was compiled for UCI. Some 405 judges and judicial officials were trained as part of the Community Peace Judges project.
- ~ In May, OHCHR promoted and organized a seminar with judges and others in the judicial sector on cultural expertise in trials. The first draft of a manual on indigenous rights for members of the judiciary was prepared and is now under review. A document elaborated by OHCHR, containing recommendations on integrating multiculturalism in the new Procedural Code, was presented to the Inter-agency Group on Justice.

## IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project was implemented by three national professional staff with expertise in the national human rights protection system, indigenous rights, and national human rights law, and one international professional staff with experience in United

Nations missions and peace transitions. All were supervised by an international project coordinator. A junior professional officer, a United Nations Volunteer, an administrative assistant, a secretary, a driver, and an intern provided additional support. The project is supported administratively by UNDP.

## COORDINATION

Staff regularly participated in the activities of the UNCT and are part of its main thematic groups. With OHCHR's assistance, the UNCT reactivated a human rights inter-agency group. OHCHR also participated in the inter-agency working groups on indigenous peoples' issues (GRUTIM, *Grupo Interagencial sobre el tema indígena y multiculturalismo*), on communication and information (GICI, *Grupo Interagencial sobre Comunicación e Información*), and on the advancement of women and gender (GIGAM, *Grupo Interagencial sobre Género y Avance de la Mujer*), and is a permanent member of all these organizations. Bilateral work was also conducted with UNICEF and UNDP to integrate a human rights perspective into their work.

OHCHR coordinated activities with civil society organizations, the Office of the Ombudsman, the Presidential Commission for Human Rights (Comisión Presidencial de Derechos Humanos, COPREDEH) and other state agencies, such as the Presidential Secretariat for Women (Secretaría Presidencial de la Mujer, SEPREM) and the Presidential Commission on Discrimination and Racism (Comisión Presidencial sobre Discriminación y Racismo, CODISRA), to evaluate implementation of the Government's international human rights obligations.

## BENEFICIARIES

The main beneficiaries of the project are COPREDEH, the Ombudsman's Office, the Office of the Defender of Indigenous Women, the Judicial Studies School, the Presidential Commission on Discrimination and Racism, the Presidential Secretariat for Women, and civil society organizations working with human rights and indigenous peoples'/women's rights. The UNCT also benefited from OHCHR's advice and support.

## IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

OHCHR's main achievement in the short-term is ensuring that the Government prepares its reports to CAT and CEDAW. The

project raised awareness among State institutions and civil society on the importance of the reporting process, and trained more than 100 officials on the preparation, presentation and follow-up of reports.

As a result of OHCHR's involvement in the CCA/UNDAF process, the CCA document finalized by the UNCT in 2003 incorporated a human rights perspective and included recommendations made by OHCHR.

EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN GUATEMALA		
This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).		
	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	413,439	94,371
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	10,605	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	26,904	12,475
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	25,141	0
General operating expenses	47,838	14,130
Supplies and acquisitions	10,386	1,857
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	44,332	27,161
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>578,645</b>	<b>149,994</b>
Programme support costs	75,224	19,499
<b>Total</b>	<b>653,869</b>	<b>169,493</b>

## MEXICO

### BACKGROUND

In April 2002, the Government and OHCHR signed an agreement establishing the basis for a three-year technical cooperation programme. This is the second phase of the programme; the first phase ended in September 2001. In July 2002, OHCHR agreed to post a representative in Mexico whose task is to coordinate the technical cooperation programme and implement the mandate of the High Commissioner. The appointed representative formally established the office in Mexico two months later and the Senate ratified the agreement in December 2002.

### OBJECTIVES

Planned activities reflect several recommendations issued by United Nations monitoring and thematic mechanisms and by regional human rights institutions. Priorities include:

- ♥ Diagnosing the human rights situation in Mexico, which will serve as a basis for designing and adopting a new national programme on human rights;
- ♥ Strengthening human rights institutions and NGOs;
- ♥ Working to end torture and ill-treatment (follow-up to activities undertaken during phase I); and
- ♥ Promoting the rights of indigenous peoples (follow-up to activities undertaken during phase I).

### IMPLEMENTATION

During the first months of the year, the Office concentrated on developing the methodology for conducting the Diagnosis, which began in March. The project organized four regional seminars, in Ciudad Juarez, Oaxaca, Guadalajara and Mexico City, in which representatives of the Government, civil society and national institutions discussed the human rights situation in the country.

In August, a workshop for international NGOs was organized in which the first conclusions and recommendations of the Diagnosis were presented. Two months later, a national forum was organized in which more than 415 people from all sectors of society discussed the draft proposals of the Diagnosis. A meeting with international consultants was held in early November to revise, with national consultants, the final draft of the Diagnosis.

The Diagnosis is divided into seven chapters: general aspects, which includes the implementation of international standards in national legislation, human rights defenders and the Ombudsman system; civil rights; political rights; economic, social and cultural rights; women's rights; indigenous rights; and people in a vulnerable or discriminatory situation. It contains 31 main recommendations, as well as numerous specific recommendations throughout the document. Significant recommendations are that the Constitution be revised to incorporate international human rights norms; that laws be adopted to guarantee human rights protection: that a permanent national campaign be conducted to promote knowledge of human rights, tolerance and diversity; that deep transformations of the judicial

system be pursued; that measures be adopted to eliminate discrimination against women in economic, social and cultural rights; that the fundamental rights of indigenous people be guaranteed; that electoral legislation be reformed to incorporate a Parties' law; and that an annual independent report be prepared on the state of human rights in Mexico including the elaboration of a national index of compliance with human rights in Mexico.

During the reporting period, the representative participated in several events and seminars on human rights organized by the Government, universities, and NGOs, and prepared papers on such issues as women's rights, human rights institutions, crimes against humanity, racial discrimination, public policies on economic, cultural and social rights, and universities and the national and international human rights agenda.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The office is composed of the representative, two human rights officers, two assistants and one driver. Four additional national consultants were hired to prepare the Diagnosis.

## ■ COORDINATION

The project Steering Committee, which consists of Government representatives, OHCHR, the National Commission of Human Rights, representatives of indigenous groups and members of the NGO Liaison Committee representing civil society, monitor the implementation of activities; it met twice in 2003. The overall implementation of the project is the responsibility of OHCHR's representative. The Steering Committee is mandated to monitor and follow-up implementation and to recommend any necessary adjustments.

The United Nations Country Team helped to prepare the Diagnosis. United Nations agencies provided information on various aspects related to their mandates and reviewed the draft Diagnosis. UNDP provided administrative support for the project.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries include national and local-level government institutions working in the field of human rights, autonomous state bodies, national and local commissions for human rights, NGOs, indigenous organizations, the academic sector and civil society.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Diagnosis was supported by the Government, national and international NGOs, national human rights and other institutions, and the UNCT. OHCHR's representative presented the Diagnosis to President Fox on 8 December in an event attended by several members of Government and representatives of civil society, the National Commission for Human Rights, local human rights institutions, the legislative and judicial branches of government, the diplomatic corps and the UNCT. The presentation was carried in the national news media and in several international media, including CNN, the Washington Post, the New York Times, the Boston Globe, and El País.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN MEXICO

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	327,433	41,533
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	274,137	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	63,266	1,051
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	82,346	2,457
Supplies and acquisitions	43,128	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>790,310</b>	<b>45,041</b>
Programme support costs	102,740	5,855
<b>Total</b>	<b>893,050</b>	<b>50,896</b>

## NICARAGUA

### ■ BACKGROUND

Activities in Nicaragua are designed to assist the National Police in devising a strategy, involving local communities, to prevent crime and human rights abuses perpetrated by the police. The project, which began in January 2000, was scheduled to last two years. Due to delays in implementation, it was extended for an

additional year. The project ended in January 2003 and an evaluation of the project, covering the period 2000-2002, was concluded in October.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- ~ Elaborate an institutional framework to guide the police and the community in complying with the basic principles of human rights.
- ~ Strengthen a system through which the police can process human rights complaints from citizens in coordination with other government and non-governmental organizations.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

No activities were implemented in 2003 other than an external evaluation, conducted by a consultant and an OHCHR staff member, in September and October.

## ■ EVALUATION

The evaluation indicated that although it is impossible to measure the impact of such a project quantitatively, there is reason to believe that the project contributed to the generally positive perception of the police in the communities involved. Recommendations and main conclusions include the following:

- ~ The planned activities were fully realized and implemented according to plans. Many of them were considerably delayed, however, due to serious administrative problems and slowness in OHCHR's authorization procedures.
- ~ Some of the real achievements of the project, particularly the institutionalization of the Department for Community Police, the Social Prevention Committees, which work closely with the police in the townships, and the Inter-Institutional Commission to handle complaints against the police, suffer from "project syndrome": New initiatives are launched and institutions and structures are created while a donor-driven project is active; once the project ends, the structures tend to disintegrate due to lack of funds and institutional interest. The new community department of the police had no budget and no work plan once the project ended. There is reason to ask whether it was given the prestige and influence it deserved. This unit could have become a model for other countries that could learn a lot from Nicaragua. The

Inter-Institutional Commission is inactive and no longer provides the communication channel to civil society that it was supposed to.

- ~ There is a general impression that the behaviour and the human rights practices of the Nicaraguan National Police has improved over the last years. There is some room for improvement, however, in its handling of youth gangs. The National Police should establish closer links with institutions and organizations specializing in street youth, and create innovative strategies to deal with this group.
- ~ The situation in the Autonomous Regions of the Atlantic Coast is very alarming from a police perspective. The combination of social and political rejection and serious drug abuse and trafficking makes it essential to take a fresh look at the entire police strategy in the region. A certain degree of police autonomy in these communities may be required.
- ~ The exit strategy of this project was based on the assumption that an IDB-UNDP project under the title Citizen Security would build on the OHCHR project and follow up on many of its activities. Unfortunately, the Citizen Security project, now in its pilot phase, does not seem to have established a link to the earlier project. Those in charge of the pilot have no knowledge of the police project; they are not familiar with the manuals produced during the project; NGOs which were active in the previous project have no knowledge of the new one; and perhaps most serious of all, there is a tendency to create parallel structures of community participation where the local police have already established the so-called Social Prevention Committees. To a certain extent, this lack of continuity may be a reflection of rivalries between the police and the Ministry of the Interior, and even within the police structures. The recommendation is to re-establish links between the two projects.
- ~ The experiences of the National Police, consolidated through this project should be disseminated throughout the region. The European governments that were involved in advising the post-war police forces in the region, now working with the model of Restorative Justice, could also be involved in such an exchange of police models.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN NICARAGUA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	60,134	35,746
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	13,509	20,925
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	5,847	7,434
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	17,114	2,208
Contractual services	56,756	8,746
General operating expenses	2,957	1,650
Supplies and acquisitions	1,983	2,768
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	40,375	1,774
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>198,675</b>	<b>81,251</b>
Programme support costs	25,828	10,563
<b>Total</b>	<b>224,503</b>	<b>91,814</b>

## PERU

### ■ BACKGROUND

In 2001, the Government of Peru established a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) with the aim of verifying the circumstances, facts and responsibilities of the terrorist violence and the violations of human rights that occurred between May 1980 and November 2000 - imputable both to terrorist organizations and state agents - and proposing initiatives to consolidate peace and harmonious relationships among all Peruvians. OHCHR's support to the TRC covered the period between April 2002 and July 2003.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the project was to ensure that a human rights approach was integrated into the TRC's final report.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

About thirty representatives of United Nations agencies and programmes, donor agencies, and civil society participated in a

seminar, held in June to discuss human rights and reconciliation in the aftermath of violent conflict and the experiences of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions in other countries. The seminar, which attracted some 800 persons, covered such issues as: armed conflict and truth commissions, internal conflict and democracy, reparations policies, reconciliation and institutional reform, and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance's (IDEA) manual on reconciliation. Foreign facilitators came from Argentina, Colombia, Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Ireland, South Africa and the European Union was also represented.

The seminar was jointly organized and funded by OHCHR, the TRC (through support from the Government of Denmark), IDEA and UNDP. The Government and UNDP shared some of the expenses by covering some of the local costs.

Following the extension of the mandate of the TRC, OHCHR supported the activities carried out by expert members which included investigating cases, forensic examinations, hearing of witnesses and in the classification of cases to determine which ones required further judicial proceedings.

An external consultant evaluated the project in August.

### ■ EVALUATION

An evaluation mission was conducted in August 2003. The conclusions of the final evaluation indicated that the project to support the TRC in Peru was positive in its design, identification of the beneficiaries, the activities to be supported and in the implementation of the project. The evaluation concluded that the project achieved all its objectives and emphasized the very good collaboration and the transparency which characterized the working relation between the project and the TRC. Equally, the evaluation praised the links built with other state institutions despite the short duration of the project. The project had achieved significant results with some important impact such as the process of organizing the protection of victims and families which, was initiated as a follow-up to the work of the TRC also mentioned is the development of methodological tools to help the TRC collect and analyze information which could serve future experiences. One concern however, was that proper measures had not been taken to ensure the protection and custody of the documentation resulting from the work of the TRC.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

## PERU

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	63,980	49,295
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	0	1,278
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	15,500
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>63,980</b>	<b>66,073</b>
Programme support costs	8,317	8,589
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,297</b>	<b>74,662</b>



# EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND THE CAUCASUS



## INTRODUCTION

OHCHR's common approach to the countries in Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus emphasizes aspects of the United Nations human rights programme highlighted in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, including support to the treaty bodies and special procedures, national institutions, national plans of action and human rights education. In keeping with Action 2 of the Secretary-General's second reform programme, during the past year OHCHR sought to strengthen its human rights-related actions at the country level, in closer cooperation with United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Serbia and Montenegro.

OHCHR also continued to consolidate sub-regional approaches by establishing strong programmes for Central Asia and Southeast Europe, and by conducting planning activities for the Caucasus. The sub-regional programme for the Southern Caucasus was not developed as planned in the 2003 Annual Appeal due to difficulties arising from changes in the prevailing political situation in the region; however, the country programme in Azerbaijan was continued as described below. The Office also supported the development of training materials for a broad training programme intended to increase the impact of United Nations human rights work in the region. Strong commitments from implementing partners enabled OHCHR to carry out many of its activities as planned. OHCHR's programme also benefited from good cooperation with key regional organizations, primarily the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

OHCHR undertook several national-level activities during the year in Azerbaijan (focusing on police training), Croatia (support to the national human rights institution), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (human rights education and capacity-building) and the Russian Federation (human rights education). These are described in the country projects section below. In Georgia, residual payments were made for outstanding expenses related to OHCHR's former support project, which sought to strengthen human rights protection and promotion, particularly through human rights education and awareness-raising. OHCHR field operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Serbia and Montenegro included technical cooperation activities, many of which were implemented at the sub-regional

level. The activities of these field offices are described in the chapter entitled, "Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities".

OHCHR also supports the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in Georgia, the Department of Political Affairs in Tajikistan, and has technical cooperation offices in Azerbaijan and in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. OHCHR has staff in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. During the past year, OHCHR staff supported missions of thematic special rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights, among others, to Uzbekistan and Spain (Special Rapporteur on torture), and to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders).

## REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the overall programme in the region reflect the priorities contained in the recommendations of the 2001 Dubrovnik Conference on Human Rights and Democratization. Regional and sub-regional activities include support to national human rights action plans and national human rights institutions, human rights education, and follow-up to recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms. Activities included providing tools and resources to civil society with the aim of strengthening its capacity to promote and protect human rights; developing tools for human rights education programmes in schools; and supporting the development of government and civil society treaty-reporting capacities in Southeast Europe.

A set of draft human rights training modules for NGOs and a set of conceptual guidelines for strengthening human rights education in Southeast Europe were developed. Several outstanding human rights treaty body reports were submitted by governments and corresponding shadow reports were submitted by NGOs.



## ■ SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

While no expenditures were incurred in Central Asia during 2003, OHCHR completed the formulation of its regional project for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Activities aim to increase understanding of human rights by deploying a regional expert who will work with governments, scholars, civil society and other policy-makers. In addition, the capacity of regional and national institutions to provide human rights education will be developed. The project was discussed at the highest levels during the visits to the region by the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights in March.

In Southeast Europe, the Office supported the efforts of governments and civil society to find sustainable solutions for the human rights challenges related to:

- ♥ Impunity and the rule of law;
- ♥ Human rights frameworks for development, including poverty-reduction strategies;
- ♥ Human trafficking, gender and gender-based violence, exploitation and discrimination;
- ♥ Human rights frameworks for the movement of people, including durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced persons; and
- ♥ Human rights education and promotion, including strengthening civil society.

Details of these activities are described in the chapter entitled “Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities”, under sections covering field offices in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia and Montenegro.

In addition, a sub-regional meeting on human rights education in Southeast Europe was held in July in Skopje, in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Its purpose was to elicit proposals for the strategy, methodology and content of OHCHR's human rights education programmes in Southeast Europe from participants from countries of the sub-region. The meeting identified four major common areas of concern for future work: education standards; teacher training and pre-service teacher training in particular; national strategies, including plans of action in human rights education; and curricular approaches to human rights education.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	6,400	23,851
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	52,177	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	16,677	11,371
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	15,952	24,350
Contractual services	17,700	0
General operating expenses	16,800	0
Supplies and acquisitions	200	1,682
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	46,000	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>171,906</b>	<b>61,254</b>
Programme support costs	22,348	7,963
<b>Total</b>	<b>194,254</b>	<b>69,217</b>

## COUNTRY PROJECTS

### AZERBAIJAN

#### ■ BACKGROUND

Since its independence in 1991, Azerbaijan has undergone a difficult transition period. Economic hardships, compounded by the armed conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh, posed a major challenge to the human rights situation in a country that harbours up to one million internally displaced persons and refugees.

After requesting OHCHR's technical assistance in improving the country's human rights situation, the Government entered into an agreement with OHCHR to build the capacities of the police and the judiciary. In November 2002, OHCHR fielded a mid-project assessment mission to Baku. During that visit, the Government re-committed itself to working with OHCHR in enhancing education and training for the judiciary, police, prison staff, and law enforcement personnel, and in fulfilling its reporting obligations to the United Nations treaty bodies.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Provide training in relevant international human rights standards in the fields of law enforcement and administration of justice.
- ♥ Reinforce national compliance with the United Nations treaty body reporting obligations.
- ♥ Develop comprehensive training materials, including a police training manual, in compliance with international human rights standards.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

The first phase of the project was implemented between January 2002 and May 2003. During that period, the project focused on refining and publishing the training manual and accompanying materials for future training.

Some 2,000 copies of the manual *Human Rights and the Police* were published as an official textbook. The manual was approved by the Ministry of Education. Some 20,000 copies of the United Nations pocket book on human rights and police, a refresher manual for trained police officers, were also published. A set of four posters with basic human rights messages targeted at serving police officers was also printed.

The final training seminar was held from 1 to 4 March at the National Police Academy (NPA). The event was prepared by NPA trainers who had been trained during the first phase of the project. Two international experts and representatives of civil society also participated in the seminar. The aim of the seminar was to familiarize a group of 45 senior police officers with the substance and methodology contained in the new manual.

The second phase of the project was developed in consultation with the Ministry of Justice; although this phase was expected to begin in June, the Government had not yet officially approved the project. During the reporting period, the project coordinator prepared the activities to be launched pending Government approval. One of the basic human rights training manuals, *Human Rights and Pre-trial Detention: A Handbook of International Standards relating to Pre-trial Detention*, was translated into Azeri and prepared for publication. The project coordinator also participated in numerous roundtables, seminars and consultations organized by UNHCR, OSCE, the Council of Europe, and events organized by national human rights NGOs.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Despite the Government's repeated commitment to, and appreciation of, the project, a series of events in the country since May, including the death of the president and subsequent elections, caused serious delays in concluding a formal agreement with OHCHR.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

OHCHR's counterpart was the Ministry of Justice; close working relations with all relevant ministries, particularly the Ministries of Interior, National Security, and Foreign Affairs, were also developed.

The UNDP office in Baku provided administrative assistance. UNDP representatives were also involved in selecting and hiring a national project assistant.

An international project coordinator worked as the full-time local OHCHR representative and was initially assisted in her work by a national project assistant; during the reporting period, however, she was working on her own, with the part-time assistance of one intern.

## ■ COORDINATION

OHCHR Baku worked closely with UNDP and other United Nations agencies present in Azerbaijan, and with key regional organizations, such as OSCE and the Council of Europe. Representatives of foreign embassies, mainly those supporting human rights-related programmes, have also been involved to varying degrees. The project coordinator established regular monthly meetings and ad hoc coordinating meetings of key international and national human rights partners.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the project were primarily commanders and staff of the National Police Academy, police trainers, judges, prosecutors and other relevant actors in the field of administration of justice; government officials responsible for reporting to the treaty bodies; and civil society.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Professional groups from law enforcement and the judiciary acquired practical knowledge of international human rights standards and their application; and a comprehensive set of training materials, tailored to meet the specific needs of Azerbaijan, were produced in Azeri and made available for use throughout the country.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN AZERBAIJAN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	104,725	97,823
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	6,292	31,375
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	4,770	11,950
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	16,296	18,445
General operating expenses	14,505	6,726
Supplies and acquisitions	1,905	381
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	25,930	7,170
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>174,423</b>	<b>173,870</b>
Programme support costs	22,675	22,603
<b>Total</b>	<b>197,098</b>	<b>196,473</b>

## CROATIA

### ■ BACKGROUND

OHCHR closed its office in Croatia on 31 December 2002 but, decided that in light of the human rights situation in the country, there was still a need to develop a sustainable national human rights capacity to protect human rights. In consultations with the Government, NGOs, representatives of the University of Zagreb, international organizations and representatives of Member States present in Croatia, OHCHR proposed providing support to the Human Rights Centre (HRC) in Zagreb to strengthen its role as a meeting place and resource facility for Government officials, academic institutions, national human

rights institutions, NGOs and others to promote human rights. OHCHR developed a project with the understanding that responsibility for the HRC would be assumed by local organizations and institutions after two years.

Croatia has ratified the six main human rights treaties and their optional protocols. While considerable progress has been made in the field of human rights, there is still a need to strengthen NGO involvement in policy-making and legislative processes. Although the country has recently benefited from greater cooperation between the government and civil society, representatives of civil society can and should be more involved in the drafting of important legislation and supporting its implementation by the executive and the judiciary.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Contribute to the reform process and good governance by supporting the participation of civil society in policy-making.
- ♥ Raise awareness of human rights among government officials, academia, national human rights institutions and NGOs and contribute to the development of a culture of human rights.
- ♥ Build capacity for sustainable human rights-related activities.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

- ♥ An expert roundtable was organized to discuss the draft law on gender equality; the right to equal education and the need for high school curricula reform; implementation of the constitutional law on national minorities, focusing on the elections of local Minority Councils; implementation of the constitutional law on national minorities, with a special focus on the parliamentary elections; and the proposed law on the implementation of the International Criminal Court Statute providing for the processing of domestic war crimes cases.
- ♥ A training seminar on individual complaints procedures of treaty bodies was held for 25 lawyers and human rights activists at the HRC in June.
- ♥ The HRC prepared the curriculum and facilitated discussions at the session of the Helsinki Committee's annual summer school of human rights, devoted to sustainable development and the right to a clean environment. The session was held at Dugi Otok island in August.
- ♥ A seminar about racism, discrimination and tolerance was attended by 20 high school students on the International Day against Fascism and Anti-Semitism and the International Day

for Tolerance in November. A six-week series of human rights lectures for young law students was held during the same period at the HRC, in cooperation with the law students' association, ELSA.

- ♥ Lectures held as part of the HRC's monthly "Speakers Series" included a presentation by Ms. Elisabeth Rehn, UNIFEM expert and former Special Rapporteur of the situation in Croatia, of her report on women in war and peace; a series of discussions on the human rights aspects of the new world order; an event focusing on the Government's report on the implementation of the Millennium Declaration on United Nations Day, in cooperation with the United Nations Country Team; an event on the history of international criminal justice; and an event to mark World Aids Day. The "Speakers Series" events were all well attended.
- ♥ Representatives of human rights NGOs gathered at human rights forums, organized in cooperation with the Government Office for Human Rights, to discuss issues of common concern, including the proposed changes to the system of Government funding for NGO activities, and the proposed long-term strategy for the development of civil society. Other forums were held on the past, present and future of the anti-war movement in Croatia, and on refugee return.

The expert roundtable discussion and human rights forums were organized with guidance from the Steering Board. All events were held at the HRC, except the module of the Helsinki Committee Summer School of Human Rights.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Human Rights Centre has six national staff members, including the coordinator. The coordinator is responsible for the implementation of the project, under the supervision of OHCHR.

Different activities were implemented with external partners, including other United Nations agencies, NGOs and Government offices (i.e. the Office for Human Rights or the Office for NGOs). Events recommended by the Steering Board were organized with the assistance and guidance of the Steering Board member who proposed the activity and, usually, in cooperation with the organization he/she represents.

## ■ COORDINATION

Several meetings were held with the Ombudsman, the head of the Human Rights Committee of the Parliament, and the head of the Inter-Parliamentarian Committee for Human Rights of the Council of Europe on future cooperation. The HRC invited national human rights institutions to help to implement activities. The HRC cooperated with United Nations agencies, including United Nations Liaison Office, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, and UNAIDS, international organizations, including OSCE, the European Commission, and the Council of Europe, embassies, Government bodies and numerous NGOs.

The OSCE Mission in Croatia organizes weekly coordination meetings about current issues. These meetings are attended by representatives of United Nations Liaison Office, UNHCR, European Union Monitoring Mission and the HRC. Towards the end of the year, UNDP also began to convene regular coordination meetings of all United Nations agencies.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Government officials benefited from the training seminar on individual complaints procedures; academics and students benefited from participating in expert discussions and in the HRC's joint activities with student associations; NGOs were able to use the Centre's premises free of charge for their activities; and the general public benefited from access to the speakers series.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

A broad range of accessible general human rights-related information was made available, cooperation between research centres and national human rights institutions was improved, and the Human Rights Centre became known among NGOs as a venue for serious and constructive discussion on current human rights issues.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN CROATIA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	119,635	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	16,764	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	2,000	0
General operating expenses	24,000	0
Supplies and acquisitions	5,000	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	9,000	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>176,399</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme support costs	22,932	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>199,331</b>	<b>0</b>

## THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

### ■ BACKGROUND

The focus of OHCHR's work in The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is on formal human rights education in primary and secondary schools, on building the capacities of civil society organizations, and on building the Government's capacity to report to treaty bodies.

The comprehensive technical cooperation programme developed at the request of the Government in 2002 is expected to last between three and five years. Activities address some of the root causes of recent inter-ethnic conflict and other impediments to the enjoyment of human rights, such as weak national human rights protection systems, weak civil society, and a nascent human rights culture.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The overall objective is to support national and international efforts to reinforce the country's capacity to promote and protect human rights. Specifically, the programme aims to:

- ♥ Strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to work effectively with the Government, with the Ombudsman, and with international organizations to protect and promote human rights;
- ♥ Strengthen the capacity of education authorities and independent human rights education experts to develop and implement human rights education programmes in primary and secondary schools;
- ♥ Improve the capacity of the human rights office in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to mainstream international human rights standards throughout Government departments, to prepare human rights treaty body reports and to ensure implementation of treaty body recommendations;
- ♥ Contribute to the national human rights action planning effort; and
- ♥ Increase the capacity and the effectiveness of the Office of the Ombudsman.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

Activities focused primarily on human rights education in schools and on civil society capacity-building, with some work also done in the areas of treaty body reporting, support to national institutions and national human rights action planning.

#### Human rights education

A year-long process of national consultations aimed at mapping out and evaluating achievements in human rights education, and establishing policy guidelines for the introduction of human rights education in primary and secondary schools. The preparatory meetings provided forums for policy-makers, human rights and education experts and professionals, teachers, civil society, representatives of international organizations, and experts from the region to share experiences and discuss strategies for incorporating human rights education into the school system, and to determine the components of such a programme and the elements of a national action plan for human rights education. The consultation process was planned and coordinated by the strategic partnership group for human rights education, established in 2002. The group consists of representatives of Government departments, educational authorities, the Ombudsman, civil society and international organizations. Implementing partners, with which the group works closely, are the Ministry of Education and Science and the Centre for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution; these activities were supported with a modest grant provided to the Centre.

## Civil society capacity-building

In partnership with national organizations working in the area of human rights capacity-building, OHCHR initiated the 2003-04 professional human rights training series with the aim of strengthening the capacity of a core group of national activists who represent human rights organizations with diverse geographic and thematic backgrounds. Between June and September, 25 participants were selected through a competitive and transparent process implemented with national partners. Two training workshops, on human rights defenders and on international human rights instruments, were conducted in October and December. The training series includes ten workshops delivered over a period of 18 months, each focusing on the skills and knowledge necessary for human rights monitoring, analysis, reporting, advocacy and promotion. Between training workshops, participants are involved in activities guided by OHCHR and the national implementing partner, the Civil Society Resource Centre.

With the aim of eventually transferring the training programme to a national partner, discussions were initiated with representatives of local universities on establishing a certification programme for human rights training at a national institution.

OHCHR facilitated regular consultations among senior civil society leaders, the Ombudsman and senior police officials. These consultations resulted in the establishment of MINOP, the work-advisory group for fostering cooperation between the police and the Ombudsman and human rights NGOs in early 2003. Chaired by OHCHR, the group developed its terms of reference and worked on several issues of concern, including a review of cases of human rights violations.

OHCHR also consulted with partners from civil society and international organizations on establishing a national advisory committee on civil society capacity-building, which is to promote policy development by national stakeholders, and guide and monitor capacity-development activities.

## Other activity areas

- ♥ The office provided comments to the Government and the Office of the Ombudsman on the draft law on the Ombudsman and participated in relevant discussions.
- ♥ OHCHR worked with individual officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to begin the overdue treaty-reporting process. This work was hampered, however, by the ongoing public-administration reform. One overdue report for CEDAW was prepared during the year.
- ♥ OHCHR supported the United Nations Resident Coordinator and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), including by organizing training on a human rights-based approach to the Common Country Assessment/United Nations Development Assistance Framework (CCA/UNDAF) process.
- ♥ The Office supported the country visit of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Human Rights Defenders.
- ♥ With UNCT and local civil society organizations as partners, the Office was selected to take part, along with six other field presences in different parts of the world, in the OHCHR initiative "Young People Drawing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights." Under the programme children and youth took part in an international drawing contest to produce a new poster for the Universal Declaration.
- ♥ OHCHR's police pocket book on human rights for the police was published in two local languages.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

While most activities were implemented as planned, there were some delays due to the late receipt of funding. During the first half of the year, the Office focused on planning and coordination tasks, on activities that did not require significant financial resources, and on activities implemented in partnership with other organizations where OHCHR contributed by providing advice and coordination.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Implementation is coordinated and facilitated by a small country office staffed with one national technical cooperation officer. Office priorities and activities are determined annually with the Government, based on the results of joint reviews conducted with a broad range of partners, including the Government, civil society, the Office of the Ombudsman and international organizations.

The main partner responsible for overall project implementation and evaluation is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Other partners are the Ministries of Education and the Interior, the Office of the Ombudsman, international organizations, such as UNHCR, OSCE, UNDP, UNICEF, and a number of international and national civil society organizations. The human rights education activities are implemented through a grant to the national implementing partner, the Centre for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution; the civil society capacity-building component is implemented through a grant to the national implementing partner, the Civil Society Resource Centre. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also received a modest grant in support of its Human Rights Unit. All grantees receive ongoing support from the Skopje office.

### ■ COORDINATION

In early 2003, OHCHR and OSCE offices in Skopje jointly established regular monthly meetings to discuss human rights capacity-building initiatives and training among international actors active in the area of human rights. Coordination with United Nations agencies is conducted through the UNCT, of which OHCHR is a member.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

Civil society organizations and human rights NGOs, the Office of the Ombudsman, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the Interior, and Education, education authorities, teacher-training institutions, teachers, independent academics, students and the general public benefit from training activities, public consultations and the dissemination of capacity-building materials.

### ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Since OHCHR began its training activities, the number of human rights cases and reports submitted to human rights bodies and mechanisms has continued to grow, and their quality has continued to improve, indicating a small but perceptible improvement in the country's protection and reporting capacity.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	30,382	180
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	19,392	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	1,360	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	399	0
General operating expenses	12,483	0
Supplies and acquisitions	5,061	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	125,000	30,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>194,077</b>	<b>30,180</b>
Programme support costs	25,230	3,923
<b>Total</b>	<b>219,307</b>	<b>34,103</b>

## RUSSIAN FEDERATION

### ■ BACKGROUND

The project is based on a memorandum of understanding with the Government to support human rights capacity development. Russia is developing its human rights framework, particularly in the area of human rights education. The major social, legal and political changes that have occurred during the last ten years must be integrated into the education system. That system, itself, is undergoing a major change: from an eleven-year basic education system to the European model of twelve-year education. Many of the central and regional educators involved in implementing these reforms are also working on OHCHR's project on human rights education. The project is scheduled to be concluded at the end of 2004.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The long-term objective is to assist educators involved in human rights education in developing training materials and increasing the number of qualified teachers and professors in this field. More immediately, the project aims to develop a network of

human rights educators which, in turn, will help to nurture expertise across this large and culturally diverse country.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Regional school competitions

More than 2,400 students participated in regional human rights essay competitions in 2003. The competitions were held in six regions: the Northwest (Petrozavodsk); Central and Southern Russia (Ryazan, Rostov-on-Don, Kazan'); the Ural Region (Ekaterinburg); West Siberia (Omsk, Tomsk); Central Siberia (Krasnoyarsk); and East Siberia (Bratsk); regional partners adapted general regulations to local conditions. In November and December, winners of the regional competitions and their coaching teachers participated in regional finals and award ceremonies, and in additional trainings and seminars to expand their knowledge. The final stages of the regional competitions were carried out in Petrozavodsk, Ryazan, Ekaterinburg, Tomsk and Krasnoyarsk. Thirty winners of those competitions will take part in the final stage of the competition, scheduled to be held in Moscow in February 2004. A collection of the most outstanding student essays drawn from the regional competitions will be published under the title, "Rainbow World – 2003".

### Regional training and workshops

Fourteen regional training courses on human rights education were held at pedagogical institutions for school teachers, university/college professors, and instructors at state institutes for continuing education in Petrozavodsk, Moscow, Penza, Ekaterinburg, Omsk and Krasnoyarsk from September to December. Participants received instruction on the methodology of teaching human rights and were provided with teaching materials for distribution in their organizations. Experienced professors and experts taught the courses.

### Internships and graduate courses

Internships and courses for 20 regional education professors were offered in Moscow in September. Professors from Penza, Volgograd, Tver', Vladimir, Moscow, Ryazan, Rostov-on-Don, Ekaterinburg, Omsk, Tomsk, Krasnoyarsk, Abakan and some other small localities participated. The internships aimed to familiarise human rights educators with the work of governmental, judicial and non-governmental organizations, such as

the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court, national human rights institutions and human rights organizations.

### Publication information

Human rights education news, activities and new teaching materials were regularly posted on the project's web site ([www.proobraz.ru](http://www.proobraz.ru)), allowing for easier exchange of information among educators on successful teaching methods and materials. The web site is updated weekly in Russian. National and regional newspapers carried announcements and articles about the regional student competitions.

### Development of mini-libraries

Mini-libraries of human rights reference materials, including teaching methodology materials, were provided to two target groups: higher education institutions for teachers and human rights NGOs working in the field of human rights education.

A new series of educational and methodological materials was published in 2003: it consists of a set of reference materials and three teaching and methodological manuals on human rights issues. The series was distributed to 125 pedagogical universities in the Russian Federation. Along with these sets of books, a questionnaire was sent to update the web site and the human rights education resources database, and to analyze human rights teaching in pedagogical institutions and determine the availability of required materials in those institutions.

### Development of a human rights educators' network

Regional project partners (members of the project network i.e. institutions of higher education or NGOs selected by open tender) have begun to assume the role of regional resource centres for human rights education. Such centres provide access to teaching materials and to electronic sources of information to a wide variety of educators and local education administrations. They support regional activities and disseminate information on successful human rights education methodology.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project is administered by a national NGO, the Fulcrum Foundation, with close coordination and supervision by OHCHR. The Foundation oversees and organizes tenders for activities,



which are then implemented by regional educational institutions or NGOs, and oversees contractual arrangements and financial and reporting obligations of the regional partner organizations. The Foundation also visits and monitors activities, in coordination with OHCHR, and organizes meetings of the oversight bodies of the project, which include the Project Advisory Committee and the Project Executive Committee.

## ■ COORDINATION

Efforts have been made to improve coordination with other actors working in the area of human rights education, such as UNICEF, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNDP, the European Union, national NGOs and experts, and Government agencies, including the Ministries of Education and Foreign Affairs.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

One of the greatest constraints on achieving the project's objectives is Russia's size. Travel, communication and contact are frequently restricted due to the great distances and eleven time zones the country covers.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

There has been greater interest and cooperation with local officials in human rights education due to activities. Eight new publications on human rights education were issued and are now being used in schools and institutions of higher education across Russia and other Russian speaking countries in the former Soviet Union. Experts have been invited to other former Soviet Republics to assist in human rights education development activities.

## ■ EVALUATION

This was one of the projects evaluated as part of the Independent Global Review of OHCHR's Technical Cooperation Programme. In general, the project was given a positive evaluation and was deemed to be of value, particularly because of its sustainability and national ownership. The Review highlighted the project's reliance on regional initiatives, its responsiveness to specific regional needs, and its ability to draw extensively on local expertise, which, in turn, makes the project sustainable over the long term. The Review also noted that even under very difficult circumstances, OHCHR has been able to maintain access to both the Government and NGOs.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN RUSSIAN FEDERATION

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	4,096	2,500
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	794,221	540,599
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>798,317</b>	<b>543,099</b>
Programme support costs	103,781	70,603
<b>Total</b>	<b>902,098</b>	<b>613,702</b>



# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

## INTRODUCTION

Each year, OHCHR's central role in developing regional and country-level approaches to promote and protect human rights is recognized by Member States at the annual workshops of the Asia-Pacific framework for regional cooperation in this field. OHCHR's work is particularly crucial given that the region still lacks a comprehensive regional human rights treaty and institution. At the 11th annual workshop, held in Islamabad in February, Member States again asked OHCHR to advise and support governments in implementing measures already identified as priorities: national human rights action plans, human rights education, national human rights institutions, and activities aimed at realizing the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights.

OHCHR has a regional representative, based in Bangkok, who plays a key role in this work and also works to mainstream human rights in regional and national United Nations programmes.

During the year, OHCHR's work in the region also focused on implementing Action 2 of the Secretary-General's second reform programme. Under Action 2, OHCHR is required to cooperate with United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) to strengthen national human rights protection systems. As part of these efforts, OHCHR has now placed two human rights advisers in the Country Teams in Nepal and Sri Lanka.

In 2003, technical cooperation projects were implemented in the following countries:

- ♥ In **Afghanistan**, OHCHR supports the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), particularly by providing advice on the process of transitional justice. OHCHR also works with the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) in developing a work plan to implement the human rights provisions of the Bonn Agreement.
- ♥ In **Cambodia**, OHCHR's office cooperates with key state institutions, at the central and provincial levels, and with civil society, on strengthening the rule of law, on legislative reform and on building capacity in the judicial sector. During the year, the office also supported with the relevant authorities to ensure that the National Assembly election was conducted in a free, informed and fair manner. These activities are described in detail in the chapter entitled "Human rights support to peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities".

- ♥ OHCHR's project in **China** provides legal advice on law enforcement and prison administration, supports human rights education in schools and offers capacity building in human rights for key Chinese professionals.
- ♥ Since 2001, OHCHR has been engaged in a joint project with UNDP in **Mongolia** aimed at supporting the implementation of the national human rights plan of action and at raising public awareness about human rights, mainly through human rights education.
- ♥ In March, OHCHR appointed a senior human rights officer in **Nepal** to work with the Resident Coordinator and the UNCT, to promote the integration of human rights in United Nations development programming and peace-building efforts.
- ♥ In the **Solomon Islands**, OHCHR works to help strengthen the human rights capacities of law enforcement and prison authorities, and to increase public awareness of human rights standards, particularly women's and children's rights.
- ♥ Under its two-year joint programme with the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISSET), which began in June, OHCHR works with the Government of **Timor-Leste** to incorporate international human rights standards in national laws, to strengthen national institutions and the administration of justice, and to formulate national plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights.

In addition, OHCHR fielded a project-formulation mission to the **Islamic Republic of Iran** and developed a project to introduce a human rights curriculum in the formal education system. Implementation of the project is expected to begin in February 2004.

Implementation of OHCHR's project in **Sri Lanka**, which provides for a senior human rights adviser to the UNCT, was temporarily delayed due to the resignation of the incumbent and subsequent delays in the recruitment of a new senior adviser. The post is expected to be filled by May 2004.

OHCHR cooperates with the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) and the Department of Peace-Keeping Operations (DPKO) through joint projects, and with the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISSET) and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

The Office provides assistance and support to the thematic mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and to the country-specific mandates of the Special Representative of the

Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, and the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan.

During the reporting period, 12 international and 37 national OHCHR staff were stationed in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Nepal, Mongolia, the Solomon Islands, and in the regional office in Bangkok.

## REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

### ■ THE REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

The biennial plan of action adopted in Beirut in March 2002, under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific framework for regional cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights, identifies the following objectives:

- ♥ Compile lessons-learned and best practices in the region and create tools for the development of national plans of action;
- ♥ Strengthen national capacities for human rights education, focusing on incorporating human rights education within school curricula;
- ♥ Support regional initiatives to strengthen the role of national institutions and their regional association in the Asia-Pacific region; and
- ♥ Strengthen national capacities to realize economic, social and cultural rights.

### ■ REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

OHCHR established its Asia-Pacific regional office in January 2002. This small presence is hosted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (ESCAP) under a memorandum of intent signed in 2001.

The regional office seeks to strengthen the impact of OHCHR's thematic work, bring a strong regional perspective to its global work, create greater coherence in strategies and activities the region, raise OHCHR's profile in the region, and help to make protection interventions more effective. The regional representative developed working relations with resident coordinators and UNCTs in the region, leading to collaborations and joint or coordinated

initiatives in China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

Activities in 2003 included:

- ♥ A quarterly practitioners' forum on human rights in development, held in Bangkok, which brings together development practitioners from United Nations agencies, development agencies and NGOs who explore the relationship between development and human rights and share practical experiences on implementing a rights-based approach to development.
- ♥ Sub-regional consultations in Kathmandu with South Asian civil society to discuss the most pressing national and sub-regional human rights issues, how the human rights agenda is changing in response to regional and global political, economic and social developments, and how the United Nations, especially OHCHR, should respond to these challenges. The consultations also improved working relations between the United Nations and civil society, enhanced understanding of OHCHR's work in the region, and helped to strengthen the civil society network in these sub-regions. The consultations were held over two days and brought together some 20 human rights leaders and United Nations representatives for discussions about human rights in relation to issues such as globalization, trade, terrorism, armed conflict, governance and democracy.
- ♥ Support to ESCAP and the disability movement by providing human rights advice in relation to the proposed United Nations convention on the rights of the disabled was provided. The office also launched a consultative process to develop recommendations for governments on how to address the human rights issues related to HIV/AIDS.
- ♥ An annual internship programme that allows four young human rights advocates from the region to work at the regional office for six months each was implemented.
- ♥ The *Bangkok E-Bulletin*, a monthly electronic bulletin on the United Nations human rights system and the Asia-Pacific region was produced and a range of internet-based resources were developed on human rights and the human rights approach to development, including a regional web site and tables tracking Asia-Pacific ratifications of and reservations to human rights treaties, reporting under treaties, and visits and reports by special procedures.

- Support to the work of the Practitioners' Forum was provided, the regional office created a Human Rights to Development Resources Database, which includes a wide range of training manuals, policy papers, programming guidelines, bibliographies, fact sheets, discussion papers and assessment tools, and covers sectors such as health, children, humanitarian assistance, education and poverty.
- Training materials and courses on human rights and rights-based approaches to development tailored to United Nations agencies and NGOs working in the region.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	199,937	147,084
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	4,964	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	72,947	45,705
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	35,000	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	30,979	1,086
Supplies and acquisitions	18,296	2,504
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	195,044	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>557,167</b>	<b>196,379</b>
Programme support costs	72,432	25,529
<b>Total</b>	<b>629,599</b>	<b>221,908</b>

## COUNTRY PROJECTS

### AFGHANISTAN

#### BACKGROUND

OHCHR's project in Afghanistan is based on the Bonn Agreement of December 2001 and Security Council resolution 1383, which calls upon the United Nations to assist Afghanistan in advancing human rights promotion and protection. The Agreement

contained a number of strong and specific human rights clauses, including provisions binding the authorities to international human rights standards during the transitional period, securing political participation of women, providing for the establishment of an independent human rights commission, mandating human rights monitoring and investigations, and calling for a national programme of human rights education in Afghanistan. It also established the right of the United Nations to investigate human rights violations and, where necessary, to recommend corrective action.

OHCHR activities reflect the concept of an integrated approach to human rights in the peacekeeping mission, outlined in the report on the reform of United Nations peace operations ("Brahimi report"). Planning for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) was based on a series of principles first articulated in the Brahimi report, such as the creation of fully-integrated United Nations responses and mechanisms, maximizing Afghan ownership and leadership, and taking a rights-based and gender-sensitive approach to the project. United Nations efforts in Afghanistan are therefore directed to facilitating Afghan processes and institutions. Human rights protection and promotion activities are integrated into the UNAMA structure, with an emphasis on building Afghan capacities and institutions and a strong and close operational alliance between UNAMA and OHCHR.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Support UNAMA in the promotion and protection of human rights.
- Support the development of a work plan to implement the human rights provisions of the Bonn Agreement, particularly by supporting the work plan of the Independent Afghan Human Rights Commission (AIHRC).
- Provide advice to UNAMA on how to support transitional justice processes.
- Increase capacity within OHCHR Geneva to ensure that the Office can respond effectively to the human rights situation in the country.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

Through a full-time Afghanistan desk officer in 2003, OHCHR formulated a human rights project to support UNAMA, the Afghan authorities and the AIHRC, and began mapping information on massacres and other serious human rights abuses

and violations with the aim of providing recommendations to the High Commissioner on how to support transitional justice processes. In addition, OHCHR provided training on reporting under human rights treaties ratified by Afghanistan, and helped to plan a rejuvenated programme of reporting.

Support to a national human rights programme begun in 2002 under the joint UNAMA/OHCHR/UNDP project of support to the AIHRC, continued with the implementation of the first half of a two-year programme of activities in five areas: investigating and monitoring; human rights of women; human rights education; the rights of the child; and transitional justice. Activities included seminars and workshops on women's rights, children's rights, human rights education, joint human rights investigations with UNAMA, investigations of the country's prisons, identification of human rights concepts and principles to be reflected in the new constitution, and the launch of a nationwide public consultation process to ascertain the views of the population concerning past crimes and the best way to address them.

At the end of the year, the AIHRC had recruited most of its personnel, expanded its presence in the interior of the country, carried out capacity-building activities for its staff, and established appropriate institutional contacts with the Government, the Constitutional and Judicial Commissions, and with a number of international and national NGOs and civil society organizations. In May, it opened up the last of its seven satellite offices in Gardez, Kandahar and Badakhshan. The AIHRC now has a substantial presence in the regions with more than 300 staff carrying out human rights programmes. A detailed work plan and budget were developed with the assistance of the chief technical advisor, who joined the AIHRC in June and is supported by OHCHR. In February 2004, the AIHRC was admitted as an associate member of the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

AIHRC activities are hampered by security conditions on the ground: a fragile peace and the continued existence of local "commanders" controlling armed groups. The influence of fundamentalist Muslims continues to affect the realization of some rights, particularly the rights of women.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

UNDP financially administers the joint UNAMA/OHCHR/UNDP project in support of the AIHRC directly from Kabul. The project is implemented by the AIHRC with support from OHCHR in Geneva.

OHCHR facilitates the above activities, including by providing support to the human rights work of UNAMA, supporting the work of the joint project, including by facilitating the recruitment of personnel and expert consultants, fundraising for the joint project, and promoting information-sharing on human rights matters among UNAMA, the High Commissioner, the Special Rapporteur on human rights situation in Afghanistan, and partners in and outside of Afghanistan.

## ■ COORDINATION

Human rights work in Afghanistan is coordinated with UNAMA and with the AIHRC. The project steering committee meets quarterly to review activities and expenditures of the joint project.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

AIHRC and Government authorities are the direct beneficiaries of the project, but the Afghan population ultimately benefits from the protection of human rights in the country.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Afghan-led approach provides a strong sense of national ownership in and responsibility to implementing the human rights provisions of the Bonn Agreement. The AIHRC is becoming increasingly visible and stronger, with all its seven satellite offices now open.

Activities related to human rights monitoring, investigations and transitional justice have a significant impact on the lives of victims of human rights violations. They also have an important deterrent effect and help strengthen the rule of law in Afghanistan.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN AFGHANISTAN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	105,863	48,554
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	53,581	27,994
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	56,486	14,853
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	15,000	0
General operating expenses	7,894	479
Supplies and acquisitions	117	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	12,268	8,854
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>251,209</b>	<b>100,734</b>
Programme support costs	32,657	13,095
<b>Total</b>	<b>283,866</b>	<b>113,829</b>

## CHINA

### BACKGROUND

The project was developed in the context of the November 2000 memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed by OHCHR and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to cooperate in the development and implementation of technical cooperation programmes over a two-year period. The first phase included three workshops in Beijing (on punishment of minor crimes, human rights and the police, and human rights education) and a follow-up consultation of experts, held in Geneva, on punishment of minor crimes.

The second phase included; a human rights workshop for prison administration personnel with follow-up; a human rights workshop for judges and lawyers with follow-up; support for the human rights activities of academic institutions; human rights fellowships for key officials; support for activities in the area of economic, social and cultural rights that are implemented in the provinces; and staff support for the implementation of the project.

### OBJECTIVES

The overall objectives are to support the process of ratification and implementation of international human rights treaties, facilitate information-sharing between China and other States on advancing the rule of law, and promote mutual understanding of human rights issues. More specifically, OHCHR:

- ♥ Provides staff support in implementing the cooperation project;
- ♥ Discusses the requirements of international human rights law regarding prison administration, judges and lawyers, and considers China's case from a comparative perspective, proposing recommendations for possible follow-up activities in these areas;
- ♥ Identifies "best practices" in incorporating human rights in primary and secondary education;
- ♥ Supports human rights-related research at academic institutions;
- ♥ Builds the capacity of key professionals in the field of human rights;
- ♥ Provides legal advice on particular issues/draft legislation related to the subject of punishment of minor crimes;
- ♥ Discusses international human rights standards in the area of law enforcement, and advises on drafting a human rights training manual for the police and on developing human rights education; and
- ♥ Builds the capacity of officials and civil society to promote and protect economic, social, and cultural rights at the grass-roots level.

### IMPLEMENTATION

- ♥ A workshop on alternatives to incarceration as punishment for minor crimes was held in Beijing in March.
- ♥ A mission on human rights and the police was fielded in Beijing and Zhengzhou in March.
- ♥ A three-week course for selected police trainers and policy-makers, focusing on human rights and criminal investigations, was held in London at the Centrex International Police Training facility in November-December.
- ♥ Sixteen prison administrators, trainers, legislators and Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials visited Swiss penitentiary institutions and participated in a roundtable on human rights and prison administration at OHCHR headquarters in September-October.
- ♥ An international disability rights expert participated in a UNDP-organized training workshop for disability-rights protection workers, which was held in Xi'an in August.

- ~ The first Chinese handbook on best practices in the protection of persons with disabilities, entitled "Protecting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: International and Comparative Law and Practice", was launched in Beijing on 3 December (the 12th International Day of Disabled Persons) by the China Disabled Persons' Federation, UNDP, OHCHR and the China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges.
- ~ A national focal point was posted to Beijing.
- ~ Two human rights fellowships allowed Chinese officials to attend a course on the international protection of human rights at the Swedish Åbo Akademi University Institute for Human Rights from 23 February to 5 March.
- ~ Human rights education materials to be used within the primary and secondary school system were translated.
- ~ The compilations of the general comments of treaty bodies and of the General Guidelines on reporting to these bodies were distributed among academic institutions involved in human rights research in preparation for China's ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

The implementation of activities was greatly affected by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome epidemic and by the death of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Baghdad.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

As a signatory to the MOU, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is OHCHR's main counterpart. The Ministry assumes overall responsibility for activities. OHCHR has direct contact with relevant line ministries and academic institutions in implementing various activities under the project.

A Geneva-based project officer provides assistance, and a national focal point in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides logistical support.

## ■ COORDINATION

OHCHR ensures that information on programme objectives and activities is shared with the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Beijing and relevant United Nations agencies in Geneva. OHCHR holds regular consultations with the UNDP Resident Coordinator and with UNDP Beijing. OHCHR's programme manager regularly confers with the UNCT rule of law

theme group. Group briefings are organized for United Nations colleagues at the close of each substantive activity.

OHCHR provides regular briefings in Geneva for NGOs on activities undertaken under the MOU.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Senior officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Public Security, Justice, the State Council Office of Legislative Affairs and the Legislative Commission of the National People's Congress, provincial officials, members of the legal profession, police trainers from various prefectures, and representatives of the academic community and civil society all benefit from the project.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN CHINA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	141,730	100
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	52,102	42,264
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	15,783	18,830
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	59,730	8,398
Contractual services	40,696	4,228
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	3,269	30,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	183,500	121,526
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>496,810</b>	<b>225,346</b>
Programme support costs	64,585	29,295
<b>Total</b>	<b>561,395</b>	<b>254,641</b>

### MONGOLIA

## ■ BACKGROUND

OHCHR began its work in 1994, which focused on strengthening the independence of the judiciary and providing training and human rights documentation and education. In December 1995, OHCHR opened a technical cooperation office and deployed a management team. In 2001, UNDP and OHCHR undertook a

joint project, entitled HURISTMON (Human Rights Strengthening in Mongolia – Phase I), and began a five-year project to support the National Human Rights Commission. Phase I concluded in December the following year; Phase II began in 2003.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

HURISTMON Phase II will build upon the achievements of Phase I. In particular, Parliament requested that several provisions of the national human rights plan of action be revised. During Phase II, consultations on the revision will conclude so the plan can be adopted. Activities will also focus on helping the Government to establish mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the plan of action and providing direct assistance in a few high priority areas. Awareness-raising activities will be implemented and human rights education will be promoted as a sub-programme of the plan of action. During Phase II, United Nations agencies working in Mongolia will be assisted in their efforts to mainstream human rights into their programmes.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

- ♥ Much of the year was dedicated to revising the national human rights plan of action which was subsequently adopted by Parliament on United Nations Day (24 October) and publicly launched by the Prime Minister on Human Rights Day (10 December).
- ♥ The national network of local human rights experts, established under HURISTMON, assisted local governments in implementing their respective human rights action plans and promoted the national plan of action. The experts work as advisers to local governments and civil society organizations, as resources for human rights training, and as focal points of the National Human Rights Commission for transmitting complaints of local citizens.
- ♥ OHCHR supported the police working group, established under the United Nations theme group on human rights, to develop an operational manual for police incorporating international and national human rights standards directly into police operations.
- ♥ OHCHR not only continued to support the theme group on human rights, but also organized, at its request, a series of mainstreaming training workshops for the staff of UNDP, UNFPA and WHO.
- ♥ Information-sharing was promoted through the development of a pilot human rights curriculum for law schools, translating the international human rights treaties and the general comments

of the treaty bodies into Mongolian, and publishing the Human Rights Quarterly.

As part of the human rights work administered by HURISTMON and the National Human Rights Commission, although not a component part of this project, grants from the Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project, co-financed by OHCHR and UNDP, were disbursed. These small grants support a wide variety of small-scale activities that address important issues that are not covered by the project. Thirteen grants were disbursed during the year for activities that focused on women's rights, promoting youth participation and legal research.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Activities focusing on the police were delayed, largely because there was, at first, little understanding of the nature and purpose of a police operational manual, as no similar guide exists in Mongolia. Once the police working group began to develop chapters for the manual, the national police agency developed its own drafts, based on the group's material.

Severe under-funding for State agencies, which, in turn, results in dependence on foreign aid by all agencies, and the Government's reluctance to liberalize access to information raises doubts about the long-term sustainability of most foreign aid projects, including United Nations projects. Indeed, the duration of the projects and their funding prospects is a serious concern. Over the past year, more donors have decided to redirect their aid from Mongolia to other priority programmes or countries.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Phase II is implemented through the HURISTMON office located in the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs. The project is administered by UNDP-Mongolia and activities are guided by one national and one international human rights adviser. An international adviser based within the United Nations Country Team office in Ulaanbaatar reports to the United Nations Resident Coordinator and OHCHR Geneva. The National Human Rights Commission, which is also supported by a United Nations project for capacity building, works closely with OHCHR on human rights education activities. Local experts link national activities with local governments, civil society organizations and the rural public. NGOs play an important role in outreach to the public or in following up on issues raised within the projects, sometimes



through United Nations grants, particularly ACT's small grants, which are co-financed by OHCHR and UNDP-Mongolia.

## ■ COORDINATION

A National Coordinating Committee (NCC) for the national human rights plan of action, led by the State Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, was established under Phase I. With the adoption of the plan, the NCC will be dissolved and replaced by a National Implementation Committee (NIC). While the composition of the NIC is still to be determined, it, like the NCC, will probably include both Government officials and representatives of civil society and will be headed by a senior public servant whose responsibilities are not attached to a single Ministry.

The human rights theme group is the principal body within the United Nations system through which human rights-related programmes and activities of United Nations agencies are coordinated. To date, however, the group has largely served as an educational and information-sharing forum in which new studies and areas for engagement are explored. It has not yet demonstrated itself to be a forum for coordination, in which different agencies consult to harmonize their activities.

Under HURISTMON, staff of international aid projects focusing on the justice sector meet for informal information-sharing and coordination on an ad hoc basis. The members of the "Justice Retreat" include USAID, German Technical Cooperation, the World Bank, Hans Seidel Foundation, UNICEF, the Open Society Foundation, and the two United Nations human rights projects.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The main beneficiary is the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs, which has been mandated to lead the drafting of the national human rights plan of action, but the project also benefits other Ministries and provincial governments. Beneficiaries of the human rights sub-programme on education include law schools, instructors and students. The national police agency and the police academy also benefit.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The main impact of the project was Parliament's adoption of the national human rights plan of action. The United Nations theme group on human rights has been strengthened and its

work to mainstream human rights into the work of United Nations agencies has begun. The police operations manual is expected to have a positive impact on police behaviour. Advocacy tools developed under the project, particularly the Human Rights Quarterly, provide valuable resources for lawyers and laymen. The main human rights treaties have now been translated into Mongolian.

## ■ EVALUATION

During the year, the HURISTMON and National Human Rights Commission projects were evaluated by an international and a national expert as one of four country evaluations of OHCHR's technical cooperation programme. HURISTMON was also evaluated in June as part of a desk review by the global HURIST programme. In January 2004, both projects were evaluated at their annual tri-partite review involving the national implementing agency (Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs or National Commission on Human Rights), the United Nations (UNDP and OHCHR), and the project support unit. The tri-partite reviews were also attended by NGO partners.

The OHCHR technical cooperation evaluation was the most comprehensive of the evaluations. In it, the authors concluded that these projects could boast "considerable achievements" but suffered, nonetheless, from certain deficiencies. They stated: "A main problem of a broadly designed programme like HURISTMON is that, in view of the relatively limited resources, it lacks a clear focus. Without a clear strategy with regard to the main groups to be targeted there is a risk that the impact of the various activities remains limited". They also cited as major concerns the short-term nature of HURISTMON and the short-term funding of OHCHR and UNDP for the five-year National Human Rights Commission project. Doubts were also raised about the long-term sustainability of the projects, especially the national network of local experts. The evaluators also expressed concern for the level of local ownership of the HURISTMON project, which was not, in their estimation, a problem with the National Human Rights Commission project. They believed there was a perception that the national human rights action plan process had been United Nations-driven, despite the fact that every effort appeared to have been made to secure national ownership. They considered that the lack of national commitment to the human rights plan of action was made evident when Parliament adopted a reduced plan, which the evaluators interpreted as a dilution of its provisions.

The National Human Rights Commission project was largely commended in the evaluation for its dynamism in the face of resource and staffing constraints. The national and international human rights community recognizes that the United Nations project to build the Commission's capacity appears to have succeeded, as a competent Commission was developed within a relatively short period of time.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- ~ The views of parliamentarians should have been sought before the draft of the national human rights plan of action was submitted to Parliament.
- ~ In future, it may be advisable to start with a small-scale project to demonstrate its nature and value to national counterparts and to secure their commitment to it.
- ~ A country-based international human rights adviser is valuable for the development and implementation of activities.
- ~ A well-monitored nationwide network of human rights experts is essential for ensuring that human rights concepts reach rural areas.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN MONGOLIA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	2,507	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	124,175	150,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>126,682</b>	<b>150,000</b>
Programme support costs	16,469	19,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,151</b>	<b>169,500</b>

## NEPAL

### BACKGROUND

At the request of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Nepal, OHCHR appointed a senior human rights officer to work for an initial period of three months with the United Nations Country Team in Kathmandu. The officer is tasked to open discussion on ways to address the serious human rights violations that occur during the peace process, to advocate for immediate and long-term measures to protect human rights, to advise and act as a resource person for the UNCT, to recommend a plan for United Nations actions and programming, and to prioritize activities according to the evolving situation in the country.

### OBJECTIVES

- ~ Promote the integration of human rights in any peace process and/or peace-building efforts, in coordination with the national human rights commission, and build the capacity of the national commission to play a leading role in the protection and promotion of human rights, including in the areas of monitoring, documentation and advocacy.
- ~ Ensure that human rights are integrated in UNCT activities, and enhance the capacity of the UNCT to address human rights issues as part of the coordinated and integrated peace-building efforts of the United Nations system in Nepal.
- ~ Ensure that OHCHR (Geneva, New York, Bangkok) receives first-hand information and advice on the political and human rights situation in the country, and that the Resident Coordinator is kept abreast of human rights and related developments.

### IMPLEMENTATION

- ~ OHCHR provided advice to and support for the National Human Rights Commission, particularly regarding its statutory monitoring, investigation and promotion role. Upon request, OHCHR also advised the National Commission about drafting the proposed human rights accord which was presented to the Government and the Communist Party in May. The senior human rights officer continued to encourage both parties to sign the human rights accord and took some steps to prepare OHCHR for a technical assistance project to support the Commission in carrying out its proposed monitoring role. He also offered advice on the implementation of the

UNDP support programme for the Commission, and participated in training workshops for the Commission's field monitors.

♥ OHCHR provided human rights support to the Resident Coordinator and members of the UNCT and advised UNDP on ways in which it might consolidate and develop its current human rights work, with the aim of supporting the UNCT's programme during the conflict. He acted as a resource person during a seminar held in August in Kathmandu on human rights-based approaches to development organized by the UNDP sub-regional resource facility. The officer also helped to design the UNCT's work plan for 2004, in which the protection and promotion of human rights is identified as a priority. During the reporting period, the officer also worked closely with UNICEF, especially in advising on appropriate human rights action under the auspices of its "Children are a Zone of Peace" initiative.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project is implemented by the senior human rights officer in Kathmandu in close cooperation with the members of the UNCT and with administrative and logistical support provided by UNDP-Nepal.

## ■ COORDINATION

The senior human rights officer reports to the United Nations Resident Coordinator and receives substantive guidance on human rights policy and action from OHCHR Geneva. The activities, however, are managed by UNDP.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The Resident Coordinator, UNCT and the National Human Rights Commission are the main direct beneficiaries of the advisory and support services provided by the senior human rights officer and OHCHR.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The project has been successful in strengthening of the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission to play a leading role in advocating for, monitoring and documenting human rights.

## ■ LESSONS LEARNED

Given the volatile situation in the country, it is becoming evident that the human rights requirements of the UNCT and the Commission cannot be met by one human rights adviser. OHCHR is therefore considering strengthening its presence in order to enhance support of the UNCT's work and to maintain progress made thus far.

## ■ FUNDING

In order to respond immediately to the request of the United Nations Resident Coordinator, OHCHR decided to deploy a senior human rights officer before funds were received and prior to finalization of administrative arrangements for the setting up of this project. Pending the receipt of an earmarked contribution expenditures amounting to US\$ 164,248 in Nepal were covered by the regular budget.

# SOLOMON ISLANDS

## ■ BACKGROUND

In the wake of the crisis that struck the Solomon Islands in 1999-2000, resulting in the displacement of some 20,000 people and a general breakdown of law and order, the Government lodged a request in May 2000 for OHCHR to help protect human rights. In late 2001, an OHCHR office was established in Honiara and began to launch a human rights project focusing on the rule of law and constitutional reform, a truth and reconciliation process, human rights capacity-building for civil society, public information campaigns and educational activities.

Amid increasing lawlessness in mid-July, some 2,000 police and military personnel from neighbouring countries were deployed in response to a request by the Government. This deployment, known as the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands, helped to stabilize the situation and restore law and order.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Strengthen the institutional capacity of the police to respect and promote human rights.
- ♥ Introduce human rights approaches into prisons administration and practices.

- ~ Widen access to justice.
- ~ Integrate international human rights standards into national legislation.
- ~ Provide support for the post-conflict peace-building process.
- ~ Increase public awareness of human rights standards and norms, especially concerning women's rights, children's rights, and economic, social and cultural rights.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

- ~ The office finalized a draft human rights pocket guide for police developed in late 2002.
- ~ An international human rights consultant was engaged to analyze the Bill of Rights and other human rights-related provisions of the country's current constitution. His report served as a basic reference for UNDP assessment teams dispatched to visit the country's main villages to conduct consultations on drafting and adopting a new constitution. The findings of these teams were incorporated into the document prepared by a constitutional reform task force overseen by the Minister for Provincial Government and will serve as the basis for informing the rewriting of the country's constitution.
- ~ Grants were provided to the Solomon Islands Christian Association to conduct a survey of community leaders on their views about truth and reconciliation. The survey confirmed that there is overwhelming support for a truth and reconciliation process.
- ~ As part of human rights-awareness activities, human rights associates were recruited to work as volunteers at OHCHR's office in Honiara. The associates participated in a campaign to bring human rights education to remote areas, including the islands of Guadalcanal and North Malaita and some parts of Western Province. The human rights associates are graduates who were taught workshop skills and are trained as community para-legal workers. They also helped produce public-information materials on human rights.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project was implemented by a national human rights officer and two national administrative assistants. OHCHR worked closely with UNDP, particularly on the constitutional reform process. Activities related to women's rights are coordinated with the UNIFEM office in Honiara.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Direct beneficiaries include youth, women, community leaders, police officers, prison officials and other government officials. The general population benefits indirectly.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Through outreach information campaigns, awareness of human rights has spread throughout the country. At the end of the year, a working draft of a new constitution was ready for further consideration by the relevant authorities and the public. The human rights associate programme has offered opportunities for young lawyers to deepen their knowledge of human rights, thus creating a pool of human rights expertise.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN SOLOMON ISLANDS

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	26,626	89,699
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	6,451	13,514
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	820	4,175
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	11,655	0
General operating expenses	36,607	157
Supplies and acquisitions	17,469	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	28,263	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>127,891</b>	<b>107,545</b>
Programme support costs	16,626	13,981
<b>Total</b>	<b>144,517</b>	<b>121,526</b>

### TIMOR-LESTE

## ■ BACKGROUND

A technical cooperation project, implemented by OHCHR and the human rights unit of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISSET), was developed in 2002 in consultation

with the Government. The two-year project began in June and activities are designed to respond to evolving human rights concerns in Timor-Leste as identified by Government, the Commission on Human Rights, the Security Council and OHCHR.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Incorporate international human rights standards in national laws and policies.
- ♥ Build or strengthen national institutions to promote and protect human rights and democracy under the rule of law.
- ♥ Formulate national plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights.
- ♥ Support human rights education and training.
- ♥ Promote a human rights culture.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Prison

The human rights unit of UNMISSET, supported by OHCHR, conducts regular visits to prisons and provides human rights training to prison officials. A prison training manual to be published in 2004 was produced with funding from the Government of New Zealand; a human rights pocket card for prison guards was also produced, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice.

### Police

OHCHR, through the human rights unit of UNMISSET, worked alongside the United Nations Police (UNPOL) and the national police of Timor-Leste conducted several training-of-trainers courses for senior officers of the national police. It also provided support to their follow-up human rights training, and conducted human rights training for specialized units and district police. In July, the unit, supported by OHCHR, delivered two-day training sessions to national police officers on popular education methodology. Also with OHCHR support, the human rights unit, together with UNICEF, UNFPA, the national police and UNPOL, offered a 10-day training-of-trainers session in human rights at the Police Academy in Dili. This session, held in September-October, brought two officers from each of the country's 13 districts to learn about human rights and policing, training methodology, democracy and law, community policing, and vulnerable persons.

### Accession to international human rights instruments

Between April and September, Timor-Leste's accession to the following instruments became effective:

- ♥ The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- ♥ The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
- ♥ The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- ♥ The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol;
- ♥ The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; and
- ♥ The Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

Timor-Leste is also in the process of acceding to the Optional Protocol of Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. Ongoing assistance in treaty implementation and reporting is part of the technical cooperation project.

### Civil society

The human rights unit of UNMISSET, supported by OHCHR, conducted three training-of-trainers workshops on human rights advocacy for 98 human rights activists from all 13 districts. The unit delivered training on the rights of the child, mentally ill persons, and women and girls, in collaboration with United Nations agencies and relevant government departments.

### The Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation (CAVR)

OHCHR supported the efforts of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) and UNMISSET to help establish the Commission. OHCHR provided technical advice and assistance to CAVR in matters concerning transitional justice, and in processing, storing and analyzing information through support to its database development project.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The human rights unit implemented the above activities, although several activities were carried out in cooperation with

other United Nations agencies. For example, many of the training sessions on the rights of women and vulnerable groups were designed and conducted in coordination with UNICEF, UNFPA and other United Nations agencies.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the above activities were police officers, prison guards, NGOs, civil society, and staff and commissioners of the CAVR.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Training of police and prison guards has helped to spread human rights concepts throughout the country, even in remote areas. Accession to the main international human rights instruments has resulted in greater awareness among government departments and civil society of the implications of Timor-Leste's human rights obligations.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN TIMOR-LESTE

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	23,230	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	1,750	13,904
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	3,581	4,714
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	85,000	20,100
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>113,561</b>	<b>38,718</b>
Programme support costs	14,763	5,033
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,324</b>	<b>43,751</b>



# ARAB REGION

## INTRODUCTION

OHCHR's regional strategy emphasizes aspects of the United Nations human rights programme highlighted in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, including support to the treaty bodies and special procedures, national institutions, national plans of action and human rights education. In accordance with Action 2 of the Secretary-General's second reform programme of September 2002, during the past year OHCHR sought to strengthen its human rights-related actions at the country level in closer cooperation with United Nations Country Teams (UNCT). While Arab countries have made some progress in development over the past three decades, the region scored lowest on "measures of accountability" in UNDP's Human Development Report for the Arab States (2002), which covered civil and political rights. Nevertheless, countries in the region are becoming more active in human rights issues and have shown a commitment to establishing related national institutions, legal instruments, ministerial bodies and institutional mechanisms aimed at recognizing and protecting human rights. There have also been some efforts to revise the 1994 Arab Charter for Human Rights and to enhance the role of the Permanent Commission on Human Rights within the League of Arab States. However, a number of countries in the region have not yet ratified some of the major international instruments; for some that have, no legal framework exists with which to implement the instruments.

Human rights NGOs, which are gradually emerging in the region, focus their activities on raising awareness, promoting human rights education, providing legal assistance and research, and rehabilitating victims of human rights violations. They do not enjoy the legal status they require to be fully operational, and they lack the necessary technical, human and financial resources to be effective in their work.

OHCHR's strategy in the region aims to:

- ♥ Promote the ratification and implementation of human rights instruments;
- ♥ Cooperate with relevant actors in the region, namely governments, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), UNCTs and civil society;
- ♥ Build national and regional capacities for effective human rights work;
- ♥ Promote strategic relationships with UNCTs and ESCWA, with the aim of formulating programmes with a human rights-based approach;

- ♥ Promote human rights education in both formal and informal education sectors in the region; and
- ♥ Support the monitoring mandates of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq and the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories.

OHCHR worked closely with ESCWA, the League of Arab States and with some important regional NGOs, particularly the Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) and the Arab Institute for Human Rights (AIHR). OHCHR has financially supported the activities of the AIHR since its creation in 1989, particularly its NGO training programme. The Office is also a member of the AIHR's Board. The AOHR was selected by UNDP and OHCHR to implement a joint project in the field of human rights and the right to development.

National technical cooperation activities implemented in Morocco and Palestine are described in further detail below. In Morocco, the Moroccan Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre, which is funded by OHCHR, UNDP and the Government, offers human rights information and training to all sectors of Moroccan civil society and to government institutions. In Palestine, OHCHR has been implementing a technical assistance project on human rights and the rule of law. The project focuses on three main areas: providing training and education on human rights and the rule of law for official and professional groups, supporting Palestinian human rights NGOs and the national human rights institution, and maintaining and improving relations with various government structures responsible for human rights issues, such as the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), the Judiciary, and the Ministry of Justice.

In Yemen, a technical cooperation project on the rights of children in conflict with the law was supposed to continue after an evaluation mission was conducted in October 2002. The project was discontinued, however, because the expert failed to submit the evaluation. A re-evaluation and formulation of a new project will take place in 2004.

Human rights activities in Iraq were not foreseen in OHCHR's 2003 Annual Appeal as developments in the country were unpredictable at the time the Appeal was drafted. Funds for activities implemented were obtained through an inter-agency Humanitarian Appeal for Iraq (Flash Appeal) that was launched

in June 2003 after the end of the war in Iraq. These activities are described in the chapter entitled, "Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities".

OHCHR supports the monitoring mandates of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on Iraq and the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

In addition to the international staff and the five national staff members working in Palestine, OHCHR has one international and two national staff members in its regional office in Beirut. In March, OHCHR deployed five international human rights officers in Iraq to work for the United Nations Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator. They were all evacuated following the attack on the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad in August.

## REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year, OHCHR provided substantive and technical support for a variety of activities implemented by the region's leading Arab human rights organizations. These activities focused on the media, child rights, gender, human rights education, the judiciary, disability, and economic, social and cultural rights.

OHCHR, together with UNDP and the Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR), developed Arabic-language human rights documentation and information resources, including a human rights web site ([www.arabhumanrights.org](http://www.arabhumanrights.org)), copies of human rights material already translated into Arabic, and translations of the Professional Training Series and other human rights publications into Arabic.

Within the framework of the memorandum of intent signed with the Arab League, OHCHR organized a week-long training course for five Arab League staff members on international human rights instruments and mechanisms. The course was held in September in Geneva. OHCHR also established a Committee of five experts, from Qatar, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Algeria, to comment on the draft Arab Charter finalized by the Arab Human Rights Commission in October. In December, the Committee held a series of meetings with the League of Arab States Secretariat in Cairo and submitted recommendations to the Arab Commission. In January 2004, the Commission adopted the new text, which

reflects many of the recommendations made by the experts. The current document constitutes a major improvement over the 1994 text because it addresses certain issues, such as states of emergency, fair trials, slavery, sexual violence, disability and trafficking, that were either omitted or not well formulated in the earlier version. It also creates a promising monitoring mechanism, similar to the Human Rights Committee. However, the latest version still retains some provisions which may not conform to international standards. Unless revised, such provisions would weaken the proposed Charter and undermine the progress already made.

OHCHR organized a sub-regional training workshop on the implementation of the concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The workshop, held in December in Damascus, Syria, for government officials and other stakeholders from Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, was organized jointly with UNICEF and UNDP.

Within the context of the 2002-2003 Beirut Plan of Action for the Asia-Pacific Framework, OHCHR prepared a sub-regional workshop on incorporating human rights education in the school curricula of the Gulf States. This event, to be held in Doha in February 2004, is being co-organized with UNESCO and UNICEF, and targets education policy-makers, teacher-training institutions, and those who develop curricula.

## ■ HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Activities focused on building a regional capacity to promote a human rights-based approach to development. They included developing a human rights information system, organizing workshops, and producing publications with the aim of encouraging governments and NGOs to develop innovative approaches to integrate economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development into country-level programming, and to develop standards to measure and report on human development.

During the reporting period, a workshop was held in Egypt to discuss the role of the media in promoting human rights and encouraging human development, and examine the lack of freedom of the press in most countries of the region. Participants reaffirmed a set of principles, including:

- ♥ Democracy, human development, respect for human rights and basic freedoms are all connected.



- ♥ Movement towards democracy throughout the region must be hastened, and civil society and the private sector should participate.
- ♥ The Arab media must make use of different information technologies in order to fully play its role in promoting human rights issues.
- ♥ Freedom of the media is a human right and a primary means of spreading other freedoms.
- ♥ Freedom of the media should be the concern of the whole society.

A two-day workshop on social, economic and cultural rights was held in Morocco in July. The regional representative of UNDP and some sixty representatives of Arab NGOs and other activists from 13 Arab countries attended the workshop, which was organized by AOHR and the Moroccan Documentation and Information Centre.

## ■ ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL OFFICE

In 2003, the regional representative was involved in:

- ♥ Identifying and developing effective relationships with the UNCTs, aimed at building capacities and supporting national protection systems, in accordance with the Secretary-General's reform plan;
- ♥ Strengthening relations between regional organizations, the League of Arab States, government institutions and civil society;
- ♥ Facilitating dialogue between government institutions and civil society;
- ♥ Following-up on ratification of international human rights instruments and ensuring that national laws conform with international standards, and ensuring that reports are prepared and submitted to the relevant human rights treaty bodies;
- ♥ Raising awareness of civil, political, cultural, social and economic rights;
- ♥ Following-up on reforms to strengthen administrative frameworks and provide support to newly created divisions for human rights, NGOs and gender issues within the League of Arab States, as launched by its Secretary-General; and
- ♥ Encouraging governments to develop national plans of action, following-up on countries that have already begun this process, and following-up on the establishment of national human rights institutions.

Two workshops were organized on the rights-based approach to development for UNCTs, ESCWA staff, government human rights focal points, and members of parliament. Both were held in Beirut. The first workshop, held in March, was funded by OHCHR and delivered to ESCWA staff. It focused on applying OHCHR's draft guidelines on a human rights approach to poverty-reduction strategies. The second workshop, on sensitization of a human rights-based approach to development, was funded by OHCHR and organized with the UNDP Regional Bureau of Arab States-Sub-Regional Resource Facility (RBAS-SURF). It was held in June and aimed to improve participants' skills in promoting and implementing the rights-based approach and to raise awareness on human rights issues. Some 42 participants from 18 Arab States, as well as 12 resource persons, participated in the workshop, which was the first regional initiative to bring together all relevant partners to discuss this issue. Recommendations were made for a follow-up workshop and the development of a model. This follow-up workshop will be funded by the Sub-Regional Resource Facility for Arab States (SURF-AS) and will be held in 2004.

The regional representative undertook several missions to Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Qatar, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, and Bahrain where he participated in workshops and in UNCT meetings, in which joint programming, the integration of human rights into development, and Action 2 of the Secretary-General's reform plan were discussed.

Following the establishment of national institutions for human rights in Jordan and Qatar, OHCHR participated in workshops and provided technical cooperation, upon their request.

## ■ CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

- ♥ Office staff attended the 2003 sessions of the Permanent Commission of Human Rights of the League of Arab States, in January, June and December, in Cairo. It was the first time that OHCHR, which attended as an observer, was invited. Some Arab NGOs also attended as observers for the first time.
- ♥ In January, office staff attended a seminar for judges from Arab League countries on refugee and human rights law. The seminar was co-organized by the International Association for Refugee Law Judges (Holland), the Arab Centre for the Independence of Judiciary and Legal Profession, and the Forced Migration Refugee Studies Programme at the American University of Cairo.

OHCHR participated in a workshop on the review and revision of the draft Arab Charter for Human Rights. The workshop, held in Cairo in February, was organized by the Arab Programme for human rights activists, sponsored by Konrad Adenauer Foundation of Jordan.

## ■ TRAINING AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROMOTION

- OHCHR participated in a three-day training workshop in Doha, Qatar, at the request of the Department of Human Rights of Qatar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Training was provided to the staff of the Foreign Ministry in May.
- OHCHR participated in a workshop in Ifrane, Morocco, on human rights education in the context of the United Nations Decade. The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Human Rights, the Ministry of Education and Akhawain University and was held in June.
- OHCHR participated in a four-day training-of-trainers workshop in Amman, Jordan, for prison officers. The workshop, which was held in May, was organized by Penal Reform International (PRI) in coordination with the newly created National Centre for Human Rights.
- During its participation in the annual United Nations Regional Coordination Group Meeting in Lebanon in December, OHCHR proposed the establishment of a regional human rights thematic group and a human rights core group in each UNCT.
- OHCHR attended ESCWA's "First Meeting of the Consultative Committee on NGOs" at United Nations House in Beirut. Participants discussed a code of conduct for NGOs and agreed to use it to guide their work.
- In early December, OHCHR attended a follow-up activity to the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995): an Arab Regional Preparatory Meeting for Beijing-Plus-Ten, organized by ESCWA and the DAW. The objective of the meeting was to review progress achieved and obstacles encountered, at national and regional levels, in implementing the Arab Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women adopted in Amman in 1994, and in implementing the Beijing Platform of Action, ten years after its adoption by the Fourth World Conference.
- In December, the office organized a meeting with several Lebanese NGOs to brief them on preparing Lebanon's country report on CERD.
- The office participated in a conference organized by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation entitled, "Development of Emerging Iraqi Civil Society".

Regional activities were implemented in close cooperation with various partners, namely ESCWA, UNDP/SURF-AS, UNICEF, UNDP and regional NGOs, such as the Arab Institute for Human Rights and the Arab Organization for Human Rights. After signing a memorandum of intent in 2002, the League of Arab States also worked with OHCHR in the region.

## ■ REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

OHCHR's activities in the region and sub-region have led to a rise in the number of NGOs and lawyers that are conversant in human rights standards and norms, and apply them in their work. OHCHR's work with ESCWA led to the formation of an Inter-Governmental Committee on Women, which will promote the advancement of women in the region, and the creation of a centre for women within ESCWA to serve as a secretariat for the Committee.

## THE ARAB INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

### ■ BACKGROUND

OHCHR has been providing support to the Tunis-based Arab Institute for Human Rights (AIHR) since its creation in 1989. In 2002, a new three-year project was agreed by OHCHR and the Institute. The AIHR has successfully demonstrated its capacity to play a leading role in promoting a culture of human rights by developing expertise on various aspects of human rights in the Arab world. It has become a well-respected human rights NGO and has, in turn, created a large network of human rights NGOs and experts.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The project aims to raise awareness of human rights in the region by strengthening the training capacities and professionalism of human rights NGOs and other members of the civil society.

In accordance with its strategic plan 2000-2003, the AIHR focused on developing the capacities of Arab NGOs in the fields of documentation of human rights violations, strategic planning and administration. It also worked to assess the impact of

its activities, develop the capacities of its staff, and improve the human rights material available to regional NGOs.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Training sessions

- ♥ A one-week training session for regional trainers on collecting and documenting human rights violations was organized in partnership with the Arab Organization for Human Rights and the Union of Arab Lawyers. The training session, which was held in January and February in Egypt, was attended by 17 staff members of Arab organizations engaged in human rights work. Participants, who came from eight Arab countries, were instructed on how to collect, verify and use information to address human rights violations. The session also aimed to harmonize methods of data collection of human rights violations among the NGOs.
- ♥ A training session on strategic planning and administration of NGOs was held in October in Bahrain. Twenty-two NGO representatives (seven males and 15 females), from 10 Arab countries, working in the field of human rights, women's rights, and children's rights, attended. The session was conducted by experts from Tunisia, Egypt, Palestine, Bahrain and Jordan.

### Information, documentation and communication

AIHR produced 1,000 copies of a publication on the 12th annual training for NGOs "Anabtawi 12", which Arab NGOs considered to be a key training tool; a CD detailing the various publications of the AIHR; and a CD that explains the Institute's activities in the field of human rights education.

In addition to the 300 new books acquired for its library, the Institute began to build a bibliographical database in Arabic, French and English, and databases of organizations, trainers and experts. The Arabic version of the web site is regularly updated; the French, English and Spanish versions are still being prepared. A new initiative on distance learning is being developed and will be ready by the end of 2004.

To improve their expertise, AIHR's staff members attended training sessions on new technologies and on documentation and information in the field of human rights at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Repercussions from the war in Iraq led to the cancellation of some training sessions and workshops, and delayed the assessment of the content of training sessions organized by the Institute.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

OHCHR provides grants to the AIHR to cover the costs of its training, documentation, research and publication activities. By participating in the Institute's annual Board meeting and attending some of its training sessions, OHCHR also helps to shape the Institute's activities.

The AIHR works with various partners, such as the Arab Organization for Human Rights and the Union of Arab Lawyers, in implementing its activities. For the first time this year, the AIHR collaborated with the Bahrain Association for Human Rights.

## ■ COORDINATION

The AIHR receives support from UNHCR, UNESCO, UNICEF, the European Commission, the Ford Foundation, the Inter-church Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO) and government representatives, and collaborates with many NGOs and government organizations, such as Penal Reform International, the Regional Centre for Human Security of the Jordan Institute of Diplomacy, the Lebanese Organization for Human Rights, the Union of Arab Lawyers, the Moroccan Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre, the Bar Association in Rabat, the Arab Organization of Young Lawyers, the Tunisian Association of Young Lawyers, and the Tunisian League for the Defence of Human Rights. This network enables the AIHR to tailor programmes to the specific needs and conditions of the countries involved.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The main beneficiaries of the AIHR's activities are NGOs working in the field of human rights, children's rights and women's rights, journalists, educators and lawyers. During the reporting period, about 200 NGO representatives participated in the various activities organized by the AIHR.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

NGOs learned how to document human rights violations, to formulate and submit alternative treaty body reports, and to prepare requests for financial assistance.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	408,573	156,290
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	37,411	18,387
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	9,402	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	39,314	3,777
Supplies and acquisitions	14,184	6,160
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	153,300	200,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>662,184</b>	<b>384,614</b>
Programme support costs	86,084	50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>748,268</b>	<b>434,614</b>

## COUNTRY PROJECTS

### MOROCCO

#### ■ BACKGROUND

The Moroccan Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre was inaugurated in April 2000 by the High Commissioner. Funded by OHCHR, UNDP and the Government, the Centre provides human rights information and training to all sectors of Moroccan civil society, including university professors, school teachers, the judiciary, the police, the media, NGOs, women and children. Begun in 1999, the project has been regularly extended and is now due to end in June 2004.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

### Training

- ♥ Sensitize targeted groups of professionals on human rights issues related to their work.
- ♥ Train NGOs and national institutions in leadership and other professional skills.
- ♥ Provide human rights training for law-enforcement officials, magistrates and other members of the judiciary, prison personnel, members of the media, trade unions and teachers.
- ♥ Support efforts to introduce human rights education in schools and universities.
- ♥ Raise awareness of human rights issues among members of civil society, particularly vulnerable groups, such as rural women, children and disabled persons.

### Documentation and information

- ♥ Develop the ability of various government and non-governmental bodies to collect and handle human rights information.
- ♥ Establish a specialized human rights library and database that is accessible to a broad range of users.
- ♥ Develop unified terminology in the field of human rights, especially in the Arabic language.
- ♥ Design and disseminate promotional material on human rights concepts and principles relevant to all components of civil society.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Seminars and workshops

The Centre has adjusted its training programmes and workshops to reflect human rights developments in the country and so has had a greater impact on the important human rights reforms that took place this year.

- ♥ Prior to the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the Centre gathered 70 people, including NGO representatives, researchers, experts and political personalities, for an "International Forum on Moroccan Migratory Dynamics: Rights Protection and Globalization", organized in collaboration with the French Association "Générique". The main purpose of the forum, which was held in June in Casablanca, was to discuss the complex issue of migration and

its human rights implications. A Working Group on the issue was created and will meet every two years.

- ♥ A roundtable on truth commissions was organized for 15 representatives of national NGOs in partnership with the International Centre for Transitional Justice. Held in December in Rabat, just before the King created the Equity and Reconciliation Commission, the roundtable provided NGOs with information on the transitional justice process and with concrete tools with which they could influence the process.
- ♥ The Centre held a one-day study on the newly created Equity and Reconciliation Commission, bringing together 104 participants from the Ministries of Justice and Human Rights, representatives of the National Human Rights Council, trade unionists, representatives of human rights NGOs, political parties, bar associations, the media, and members of the new Commission. Held in Rabat in December, it was the first public debate among all national actors concerned with the new mechanism.

The Centre organized activities at the regional level in partnership with other human rights actors in the region:

- ♥ A training workshop on fair trials was held during February and March in Rabat. Some 25 lawyers from 11 Arab countries participated in the workshop, which was jointly organized with the Arab Institute for Human Rights, the Union of Arab Lawyers and the Moroccan Bar Association. Lawyers acquired a better understanding of the international guarantees for a fair trial and examined the rights of the accused, the role of lawyers in the protection of human rights, and the different judicial systems in the region.
- ♥ A four-day training session on Arab countries and international mechanisms to protect human rights was organized in cooperation with the Arab Institute for Human Rights. It was held in September in Rabat. Forty-five high-level staff from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Human Rights and from national institutions attended. In addition to the training, participants, who represented 17 Arab countries, engaged in a frank discussion on the future of human rights in the region. A final document containing recommendations on how to improve relations with the international human rights mechanisms was adopted at the end of the session.

Other activities focused on giving regional and local journalists the necessary background to help promote and protect human rights, and to provide magistrates with practical tools to apply national and international human rights standards in their work.

- ♥ Three training workshops on local democracy and the regional press, attended by 110 journalists from around the country, were held in three cities – Tangier, Marrakech and Fes – during May, June and July. Local journalists were trained on the provisions of the new press code and discussed how they could help build a culture of democracy.
- ♥ A seminar on media and democracy was organized in cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in October in Rabat. Twenty-five journalists were trained on the international system for the protection of human rights and sensitized about how they can promote a culture of democracy and human rights. Issues such as the right to freedom of opinion and expression, reform of the press code, and the implications of the new anti-terrorism law, were also debated.
- ♥ A seminar on human rights and the administration of justice was organized in collaboration with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and held in October in Rabat. Twenty-five magistrates attended and discussed the difficulties encountered in exercising their responsibilities, particularly in applying human rights standards.

### Documentation Centre

Since its inception, the Centre has produced 28 publications. During the reporting period, more than 25,000 copies of these publications were distributed to relevant ministerial departments, national institutions working in the field of human rights, participants in the training courses organized by the Centre, students, researchers, journalists and NGOs.

During the year, the Centre published:

- ♥ An information booklet on national institutions and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, which was translated into French. Two thousand copies were published.
- ♥ A booklet on the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
- ♥ The second edition of the booklet on the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. Three thousand Arabic copies were published.
- ♥ The second edition of the booklet on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.
- ♥ The updated Compilation of the International Human Rights Instruments ratified by Morocco.
- ♥ A compilation of the International Labour Conventions ratified by the Kingdom.

~ A booklet on the legal provisions applicable to the regional elections.

The Centre also updated its web site ([www.cdifdh.org.ma](http://www.cdifdh.org.ma)), which contains legal texts, periodical reports and information on specialized institutions.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

The war in Iraq and the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in Casablanca had direct and adverse effects on the Centre's activities.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Centre is supported by the Moroccan Ministry of Human Rights. UNDP maintains financial control of the project. The Centre's Board, which is composed of representatives of OHCHR, UNDP, twelve ministries, two national human rights institutions, and at least seven NGOs, meets once a year to determine the Centre's annual policy and programme of activity. OHCHR and UNDP also participate in the annual meeting of the Centre's Scientific Committee, which reviews the content of the planned activities.

## ■ COORDINATION

The Centre has maintained cooperative relationships with a variety of national, regional and international organizations and has organized activities jointly with the Arab Institute for Human Rights, the Raoul Wallenberg Foundation on Human Rights, and the Arab Organization of Human Rights. New partnerships were created this year with the International Centre for Transitional Justice, and the Association "Générique", which specializes in the issue of migration.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Nearly 500 people participated in training activities organized by the Centre, among them: NGO leaders and members of human rights organizations, women's and children's rights organizations, and development associations, journalists, magistrates and other judiciary personnel, bar association members, police, educators, Government officials, human rights centres, universities, members of trade unions, and employers' associations.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Centre has become the venue in which civil society actors and concerned Government bodies can exchange views on human rights. The two sessions on the new Equity and Reconciliation Commission, which were organized by the Centre when the Commission was created, were highly appreciated by a broad range of stakeholders.

The Centre still enjoys only limited autonomy, since it remains answerable to the Ministry of Human Rights for all of its expenditures. However, ministries involved in the project, as well as project partners, have agreed that the Centre should now gain full independence. Should the Centre acquire the status of a foundation, it would attract a much wider range of donors interested in supporting its activities.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN MOROCCO

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	19,739	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	0	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	7,726	0
General operating expenses	2,695	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	215,479	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>245,639</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme support costs	31,933	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>277,572</b>	<b>0</b>

## PALESTINE

### ■ BACKGROUND

OHCHR has been implementing a technical assistance project on human rights and the rule of law in Palestine since 1996. The current project started on 1 August 2002 and will end on 31 July 2004.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the project is to support the development of a governing system based on the rule of law and administration of justice that operates in accordance with internationally recognized standards of human rights. More immediately, the project aims to:

- ♥ Help establish a legal framework consistent with human rights standards by providing advisory services on legislative drafting to government bodies and NGOs engaged in legal analysis;
- ♥ Strengthen government structures responsible for protecting and promoting human rights by providing advice to the judiciary, police and security forces, prison officials, the Ministry of Justice, and other ministries;
- ♥ Cooperate with and support civil society organizations, particularly NGOs involved in human rights and women's rights, universities, professional associations and unions, such as the Bar Association and Journalists Syndicate;
- ♥ Provide assistance to the national institution for human rights, the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizen's Rights (PICCR), to ensure it complies with United Nations principles concerning national human rights institutions (i.e. the Paris Principles);
- ♥ Create public awareness of human rights through training courses to journalists, university and other students, and health personnel, and to official groups such as police, judges, prosecutors, judicial staff, employees of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), and legal advisers to the ministries; and
- ♥ Provide training on international human rights standards to United Nations agencies operating in the country.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### Human rights education

- ♥ For the first time during the *intifada*, OHCHR was able to organize a training course for participants from both the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Forty-five judges received training on human rights and the administration of justice in Gaza in December. It was the first time the Government of Israel issued permits to allow OHCHR trainees to travel from the West Bank to Gaza.
- ♥ In coordination with the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate, OHCHR organized a three-day training course for 23 journalists. The training course was held in March in Gaza.
- ♥ Upon request from the Palestinian Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, OHCHR organized a three-day training course on international human rights standards for diplomatic and consular Palestinians. Twenty-five persons from the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and other institutions participated in this training, which was held in March in Ramallah.
- ♥ In cooperation with the PLC's Women Unit, OHCHR organized a four-day training course on women and human rights. More than 250 women from the PLC and NGOs participated in this training, which was held in March in Gaza.
- ♥ In cooperation with the Palestinian Rehabilitation and Reform Centres (prisons' administration), OHCHR organized a five-day intensive training course for 23 prison officials from the West Bank. This training took place in May in Ramallah.
- ♥ For the first time since its creation, OHCHR organized a three-day intensive training course for 34 prosecutors from the West Bank. The training, which was organized in cooperation with the Office of the Palestinian Attorney General and the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations and was funded by USAID, was held in May in Ramallah. A similar four-day training course was organized in Gaza in September for 32 prosecutors.
- ♥ In cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Health and several NGOs and hospitals, OHCHR organized two training courses on health and human rights for doctors and other health personnel. The first course, in which 24 persons participated, took place in August in Gaza; and the second drew 25 persons and was held in Ramallah in September.

### Support to NGOs and the national institution for human rights

OHCHR staff gave lectures during the various training courses, conferences and workshops organized by the PICCR and various Palestinian human rights NGOs. Through the Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project, OHCHR, in cooperation with UNDP, provided small grants to NGOs, allowing them to implement projects for marginalized groups. Six local NGOs were granted US\$5,000 each to implement projects. OHCHR and UNDP selected another six NGOs for similar funding in 2004.

### Support to the United Nations human rights missions

The office provided administrative and logistical support to the planning and organization of the visits of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food (3-13 July), the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967 (22-29 June), and the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, which fielded its yearly visit to the region from 12 to 24 June. Since the Committee was unable to conduct its work in Palestine, its meetings were held in Cairo, Amman and Damascus.

### Mainstreaming human rights

OHCHR is an active member of three United Nations thematic groups that aim to coordinate work on issues of common concern to all the agencies involved: HIV/AIDS, with UNFPA as lead agency; the United Nations Advocacy Group, on the right to health, with WHO as lead agency; and the Operations Coordinating Group, with OCHA as the coordinating agency. OHCHR participates in these forums to highlight the human rights concerns inherent in these issues. OHCHR also had a series of meetings with UNDP to organize training courses for United Nations agencies along thematic lines.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

Restrictions on freedom of movement imposed by the Israeli forces have resulted in violence and a decline in the performance of the Palestinian Authority's institutions. Delays and cancellations are commonplace when conducting activities with local partners. In most cases, however, participants from various

towns in the West Bank have managed to attend the training course in Ramallah. Participants were lodged in the same hotel as where the training course was held in order to avoid disruptions from possible curfews and closures. These arrangements, however, increased the costs of some activities.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

OHCHR implements the project from its two offices in Gaza and Ramallah. The head of the office is the only international staff member. National staff include of three human rights officers (one in Gaza and two in Ramallah) and three national support staff. The project also relies on the expertise of human rights NGOs in Palestine.

UNDP handles some administrative aspects of the project, including payment of local expenses, salaries, and travel-related costs.

### ■ COORDINATION

In implementing the project, OHCHR coordinated with United Nations agencies, bilateral donors and other international organizations operating in Palestine, such as Save the Children and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). OHCHR frequently invited ICRC to provide training sessions on humanitarian law as part of its human rights training courses.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the activities included Palestinian Authority officials, judges, prosecutors, court officials, police, prison officials, members and staff of the PLC, health personnel, the Palestinian Ministry of Planning and International cooperation, PICCR and human rights NGOs. The population of Palestine benefited indirectly from improved rule of law.

### ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

There is a great demand for OHCHR's training courses. Through these courses, a cadre of law enforcement officials in the prison sector are now aware of and able to implement human rights standards concerning prisoners' rights and their duties as prison officials; the security forces are guided by international human rights standards on arrest, detention and the use of force; and, through support provided by an OHCHR international consultant,



PICCR prepared a new draft law on its work, which will be presented to the PLC, and has improved its complaints department.

## ■ LESSONS LEARNED

OHCHR has relied on its national staff and Palestinian consultants working with human rights NGOs to implement this project. This has worked out well, and the project is no longer hostage to the volatility of the environment. But there will be times when international expertise will be required. Identifying new partners, such as universities, different NGOs, and other professional groups will help to bolster the office's effectiveness and sustain its work. Working with small NGOs on projects related to marginalized groups had immediate impact on the stakeholders; similar initiatives should be pursued.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN PALESTINE

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	608,425	295,945
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	12,603	123
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	20,642	11,705
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	6,000	0
Contractual services	8,035	2,048
General operating expenses	72,722	15,035
Supplies and acquisitions	43,535	17,446
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	77,416	13,841
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>849,378</b>	<b>356,143</b>
Programme support costs	110,419	46,299
<b>Total</b>	<b>959,797</b>	<b>402,442</b>



# SUPPORT TO NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS



## ■ BACKGROUND

OHCHR supports strong, credible and effective national institutions, which comply with the international standards known as the Paris Principles, for promoting and protecting human rights. As integral parts of a national protection system, OHCHR promotes the establishment and strengthening of national institutions and coordination of their related activities throughout the Office and the United Nations system through national, regional and international initiatives.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Governments will establish or strengthen national institutions to promote and protect human rights.
- ♥ The international norms concerning national institutions will be applied by other United Nations agencies and programmes.
- ♥ Treaty bodies and special rapporteurs will recognize and promote the role of these national institutions.
- ♥ The Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly will periodically assess the role and effectiveness of national institutions as human rights-monitoring bodies.
- ♥ The concept of human dignity will be promoted.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Advice was given to governments, at their request, on appropriate constitutional or legislative frameworks for any new national institutions and on the nature, functions, powers and responsibilities of such institutions. OHCHR provided such advice in Afghanistan, Armenia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Japan, Jordan, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Qatar, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Sudan, Timor-Leste and the United Kingdom. Egypt received information on the Paris Principles, and advisory missions were fielded to Afghanistan, Jordan, Norway, Palestine, Slovenia and Sri Lanka.

The national institutions team was in contact with over 70 national institutions during the year, some 20 more than in 2002. Thematic work in the areas of the rights of persons with disabilities, a rights-based approach to development, the prevention of torture, combating racism and HIV/AIDS also developed further during the year.

### International initiatives

The national institutions team acted as the secretariat of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions. The Committee met once during the year and held its 12th session during the 59th session of the Commission on Human Rights.

At its 55th session, held during July-August, the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights determined that national institutions could be accredited to the Sub-Commission in their own right and their representatives may speak for a period of up to five minutes on any substantive agenda item. This was the first time national institutions were accorded such rights.

The Sub-Commission called on OHCHR to produce a pamphlet on the work of national institutions with regard to persons belonging to minority populations. The pamphlet, which will be published in 2004, will ultimately be included in the *United Nations Guide for Minorities*.

### Regional initiatives

#### **Network of National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas**

OHCHR supported the second general assembly meeting of the Network of National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas (established in 2000), hosted by the *Defensor de los Habitantes* of

Costa Rica and held in San Juan, Costa Rica, in March. The Network now has 13 member institutions from Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela. The Ombudsman Offices of the Caribbean are observers to the Network and participate in its activities.

OHCHR participated in discussions among Network members on disability rights and the drafting of a new international convention concerning the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. The discussions took place in March in Costa Rica. In September, OHCHR supported and participated in the Network's meeting on security and human rights held in Cartagena, Colombia. OHCHR's focal point on terrorism participated in the workshop and will provide the necessary follow-up.

### ***African secretariat of National Human Rights***

#### ***Institutions***

The African secretariat of National Human Rights Institutions received financial support from OHCHR to recruit an executive director; however the individual recruited has since left the Secretariat. OHCHR is encouraging the Coordinating Group of National Institutions to develop a work plan and programme of action to energize the nascent secretariat.

OHCHR and the Uganda Human Rights Commission co-organized a workshop on the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities for African national institutions. Recommendations agreed at the workshop, which was held in Kampala, in June, formed part of the information presented to the Ad Hoc Committee considering proposals on a comprehensive and integral international convention on promotion and protection of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. OHCHR organized a training workshop for southern Africa in Swaziland in June that focused on the Office's role in supporting national human rights institutions. Following the workshop, the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho requested follow-up support.

### ***Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights***

#### ***Institutions***

The eighth annual meeting was postponed from September due to security concerns. OHCHR provided financial support for the meeting which was held in February 2004 in Nepal. OHCHR also supported the first in-country training workshop on human rights investigation techniques in Sri Lanka. The five-day workshop was held in November and was implemented by the Forum.

### ***Europe***

Closer links were established with the Office of the Council of Europe's Human Rights Commissioner, the focal point for the Council's work on national institutions. Consultations were held in September and a joint mission was fielded to the Republic of Slovenia in October to provide advice to the Human Rights Ombudsman there.

The national institutions team worked with the British Council, the Asia-Pacific Forum, and the National Human Rights Commission of India, in convening a workshop on Promoting the Rights of People with Disabilities: Towards a United Nations Convention. The meeting, held in Delhi, from 26 to 29 May, brought together representatives of the national institutions of Afghanistan, Australia, Fiji, Ghana, India, Iran, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Philippines, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Uganda. The workshop was funded by the United Kingdom and OHCHR. Findings were submitted to the Ad Hoc Committee.

### **Training initiatives, information-sharing and development**

The national institutions team worked with senior government advisors from Kosovo (organized by the Centre for Applied Studies in International Negotiations); human rights activists and civil society organizations from the Mediterranean basin (organized by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation); national institutions and civil society from around the world (organized by the British Council held in Dublin); and civil society representatives from Sudan (supported by the Arab Migrant Centre and the International Service for Human Rights). The purpose of these sessions was to discuss with the participants the Paris Principles and the role of the United Nations in supporting the strengthening of national protection systems.

With support from the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the national institutions team maintained a web site on national human rights institutions ([www.nhri.net](http://www.nhri.net)). The site is linked to all existing national institutions web sites and to the OHCHR main web page and contains the conclusions of the main OHCHR activities related to national institutions.

A handbook on economic, social and cultural rights and national institutions was completed which will be published in 2004. A pamphlet on minority rights and national institutions is under preparation.

## Thematic issues

### ***Rights of persons with disabilities***

OHCHR was instrumental in ensuring that national institutions were guaranteed a seat at the Working Group on drafting an international convention on the protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. The institution selected is the South African Human Rights Commission. Three regional meetings – in the Americas and the Caribbean (Costa Rica, March), in Asia-Pacific (India, May), and in Africa (Uganda, June) – fed into the Ad Hoc Committee meeting, held in New York in June.

### ***Racism and racial discrimination***

OHCHR provided support to the national institutions of Fiji, Mexico, Mongolia, Niger and Venezuela to undertake activities to combat racism in their countries. Support was given for the establishment of a race relations unit in the Fiji Human Rights Commission, for translating educational materials into indigenous languages in Mexico, for protecting the rights of the Tsaatan ethnic minority in Mongolia, for a study on the practice of slavery in the departments of Maradi and Tahoua in Niger, and for providing training on indigenous rights and international human rights instruments in Venezuela.

OHCHR and the New Zealand Human Rights Commission organized a roundtable of race relations commissioners and/or focal points to discuss issues of common interest. The roundtable was held in Auckland, in February 2004.

### ***Reproductive rights***

Representatives of the Ombudsman Offices of the Caribbean met in Kingston, in March for a workshop on the promotion and protection of reproductive rights. The workshop, convened by OHCHR, UNFPA, and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR) and facilitated by the Caribbean Ombudsman Association, gave participants the opportunity to develop a framework for applying human rights concepts to reproductive and sexual health, to discuss critical reproductive health/rights issues within the region, and to assess obstacles and opportunities that women and men face in the exercise of reproductive rights.

### ***Prevention of torture***

In cooperation with the Association for the Prevention of Torture, the national institutions team held a seminar at OHCHR headquarters in July on the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. The proceedings of the seminar will be published in 2004.

### ***Administration of justice***

OHCHR's national institutions team and the Danish Institute for Human Rights co-organized and co-sponsored a roundtable on national human rights institutions and the administration of justice. The roundtable, which was held in Copenhagen, in November, drew together representatives of 22 national institutions to exchange experiences on how best to engage with the judiciary. Conference proceedings will be published in 2004.

## The Paris Principles

The Paris Principles were unanimously adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 20 December 1993. To commemorate the tenth anniversary of their adoption, the national institutions team provided small grants for promoting the Paris Principles and convened a roundtable. Small grants awarded to the national institutions of Albania, Ghana, Haiti, the Philippines, Uganda and Zambia enabled them to promote the Paris Principles at the national level. The roundtable was held in December at OHCHR headquarters. Participants included the Chair of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Chairs, Members and senior representatives of 13 of the International Coordinating Committee Members (Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Fiji, France, Greece, Mexico, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, the Philippines, Uganda), the South African Human Rights Commission, NGO representatives from Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the International Council for Human Rights Policy, and the International Commission of Jurists, and representatives of OHCHR. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies participated as an observer. Participants discussed the key issues of independence and the functions and powers of national institutions. Conference proceedings will be published in 2004.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

At year end, there was only one professional officer on the national institutions team. While most of the planned activities for the year had been implemented, it is clear that, without more human resources, it will be impossible to maintain such a workload. In 2004, the team will be strengthened with two professional officers and one part-time officer.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The team is located within the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch. During the year the staffing of the team was not stable, varying from one to three professional staff and one support staff responsible for implementing the above activities.

## ■ COORDINATION

The national institutions team held consultations with both the UNDP and UNESCO to determine how those organizations can support OHCHR in its national institution capacity-building and strengthening activities. Consultations have also been held with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies with the aim of determining how to strengthen both national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and national human rights institutions. Related activities will begin in 2004.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Direct beneficiaries were national institutions, Member States, civil society, OHCHR, and other United Nations human rights mechanisms and agencies.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

At least 15 governments received direct advice on constitutional or legal provisions concerning the establishment and strengthening of national institutions. The Paris Principles have been widely cited throughout the United Nations system and have also found their place in international human rights law (in the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture). Treaty bodies and special rapporteurs have tapped the expertise of national institutions, and institutions have contributed to the work of treaty bodies, the Commission on Human Rights and its Sub-Commission. Substantive knowledge was gained and

exchanged concerning the rights of persons with disabilities, women and the most vulnerable, with emphasis placed on the administration of justice and the need to ensure better compliance with the Paris Principles to protect victims of human rights violations.

## ■ EVALUATION

An evaluation of the national institutions project was undertaken by two external consultants from 20 January to 14 February. Following extensive consultations with OHCHR staff, donors and external partners, the consultants made the following recommendations:

- ♥ National human rights institutions are core to national protection systems; this needs to be clear within OHCHR;
- ♥ There is a need for a specialist national institutions team to build a body of experience and expertise that is readily drawn upon; this team should remain within the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch;
- ♥ The team's function is not simply conceptual; it also delivers services to countries, regional and global bodies, and to in-house entities;
- ♥ The team's engagement in the delivery of services is critical not only to the role of the Office but also to its capacity to learn. Its engagement with regional bodies is a necessary part of this. It has an especially significant role in setting standards for national institution accreditation;
- ♥ Work on national institutions should be strategic and proactive. There is a need to define where in each country and region the development of national institutions is a strategic priority and in what respect existing national institutions and regional networks of institutions need to be strengthened;
- ♥ The role of national institutions with regard to rights-based governance needs articulating.
- ♥ Even though the team has an excellent record of delivering quality work on time, it is already seriously overworked and will not be able to sustain the current level of activity without being strengthened; and
- ♥ Capacity to deliver does not depend solely on the national institutions team. There needs to be effective follow-up by geographic desks whose capacity to engage in issues relating to national institutions needs to be further strengthened.

These recommendations were taken into consideration and are reflected in OHCHR's national institutions programme for 2004.

## LESSONS LEARNED

OHCHR can now rely, to a great extent, on national institutions as implementing partners rather than beneficiaries. The establishment of new institutions requires concerted effort and should not be rushed. In some instances, more national-level consultations should be held early in development so that the institution is established with a greater base of credibility.

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	927,712
Adjustment	0
Income from contributions	719,292
Other funds available <sup>1</sup>	3,953
Total funds available	1,650,957
Expenditure <sup>2</sup>	1,004,310
<b>Closing balance<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>646,647</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS.

<sup>2</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	437,791	377,311
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	47,552
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	64,407	107,048
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	3,499	(3,811)
Supplies and acquisitions	6,222	3,449
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	376,851	235,662
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>888,770</b>	<b>767,211</b>
Programme support costs	115,540	99,737
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,004,310</b>	<b>866,948</b>

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Support to national institutions	995,643	1,118,327	1,004,310	866,948
<b>Total</b>	<b>995,643</b>	<b>1,118,327</b>	<b>1,004,310</b>	<b>866,948</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>		
Australia*	129,032	129,140
Germany	107,643	115,207
Ireland	208,768	230,884
Sweden	116,414	121,005
United Kingdom**	158,730	123,056
<b>Total</b>	<b>720,587</b>	<b>719,292</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* Earmarked to support national institutions in the Asia and Pacific region.

\*\* The income amount consists of a first instalment. A second instalment of US\$ 45,100 was paid in early 2004.



# SUPPORT TO THE SIERRA LEONE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION



## ■ BACKGROUND

The Lomé Peace Agreement of 7 July 1999, which ended the decade-long armed conflict in Sierra Leone, provided for the establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to create an impartial historical record of violations of human rights and humanitarian law related to the conflict, address impunity, respond to the needs of victims, promote healing and reconciliation, and prevent a repeat of the violations and abuses suffered. In keeping with the High Commissioner's commitment, elaborated in the Sierra Leone Human Rights Manifesto of 24 June 1999, OHCHR provided assistance to the preparatory processes that led to Parliament's adoption of the TRC Act in February 2000. Since then, OHCHR supported the implementation of the Act by helping to identify the commissioners, by creating public awareness on the roles and functions of the Commission, and by providing assistance during the Commission's statutory preparatory phase and its operational phase, which began in October 2002. This phase is scheduled to end during the first quarter of 2004 with the completion of the report of the Commission.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

The long-term objective of the project was to ensure that the TRC Act of 2000 was implemented. According to the Act, the Commission has the mandate to:

- ♥ Create an impartial historical record of the violations and abuses that characterized the conflict;
- ♥ Address impunity and respond to the needs of victims;
- ♥ Promote healing and reconciliation and prevent a repetition of the violations and abuses suffered;
- ♥ Break the cycle of violence, provide a forum for both victims and perpetrators to tell their story, and get a clear picture of the past in order to facilitate genuine healing and reconciliation;

- ♥ Investigate and report on the causes, nature and extent of violations and abuses to the fullest degree possible; and
- ♥ Recommend measures for the rehabilitation of victims of human rights abuses.

During the reporting period, OHCHR assisted the TRC in deploying staff around the country to take statements, in holding hearings and in writing reports.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Deployment phase

This phase, which began in December 2002 and lasted until March 2003, was symbolically launched in Bomaru, Kailahun District, where the conflict started in 1991. Some 70 persons and three regional coordinators were deployed around the country to take statements and collect information on abuses and violations of human rights and humanitarian law. Personnel were also deployed to the neighbouring countries of Ghana, Gambia, Guinea and Nigeria to collect relevant information from Sierra Leone refugees now living in those countries. Prior to their deployment, the persons charged with taking statements were trained in a variety of subjects, including the mandate and functions of the TRC, confidentiality and self-incrimination, working with children and women, eliciting statements from ex-combatants and perpetrators, sexual abuse and gender-based violations and basic psycho-social skills. Training was updated regularly.

The Commission collected over 10,000 statements from all target groups, including women, children and ex-combatants, as well as interviews of over 150 major actors in the conflict. The form against which statements were taken was also placed on the Internet, allowing citizens of Sierra Leone around the world to submit statements. The Commission also requested information from several institutions and groups on their roles during the



conflict. The number of statements received far exceeded initial estimates. This was partly due to the publicity generated by the Commission's public hearings, some of which were broadcast live on national radio, and partly because the reprisals feared by those who chose to cooperate with the TRC never materialized.

The Commission now has a fully established database of human rights violations, which includes statements collected during its deployment period and the earlier mapping project. The mapping project was conducted in 2002 by an OHCHR consultant. The database contains an index of statements, allowing researchers to access statements on specific themes and topics.

Analysis of the information collected revealed the extent to which particular violations occurred during the war, the number and kinds of violations over time, and the types of violations committed by each group of perpetrators. Indications suggest that the highest proportion of human rights violations were infringements on individual liberty (i.e. forced displacement, abduction, detention and forced recruitment), followed by economic violations (i.e. destruction of property, looting, extortion and forced recruitment), serious violations of the individual and mistreatment (i.e. assault, torture, amputation, rape, sexual abuse and slavery, forced cannibalism and drugging) and murder.

### Hearings phase

Victims, witnesses, and perpetrators came forward in large numbers to give testimonies to the Commission from 4 April until 6 August, when a national reconciliation ceremony was held in Freetown. The ceremony, which included apologies by the Army, Police and the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF), was held at the National Stadium. After the speeches, a procession of representatives of political associations, the Government, NGOs, the Army, the Police, local and international organizations, and faith groups moved to the Congo Cross Bridge, where ECOMOG forces halted the rebel march on Freetown in January 1999. The bridge was renamed the Peace Bridge.

During the hearings, the TRC listened to over 500 witnesses and received over 2,000 pages of written submissions from different stakeholders. The hearings were held in Freetown and in other regions and drew large numbers of observers, particularly in the local district venues. Four types of hearings were held: individual/witness hearings, thematic hearings, event-specific

hearings, and institutional hearings, which focused on the roles of specific actors and/or institutions. In every district covered, the Commission held four days of public hearings and one day of closed hearings. In Freetown, four days of closed hearings were held. Closed hearings were usually conducted for victims of sexual violence who preferred to talk in camera, for all children under 18 years, and for perpetrators or ex-combatants who did not want to appear at the public hearings. Closed hearings for victims of sexual violence were usually conducted by female commissioners and female members of staff.

The Commission paid due attention to gender balance among the witnesses, and efforts were made to ensure that the selected cases were representative of the various crimes committed in the districts at different times and by perpetrators belonging to different groups.

While testimonies during public hearings were filmed, witnesses in closed hearings were, subject to their prior consent, filmed from behind to mask their identity. A counselor assisted every witness before, during and after the hearing. Volunteers from the Sierra Leone Red Cross and a nurse attached to the government hospital also assisted during the hearings. Security was usually provided by the Sierra Leone Police.

The hearings usually concluded with a closing ceremony involving traditional and religious leaders. In some areas, such as in Kailahun and Makeni, perpetrators asked publicly for forgiveness. In other areas, such as in Bo and Kenema, the Commission, in consultation with local leaders, identified a place in town where many were killed and created a memorial there.

Thematic hearings held between and after the district hearings dealt with the following issues: good governance, including participation in political processes and respect for human rights; the role of civil society; the role of migrant communities; management of mineral resources and issues of corruption; and women and girls.

Submissions were presented by government institutions, national and international NGOs, and various United Nations bodies.

Additional investigations and research activities were also conducted after the hearings to provide more information to underpin the report of the TRC. The teams of investigators and researchers covered:

- ♥ History of the conflict;
- ♥ The nature of the conflict, including violations;
- ♥ The role of external parties, including countries, military structures, and international institutions and structures;
- ♥ The history of the country and the region;
- ♥ Mineral resources, their use and impact on the conflict and the country;
- ♥ Institutions of government, rule of law, governance, human rights, democracy and issues of corruption;
- ♥ Women and children;
- ♥ The role of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Special Court; and
- ♥ The vision for Sierra Leone, including reparation and reconciliation.

The large amount of primary data collected by the Commission has been collated, organized and prepared for archiving, which will begin once the commissioners adopt the final report of the TRC.

Since the TRC gave priority attention to the welfare of witnesses and all persons who participated in the truth and reconciliation process, the Commission's legal and reconciliation unit put a limited witness-protection scheme in place to create a safe environment for witnesses, victims, and perpetrators before, during and after hearings. The Unit also operated a referral system through which witnesses who expressed specific needs, such as medical care or interest in skills training, were sent to NGOs who had offered to provide such services. On occasion, the TRC brought together the individual perpetrator and his victims or community. Traditional and religious leaders of the locality were always present on such occasions to assist in the healing process, in erecting memorials or conducting traditional rites, and to guarantee that the initial contact between perpetrator and victim(s) will be maintained.

### National vision for Sierra Leone

In September, the TRC issued a call for contributions to a "National Vision". Citizens were asked to describe their hopes for a post-conflict Sierra Leone. In two months, the TRC received over 250 contributions, representing the efforts of over 300 individuals, including adults, children, war victims, prisoners and ex-combatants. The contributions included written and recorded essays, slogans, plays and poems, paintings, etchings and drawings, sculptures and wood-carvings. On 10 December, Inter-

national Human Rights Day, the National Vision Exhibition was launched at the National Stadium in Freetown. Over 400 persons, many of them contributors, attended the event, during which prizes were awarded to selected contributors. The exhibition was moved to the National Museum on 15 December and has attracted numerous visitors, including President Kabbah. Arrangements are being made to conduct similar exhibitions in the districts.

In collaboration with the TRC, the New York-based NGO "Witness" has produced a 50-minute video documentary on the findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

A major hindrance to the TRC's operations during the reporting period was the phased and sometimes slow receipt of pledged funding. The projected date for the conclusion of the TRC was also revised and extended, from October to December, to allow time for the completion of the TRC's report. The TRC ended its mandate administratively on 31 December, but a small report-writing group, under the supervision of the commissioners, continued work to finalize the report and oversee editing and printing. The report will be presented to the President of Sierra Leone in 2004.

An interim audit of the TRC found some gaps in the administrative management of the Commission, including oversight responsibilities of UNDP as envisaged under the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Government, the TRC, OHCHR, UNDP and UNAMSIL. In response, OHCHR undertook several monitoring missions and implemented several direct measures to ensure accountability of the TRC's operations, including requesting a follow-up audit, verifying the Commission's fixed assets, and certifying any payments on behalf of the Commission. This latter measure was intended to ensure compliance with the approved budget of the TRC in accordance with the MOU.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project is implemented by the seven commissioners and a secretariat composed of an executive secretary and professional officers in four units: information management, legal and reconciliation, administration and programming, and media and public education. UNDP provides oversight on financial and

administrative matters to ensure compliance with United Nations rules and regulations. OHCHR provides technical backstopping and quality control over implementation of activities through a Geneva-based project officer who works under the supervision of the Chief of Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch.

## ■ COORDINATION

An MOU was signed between OHCHR, UNDP, UNAMSIL, TRC and the Government outlining assistance to the Commission: it also regulates the status of the Commission and its standing as an independent national institution. A Joint Implementation Committee, composed of three local representatives from donor countries, and a representative from UNAMSIL, UNDP and OHCHR, ensures that funds sent to the TRC are used for the activities of the Commission as set out in the approved budget.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The main beneficiaries of the project are the TRC and the people of Sierra Leone.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The operations of the TRC have dispelled earlier scepticism on the acceptance of the truth and reconciliation process. Some feared that perpetrators would be afraid to testify, that communities would not attend the hearings, and that reconciliation would not occur. However, as the public became more familiar with the process, perpetrators testified in far greater numbers than initially projected. Individual acts of reconciliation between former combatants and victims have become symbols of healing in Sierra Leone. Some examples:

- ♥ In Bo, the TRC facilitated reconciliation between a powerful local authority accused of covering up violations committed against a deceased victim. Reconciliation meetings between both parties resulted in a symbolic handshake and the willingness of the local authority to pay outstanding funeral expenses and a contribution to the family.
- ♥ In Kailahun, 60 per cent of the witnesses were perpetrators, mostly from the rebel RUF. During the closing ceremony, four perpetrators who had testified before the Commission openly confessed their wrongdoings and knelt in front of the traditional leaders to beg for forgiveness. This ceremony took

place near a notorious slaughterhouse where people were brutally killed during the war.

- ♥ In Koinadugu, many witnesses testified about sexual violence and abduction. Many victims of sexual violence gave their testimonies in public, and several men testified to the fact that all women and girls in their village had been raped.
- ♥ In Bombali, most of the victims who appeared before the Commission were in need of medical and psycho-social help. During the closing ceremony, three RUF perpetrators who had testified in public asked the community for forgiveness.
- ♥ In Kenema, victims testified mostly to crimes committed by RUF and a few by the Kamajors (one of the Civil Defence Forces groups). However, it was clear that there was a conspiracy of silence among the Kamajors: many of them were unwilling to testify since they were also in the audience during the hearings. The Commission identified a roundabout in Kenema town where many civilians were killed and inaugurated a memorial sign during the closing ceremony. In addition, a meeting between the Chairman of the Amputees and War Wounded Association and the Commission was arranged in which the Chairman expressed his concern and frustration that the plight of amputees has been neglected.
- ♥ In Kambia, five perpetrators who had testified during the public hearings knelt and asked the community for forgiveness for the atrocities they committed. During the closing ceremony, they shook hands with some of the victims who came forward to testify. Many were brought to silence when they shook the only hand of an amputee. Religious leaders accepted their apologies on behalf of the Chiefdom. Following this, people converged in a roundabout nearby the Town Hall where a man was shot during the war. The roundabout was renamed "Peace Square".
- ♥ The climax of the five-day hearings in Moyambe district was the reconciliation of three families who held war-time grudges against each other. The reconciliation ceremony, which was facilitated by the TRC, was held in the presence of about three hundred people.

## ■ EVALUATION

An OHCHR visit to a couple of the districts to assess the impact of the TRC's work revealed a lively engagement in the truth and reconciliation process among local NGOs, women's groups, youth groups, paramount chiefs and other individuals. Paramount chiefs spoke of the TRC as a laudable institution which brought victims and perpetrators together to settle their differences.

Others spoke of the TRC as a vehicle for peace and the foundation for hope and a better future.

A major weakness of the TRC, however, was its inability to provide tangible assistance although it was never intended to provide such assistance. In Koidu, for example, there were pleas for help to improve access to health, education, appropriate shelter and opportunities for employment. However, NGOs in Freetown and in the districts filled in some gaps, for example, in encouraging the involvement of amputees.

## ■ LESSONS LEARNED

The Sierra Leone TRC and its operation offered lessons for future truth commissions. The MOU established clear roles and responsibilities for the parties involved, provided a sound basis for institutional collaboration in support of a common goal, and served as the means through which international funding and support were made available. However, given the prominence, longstanding commitment and the key role played by OHCHR as the institution responsible for coordinating and accounting for United Nations system-wide support to the TRC, OHCHR was limited in its capacity to act as a facilitator because of the lack of a physical presence on the ground. In the initial stages of the TRC's formation, OHCHR anticipated this problem and considered temporarily posting an officer to the TRC. But concerns about interfering in national ownership over the truth and reconciliation process led to the establishment of a close relationship between the Executive Secretary of the TRC and UNDP, instead.

In Sierra Leone, it quickly became apparent that reconciliation and healing also implied an ability to meet basic needs. In future, greater consideration may be given to closer collaboration with United Nations partners in areas of humanitarian assistance in order to ensure that tangible and concrete solutions are offered to the victims.

## ■ FUNDING

The project was funded from extra-budgetary resources raised through a special appeal by OHCHR. Expenditure for the preparatory phase of the Commission's work was incurred under the Sierra Leone technical cooperation project whilst the Trust Fund for this project was being established (see page 42).

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	1,100,651
Adjustment	0
Income from contributions	2,797,904
Other funds available	0
<b>Total funds available</b>	<b>3,898,555</b>
Expenditure <sup>2</sup>	3,306,352
<b>Closing balance<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>592,203</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes contributions received for the Sierra Leone TRC in 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. Expenditure in 2002 and 2003 related to the preparatory phase of the TRC were recorded under the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation (VFTC), Sierra Leone project, page 42.

<sup>3</sup> Represents the balance of funds available for this activity in UNOG accounts as at 31 December 2003.

### BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission	4,167,033	3,356,301	3,306,352	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,167,033</b>	<b>3,356,301</b>	<b>3,306,352</b>	<b>0</b>

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	9,500	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	1,726,785	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	111,662	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	16,750	0
Contractual services	123,500	0
General operating expenses	663,428	0
Supplies and acquisitions	237,350	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	37,000	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,925,975</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme support costs	380,377	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,306,352</b>	<b>0</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge	Income
		US\$	US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Canada*	Sierra Leone TRC	0	243,838
France	Unearmarked contribution	142,681	150,000
Germany	Sierra Leone TRC	281,561	289,823
Ireland	Unearmarked contribution	180,939	200,000
Luxembourg	Unearmarked contribution	46,083	46,083
Netherlands**	Sierra Leone TRC	0	228,050
Norway	Unearmarked contribution	136,986	140,814
Switzerland	Sierra Leone TRC	215,828	438,049
United States of America	Sierra Leone TRC	200,000	200,000
<i>Other donors</i>			
European Commission***	Sierra Leone TRC	0	861,247
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,204,078</b>	<b>2,797,904</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* Income amount consists of the first and second instalments of a contribution pledged in 2002.

\*\* Income amount consists of the second instalment of a contribution pledged in 2002.

\*\*\* Income amount consists of the first instalment of a contribution pledged in 2002.



# ACTIVITIES ADMINISTERED THROUGH UNOG AND UNOPS

OHCHR's activities are administered by the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). Most activities are administered by UNOG whereas UNOPS is primarily responsible for administering field office activities. The three tables in this section present statements of income and expenditure for UNOG and UNOPS and their relationship. OHCHR is an integral part of the United Nations Secretariat and all transactions are therefore carried out through the UNOG. UNOG's treasury department receives all voluntary contributions on OHCHR's behalf and, upon instruction from OHCHR, attributes them to one of eight main trust funds. (Two older trust funds were closed during the 2002-2003 biennium).

UNOG's budget, finance and personnel sections provide the Office with various administrative and financial services to support project implementation, including the approval of budgets and allotments, allocation of funds to UNOPS, processing of reports from UNDP field offices, and recruitment and administration of headquarters-based staff.

**Table I** summarizes the financial situation of OHCHR's trust funds as at 31 December 2003. All activities presented in this table are carried out through UNOG. The closing balances reported here include reserves of 15 per cent, which are not available for activities. The summary of *table I* is reflected in the overall statement of income and expenditure for OHCHR on page 15.

**TABLE I**

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACTIVITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA (UNOG)

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	VF for victims of torture	TF for contemporary forms of slavery	VF for indigenous populations	Sub-account for the VF for indigenous populations (old)*	VF for the international decade of the world's ind. people	TF for action to combat racism and racial discrimination	VF for advisory services and technical assistance in human rights (VFCA)	TF for human rights education in Cambodia	TF for human rights field operation in Rwanda (old)**	TF for support activities of OHCHR (For details - see table III)	Total UNOG trust funds
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	2,468,083	331,586	954,833	313,655	318,430	2,428,528	7,492,152	1,834,095	576,167	17,201,996	33,919,525
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	1,534,332	38,425	127,585	(194,225)	108,788	(66,876)	3,934,052	199,201	(545,482)	319,021	5,454,821
Income from contributions <sup>3</sup>	7,156,275	208,827	184,750	0	227,893	84,787	9,808,624	937,000	0	28,783,331	47,391,487
Other funds available <sup>4</sup>	278,865	28,284	40,238	16,685	211,889	69,258	428,182	85,488	0	772,409	1,931,298
Allocations to UNOPS <sup>5</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(9,619,588)	(9,619,588)
Total funds available <sup>6</sup>	11,437,555	607,122	1,307,406	136,115	867,000	2,515,697	21,663,010	3,055,784	30,685	37,457,169	79,077,543
Expenditure <sup>7</sup>	9,651,003	235,108	643,409	0	462,445	947,193	14,092,425	1,306,925	30,685	13,644,974	41,014,167
<b>Closing balance<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>1,786,552</b>	<b>372,014</b>	<b>663,997</b>	<b>136,115</b>	<b>404,555</b>	<b>1,568,504</b>	<b>7,570,585</b>	<b>1,748,859</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,812,195</b>	<b>38,063,376</b>

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to the closing balance reported for the activity in the Annual Report 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings, transfers and refunds.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all contributions received in UNOG accounts during 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Includes interest income and other miscellaneous income.

<sup>5</sup> Only relevant for the trust fund for support activities of OHCHR. Represents funds allocated to UNOPS inclusive of 8% programme support costs.

<sup>6</sup> = (1) + (2) + (3) + (4).

<sup>7</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations for UNOG projects as at 31 December 2003. Does not include any expenditure incurred by UNOPS.

<sup>8</sup> Corresponds to all funds held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003 including operating cash reserves of US\$ 7.4 million and reserves for allocations of US\$ 0.5 million which were not available for activities in 2003.

\* Due to the difficulties encountered in contacting a number of private donors, the fund could not be closed in 2003 as initially planned. Further efforts will be undertaken during the course of 2004.

\*\* This trust fund was closed during 2003 and remaining funds (representing interest income) were transferred to OHCHR's operations in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

One trust fund covers OHCHR's technical cooperation activities in the field, which are carried out through UNDP and in some cases by DPKO. OHCHR's field office in Cambodia is administered by UNOG under a separate trust fund.

The column entitled "Trust fund for support activities of OHCHR" covers projects carried out by UNOG and UNOPS. All contributions received for UNOPS-implemented activities are recorded by UNOG against this trust fund. The money is then allocated to UNOPS, which administers the projects.

**Table II** summarizes the financial situation of activities implemented by UNOPS as at 31 December 2003. The funds reported as part of the closing balance for 2003 were mostly earmarked however, some funds were earmarked to the major headings of the Annual Appeal 2003 and allocated to projects by OHCHR. *Table II* is reflected in the overall statement of income and expenditure for OHCHR on page 15.

**Table III** presents more details for activities implemented under the trust fund for support activities of OHCHR. Therefore, *Table III* is a combination of the figures presented in Table I, column 10 (trust fund for support activities of OHCHR) and the figures presented in Table II (UNOPS-administered activities).

**TABLE II**

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
ACTIVITIES ADMINISTERED BY UNOPS UNDER THE TRUST FUND FOR SUPPORT ACTIVITIES OF OHCHR

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	1,723,028
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	1,149,454
Income from contributions <sup>3</sup>	0
Other funds available <sup>4</sup>	53,156
Allocations from UNOG	9,619,588
Total funds available	12,545,226
Expenditure <sup>5</sup>	11,515,365
<b>Closing balance<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>1,029,861</b>

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to the closing balance reported for all UNOPS-implemented activities in the Annual Report 2002.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period contributions and refunds.  
<sup>3</sup> No contributions were paid directly to UNOPS in 2003.  
<sup>4</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS during 2003 and miscellaneous income.  
<sup>5</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.  
<sup>6</sup> Includes funds held by UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.

**TABLE III**

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
ACTIVITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA (UNOG)

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	Technical cooperation activities implemented through UNOPS	Support to national institutions	Sierra Leone TRC	Field offices (excl. Cambodia)	Democracy, development and human rights	Support to human rights bodies and organs	Support to the special procedures	Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS	Minorities and indigenous peoples	Building the capacity of OHCHR (incl. staff security)	Miscellaneous	Total
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	369,931	927,712	1,100,651	2,652,537	677,001	1,371,203	1,714,502	498,500	141,547	4,515,398	4,956,042	18,925,024
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	1,250,463	(17,113)	0	0	19,061	0	35,470	(549,330)	738,551
Income from contributions <sup>3</sup>	0	719,292	2,797,904	12,094,622	867,956	2,936,264	3,665,421	527,527	241,483	4,213,424	519,438	28,583,331
Other funds available <sup>4</sup>	3,653	3,953	0	20,795	823	7,515	7,300	1,815	747	6,556	1,276,485	1,329,642
Total funds available <sup>5</sup>	373,584	1,650,957	3,898,555	16,018,417	1,528,667	4,314,982	5,387,223	1,046,903	383,777	8,770,848	6,202,635	49,576,548
Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	33,587	1,004,310	3,306,352	10,767,173	635,696	1,749,915	1,909,312	312,780	124,709	4,812,060	78,597	24,734,491
<b>Closing balance<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>339,997</b>	<b>646,647</b>	<b>592,203</b>	<b>5,251,244</b>	<b>892,971</b>	<b>2,565,067</b>	<b>3,477,911</b>	<b>734,123</b>	<b>259,068</b>	<b>3,958,788</b>	<b>6,124,038</b>	<b>24,842,057</b>

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to funds held by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, refunds, savings and transfers.  
<sup>3</sup> Includes contributions received for the activity in 2003.  
<sup>4</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS during 2003 as well as miscellaneous income and unallocated contributions.  
<sup>5</sup> = (1) + (2) + (3) + (4).  
<sup>6</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003 (UNOPS + UNOG).  
<sup>7</sup> Corresponds to the combination of funds held by UNOG and UNOPS for the activity as at 31 December 2003.



# HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT FOR PEACE-MAKING, PEACEKEEPING AND PEACE-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

## INTRODUCTION

In 2003, OHCHR began shaping its field work to conform with the Secretary-General's second reform programme. This work has implied enhancing the human rights capacities of national partners and the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) to facilitate their contribution to strengthening national human rights protection systems. This issue was reiterated at OHCHR's heads-of-field-presences meeting in November and staff were encouraged to adopt this approach.

OHCHR provided support to some 40 field presences through:

- ♥ OHCHR stand-alone offices: in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Serbia and Montenegro;
- ♥ Human rights components of United Nations peace missions: in Afghanistan, Angola, the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Georgia/Abkhazia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan and Timor-Leste;
- ♥ Regional representatives: in Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Beirut, Pretoria, Santiago de Chile and Yaoundé; and
- ♥ Technical cooperation/human rights advisers: in Afghanistan, Angola, Azerbaijan, China, Republic of Congo, Croatia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Palestine, Peru, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan (see page 39).

The heads of **peacekeeping missions** are encouraged to act as human rights advisers to the Resident Coordinators and UNCTs. This ensures that UNCTs are closely involved in capacity-building from the beginning of a United Nations peace mission. In Angola, the United Nations Mission (UNMA), which ended in April, was followed by an 18-month bridge project, administered by OHCHR, to enhance

national human rights infrastructures and capacities as well as those of the UNCT. In Guatemala, the end of the United Nations Verification Mission for Guatemala (MINUGUA), scheduled for December 2004, will be linked to the opening of an OHCHR office that is expected to function for at least two years in mid 2004.

OHCHR's **regional representatives** provide advice on human rights issues to governments, state institutions and civil society organizations and possible support to UNCTs in their human rights work throughout the region/sub-region.

During the reporting period, OHCHR recruited **human rights advisers** to be based in Nepal (see page 97) and in Sri Lanka (see page 89) and preparations began for the deployment of human rights advisers to Haiti and Guyana in 2004. In Croatia, OHCHR's office closed in December 2002 and human rights responsibilities were transferred to the national Human Rights Centre in Zagreb (see page 82).

Each **stand-alone field office** has a protection mandate and seeks to promote and protect human rights by:

- ♥ Developing national human rights capacities to protect and promote human rights;
- ♥ Reviewing and developing national legislation that conforms with international norms;
- ♥ Disseminating information and facilitating national human rights education;
- ♥ Preventing and addressing human rights violations;
- ♥ Supporting the human rights work of government agencies, national human rights institutions and civil society;
- ♥ Helping to mainstream human rights-based approaches into the work of United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) and other agencies; and
- ♥ Ensuring follow-up to the recommendations of human rights treaty bodies and the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights.





The activities of these offices are described below. They are responsible for strengthening the human rights capacities of UNCTs to develop national human rights protection systems. Once UNCTs can undertake human rights work on their own and national capacities and infrastructures for human rights work have been established, OHCHR can gradually transfer its responsibilities to national and UN partners.

In 2003, OHCHR began to organize quarterly briefings at Palais Wilson on activities undertaken by its field presences, region by region. These briefings, which are open to all Member States, are complemented by quarterly reports which are distributed and posted on the Office's web site. During 2003, a manual on policy and administrative issues for field staff was developed and will be published during 2004. A brochure entitled *Human Rights in Action*, which chronicles OHCHR's work in the field and includes a map of the Office's field presences, was produced and disseminated to the Office's key partners and has been posted on OHCHR's web site ([www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/5/field.htm](http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/5/field.htm)).

Funding for OHCHR's stand-alone field offices was insufficient to meet budgetary needs, even though the level of funding available in 2003 was higher than in 2002. The higher carry-over into 2004 was largely due to the inability to implement planned activities in Iraq following the attack on the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, and to the limited time available to implement activities in Angola following the departure of UNMA. Despite financial difficulties earlier in the year our implementation capacity remained reasonable throughout 2003.

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FIELD OFFICES (ACTIVITIES ADMINISTERED BY UNOPS)\*

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	Angola	Burundi	Democratic Rep. of the Congo	Colombia	Iraq	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia	Serbia and Montenegro	Total
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Opening balance	0	(453,910)	459,757	2,530,123	0	72,174	(57,862)	102,255	2,652,537
Adjustment <sup>1</sup>	1,250,463	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,250,463
Income from contributions	396,714	2,336,612	1,926,348	4,036,369	1,364,461	790,256	143,069	1,100,793	12,094,622
Other funds available <sup>2</sup>	786	4,604	1,262	5,026	2,116	2,559	672	3,770	20,795
Total funds available	1,647,963	1,887,306	2,387,367	6,571,518	1,366,577	864,989	85,879	1,206,818	16,018,417
Expenditure <sup>3</sup>	613,908	1,835,732	1,823,997	4,337,943	543,696	439,629	51,351	1,120,917	10,767,173
<b>Closing balance<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>1,034,055</b>	<b>51,574</b>	<b>563,370</b>	<b>2,233,575</b>	<b>822,881</b>	<b>425,360</b>	<b>34,528</b>	<b>85,901</b>	<b>5,251,244</b>

\* Activities in Cambodia are administered by UNOG and therefore do not appear in this statement (see page 150 for the statement of income and expenditure for Cambodia). A project entitled "Headquarters support to field operations" which covers 5 staff who are backstopping field offices from Geneva is also administered by UNOG. Financial information on this project is included in Table I (page 125) in the column "Trust Fund for support activities of OHCHR".

<sup>1</sup> Includes transfers and/or refunds. In the case of Angola, this includes the transfer of funds to OHCHR upon the closure of UNMA operations.

<sup>2</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS in 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Includes funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE ACTIVITIES ADMINISTERED BY UNOPS AND UNOG

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Angola	0	826,446	613,908	0
Burundi	2,341,893	2,110,802	1,835,732	2,436,671
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,603,522	1,862,523	1,823,997	1,564,978
Colombia	5,556,796	5,611,262	4,337,943	4,122,847
Iraq	0	1,730,596	543,696	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	749,821	590,658	439,629	675,442
Croatia	0	109,036	51,351	428,928
Serbia and Montenegro	1,445,104	1,197,046	1,120,917	1,548,671
<b>Sub-total UNOPS projects:</b>	<b>11,697,136</b>	<b>14,038,369</b>	<b>10,767,173</b>	<b>10,777,537</b>
Cambodia	1,510,234	1,580,927	1,306,925	857,971
HQ support for field presences	0	0	425,848	0
<b>Sub-total UNOG projects:</b>	<b>1,510,234</b>	<b>1,580,927</b>	<b>1,732,773</b>	<b>857,971</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,207,370</b>	<b>15,619,296</b>	<b>12,499,946</b>	<b>11,635,508</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

### 2003 – VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO FIELD OFFICES

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Earmarking by donor	Allocation	(UNOPS projects)		(UNOG projects)	
		Pledge US\$	Income US\$	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Unearmarked contributions</i>					
Finland	HQ support to field offices			194,743	200,000
Italy	Colombia	228,572	228,571		
New Zealand	Croatia	20,324	20,000		
Spain	Burundi	150,000	150,000		
<i>Earmarking to field offices</i>					
Belgium	Burundi	228,344	250,000		
	DRC	159,798	174,955		
Finland	Burundi <sup>1</sup>	0	367,725		
	Bosnia & Herzegovina <sup>1</sup>	0	137,899		
	Croatia <sup>1</sup>	0	73,069		
	Serbia & Montenegro <sup>1</sup>	0	158,664		
France	Field offices <sup>2</sup>	615,829	0		
	Burundi	100,647	105,810		
	DRC	190,242	200,000		
Ireland	DRC	197,286	217,992		
Luxembourg	Colombia	114,025	108,460		
Netherlands	Angola	100,000	100,000		
	Burundi	300,000	300,000		
	Colombia	100,000	100,000		
	Bosnia & Herzegovina	50,000	50,000		
	Croatia	50,000	50,000		
	Serbia & Montenegro	300,000	300,000		
Norway	Burundi	393,082	404,068		
	Colombia	194,589	200,000		
	Serbia & Montenegro	97,260	100,000		
Poland	Bosnia & Herzegovina	2,500	2,500		
	Serbia & Montenegro	2,500	2,500		
<i>Specific earmarking</i>					
Belgium	DRC <sup>1</sup>	0	626,301		
Canada	Colombia	354,610	383,471		
Chile	Iraq	5,000	5,000		
Denmark	Iraq	475,436	464,222		
European Commission	Burundi <sup>1</sup> (HR monitoring)	0	218,817		
	DRC <sup>1</sup> (Goma sub-office)	0	421,386		
	Colombia <sup>1</sup> (Personeros + justice projects)	0	696,673		
Finland	Activities related to Africa <sup>3</sup>	114,285	117,371		
France	Burundi <sup>1</sup>	0	422,821		
	Iraq	114,286	114,286		
Germany	Colombia	34,286	35,211		
	Bosnia & Herzegovina	67,496	65,336		
	Serbia & Montenegro	103,293	100,000		
	Iraq	117,786	114,286		
Italy	DRC	285,714	285,714		
	Bosnia & Herzegovina	228,571	228,571		
Japan	Cambodia			23,108	23,972
Netherlands	Cambodia – election programme			150,000	150,000
Norway	Cambodia – election programme			82,192	85,871
	Balkans <sup>4</sup>	684,932	745,579		
	Colombia	784,593	807,577		
	Angola	285,307	296,714		
Spain	Colombia	164,571	164,196		
Sweden	Cambodia			523,865	543,824
	Colombia	582,072	605,022		
Switzerland	Colombia <sup>1</sup>	0	143,885		
	Colombia	141,844	151,515		
United Kingdom	Colombia	158,730	161,788		
	Cambodia – election programme			131,148	133,333
	Iraq	655,738	666,667		
United States of America	Colombia	250,000	250,000		
<b>Total</b>		<b>9,203,548</b>	<b>12,094,622</b>	<b>1,105,056</b>	<b>1,137,000</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

<sup>1</sup> Pledged in 2002.

<sup>2</sup> The pledge amount consists of the 2nd portion of a multi-year contribution pledged in 2002 (will be paid in 2004).

<sup>3</sup> Allocated to Burundi.

<sup>4</sup> Allocated to: Bosnia & Herzegovina US\$ 305,950 and Serbia & Montenegro US\$ 439,629.

In addition, with donor consent, unspent funds from the UN Mission in Angola were transferred to OHCHR as follows: Italy: US\$ 493,050, Sweden: US\$ 666,667 and United Kingdom: US\$ 79,860.

## ANGOLA

### ■ BACKGROUND

The United Nations' human rights effort in Angola was launched in 1995 under the United Nations Angola Verification Mission. The work continued under subsequent United Nations peace-keeping presences. During the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Angola (UNMA), from August 2002 to February 2003, UNMA's Human Rights Division was asked to assist the Government in protecting and promoting human rights and in building institutions to consolidate peace and enhance the rule of law. When the civil war finally ended in 2002, the Security Council ended UNMA's mandate. OHCHR established a technical cooperation project within the United Nations framework to continue human rights work in support of peace. This project began on 1 May 2003, immediately after UNMA's human rights activities ended.

Although the Government has recently taken positive steps in the area of human rights, many challenges remain. The country's justice sector is under-funded and under-staffed. Only 14 of 163 municipalities have a functioning municipal court, leaving the delivery of justice to the provincial courts and limiting citizens' access to justice. Access to social and economic rights are also limited, with two-thirds of Angolans living below the poverty line, and roughly one quarter of Angolans living in extreme poverty.

The announcement of a date for elections will be made once a new Constitution and electoral law are adopted. Other important legislative reforms – of the press law, of the law on land and property use, and of the criminal justice system – are underway.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

Under the global aim of strengthening national capacities in human rights, democracy, and the rule of law for the consolidation of peace, the United Nations Human Rights Office in Angola pursued three main objectives:

- ♥ Mainstreaming human rights in the activities and programmes of the Government, NGOs, and United Nations agencies operating in Angola;
- ♥ Promoting the rule of law by strengthening the efficiency of, and expanding access to, the judicial system; and
- ♥ Improving awareness of rights and protection mechanisms by supporting civil society participation, particularly women's organizations.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

- ♥ Consultations were held on the elaboration of a national human rights action plan. A first draft was formulated by a working group established under the Ministry of Justice's Human Rights Department. The Plan is to be discussed publicly, with consultations to be held at the provincial level through local human rights committees.
- ♥ An evaluation meeting was held in September with state officials, UNDP, the Bar Association, and USAID to follow-up on a previous, United Nations-sponsored project to improve the Government's ability to deliver justice at the municipal level.
- ♥ A computerized case-tracking project, which will improve control of legal preventive detention periods, was begun. Development Workshop, a Canadian NGO, implements the project in cooperation with the Prosecutor General's Office.
- ♥ OHCHR assisted the Bar Association in implementing a project to release detainees after the expiry of legal preventive detention periods, and to improve detention conditions in two provinces.
- ♥ Building on efforts undertaken by UNOA and UNMA, the office resumed a programme of civic and human rights education with the Angolan Police, covering one province directly and two provinces through partner NGOs. A proposal for the continuation of a similar training programme with the Angolan Army, covering most of the country, was completed.
- ♥ In collaboration with the National Assembly's Human Rights Commission, various NGOs and human rights associations, OHCHR organized a series of workshops, events and conferences to celebrate Human Rights Day.
- ♥ The office provided support, training and documentation to the human rights programmes of various NGOs and churches.
- ♥ OHCHR provided assistance to local NGO SOS-Habitat's capacity-building project enabling communities to defend their housing rights and prevent or redress violations.
- ♥ The office helped to elaborate the United Nations Development Assessment Framework (UNDAF); helped to establish a United Nations Human Rights Theme Group; launched a series of consultative meetings with NGOs; and participated in discussions on the framework of United Nations support to the Government's national HIV/AIDS plan.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

In the project's initial phase, there was a lack of adequate transportation, three national staff members were recruited later than foreseen, new administrative procedures caused some delays, and some partners were unable to launch projects within envisaged deadlines.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project was implemented by five international human rights officers and six national staff members under the supervision of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Angola and OHCHR. Administrative support was provided by UNOPS and UNDP.

## ■ COORDINATION

At the Country Team level, preparations began for the establishment of a United Nations Human Rights Theme Group. The Protection (of human rights) Bloc in the Consolidated Appeal for Transition (CAT) 2004 is chaired by OHCHR and UNICEF. The Office played a leading role in coordinating the engagement of third parties on three important projects: the case-tracking system project, concerning persons under preventive detention, the municipal justice project, and the police training project. Regular meetings with donors ensured better coordination of support to Angolan institutions and organizations working in human rights.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The Government, civil servants, and military and police personnel; the judicial system; and various national institutions, including civil society organizations, such as human rights NGOs and civic groups benefited directly from the project. The people of Angola benefit indirectly from an improved human rights environment, a stronger judicial system, and more effective civil society efforts to promote and protect human rights.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Government reaffirmed its commitment to elaborating a national human rights action plan that will include recommendations from civil society and will be publicly discussed. The municipal justice project will help to expand the delivery of justice to citizens at the local level. The office maintained good

working relationships with the Angolan police, moving forward with an important civic and human rights education project. Human rights considerations were integrated into the programmes of United Nations agencies working in the country.

The United Nations' sustained efforts to promote human rights led to some important developments during the reporting period: the Ministry of Justice created a Department of Human Rights; the Bar Association established a Human Rights Commission; the lawyers' and journalists' association, Mãos Livres, undertook human rights promotion and protection activities, and a number of other NGOs followed suit; the Justice Ministry began rehabilitating the municipal courts and trained additional personnel under an ambitious plan to expand and modernize the legal system; a juvenile court was inaugurated; and Angola submitted its first report under its treaty body obligations to the CEDAW.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN ANGOLA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	368,031	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	8,705	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	0	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	14,818	0
General operating expenses	9,641	0
Supplies and acquisitions	107,396	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	34,690	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>543,281</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme support costs	70,627	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>613,908</b>	<b>0</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS ANGOLA

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Netherlands	Field offices	100,000	100,000
Norway	Angola	285,307	296,714
<b>Total</b>		<b>385,307</b>	<b>396,714</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* In addition, with donor consent, unspent funds from the UN Mission in Angola were transferred to OHCHR as follows: Italy: US\$ 493,050, Sweden: US\$ 677,553 and United Kingdom: US\$ 79,860.

## BURUNDI

### ■ BACKGROUND

Significant progress was made in the peace process during the year, including a peaceful transfer of presidential power, the signing of a global peace agreement between the Government and the main armed group, the *Forces pour la défense de la démocratie/Conseil national pour la défense de la démocratie* (FDD/CNDD), the formation of a Government of National Unity, which included participation by FDD/CNDD, and the beginning of talks between the Government and the country's remaining active rebel group, *Parti pour la Libération du Peuple Hutu-Forces nationales de Libération* (PALIPEHUTU-FNL) in December.

Those important advances helped to improve the security situation in most parts of the country, except in Bujumbura Rural province and in some areas surrounding the capital, where fighting continues between the FLN and the FDD/CNDD and between Government security forces and the FLN.

Important judicial reforms have been adopted, including a law against genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, a law granting competence to the Tribunaux de Grande Instance to judge criminal cases, and a law concerning the prison system which seeks to integrate a minimum standard treatment of detainees. The promulgation of those laws, which all refer to international norms, marks a major step in protecting and promoting human rights. Implementation, however, has been hampered by logistical and material problems such as security concerns and means for transporting detainees and shortage of food and medical care.

Despite those positive developments, violence continues and human rights violations, including extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, sexual violence, torture, lootings, arbitrary and unlawful arrests, and massive population displacements are rife. These abuses are perpetrated by members of the Pierre Nkurunziza wing of the FDD/CNDD, the Burundian military and armed forces, members of the Agathon Rwasa wing of PALIPEHUTU-FNL, and bandits. Troublingly, towards the end of the year, the FDD/CNDD set up "armed police forces" and "tribunals", which operate in parallel to those of the Government and dispense summary justice.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The main objective is to assist the Government in strengthening the national human rights system and securing lasting peace. The office focuses its activities on five main areas: human rights protection, strengthening the judiciary, human rights promotion and education, support to special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights, and human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations agencies present in Burundi.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### Monitoring cases of human rights violations

- ♥ The office handled 160 individual complaints from persons whose rights or those of their relatives had been violated.
- ♥ The office collected information on alleged human rights violations and conducted on-site visits to verify the information. Most of the information received concerned abuses committed by Government authorities and cases of sexual violence against vulnerable women, especially those who are displaced.

- ~ The office investigated murder of unarmed civilians committed by all parties to the conflict. Through an inquiry into the existence of common graves, which was alleged following the assault on Bujumbura in July, the office determined that dozens of civilians were deliberately killed by members of the armed forces.
- ~ The office conducted regular visits to prisons and detention centres to monitor conditions of detention and whether prisoners are being lawfully detained. The office visited all detention centres and prison cells located in the county towns of Bubanza, Bujumbura rural, Muramvya, Makamba and Bururi provinces, the country's four largest prisons – Bujumbura, Rumonge, Gitega, and Ngozi – where more than six thousands detainees are incarcerated, and the sixteen cells in the police stations and gendarmerie in the capital. The office also monitored about 50 detainee cases.
- ~ Camps for displaced persons in the provinces of Ruyigi, Gitega and Bujumbura rural, were visited in cooperation with the inter-agency Groupe Technique de Suivi, a technical group that works to protect internally displaced persons and which is composed of members of United Nations agencies, representatives of concerned Government departments, and international and national NGOs.
- ~ Meetings with the main national and provincial Government authorities, both civil and military, were organized to follow up on human rights violations. Cases were then submitted to the Government's Commission on Human Rights during weekly briefings.

### Strengthening the judiciary

- ~ The office provided human rights training to 30 criminal investigation officers of the gendarmerie, 30 military magistrates, 28 staff members of the prison administration, including deputy headmasters of prisons, legal service supervisors, social workers and senior officers of the central administration, and 36 criminal investigation officers from various police departments of the provinces of Mwaro, Makamba and Bururi.
- ~ A one-day workshop was organized to discuss how to implement the law that grants competence to the Tribunaux de Grande Instance to judge criminal cases. More than 80 persons participated in the workshop, including magistrates, senior officers from the prison administration, lawyers, journalists, and national and international NGOs.
- ~ The laws on the prison system and on the Tribunaux de Grande Instance were translated in Kirundi.

- ~ Public information days were organized for the 200 male and 47 female detainees at Ngozi. An informative note on detainees' rights was prepared in Kirundi and distributed.
- ~ Criminal investigation police officers were sensitized to the legal use of detention and the importance of preliminary investigations.

### Strengthening the office's legal assistance programme

Through this programme, the office monitored more than 1,000 cases and assisted approximately 1,300 defendants. Of the 155 cases examined, 284 judgments were pronounced. Nearly twice as many sentences called for short-term imprisonment or acquittal as called for the death penalty or life imprisonment, even in cases where the defendants were accused of crimes punishable by those most severe sentences.

In order to improve the efficiency and impact of the programme, the office recruited eight more national lawyers for its legal assistance programme, bringing the total number to 16.

### Promoting human rights

#### *Collectif des Associations Burundaises des Droits de l'Homme (CABDH)*

- ~ The office helped to strengthen the capacity of this national human rights NGO forum, which is composed of more than 50 organizations, by assisting in the elaboration of its rules of procedure, helping to organize the election for its main bodies, and working with the forum in implementing its training activities in 16 out of the 17 provinces.
- ~ Training was provided to 50 members of the Forum's four working committees.
- ~ A training workshop on the human rights-based approach and the right to development was organized for 30 members of the Forum.

#### **Women**

- ~ Two workshops on human rights were organized for leaders of women's grassroots associations. The first workshop was attended by 31 women leaders from the provinces of Bujumbura rural, Bubanza and Cibitoke, and by nine journalists, eight of whom are women. The second workshop was attended by 30 women leaders from the provinces of Muramvya and Mwaro, and by seven journalists, six of whom are women.

Radio programmes and documentaries about the workshops were produced and broadcast.

- ♥ The office followed up on a project that had been funded by the Assisting Community Together (ACT) project, which provides small grants to grassroots organizations. Ten projects were completed, most of them focusing on women's rights in rural areas.
- ♥ The office raised public awareness about sexual violence against women through radio and television programmes and briefings to NGOs and United Nations agencies on a regular basis.

### ***Sensitization to human rights issues***

Media campaigns, including advertising spots and radio and television debates, were launched to promote human rights; and a drawing contest to illustrate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was organized. Men, women, youth and 41 artists submitted their samples and the Office made its selection.

### ***Rule of law***

Fifty-nine people from all sectors of civil society and the Government participated in a two-day session on the rule of law, human rights, democracy and good governance. The session took place in Bujumbura close to the 56th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

### **Other activities**

- ♥ A joint strategy to combat torture was developed during a one-day workshop entitled, "The role of the media in the fight against torture in Burundi". Some 35 journalists and 15 criminal investigation police officers attended.
- ♥ The office organized a training seminar on human rights for 50 journalists.
- ♥ The office helped to prepare and followed up on visits conducted by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi.
- ♥ The office organized training sessions on the human rights-based approach to programming for the heads of the United Nations agencies in the country and their focal points.
- ♥ The office prepared and followed up on the High Commissioner's visit from 28 February – 2 March 2004.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Due to a lack of human and financial resources, the office was not able to respond to all requests for assistance. The office will encounter even more difficulties when/if there is a massive return

of refugees, internally displaced persons and other returnees. The prevailing insecurity in the country also hindered free movement. The implementation of some programmes, including the office's legal assistance programme, was adversely affected by a magistrate's strike and problems that arose in implementing the new laws.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Activities were implemented by seven international staff members (a director, three human rights observers, the head of the promotion unit, an administrative officer and a security officer) and 29 national staff members (21 in Bujumbura, four at the sub-office in Ngozi and four at the sub-office in Gitega). The office worked closely with all human rights actors in the country.

## ■ COORDINATION

The office works closely with all United Nations agencies present in the country, namely UNDP, UNESCO, OCHA, UNHCR and UNICEF, particularly in child rights, demobilization of child soldiers, the role of civil society, refugees and internally displaced persons, transitional institutions and the peace process.

The office strengthened cooperation with the major human rights NGOs and associations active in the country, including Ligue Iteka, Association Burundaise de Défense des Prisonniers (ABDP), Collectif des Associations Burundaises des Droits de l'Homme (CABDH), Search for Common Ground, the International Human Rights Law Group, and the Norwegian Refugee Council. The office participated in promotional activities on issues related to torture, sexual violence, women's rights, the peace process, youth education and protection of internally displaced women.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

As a result of the office's work, the number of arbitrary arrests and unlawful detentions has declined; torture is used less frequently in punishment cells and not at all in detention centres; the rights of detained women and minors are better protected; and the number of detentions for extended periods has decreased.

In many cases, persons arrested and detained illegally were released because of the office's intervention. A growing number of people, associations, NGOs and political parties are asking the office to intervene in cases of human rights violations.



Following intervention by the office, several laws were adopted establishing a second court and ensuring that defendants have a right to appeal. As a result of the activities of the programme of judicial assistance, death penalties are increasingly being replaced by life sentences and shorter-term sentences. Military courts are showing greater respect for criminal proceedings and defendants' rights, especially the right to legal assistance.

The establishment of the Collectif des Associations Burundaises des Droits de l'Homme (CABDH) has helped to ensure that those associations are better equipped to promote and protect human rights.

## BENEFICIARIES

The people of Burundi, and particularly detainees, displaced persons and vulnerable women, are the primary beneficiaries of these activities. The judicial system has been strengthened, and civil society, women leaders of grassroots associations, youth and the media are organizing themselves to fight against human rights violations.

## OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Despite security problems, lack of sufficient human resources and administrative constraints, the office not only maintained its programme of activities but added to it, as well.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN BURUNDI

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	1,334,944	1,674,611
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	18,464
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	17,768	50,211
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	21,416	346,743
General operating expenses	35,092	40,190
Supplies and acquisitions	128,716	20,692
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	86,606	5,435
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,624,542</b>	<b>2,156,346</b>
Programme support costs	211,190	280,325
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,835,732</b>	<b>2,436,671</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS BURUNDI

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Belgium	Field offices	228,344	250,000
Finland*	Burundi + activities related to Africa	114,285	485,096
France**	Burundi + field offices	100,647	528,631
Netherlands	Field offices	300,000	300,000
Norway	Field offices	393,082	404,068
Spain	Unearmarked	150,000	150,000
<i>Other donors</i>			
European Commission	Burundi (HR monitoring)	0	218,817
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,286,358</b>	<b>2,336,612</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* The pledge amount consists of an earmarked contributions for activities related to Africa. Of the income amount, US\$ 117,371 was allocated from the earmarked contribution for activities related to Africa and US\$ 367,725 consists of the payment of an earmarked contribution pledged in 2002 for Burundi.

\*\*The pledge amount consists of an earmarked contributions for field offices. Of the income amount, US\$ 105,810 was allocated from the earmarked contribution for Burundi and US\$ 422,821 consists of the payment of an earmarked contribution pledged in 2002 for Burundi and Cambodia.

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

### ■ BACKGROUND

During 2003, the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), together with his four vice-Presidents, were sworn in, and a new constitution was promulgated. A transitional Government and transitional institutions, including a National Assembly and a Senate, were established. Cooperation with international monetary institutions led to the stabilization of the Congolese franc, which, in turn, helped to control inflation. More than 300 magistrates who had been unlawfully dismissed in 1998 were reinstated.

There has, however, been a renewal of violence throughout the country, especially in the Eastern provinces, including summary or arbitrary executions and massacres, particularly in the Ituri region, arbitrary arrests, unlawful detention and torture, including rape and other forms of sexual violence, looting, and intimidation and harassment of human rights defenders, members of political parties and journalists. The illegal exploitation of the country's natural resources also persisted.

OHCHR's office in the DRC was established on 21 August 1996. The main functions of the office, as stipulated in the *protocole d'accord*, consist of:

- ♥ Monitoring and reporting on the general situation of human rights throughout the country;
- ♥ Providing support and assistance to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in DRC, as well as other special procedures mandate-holders and treaty-monitoring bodies; and
- ♥ Advising and training public officials in charge of human rights-related matters, human rights NGOs and other segments of civil society on international human rights standards and practices.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Promote and protect human rights throughout the country, follow up on human rights violations, and serve as the intermediary between the special procedure mandate-holders, the treaty monitoring bodies and the Government.
- ♥ Strengthen the national capacities of government and non-governmental institutions by providing technical, material and financial assistance.

- ♥ Increase information exchanges and cooperation with United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Mission in Congo (MONUC), the diplomatic corps and international NGOs.
- ♥ Disseminate OHCHR publications among public authorities, civil society, the media and United Nations agencies, and ensure that various reports on the human rights situation in the country are widely distributed.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### Monitoring the human rights situation

During the reporting period, the office monitored some 500 individual cases of alleged human rights violations in the categories referred to above.

The office led fact-finding investigations in Beni and Ankoro and participated in joint field missions organized by the MONUC in Bunia, Mandro, Bogoro, Drodoro and Tchomia in Ituri.

Office staff visited prisons and other detention centres in Kinshasa, Kasapa, Buluo and Likasi (Katanga), and in all county towns in the country's four eastern provinces. Punishment cells operated by the security services were also visited in Kinshasa, Kindu, Bukavu, Beni and Goma.

The office observed major trials in Kinshasa, including the trial of the suspected murderers of President Laurent-Désiré Kabila, and assisted in several hearings at first trial chambers (*Tribunaux de Grande Instance*).

Office staff organized and facilitated the three country missions undertaken by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DRC. Requests for urgent action regarding alleged violations of human rights were also transmitted to the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights.

During the reporting period, the office facilitated the voluntary return to the eastern province of the country of some 80 vulnerable persons who because of their alleged ethnic background were at risk of persecution and other forms of harassment in Kinshasa.

#### Public information

Regular meetings with the United Nations Country Team, the diplomatic corps, in particular donors and civil society organisations

were held to exchange information on the human rights situation and to coordinate activities in that field, under the leadership of the office. Programmes on human rights and a culture of peace and advertising spots on the role of institutions in support of the establishment of democracy were broadcast on radio and television; information on the application of the Statute of the International Criminal Court was made available to the public through the reproduction of the Statute and seminars. Nearly 2,000 human rights-related documents were available to the public at the national Documentation Centre, which was visited by more than 5,700 people.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

Difficulties in gaining access to some provinces in the eastern part of the country and inadequate and delayed funding hindered implementation of some activities.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

All the activities undertaken by the office were developed in partnership with the Government, MONUC, the UN Country Team and civil society. The office is composed of a head-of-office and deputy, both international staff, and 17 national staff. The sub-office in Goma consisted of five national staff under the supervision of an international human rights officer. The UNDP office in the DRC has administrative and financial control over all OHCHR's activities in the country. The office's projects are administered with the assistance of the UNDP office in Kinshasa.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

Victims of human rights violations, Government officials involved in the promotion and protection of human rights, the diplomatic corps, civil society organisations, United Nations agencies, and the people of the DRC, in general, all benefit, directly and indirectly, from the office's work.

### ■ COORDINATION

Activities were implemented in cooperation with national partners, including national institutions, universities, the media, and human rights NGOs. The office also worked closely with the Human Rights Section of MONUC, United Nations agencies (UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, OCHA, and UNIFEM), the diplomatic corps, international NGOs and the United Nations

Sub-regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy. Capacity-building activities are often co-organised with the Human Rights Section of MONUC, and meetings aimed at exchanging of information on the human rights situation, in particular where the office is not present, are held regularly.

### ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The trust that has developed between the office and its partners has led to regular consultations among State authorities, NGOs and the office. Human rights are now mainstreamed into the activities of all United Nations agencies working in the DRC. Through its good working relations with public authorities, the office was in a position to assist them in restoring their human rights to some victims and to support their capacity-building activities.

### ■ OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Greater involvement from OHCHR is required during this transitional phase. Its assistance should focus on pro-democracy institutions, on reinforcing the existing governmental training structures, in particular the judiciary and other law enforcement officials, and the civil society organisation working in the human rights field.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	629,475	668,411
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	16,065
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	81,148	94,625
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	75,532
Contractual services	374,029	199,264
General operating expenses	123,624	123,637
Supplies and acquisitions	314,423	96,881
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	91,458	110,521
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,614,157</b>	<b>1,384,936</b>
Programme support costs	209,840	180,042
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,823,997</b>	<b>1,564,978</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Belgium	DRC	0	626,301
Belgium	Field offices	159,798	174,955
France	Field offices	190,242	200,000
Ireland	Field offices	197,286	217,992
Italy	DRC	285,714	285,714
<i>Other donors</i>			
European Commission	DRC (Goma sub-office)	0	421,386
<b>Total</b>		<b>833,040</b>	<b>1,926,348</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## COLOMBIA

### BACKGROUND

Established in 1996, OHCHR's office in Bogotá, whose mandate was extended until October 2006, is charged with observing and monitoring the human rights situation and the application of international humanitarian law, and with assisting Government authorities in formulating and implementing policies, activities and measures to promote and protect human rights.

Deterioration of the human rights situation in the country continued throughout 2003. Human rights violations remained grave, massive and systematic, involving abuse of the right to life, inviolability, freedom and security of the person, particularly in the rehabilitation and consolidation zones, which were established in September 2002 and declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional court in April. As in past years, members of illegal armed groups, particularly paramilitaries, were largely responsible for violating human rights and for breaching international humanitarian law, especially concerning attacks on civilians. Breaches of international humanitarian law were also recurrent, massive and systematic. There was an increase in acts of terrorism, especially in urban areas, among them the car bomb at the *Club Nogal* in Bogotá, in February, which left 35 people dead and 165 injured. In general, the conflict appears to be degenerating and the society is becoming more polarized.

Issues monitored during the year included: the discussion and approval of the Anti-terrorist Statute, which, among other provisions that are incompatible with international obligations ratified by Colombia, provides the Armed Forces with judicial police powers, in contradiction to the expressed recommendations of the High Commissioner and the 2003 Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights' Statement; the dialogue between the Government and para-military groups; the debate on the humanitarian exchange of persons taken as hostage by the FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia); and the Government's appeals to guerrilla and paramilitaries to demobilize and be reintegrated into civil society.

The High Commissioner's report on the human rights situation in Colombia in 2002 (E/CN.4/2003/13) makes 27 concrete recommendations. The office's core work is assisting the Government in implementing those recommendations.

### OBJECTIVES

OHCHR's long-term objectives are to:

- ♥ Observe the human rights situation in the country with the aim of promoting policies, activities and measures to protect and promote human rights, strengthen national institutions and existing organizations, and facilitate the implementation of recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms, particularly the 27 recommendations contained in the High Commissioner's report for 2002; and

- ♥ Promote the development of a self-sustaining environment for the protection, promotion and full enjoyment of all human rights by all Colombians.

The immediate objectives during 2003 were to:

- ♥ Observe, monitor and provide analytical reports to the High Commissioner so that the international community remains informed of the evolving human rights situation in the country;
- ♥ Advise the Colombian authorities on formulating and implementing policies and activities to promote and protect human rights, and provide technical assistance to selected State and non-governmental institutions with the aim of strengthening the national capacity for human rights protection; and
- ♥ Develop publications and awareness-raising campaigns on human rights.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

OHCHR prioritized its work for the year based on the themes addressed in the 27 recommendations of the High Commissioner's report on Colombia: prevention and protection; armed conflict; the rule of law and impunity; economic and social policies; the promotion of a culture of human rights; and the provision of advice and technical cooperation. In its advisory and technical cooperation activities, the office focused on strengthening the national capacities of governmental and non-governmental institutions to promote and protect human rights. The office also identified partners and activities to implement the 27 recommendations.

OHCHR's activities in Colombia can be divided into four thematic areas:

- ♥ Observation of the human rights and international humanitarian law situation;
- ♥ Legal advice;
- ♥ Technical cooperation; and
- ♥ Public information and human rights promotional activities.

### Monitoring and observation

- ♥ OHCHR staff conducted 168 field visits, averaging between two and four days, outside Bogotá, Cali and Medellín. During these observation missions, human rights officers routinely visited civil and military authorities, Ombudsmen, public prosecutors, municipal representatives, representatives of the judiciary, and representatives of civil society, such as NGOs and church leaders, in order to gather information on the human

rights situation. Priority was given to those regions and departments where the human rights situation was determined to be most urgent, such as Arauca, Bolivar, Sucre, and the former demilitarized area, Magdalena Medio, the North of Santander, Sierra Nevada and Cordoba.

- ♥ By the end of the year, OHCHR had received 1,144 complaints, 936 of which were admitted for further investigation.
- ♥ In January, a mission was fielded to the rehabilitation and consolidation area of Arauca. A public mission report, published later, highlighted the mission's main concerns and recommended several measures, including the adoption of a comprehensive plan for Arauca that would enable its inhabitants to exercise their rights and freedoms without threats or intimidation.
- ♥ In April, one year after the massacre in Bojayá and OHCHR's subsequent publication of a report on the situation in Medio Atrato, the office sent a team to Bojayá to undertake a follow-up mission to see if the recommendations contained in the previous year's report had been implemented. The report was shared with the Government in mid-June and was made public afterwards. The Government is re-organizing its programme in response to the report.

### Legal advice and assistance

- ♥ OHCHR provided legal advice on how to ensure that domestic standards and legislation conform to international standards. Documents relating to the compatibility of proposed legislation with international norms, and advice in defining policies and programmes were also provided.
- ♥ Advice was given on Decree 128 of 2003, which addresses the reintegration of members of illegal armed forces into civilian life. Limitations of the amnesties and pardons that the Government had agreed to and their underlying incompatibility with international principles were highlighted. Advice was also given on the principle of distinction in the use of armed force, in which the responsibility of all parties to the conflict to exercise the principle of proportionality, is underlined; and on draft legislation relating to mechanisms to facilitate national reconciliation and reparation for victims, which includes provisions relating to reductions in prison sentencing for those found responsible for committing human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law.
- ♥ The office sent two communications to the members of Congress and participated in a public hearing, held in the House of Representatives on 23 September, on the Antiterrorist Statute. OHCHR objected to a number of proposals contained in the

draft legislation, particularly one that enables members of the military forces to exercise police functions. If enforced, those proposals would be incompatible with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Inter-American Convention on Human Rights. Despite OHCHR's intervention, the Statute was adopted by Congress on 10 December.

- ~ The High Commissioner's report on Colombia and the elaboration of a strategy for following up on its recommendations was prepared.
- ~ The office provided assistance to the Special Rapporteurs on the Right to Education and on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Other Forms of Related Intolerance during their country visits, and issued two publications explaining the Special Rapporteurs' mandates and the fields in which they work.

### National human rights plan of action

The office provided advice to the Vice-President, whose office is responsible for promoting and protecting human rights, on a draft proposal regarding the procedure to elaborate a national human rights plan of action.

### Strengthening national institutions

- ~ OHCHR helped to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman by: assessing the Public Defenders Office, located within the Office of the Ombudsman; advising the national management team of the Public Defenders Office on the elaboration of a series of legal concepts relating to the right to a proper defense; advising on draft legislation to establish a national system of the Public Defenders Office; and finalizing the *Handbook on How to Classify/Categorize Human Rights Violations*, which incorporates both national and international legislation and jurisprudence, and is aimed at strengthening the Ombudsman's capacity to understand and classify/catalogue violations of human rights and breaches of international humanitarian law.
- ~ OHCHR helped to strengthen the Office of the Procurator-General (*Procuraduría General de la Nación*) by: providing assistance in researching and publishing a policy paper on the role of the Procurator-General in preventing human rights violations, which will be used as the basis for the Office of Procurator-General's prevention policy; and developing a manual, with officers of the Procurator-General, on how to investigate human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law. The manual is targeted at those officers responsible for investigating human rights violations, and contains guidelines

on how they should respond to allegations of violations in a prompt, exhaustive and impartial manner.

- ~ As part of the joint project on *personeros*, implemented by the Offices of the Procurator-General and the Ombudsman and OHCHR, OHCHR provided human rights training to 90 per cent of municipal representatives (980 out of 1,098) in an effort to strengthen their ability to assume their responsibilities in a manner that better promotes and protects human rights. The training involved 16 workshops and four evaluation workshops. A national workshop for municipal representatives, held in August, was organized with the objective of discussing how to better promote and protect human rights. Two handbooks for municipal representatives were also produced: one on human rights and disciplinary procedures, and one on constitutional mechanisms to protect human rights.
- ~ OHCHR began implementing a joint project aimed at strengthening the capacities of various institutions, including the Public Prosecutor, the Ombudsmen, the Ministry of Justice and the National Institute for Prisons, to improve the situation of detainees. Office staff visited 16 prisons to ascertain whether the facilities met international standards and to offer advice on improving conditions. The office also made an assessment of the National Prison School and its training component.

### Training

- ~ OHCHR provided training on human rights and international humanitarian law to State entities, civil society and the United Nations system. Participants included: the Office of the Procurator-General and the Office of the Ombudsman, members of Congress, judges, magistrates and prosecutors in the Antioquia department (two basic courses and two advanced courses), military and civilian judges, church officials and directors of prisons in Barranquilla, Bogota, Cucaramanga and Cali, and to 60 prison guards.
- ~ OHCHR and *Planeta Paz* designed a manual on communication aimed at various audiences and sectors. The office also edited a document on the right to information aimed at a broad audience.
- ~ The office selected six human rights defenders to study, on scholarship, at the Universidad Alcalá de Henares in Spain and at the American University in the USA.
- ~ OHCHR convened the first meeting to establish a network of human rights and international humanitarian law trainers drawn from the judicial sector. Participants included some 50 judges, magistrates, prosecutors and trainers of public defenders.

OHCHR also produced several publications, including the fourth volume of the *Compilation of jurisprudence and national and international doctrine, a Compilation of national norms of human rights and a Compilation of International Criminal Law*.

### Public information and human rights promotional activities

- OHCHR issued 37 press releases and held eight press conferences. OHCHR was mentioned in 1,100 newspaper articles, 700 radio programmes and 290 television programmes.
- A fact sheet was prepared on the 27 recommendations contained in the High Commissioner's report for 2002, together with its Executive Summary. Some 25,000 copies were distributed to members of Congress, members of the judiciary, academics, ambassadors, directors of the United Nations Country Team, and journalists.
- In collaboration with *Fundación por Dos Mundos*, the office organized a photo-reportage competition, entitled "Colombia: Images and Realities". The photographers who shot the three best photos, selected from the 1,114 that were entered into the competition, were presented with awards on International Human Rights Day (10 December).
- The office supported the United Nations radio programme in Colombia, which ran fairy stories, based on human rights themes, for children. Radio Nederland created those programmes.
- The office organized nine workshops for journalists from various regions and three for journalists from Bogotá. In total, 170 journalists were trained on journalists' responsibilities concerning human rights.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

As the human rights situation deteriorated, implementation of certain planned activities, particularly monitoring, became increasingly difficult. A number of proposed technical cooperation activities were disrupted by threats against some of the beneficiaries of those projects, including representatives of the Office of the Attorney-General, judges and municipal representatives. Threats made by armed actors against officers of State institutions, human rights defenders, trade unionists, and NGOs forced some of OHCHR's primary interlocutors to flee their homes.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Under the leadership of a Director and a Deputy Director, the office is divided into four, inter-dependent, work areas: the observation area, responsible for monitoring and analyzing the human rights and international humanitarian law situation; the legal area, responsible for analyzing legal and thematic aspects of policies and programmes on human rights and international humanitarian law; the technical cooperation area, responsible for developing the technical cooperation programme; and the public information and human rights promotion area, responsible for raising awareness about OHCHR's mandate, functions and activities and about international standards and recommendations concerning human rights and humanitarian law.

The main responsibility of the sub-offices in Cali and Medellín, which are supervised by the Director and Deputy Director of the Bogotá office, is to conduct systematic monitoring and analysis.

At the end of the year, 74 OHCHR staff worked in Colombia: 23 international staff, including two junior professional officers, 35 national staff, 1 international consultant and 14 national consultants.

### ■ COORDINATION

The office works closely with the Office of the Vice President, the Ombudsman (*Defensoría del Pueblo*), the Public Prosecutor (*Procuraduría General*), the Attorney-General (*Fiscalía General*), the Supreme Judicial Council, national universities, the military and the police. Civil society partners include Colombian human rights NGOs, journalists, opinion-makers, members of Congress, union activists and representatives of the private sector.

International partners include other United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, the diplomatic community, the International Committee of the Red Cross and international NGOs. OHCHR also works closely with the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Colombia. With the aim of better understanding OHCHR's work in the field, representatives of various embassies in Bogotá accompanied office staff on a number of field missions in Arauca, Sucre and Caquetá departments.

The new United Nations Resident Coordinator for Colombia, who assumed office in April, proposed that the United Nations Country Team use the 27 recommendations contained in the

High Commissioner's report as a benchmark for the United Nations' work in the country. United Nations agencies in Colombia have set up four groups to coordinate work on priority areas of concern. OHCHR coordinates the thematic group on rule of law and participates in the three other thematic groups: illegal drugs and alternative development, local development, and reconciliation and displacement.

The office works closely with UNHCR on joint activities within the Working Group on Displaced Persons, in which the Humanitarian Action Plan for Colombia was developed, and has regular contact with members and advisers of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court. OHCHR also briefs visiting representatives of foreign governments, parliamentarians and academics.

In order to better coordinate international action on human rights, the diplomatic community and humanitarian agencies have updated the project database, which was designed with the help of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency. A Coordination working group, which includes various diplomatic representatives and international agencies, was created to coordinate international involvement in reforming Colombia's administration of justice system.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Direct beneficiaries include individuals and communities at risk of human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law; state and national institutions working for human rights protection and promotion; vulnerable groups, including internally displaced persons, afro-Colombians and indigenous minority groups; national media representatives, especially journalists; and national NGOs and other civil society organizations. All Colombians benefit indirectly from measures and policies that foster respect for human rights.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Government committed itself to implementing the High Commissioner's recommendations during the London Meeting on International Support for Colombia, held on 10 July. The recommendations are now considered a reference point for the international community in its relationship with Colombia, as per the London Declaration, which "urged the Colombian Government to implement these recommendations promptly".

OHCHR's analysis of and advice on various draft legislation stimulated discussion, among the Government, Congress and civil society, about the consequences of adopting legislation that is incompatible with international standards. Draft legislation on Alternate Punishment, for example, has yet to be adopted, largely because of OHCHR's observations that it does not comply with international standards.

On a practical level, OHCHR's visits to areas in which human rights and humanitarian law violations occur provides needed support to the civilian population, local human rights NGOs, church groups and local authorities. The presence of sub-offices in Cali and Medellín and field visits to various locations raised OHCHR's profile and helped to develop good working relationship with regional and local governmental and non-governmental bodies.

A number of training materials, such as the *Compilation of jurisprudence and national and international doctrine*, the *Compilation of national norms of human rights* and the *Compilation of International Criminal Law*, which were translated into Spanish, are now used as reference by universities, NGOs and state institutions involved in promoting, protecting and teaching about human rights.

## ■ EVALUATION

In February, the office organized a workshop with donors, held in Bogotá, to discuss the recommendations made in an external evaluation conducted by the International Human Rights Trust in 2002. The office is now working with OHCHR Headquarters in Geneva to define performance indicators against which objectives and results can be measured.



## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS COLOMBIA

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Canada	Colombia	354,610	383,471
Germany	Colombia	34,286	35,211
Italy	Unearmarked	228,572	228,571
Luxembourg	Field offices	114,025	108,460
Netherlands	Field offices	100,000	100,000
Norway*	Colombia	784,593	807,577
Norway	Field offices	194,589	200,000
Spain	Colombia	164,571	164,196
Sweden	Colombia	582,072	605,022
Switzerland**	Colombia	141,844	295,400
United Kingdom	Colombia	158,730	161,788
United States of America	Colombia	250,000	250,000
<i>Other donors</i>			
European Commission	Colombia (Personeros & justice project)	0	696,673
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,107,892</b>	<b>4,036,369</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* Consists of a two-year pledge for Colombia amounting to US\$ 499,287 for 2003 and US\$ 285,306 for 2004, which was paid in one single instalment in 2003 and therefore had to be reported as a 2003 contribution (according to OHCHR financial rules).

\*\*The income amount consists of an earmarked contribution of US\$ 143,885 pledged in 2002 and the payment of the contribution pledged in 2003.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN COLOMBIA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	2,834,182	2,322,645
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	166,199
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	149,371	186,653
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	49,554
Contractual services	174,171	316,958
General operating expenses	121,874	124,737
Supplies and acquisitions	234,703	243,460
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	324,587	238,331
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3,838,888</b>	<b>3,648,537</b>
Programme support costs	499,055	474,310
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,337,943</b>	<b>4,122,847</b>

## CAMBODIA

### BACKGROUND

The human rights office in Cambodia was established in 1993 at the end of the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia. The mandate of the office and that of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia combine monitoring and protecting human rights with technical assistance and advisory services. The office works with the Special Representative in fulfilling his mandate to maintain contact with the Government and the people of Cambodia and assists the Government in promoting and protecting human rights.

In February 2002, the High Commissioner and the Minister for Foreign Affairs signed a two-year memorandum of understanding for the implementation of a technical cooperation programme on human rights. Activities include: assisting the Government in promoting and protecting human rights; promoting

the integration of human rights in education, health and other development programmes; providing technical support for the Government's reform programmes, including in the areas of administration of justice and the legislative process; supporting the participation of civil society and promoting public education in democracy and human rights, especially in the area of economic, social and cultural rights; and providing technical assistance to the Government, upon its request, in fulfilling its responsibilities to its international human rights treaty obligations, including the submission of reports.

2003 was dominated by the third National Assembly elections since the Paris Peace Accords of 1991. The ruling party won the elections, which were held in late July, but fell short of the two-thirds majority needed to form a government on its own. A political deadlock ensued and at the end of the year, no new government had been formed. Most observers agreed that the election ran more smoothly than previous elections, there were fewer instances of political violence, and political parties were allowed more equitable access to the electronic media and greater freedom of expression during the official campaign period. At the same time, there was widespread intimidation, particularly in rural areas, and several political activists were murdered. In many of these cases, no satisfactory investigation was conducted and those responsible were not apprehended and brought to justice. Restrictions on freedom of assembly and association continued throughout the year, except during the official election campaign period. Two reports on the election were issued by the Special Representative: a pre-election report in July and a final report in December.

While welcoming progress in some areas of human rights, the General Assembly, in resolution 58/191, expressed concern about several matters, including: pervasive impunity, unsatisfactory prison conditions, the use of torture, excessive pre-trial detention, the apparent lack of protection from mob killings, the murder of political activists and child labour.

The agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Cambodia concerning the prosecution of crimes committed during the period when the country was known as Democratic Kampuchea was signed in Phnom Penh on 6 June and will need to be ratified by the National Assembly. A technical assessment mission by the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials was fielded to Phnom Penh in early December. The mission reached "substantial" agreement with the Government task

force on several issues, including staffing and the sequencing of work to prepare for the phased establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers, which will prosecute, under Cambodian law, crimes committed during that period.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of working with others to build a society based on respect for human rights under the rule of law is approached through a strategy that combines work on immediate issues with efforts to strengthen institutions to safeguard and ensure respect for human rights. More specifically, in 2003 the project aimed to:

- ♥ Protect human rights and strengthen relevant institutions, laws and policies to end impunity;
- ♥ Help to guarantee the independence of the judiciary by monitoring the judicial reform process, advocating for structural reforms, including reform of the Supreme Council of the Magistracy, and assisting the courts in ensuring fair trials;
- ♥ Support the legal sector by facilitating the creation of legal aid programmes, monitoring and helping to develop legislation consistent with international human rights law, regularizing civil society participation in the law-making process, and helping to create effective national institutions to protect human rights and ensure the accountability of State institutions;
- ♥ Ensure that the recently adopted land law and other natural-resource legislation protect the rights of people in urban and rural areas, and that their human rights are not violated during implementation;
- ♥ Strengthen the capacity of NGOs to monitor and advocate for the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights;
- ♥ Promote rights-based approaches to development and poverty-reduction programmes;
- ♥ Strengthen the provincial presence through outreach activities; and
- ♥ Ensure that the 2003 general election is conducted in a free, informed and fair manner.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

Some of the above objectives were modified during the year to respond to the evolving situation, and to take into account international staffing resources.

The office regularly received and addressed complaints from the public. It investigated events related to large-scale riots that occurred in Phnom Penh on 29 January, murders of political, religious and judicial figures, and restrictions on freedoms of assembly and association. Cases taken up included serious land disputes and incidents of land grabbing, intimidation of forest-dependent communities, cases of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in police detention, and serious breaches of criminal process guarantees. The office followed up on previous work on street retribution (mob killings) and prison conditions, investigated unresolved cases, assisted human rights NGOs in their work, and assisted national human rights defenders facing threats to their safety. The office began a project late in the year to review and follow-up on cases that were taken up by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia in 1992 and 1993 and by OHCHR and the Special Representatives during the subsequent decade.

Considerable time and resources were dedicated to the National Assembly elections, with the aim of promoting a political climate free from violence and intimidation, an electoral process administered by neutral state institutions, and electoral laws and regulations that reflect international standards. Three mobile teams were deployed to investigate and address reports of election-related human rights violations throughout the country, and to monitor the general political situation. The Kompong Cham election office, reinforced by an international consultant, closely monitored the situation in the province, as did the regional office in Battambang. An election coordinator and an election analyst worked from the Phnom Penh office and focused on arrests, detention and murders of opposition activists, and violence and intimidation related to the election; it also monitored law-enforcement efforts and court proceedings, particularly in connection with murders and suspicious deaths that may have been related to the elections. Staff regularly requested intervention by local and provincial authorities, and met frequently with representatives of the national election committee to raise general issues of concern and specific case-related matters. During the post-election period, the office raised concerns with the Ministry of the Interior, police and municipal authorities, including about restrictions on freedom of assembly, and the use of excessive force to disperse unauthorized demonstrations.

### Reform of the justice sector and legal advice

For the mid-term Consultative Group of Donors meeting in January, the office prepared a comprehensive paper on legal and judicial reform over the past decade. The office advocated for structural reform of key institutions, such as the Supreme Council of Magistracy, and engaged a legal expert to help the office prepare an analytical paper examining the current status of the Council and recommending appropriate reform measures.

The office promoted compliance with human rights standards in the court system and addressed the many practices in the criminal justice system that do not appear to be sanctioned by law. In addition to pursuing cases at the Phnom Penh municipal court, the Appeal Court and the Supreme Court, the office followed cases in the courts of Prey Veng, Kompong Cham, Kompong Speu, Sihanoukville and Battambang. OHCHR provided advice on due process rights and trial procedures, observed selected trials, and facilitated contacts between accused persons and legal-aid lawyers whenever serious cases were tried in courts without legal representation. Office staff worked in close cooperation with NGOs handling legal and judicial reform issues and met regularly with members of the judiciary, the legislature and Government officials to discuss specific cases and juridical and broader policy issues related to human rights in the administration of justice. The office also cooperated with the Royal School for Judges and Prosecutors, which began teaching its first class of students in November, and with the Centre for Lawyers.

The adoption of a time-bound legal- and judicial-reform strategy and action plan has been on the agenda for a decade, and a strategy document was adopted by the Government on 20 June. This document formed the basis of discussions among donors during the reporting period. A series of workshops was begun during the latter part of the year to prioritize the Government's draft programme of action, which contains over 90 activities. The office advocated for a broad consultative approach, and for participants in the debate to link "big-picture" issues related to the justice system to the reality of the administration of justice in Cambodia: the failure to enforce existing laws; impunity, compounded by the lack of neutrality and independence in judicial and law-enforcement bodies; low levels of professionalism; police refusal to enforce court orders, sometimes acting in open defiance of their terms; a lack of understanding, among those administering the criminal justice system, of the role of the prosecutor and the State and of fundamental notions such as the presumption of innocence.

In April, the office began a project on legal aid, in consultation with the Bar Association, the Ministry of Justice and relevant NGOs. A paper will be issued in early 2004 to stimulate discussion on improving access to justice and to advocate options for a State-assisted legal aid service.

The office continued to offer advice on drafting legislation and regulations that comply with international human rights law. The draft law on anti-corruption and sub-decrees relating to land and forestry were of particular concern, as was the draft penal code, the code of criminal procedure, and the civil code, all of which are now with the Council of Ministers. The office emphasized the importance of consultations during the drafting process and for public debate before the laws are adopted.

The office assisted the Government in preparing State reports for the treaty bodies and promoted follow-up action to concluding observations and recommendations issued by the treaty bodies, including those of the Committee against Torture adopted in May and finalized in November.

### Land law and natural-resource legislation

The office conducted a comprehensive study of large-scale agricultural plantations, a term which includes both land concessions and rubber plantations operated by the State. The study aims to identify the plantations' effect on the human rights of local populations living within or close to their boundaries, and the extent to which they have contributed to the country's development. The study will be completed in the first part of 2004. In-depth field work was undertaken in several concessions, and interviews were conducted with local populations, activists, authorities, representatives of concession companies and NGOs at national and provincial levels. Staff met regularly with those involved in land policy and administration, including relevant national and provincial government officials. The office emphasized the urgency of sub-decrees essential to the implementation of the land law, most specifically the sub-decrees on the procedures for granting land concessions for economic purposes, and on the reduction and exemptions of land concessions exceeding 10,000 hectares. The sub-decree on social concessions was adopted in March.

The office also investigated and documented disputes over land and other natural resources. These disputes often involved local populations or fishermen and those with political and economic

influence, including military officers and business interests. A detailed study of these cases has helped understand recurring problems both in the management of natural resources and in the mechanisms for addressing land disputes and related violations of human rights. Neither the Cadastral Commission structure, established in July 2002, nor the courts have effectively resolved disputes involving land or provided remedies for related human rights violations.

### Enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights

The office advocated for international human rights norms to be integrated into the national poverty-reduction strategy and the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It cooperated with and supported the work of NGOs and community organizations advocating for economic, social and cultural rights. The office revised a basic training course on economic, social and cultural rights and, in the latter half of the year, focused on the right to housing. The office raised concerns with the Phnom Penh Municipality relating to the relocation and forced evictions of squatters and the poor in the city, and intervened on several occasions to try to stop forced evictions.

In collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on the right to health, the office prepared a discussion paper on the links between poverty and health, highlighting the added value of human rights in the context of health care. The paper served as a basis for a roundtable discussion on health organized during the mission of the Special Rapporteur. The outcome of this consultation is reflected in his report to the 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights.

### The Battambang sub-office

The sub-office in Battambang covers the provinces of Battambang, Banteay Meanchey and Oddar Meanchey, and the municipality of Pailin, and operates under the supervision of the Phnom Penh office. The sub-office maintained regular contact with provincial authorities, including courts, police and military, and worked in close cooperation with NGOs. Staff monitored the general human rights situation, handled complaints of election-related human rights violations, and helped to resolve a number of disputes over natural resources. The office also provided regular training sessions in economic, social and cultural rights for villagers and local authorities, particularly in those districts affected by land disputes.

## Public information and outreach

Human rights publications and information materials were distributed to the general public, NGOs, students and Government officials. Revised translations of the main international human rights treaties, and new translations of those international instruments most relevant to Cambodia are nearly completed. A compilation of international human rights instruments, translated into Khmer, will be issued in 2004. Work began on creating a new web page for the office, and regular meetings were held with both English-language and Khmer journalists.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Some activities were not implemented as originally planned or were not completed in the given time. This was in part due to the amount of time and resources devoted to the elections, to the neglect of other activities. In addition, some original objectives were found to be not focused enough or too ambitious.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The main office is in Phnom Penh, with a sub-office in Battambang, an election office in Kompong Cham, and small offices in the municipal court of Phnom Penh, and the Sihanoukville provincial court, which was closed in September. The office in Kompong Cham was closed in December at the end of the election programme. The management structure consists of the chief's office, an administration unit, a protection and policy development team, a legal assistance unit, and an education, training and information unit.

- ♥ The chief's office is responsible for policy and management, including coordinating support to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, participating in the United Nations system, working with other international agencies and NGOs, and external and donor relations.
- ♥ The administration unit provides personnel, administrative and finance services to the office and coordinates transport and logistics.
- ♥ The protection and policy development team is responsible for conducting the election programme, investigating and addressing complaints of human rights violations, and preparing thematic reports.
- ♥ The legal assistance unit is responsible for assisting with judicial reform, working with the courts and legal sector, and

commenting on selected draft legislation to ensure compliance with the international human rights treaties to which Cambodia is party.

- ♥ The education, training and information unit is responsible for public outreach, education, training and advocacy for the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights. It also works with the Government, the United Nations Country Team, and inter-governmental agencies on implementing a human rights-based approach to development.

The number of international staff fluctuated during the year. At the end of the year, there were 32 national staff and 8 international staff and consultants.

## ■ COORDINATION

Activities were carried out in cooperation with a number of Cambodian institutions that have human rights responsibilities, including: the Commissions on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints; the Commissions on Legislation of the National Assembly and the Senate; the Supreme Council of Magistracy; the courts; the Office of the Prosecutor General; the Cambodian Human Rights Committee; the National Election Committee; the Department of Prisons; the Ministries of Justice, Interior, Land Management, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Women's and Veterans' Affairs; and the Faculty of Law and Economic Sciences of the Royal Phnom Penh University. The office also cooperated with NGOs working on human rights, legal and development issues.

The office is a member of the United Nations Country Team and worked with other agencies on issues of common concern, particularly on integrating international human rights norms and standards into national poverty-reduction strategies and the MDGs. The office cooperated with the World Bank and with donor and development agencies on a range of issues related to judicial and legal reform, the social sector and management of natural resources within the framework of the Consultative Group of Donors on Cambodia.

The office provided regular briefings for diplomats, election-observer teams, donors and international organizations. It worked in cooperation with local election and human rights NGOs, hosting regular meetings to discuss issues of common concern. This cooperation was extended to the provinces through support to NGOs.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The Ministries of Justice, Interior, Social Affairs and Labour, Land Management, Environment, Women and Veterans' Affairs, and Defense, judges, prosecutors and the courts, members and staff of the National Assembly and Senate, the National Election Committee, NGOs and civil society groups, victims of violations of human rights, institutions of training and higher learning, and the general population all benefit from OHCHR's work.

## ■ EVALUATION

An external evaluation of the office was undertaken in late October and early November. Its principal aim was to assess the impact, relevance and efficiency of the office's activities and to identify major human rights issues and make recommendations for the future role and structure of the office. An executive summary of the final report can be found on OHCHR's web site. An external audit was undertaken in December.

The recommendations of the evaluation mission include the following:

- ♥ It is essential to support the Special Representative's mandate and the continued presence of the office as the situation relating to human rights remains one of concern, bearing in mind Cambodia's recent past and the international responsibility towards the Cambodian people;
- ♥ The protection role of the office adds value to the existing human rights context in Cambodia, and should be maximized through increasing staff capacity, selection of cases illustrating key trends, adequate follow-up, policy and technical assistance, and clear criteria for action. The office should offer protection to those in need, especially where others are unable or unwilling to act;
- ♥ The office should provide expertise on the relationship between the national system and the international system on human rights, and help to inform the national community about the recommendations of the treaty bodies and special procedures established by the Commission on Human Rights, putting them into accessible and understandable forms. It should monitor the Cambodian Government's strategy and draft programme of action to reform the legal and judicial sector, which was adopted in June 2003, to assess implementation in conformity with Cambodia's international obligations;
- ♥ The office should support inter-governmental organizations and others on human rights-based programming. It should

raise new areas of concern, such as the negative impact of globalization, in concert with other United Nations agencies;

- ♥ The role of the office should be consolidated as a catalyst rather than as a funder, with the capacity to cross-refer and cross-link with other agencies as appropriate. The office should promote sustained and balanced support for local actors, and nurture self-reliance; and
- ♥ The current memorandum of understanding between OHCHR and the Government of Cambodia should be renewed in its present form.

Follow-up to these recommendations and their implementation will be followed up in 2004 as a matter of priority.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN CAMBODIA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	568,415	298,988
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	209,806	218,275
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	80,359	48,057
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	52,677	10,765
General operating expenses	119,436	116,952
Supplies and acquisitions	49,441	20,575
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	76,437	45,654
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,156,571</b>	<b>759,266</b>
Programme support costs	150,354	98,705
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,306,925</b>	<b>857,971</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS CAMBODIA

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Japan	Cambodia	23,108	23,972
Netherlands	Election programme	150,000	150,000
Norway	Election programme	82,192	85,871
Sweden	Cambodia	523,865	543,824
United Kingdom	Election programme	131,148	133,333
<b>Total</b>		<b>910,313</b>	<b>937,000</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE CAMBODIA

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	1,834,095
Adjustment <sup>1</sup>	199,201
Income from contributions	937,000
Other funds available <sup>2</sup>	85,488
Total funds available	3,055,784
Expenditure <sup>3</sup>	1,306,925
<b>Closing balance<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>1,748,859</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes adjustments/savings to prior period expenditure.

<sup>2</sup> Includes interest income of US\$ 78,778.

<sup>3</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Includes US\$ 166,064 in operating cash reserves. These amounts were not available for activities in 2003.

## IRAQ

### ■ BACKGROUND

In 2002, OHCHR began the precedent-setting work of integrating human rights into United Nations emergency humanitarian assistance for post-conflict Iraq. Since March 2003, OHCHR seconded human rights officers to the United Nations Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq (UNOHCI). In its resolution 1483 (May 2003), the Security Council authorized the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq to assist the people of Iraq by promoting the protection of human rights; encouraging

international efforts to rebuild the capacity of the Iraqi civilian police force; and encouraging international efforts to promote legal and judicial reform. Since the resolution was adopted, OHCHR has worked with the Office of the Special Representative, other international partners, and in consultation with Iraqi actors, to identify priority objectives in the area of human rights.

On 14 August, the Security Council established in its resolution 1500 (2003) the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) to support the Secretary-General in fulfilling his mandate. Five days later, a bomb attack on the headquarters of the United Nations Mission in Baghdad took the lives of the Special Representative – the then High Commissioner for Human Rights – and 21 other United Nations officials. More than 150 people were wounded. This attack, followed by another against the premises of the United Nations headquarters at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad on 22 September, led to the evacuation of international United Nations staff and the decision on 4 November to temporarily relocate all international United Nations staff who had been in Baghdad. Since OHCHR staff were evacuated from Iraq, the Office has tried to continue implementing its agreed priority activities from outside the country.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Improve the ability of partners to provide reconstruction assistance through a rights-based and gender-sensitive approach.
- ♥ Improve the ability of different actors, including Government representatives, NGOs, civil society, and partners in other United Nations and specialized agencies, to identify and address human rights concerns.

- ♥ Provide assistance in establishing mechanisms to address past human rights violations.
- ♥ Ensure that international human rights standards are being considered during the legislative and procedural reform processes.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Activities undertaken between May and 19 August

#### **Mainstreaming human rights in humanitarian assistance work**

- ♥ Since March, OHCHR seconded five human rights officers to UNOHCI in Larnaca, Cyprus, and in Amman, Jordan. In July, the five human rights officers were deployed inside Iraq. Those human rights officers helped to mainstream human rights in the work of aid agencies by providing advice on implementing human rights principles and law in humanitarian assistance, acting as focal points for the collection of civilian protection data, analyzing and responding to abuses, and advocating human rights protection issues before local authorities and the Coalition Provisional Authority.
- ♥ In July, a working group dedicated to protecting vulnerable segments of Iraqi society was established. The group, which comprises representatives of United Nations agencies, IOM, ICRC and international human rights NGOs, met weekly to prioritize needs and develop and implement comprehensive, coordinated strategies to address protection issues.

#### **Past human rights violations, the administration of justice, and respect for the rule of law**

- ♥ The OHCHR team gathered information on past human rights violations through numerous site visits, particularly to mass graves, and through interviews. The team provided advice to local Iraqi groups undertaking transitional justice activities.
- ♥ OHCHR's officers received former victims of human rights violations and provided them with advice and counselling. Each officer met with about five victims and/or human rights activists or representatives a day.
- ♥ In early July, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General organized a workshop on transitional justice to which Iraqi, international and Provisional Authority experts were invited. OHCHR funded this two-day event, which produced detailed recommendations on addressing past human rights violations and re-establishing the organs of justice.

- ♥ A combination of factors, including war, forcible displacement, the Arabization of Kurdistan, and natural and man-made environmental degradation, created a vast number of internally displaced persons and urban squatters. Almost all United Nations agencies and other international actors in Iraq worked on displacement-related issues. At the request of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq, OHCHR provided a general policy framework for United Nations involvement in this sensitive area.
- ♥ OHCHR staff participated in the UNDG rule-of-law needs-assessment mission from 1 to 23 August. The mission produced a detailed report with extensive recommendations that will guide OHCHR's future interventions in this field.

#### **Human rights education and awareness-raising**

- ♥ OHCHR's representatives made available to Iraqi officials, NGOs and civil society a variety of OHCHR human rights publications in Arabic, including fact sheets, manuals and guidelines.
- ♥ A number of OHCHR publications were translated into Arabic, including the Professional Training Series publication No. 3, "Human Rights and Pre-trial Detention: A Handbook of International Standards relating to Pre-trial Detention"; publication No. 9, "Human Rights in the Administration of Justice: a Manual on Human Rights for Judges, Prosecutors and Lawyers"; and the Action on the Rights of the Child Publication section entitled, "Facilitator's Toolkit".
- ♥ In collaboration with UNDP, the Office of the Special Representative completed the groundwork for the opening of a human rights documentation centre at Baghdad University. The attack on the United Nations headquarters occurred just one week before the centre was due to open.
- ♥ On 23 and 24 August, OHCHR's representative in the north and UNDP organized a human rights training workshop in Erbil. Forty-five people participated in the workshop, including, the Kurdish Minister for Human Rights (Erbil) and other representatives from his ministry, representatives of the Ministry of Interior (Erbil), police officers, and human rights NGOs from Erbil, Sulaimaniya, Duhok, Mosul and Kirkuk.

#### **Civil society and institutional capacity-building**

- ♥ OHCHR's officers received representatives of human rights groups or individuals seeking advice to establish or strengthen their human rights organizations.
- ♥ The OHCHR team also embarked on a civil society mapping exercise to identify and classify all Iraqi groups as a step toward providing these groups with capacity-building assistance.



### Activities undertaken between August and December

- ~ OHCHR continued to follow the human rights situation in Iraq and develop plans for re-engagement.
- ~ In October and November, OHCHR representatives took part in the United Nations team consultations in Cyprus to develop the 2004 United Nations Strategic Plan for Iraq.
- ~ In December, Iraq's Minister of Human Rights visited OHCHR Headquarters in Geneva and met with the Acting High Commissioner for Human Rights and other officials to discuss the Office's plan of action.
- ~ OHCHR continued to work with ESCWA and UNDP to organize a regional workshop on the role of human rights in Iraq's reconstruction process. The workshop will be held in Amman, Jordan in 2004.
- ~ Since November, OHCHR has participated in mainstreaming human rights into the 2004 United Nations draft work programme for Iraq.
- ~ In December, OHCHR prepared its draft plan of action for Iraq, which includes immediate, medium and long-term interventions within the context of UNAMI.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

A volatile security situation made travel and communication with the different actors difficult even before the 19 August attack against the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad. The distress caused by the attack, among OHCHR staff members both inside Iraq and throughout the organization, cannot be overestimated.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Coordinated by a senior human rights adviser, the four human rights officers seconded to work in Iraq advised and assisted area coordinators and humanitarian actors on protection- and assistance-related matters. Two senior human rights advisers worked as part of the team of the Special Representative for Iraq. Since September, one human rights officer who had previously been in Iraq, has been monitoring the situation from Beirut and Amman. The former coordinator of the OHCHR team in Iraq and another human rights officer were temporarily deployed in Geneva. One human rights officer followed United Nations meetings relating to Iraq from New York.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

The immediate beneficiaries are the institutional actors involved in the reconstruction process: United Nations partners, including the United Nations Country Team, other inter-governmental organizations, the interim Iraqi authority, NGOs and civil society.

### ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

As much as it is possible to assess impact and achievements after operating in Iraq for such a short period of time, feedback received about activities conducted, especially the workshops in Baghdad on transitional justice and in Erbil on human rights in general, was overwhelmingly positive. Participants asked that similar sessions be organized regularly. The human rights education material provided in Arabic was particularly valuable for a society that was previously denied access to any human rights materials.

### ■ FUNDING

OHCHR's activities in Iraq were not foreseen in the 2003 Annual Appeal, but were presented in an inter-agency Humanitarian Appeal for Iraq (Flash Appeal) that was launched in June 2003. A high carry-over into 2004 may be explained by a decreased implementation further to the attack on United Nations headquarters in Baghdad and the evacuation of United Nations staff leading to a substantially decreased number of activities.

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

## IRAQ

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Chile	Iraq	5,000	5,000
Denmark	Iraq	475,436	464,222
France	Iraq	114,286	114,286
Germany	Iraq	117,786	114,286
United Kingdom	Iraq	655,738	666,667
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,368,246</b>	<b>1,364,461</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

## IRAQ

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	330,046	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	69,151	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	0	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	30,968	0
Supplies and acquisitions	50,982	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>481,147</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme support costs	62,549	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>543,696</b>	<b>0</b>

BOSNIA AND  
HERZEGOVINA

## ■ BACKGROUND

Bosnia and Herzegovina appears to be at a crucial stage in its transition towards democracy and a market economy: real progress towards the rule of law and the associated enjoyment of human rights must now be achieved.

Many of the country's human rights problems have their origins in the conflict of the 1990s. Those who profited from illegal activities during the armed conflict continue to do so and have gradually extended their influence on government and the economy, deliberately exacerbating ethnic divisions in order to maintain the conditions that prevent bringing perpetrators to justice.

Although the Government is taking steps to develop a comprehensive legal framework for the country, implementation of new legislation remains problematic, as infrastructure and capacities are weak. Problems remain in the areas of legal and policy frameworks addressing criminal activities and witness protection, migration, trafficking in persons, sustainable solutions for refugees and internally displaced persons, and discrimination. There is also some doubt about the institutional ability to protect human rights. In particular, the transfer of the Human Rights Chamber to the Constitutional Court could limit access to redress for human rights violations.

As mandated in Annex 6 of the General Framework Agreement for Peace, the field office in Bosnia and Herzegovina is responsible for monitoring the human rights situation in the country. The office also supports the mandate of the Special Representative on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In 2002, OHCHR shifted the focus of its activities in the region from predominantly country-specific programmes to human rights issues of regional concern. The office supports the work of governments and civil society in the region in the following priority areas:

- ♥ Impunity and the rule of law;
- ♥ Human rights frameworks for development, including poverty-reduction strategies;
- ♥ Human trafficking, gender and gender-based violence, exploitation and discrimination;
- ♥ Human rights frameworks for the movement of people, including durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced persons; and
- ♥ Human rights education and promotion, including the strengthening of civil society.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Support the mandate of the Special Representative.
- ♥ Closely monitor and analyze the human rights situation in the country.
- ♥ Serve as the operative and resource basis for the implementation of OHCHR activities within the sub-regional strategy and ensure regional cooperation with other OHCHR field offices and technical cooperation offices.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Treaty reporting

- ♥ OHCHR and the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees organized a week-long seminar in June on state party reporting under the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The seminar was offered as follow-up to the December 2002 seminar on treaty body reporting. At the end of the seminar, participants from relevant state, entity and cantonal ministries prepared a skeleton report and agreed to follow-up in technical drafting working groups.
- ♥ The office supported the Government in its request for technical assistance in preparing the initial State Party report under the Convention against Torture. At the end of October, the Secretary of the Committee against Torture provided advice and expertise to members of the Inter-Governmental Working Group on the draft report.
- ♥ Prior to the Inter-Governmental Working Group meeting, OHCHR, together with the State Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees, hosted a meeting with NGOs working on issues related to torture. As a result of the meeting, NGOs submitted contributions to the Ministry for inclusion in the State report.

### Trafficking

- ♥ The office raised awareness on trafficking at national, regional and international levels by holding press conferences, giving presentations to international organizations, the foreign ministers of the OSCE countries, NGOs, academics and others, and by providing national and regional training for media, police, the United Kingdom, and those engaged in security issues.
- ♥ OHCHR provided a comprehensive analysis of the status of implementation of the national plan of action, identifying obstacles and measures needed to overcome them. Frequent meetings were held with partners from different ministries and NGOs. The office focused on protecting victims of trafficking, including as potential witnesses, by training international police advisors and EUPM and creating a legal framework that secured human rights.
- ♥ In cooperation with the centres for education of judges and prosecutors Republika Srpska/Federation Bosnia and Herzegovina, OHCHR provided training for judges, prosecutors and policemen based on the anti-trafficking training model issued by the Stability Pact. In addition, OHCHR gave induction training to new staff members of the European United Nations Police Mission on human trafficking.
- ♥ The head of mission remained a member of the Stability Pact Trafficking Task Force expert coordination group and helped to develop regional strategies and coordinate the activities of member organizations.
- ♥ OHCHR, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the OSCE and UNICEF launched the second joint regional report on *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe*. The report provides vital information on trends and the effectiveness of government and international activity, and is used by the Stability Pact Trafficking Task Force to prioritize projects. In 2003, priorities included child trafficking, national referral mechanisms and the integration of human rights into national plans of action. Prevention will be a top priority in 2004.

### Gender

- ♥ OHCHR and UNDP negotiated with the Gender Commission in the State Parliament to support adoption of the gender law, which was blocked in Parliament at the beginning of the year. Once the law was passed, the office was involved with United Nations agencies and the Entities' gender centres in ensuring effective implementation of the law. Among other activities, OHCHR provided legal expertise at a seminar on implementation of the

law for Parliament and NGOs; held in November, the seminar was organized by the gender centres.

- ♥ OHCHR helped NGOs, judges, policemen and social workers to draft the law on domestic violence in sessions organized by Gender Centres.
- ♥ OHCHR worked with the NGO Medica Zenica on an integrated approach to gender-based violence. The office conducted training sessions with Medica Zenica for police, the judiciary, health care workers, centres for social work, and other NGOs. The project is funded by UNICEF.

### Rule of law

- ♥ OHCHR provided training for defence lawyers from the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska on the application of the Criminal Procedure Code, with a special focus on the European Convention on Human Rights as a tool for overcoming the Code's flaws and inconsistencies. The office also provided training for law students in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska on the same topic.
- ♥ OHCHR reviewed the revised draft law on missing persons and provided legal analysis and proposed amendments.
- ♥ The office organized several conferences for civil society focusing on witness protection related to the prosecution of war crimes and gender-based violence. It briefed civil society on the draft law on the witness protection programme and encouraged their comments. OHCHR also prepared a legal analysis and proposed amendments to the law on the protection of vulnerable witnesses and witnesses under threat.

### Migration

The law on movement and stay of aliens and asylum was adopted in October. The office works to ensure that human rights standards are upheld as the law is implemented. At the Government's request, OHCHR organized and facilitated a roundtable discussion on the law, which was held in December with participants from government and international organizations. The office also drafted an assessment of the new law's compliance with international and regional human rights standards.

### Human rights-based approaches to development

- ♥ OHCHR provided human rights training and induction training for new staff, developed assessment and analysis tools, and supported the integration of human rights into the

municipalities' reports as part of the rights-based municipal assessment project. The national assessment teams assessed 12 municipalities and were deployed in four new municipalities. In collaboration with the Nottingham Human Rights Law Centre, the office provided extensive training on human rights checklists. Fifteen checklists were finalized.

- ♥ The office continued its work on the poverty-reduction strategy paper to ensure that human rights standards are integrated into the paper and, by encouraging the participation of civil society into the process of creating the paper. OHCHR gave comments on all drafts, field tested OHCHR's draft *Guidelines on a Rights-Based Approach to Poverty-Reduction Strategies*, and raised awareness on the human rights dimension of poverty. On the basis of a suggestion from OHCHR, a working group, composed of national NGOs and the Ombudsman institutions, was established to develop a rights-based poverty-reduction strategy monitoring mechanism in the country.
- ♥ OHCHR made substantive contributions to the Common Country Assessment/United Nations Development Assistance Framework (CCA/UNDAF) process from April onwards. The office was involved in preparing and implementing the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) training on a human rights-based approach to CCA/UNDAF in May. From August, three meetings of UNDAF working groups were held to discuss issues chosen at the July workshop on CCA/UNDAF, namely governance, social protection and human security.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

- ♥ The technical support provided to the rights-based municipal assessment project was more time-consuming than anticipated.
- ♥ With the closure of the Human Rights Chamber, OHCHR has lost an important national counterpart.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

OHCHR retains primary responsibility for implementing human rights activities within the mandate of the General Framework Agreement. Activities within the sub-regional strategy are implemented jointly with OHCHR staff in the region with support from headquarters. Activities within the rights-based municipal assessment project are implemented with UNDP.

During the reporting period, the field office was staffed with a head of mission, two international human rights officers, one

national professional officer, two international consultants, three national support staff and one junior professional officer, who began work in mid-May.

## ■ COORDINATION

- ~ The field office has developed partnerships with all groups of society in implementing the above-described activities. This includes weekly contacts with high-ranking officials at the State level and regular meetings and contacts with national NGOs on trafficking, rule of law and witness protection, and gender and socio-economic rights.
- ~ OHCHR coordinated the activities of international and national actors on the implementation of the gender law, of the law on movement and stay of aliens and asylum, and on trafficking.
- ~ OHCHR has also been working through the UNCT. Through thematic working groups, OHCHR coordinated with OSCE, the Office of the High Representative, the Council of Europe, United Nations agencies, the European Union, EUPM, and representatives of embassies and international NGOs.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Technical assistance activities benefited the Government and civil society. Through the rights-based municipal assessment project, OHCHR not only benefited the assessment teams, but also citizens and authorities at the municipal and State level through comprehensive assessments of the human rights situation. United Nations agencies and other international organizations benefited from specialized human rights advice, from established inter-agency working groups, and from the CCA/UNDAF process.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ~ International and national partners recognize the field office as a link between civil society, the Government and the international community, and often ask OHCHR to coordinate efforts among all actors.
- ~ As a result of OHCHR support, the Government has recognized its obligations under international human rights law and has taken steps to comply with them. This was made evident in the adoption of the gender law and the law on movement and stay of aliens and asylum.
- ~ With OHCHR's technical assistance, the Government now complies with its treaty bodies reporting obligations, as demonstrated

by progress made on reporting to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee against Torture.

- ~ The field office has increased the capacity of civil society to act independently and to hold the Government accountable, particularly in the area of trafficking in human beings, where NGOs have taken over most of OHCHR activities related to these violations.

## ■ EVALUATION

During the reporting period, the field office was selected as one out of five countries in the Technical Cooperation Global Review. The assessment concluded that OHCHR has a good reputation in Bosnia and Herzegovina for its work in promoting human rights with the state government, inter-governmental agencies and NGOs and a strong relationship with these actors. The work of OHCHR is seen by these key actors to be efficiently responding to their needs, subtly engaging many actors and creating a local ownership of specific human rights issues, particularly around women's rights and trafficking in human beings. The leadership of the field office has been central in achieving these results. OHCHR has a low profile but creative vision, is prepared to stand up for human rights principles and is known as a good listener and a good responder to needs.

The field office is small and the magnitude of the institutional discrimination is great. In order to be effective, it had little choice but to form strategic alliances and create synergies with others. A virtue was made out of a necessity. A major success is the creation of substantial and sustained partnerships to focus on a range of marginalised, disadvantaged and excluded groups. The strategies have sought to be empowering, with the participation of key actors, including rights bearers participating in their own achievement of rights.

The office has a strong relationship with NGOs (including the University of Sarajevo), inter-governmental bodies and the government. This makes it well placed to promote and coordinate a much needed, broadly based human rights information and education programme, giving the subject a much higher public and institutional profile. OHCHR therefore has an advantage in helping to mainstream human rights and a rights-based approach to development and poverty reduction into the United Nations' programmes, governmental programmes and other bodies. If this draws in new actors and creates new networks, it will make any exit strategy much more robust.

The OHCHR has a comparative advantage in its knowledge of human rights standards, mechanisms and how to incorporate them into domestic legislation and how they should be interpreted in practice. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, its staff have established strong, highly commended working relationships with key officials and ministers, as it has been able to provide in a timely and effective manner good substantive information and thoughtful interpretation of human rights standards, finding a valuable niche for itself. Additionally, it has ensured that gender concerns and women's rights are mainstreamed into human rights initiatives.

One weakness in the work from a programme perspective has been the lack of documentation on the strategy, feasibility studies, planning, implementation, monitoring and independent evaluations. Assessment, monitoring and elements of review were undertaken, otherwise the work in the various areas would not have been needs-based and responsive to changing circumstances. With the exception of the new RMAP initiative, which is becoming well documented, it would have been helpful to see more evidence of how this was done and the results obtained and lessons learnt.

In the relationships with other agencies it was seen that there is a significant degree of integration of work protecting and promoting human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is strongest when linked to specific issues or on specific projects, often manifest through joint working groups set up to coordinate initiatives. There are a wide range of inter-governmental agencies

working on different aspects of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This comes at points of intersection of mandates and priorities and where work is done together to share an analysis of topics such as mainstreaming gender concerns, trafficking or the new PRSP, where OHCHR leads the inter-governmental agency coordination. There was no observable competition for projects or for funding".

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	333,224	453,416
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	70,325
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	12,050	(629)
Commission members	0	0
Representative and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	(3,000)	42,421
General operating expenses	49,232	13,058
Supplies and acquisitions	(2,454)	33,215
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	(14,070)
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>389,052</b>	<b>597,736</b>
Programme support costs	50,577	77,706
<b>Total</b>	<b>439,629</b>	<b>675,442</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Finland	Field offices	0	137,899
Germany	Bosnia & Herzegovina/Serbia & Montenegro	67,496	65,336
Italy	Bosnia & Herzegovina	228,571	228,571
Netherlands	Field offices	50,000	50,000
Norway	Balkans	280,822	305,950
Poland	Bosnia & Herzegovina/Serbia & Montenegro	2,500	2,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>629,389</b>	<b>790,256</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

### ■ BACKGROUND

OHCHR established its field office in the then Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) in March 1996, initially to support the mandate of the Special Representative on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The mandate was formalized through a status agreement concluded with the FRY in November 1998. An additional memorandum of understanding was signed between the Council of Ministers of the State Union and OHCHR on 18 March 2003, which expanded the terms of the earlier agreement. In 2002, OHCHR shifted the focus of its activities in the region from predominantly country-specific programmes towards human rights issues of regional concern. The field office supports the work of governments and civil society in the following priority areas:

- ♥ Impunity and the rule of law;
- ♥ Human rights frameworks for development, including poverty-reduction strategies;
- ♥ Human trafficking, gender and gender-based violence, exploitation and discrimination;
- ♥ Human rights frameworks for the movement of people, including durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced persons; and
- ♥ Human rights education and promotion, including the strengthening of civil society.

A new constitutional framework governing relations between the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro was concluded in January 2003. On 4 February the Federal Parliament adopted the Constitutional Charter and the Law on its Implementation, representing the beginning of a new State Union and the end of the fifth Yugoslavia. At the end of three years, either Republic may call a referendum on independence. Under the Constitutional Charter, Serbia will be heir to the Union in the event that Montenegro leaves the Union. Thereafter, all international documents referring to the (formerly named) Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in particular United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244, would continue to apply in full to Serbia.

On 7 March, the Parliament of Serbia and Montenegro elected the first President of the State Union. On 12 March, Serbia's Prime

Minister Zoran Djindjic was assassinated and a state of emergency was immediately declared. The state of emergency lasted until 22 April. In the search for the assassins and a crackdown on organized crime, more than 10,000 persons were arrested; indictments were issued against several hundred. Many of those detained were kept in incommunicado detention for up to 90 days. During visits to the detained, OHCHR heard allegations of torture and ill-treatment by the police. While "Operation Sabre" initially enjoyed widespread support and was viewed as a genuine attempt to uproot organized criminal networks connected to former and/or present members of the security forces, doubts have since been raised about the efficacy of the actions undertaken and the motivation for the operation. "Sabre" revealed what many had suspected: that criminal elements recruited during the Milosevic era by the special units that operated in Bosnia, Croatia and Kosovo have not lost their grip on the levers of power, despite the end of the hostilities and indictments before the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia (ICTY).

Political infighting among the pro-reform parties led to stagnation of the transition process which culminated in a paralysis in Parliament. No laws were passed for over six months. For more than a year, Serbia was without a President, with the elections in November failing for a third consecutive time because of low voter turn-out.

In Montenegro, where a decision on the question of independence had been put off for three years with the establishment of the State Union, the outcome of the population census conducted in November – the first since 1991 – was cautiously received. The census registered a significant drop in the number of citizens claiming to be Montenegrins.

Despite a boycott by opposition parties, the Montenegrin parliament was able to function with the majority supporting the Government, and adopted significant legislation, including the law establishing Montenegro's first Human Rights Protector (Ombudsman). However, the Government was dogged by allegations of high-level involvement in a Moldovan sex trafficking case.

In Kosovo, some progress was made in improving the human rights situation, with internal oversight mechanisms to monitor human rights developments in UNMIK put in place and the achievement of human rights standards made prerequisite to any determination of Kosovo's future status. Nonetheless, the human rights situation for the non-Albanian population remained difficult.

The general climate of insecurity, including physical violence, desecration of cultural and religious sites, and lack of freedom of movement under which non-Albanians live impedes the return of others and hinders the development of a multi-ethnic and tolerant society. Upon assuming office in July, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMIK supervised talks between Belgrade and Pristina focusing on the strain in relations that had developed between UNMIK and the provisional institutions of self-government. UNMIK also announced its intention to downsize substantially its operations by the end of the year and had begun transferring functions and authorities to the provisional institutions.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

OHCHR's objectives to monitor, promote and support the effective implementation of international human rights standards into the reform programme were pursued through a strategy of cooperation with relevant government authorities, international agencies and representatives of civil society at the community level.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Support to human rights mechanisms

- ~ The office facilitated the March mission of the Special Representative and assisted him in discussing with authorities the declaration of a state of emergency in Serbia.
- ~ OHCHR assisted the thematic mechanisms and special procedures and the Committee against Torture. The field office followed up with the Government on the recommendations of the Committee against Torture concerning the Danilovgrad case (Hajrizi Dzemajl et al. v. Yugoslavia, CAT/C/29/D/161/2000). On 19 June, the Montenegrin Government agreed to pay Euros 985,000 in compensation to the 74 Roma victims of the Danilovgrad tragedy.
- ~ The office helped to form a coalition of national and international NGOs to advocate for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.

### Monitoring and analysis

- ~ During the state of emergency, OHCHR carefully monitored the conduct of the police in "Operation Sabre," especially their treatment of detainees and prisoners, restrictions on the press, and attempts to impose a new law on organized crime that would have violated international human rights standards.

- ~ OHCHR monitored efforts to professionalize the police and army, and pursued allegations of police torture and actions taken, or not, to investigate and prosecute these cases. The field office also helped to establish preventive and oversight measures that comply with international treaties.
- ~ OHCHR provided written comments on the draft charter on human and minority rights and civic freedoms, and suggested that a provision on the State's international obligations concerning internally displaced persons be included.
- ~ OHCHR monitored refugee documentation and requested that registry books moved from Croatia be returned without delay. A formal hand-over took place in the autumn.

### Mainstreaming and coordination of human rights

- ~ OHCHR provided advice and support to the Permanent Conference for Towns and Municipalities of Yugoslavia for the promotion and establishment of local (municipal) ombudsman institutions.
- ~ OHCHR hosted the sub-working group of the internally displaced persons working group to address the shortcomings of the strategy for refugees and internally displaced persons in Serbia and to identify obstacles that displaced persons face in realizing their human rights as citizens of Serbia and Montenegro. The field office provided comments on the inclusion of internally displaced persons and refugees in the poverty reduction strategy paper.
- ~ OHCHR worked closely with a group of NGOs on changes in legislation designed to provide better protection to women and children who are victims of domestic or sexual violence.
- ~ OHCHR supported the establishment of regular meetings on gender issues, including reporting to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and gender-equality legislation for Vojvodina and Serbia.

### Provision of human rights expertise

- ~ In both Serbia and Montenegro, OHCHR worked closely with the inter-ministerial committees that produced government reports on the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) and the Human Rights Committee (HRC). OHCHR assisted the committees in preparing their four additional outstanding reports. Together with the American Bar Association – Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA-CEELI), the office organized a two-day training workshop for officials and NGOs from both Serbia and Montenegro



on reporting under CEDAW. OHCHR also provided assistance to NGOs working on shadow reports to the HRC and the CESCR.

- ♥ Together with UNICEF and UNDP, OHCHR provided advice during the drafting of the poverty reduction strategy papers in both Serbia and Montenegro, and encouraged the funding of an additional survey on poverty in Montenegro to ensure accurate data on Roma, internally displaced persons and refugees.
- ♥ OHCHR staff lectured on a wide range of issues: on international standards for the treatment of prisoners, for prison guards and correctional officers; on the United Nations human rights system, at a regional workshop to train trainers, organized by the Minority Rights Group; on international standards for fair trials, for journalists and young lawyers who will monitor organized crime and war crimes trials in Serbia; on the *Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking*, for social welfare employees, organized by the OSCE and the Ministry for Social Affairs in Serbia; and on the *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement*.
- ♥ OHCHR produced an advocacy document based on an analysis, commissioned by OCHA, of legal gaps in internally displaced persons' access to rights during displacement and in durable solutions.
- ♥ OHCHR in Montenegro offered advice on how to amend the criminal code and the criminal procedures code so as to provide better protection for victims and witnesses of human trafficking. The office also drafted a short law on physical protection of witnesses and victims for consideration by international and national legal experts.
- ♥ OHCHR, OCHA and UNHCR organized workshops on the *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* in Kosovo and in Montenegro, targeting government officials, especially from the municipal level and those with a mandate to work with internally displaced persons, NGOs and international agencies.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Three international staff members left during 2003, leaving the Belgrade office with only two international staff, one of whom is the acting chief of mission. The Montenegro sub-office lost its most senior member and a United Nations Volunteer who had been with the office for two years. The sub-office in Kosovo operated with one international and one national staff.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Activities were implemented directly by OHCHR staff in the field, in Belgrade, Podgorica and Pristina, by local experts engaged as short-term consultants, and through modest grants to local organizations for work on specific assignments. Activities in the sub-region were also linked to the implementation of the regional project for Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus (see page 79).

## ■ COORDINATION

In Serbia and Montenegro, OHCHR coordinated activities with OSCE, the Council of Europe, the United Nations Country Team, Government ministries, the Human Rights Contact Group, NGOs engaged in human rights, development and humanitarian work, and embassies. In Kosovo, OHCHR coordinated with UNMIK, KFOR, the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government, NGOs, other international agencies, and embassies.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

OHCHR's work benefited Government officials, including members of republican and federal ministries, officials of the UNMIK administration, minority members of the Kosovo Assembly, members of the judiciary, prisoners and others detained persons, minority groups, especially Roma, women and children, especially those who are victims of trafficking and other violence, internally displaced persons and refugees, NGOs and other representatives of civil society, students and young people, journalists and other media representatives, families of missing persons, the United Nations Country Team, United Nations agencies, other international agencies, and donor governments.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### Impunity and the rule of law

- ♥ OHCHR's report on the lack of progress in dealing with war crimes, including the mass graves in Serbia raised important issues concerning the investigation and prosecution of war crimes. As a consequence, some action on the Batajnica case has been taken.
- ♥ The relatives of the missing and disappeared in Kosovo have expressed their appreciation for the increased engagement of OHCHR and UNMIK on unresolved war crimes.

- OHCHR's monitoring and analysis of cases where serious human rights violations have occurred but have not been adequately investigated, highlighted incidents of police ill-treatment and encouraged NGOs to report such violations.

### Human rights frameworks for development and poverty-reduction strategies

- OHCHR was successful in advocating for and getting a broad definition of poverty incorporated into the plans so that human rights are fully integrated into all aspects of the poverty reduction strategy paper.
- As a result of OHCHR's efforts, civil society understands the importance of a rights-based approach to development.

### Human rights frameworks for migration, including refugees and internally displaced persons

- OHCHR, in cooperation with OCHA and UNHCR, played an important role in supporting the initiative of national authorities to introduce the *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* into the national strategy on refugees and internally displaced persons.
- Through OHCHR's work with NGOs, grassroots advocacy of displaced persons' rights has been strengthened and the capacity of the internally displaced persons to advocate for their own rights has increased.

### Trafficking in human beings

- OHCHR's monitoring of human trafficking in Serbia and Montenegro, and the support it provided to the women's shelter in the high-profile Moldovan case in Montenegro, was widely acknowledged and appreciated by NGOs and the diplomatic community. OHCHR provided the investigating judge, government officials, members of the Trafficking Board and the media with information on international standards which must be upheld in order to protect the rights of victims and witnesses in trafficking cases.
- OHCHR contributed to an overview of human trafficking in South-East Europe, which was co-published with UNICEF and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights.
- A separate working group on child trafficking under the National Team for the Combat of Human Trafficking has been established and will be supported by UNICEF and OHCHR.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	846,244	1,168,088
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	(12,000)
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	41,254	62,281
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	67,094	96,995
General operating expenses	50,362	73,669
Supplies and acquisitions	(12,992)	(18,528)
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>991,962</b>	<b>1,370,505</b>
Programme support costs	128,955	178,166
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,120,917</b>	<b>1,548,671</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Finland	Field offices	0	158,664
Germany	Bosnia & Herzegovina/Serbia & Montenegro	103,293	100,000
Netherlands	Field offices	300,000	300,000
Norway	Balkans	501,370	539,629
Poland	Bosnia & Herzegovina/Serbia & Montenegro	2,500	2,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>907,163</b>	<b>1,100,793</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.



# DEMOCRACY, DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS

## ■ BACKGROUND

Both the World Conference on Human Rights and the Millennium Declaration emphasized the fundamental link between democracy, development and human rights. In keeping with Action 2 of the Secretary-General's second reform report, which calls on OHCHR, in cooperation with United Nations development and humanitarian agencies, to strengthen human rights-related activities at the country level, the project enables OHCHR to mobilize efforts for inter-agency collaboration in the areas of human rights and development, good governance, democracy and the rule of law, and to respond to the various mandates of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission in these areas.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

Activities aim to clarify the concepts of democracy, development, good governance, the rule of law and human rights, and the relationship among them; to mainstream human rights into development policies and programmes, particularly into poverty-reduction strategies; and to promote specific human rights, including the right to development, the right to food and the right to adequate housing.

To achieve these objectives, OHCHR:

- ♥ Conducts research on and analyzes the normative foundations and operational requirements of particular rights and key concepts at the national and international levels;
- ♥ Works with sister agencies and other organizations to mainstream human rights in development policies and programmes at the international and national levels; and
- ♥ Disseminates human rights information among the United Nations human rights system and operational agencies on the ground.

Activities include:

- ♥ Clarifying the conceptual linkage between human rights and concepts of democracy, good governance and the rule of law;
- ♥ Integrating human rights into development practices by strengthening operational support to United Nations Country Teams' efforts to integrate human rights into United Nations Common Country Analyses/United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (CCA/UNDAF), and supporting initiatives to integrate human rights into poverty-reduction strategies; and
- ♥ Promoting the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights through strengthening support to the Independent Expert on the right to development and to mandates on specific rights.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Democracy, good governance and the rule of law

#### **Good governance practices for the promotion of human rights:**

As requested by the Commission on Human Rights (resolution 2003/65), OHCHR began preparations for a seminar to foster a better understanding of the relationship between national good governance practices and the promotion of human rights to be held in August 2004. Under this activity:

- ♥ A report on the role of good governance in the promotion of human rights was issued;
- ♥ A methodology for collecting good governance practices was developed, a call was made for the submission of practices, and some 100 submissions from governments, United Nations organizations and NGOs were collected and translated into English; and
- ♥ OHCHR coordinated regularly with UNDP and with the main sponsors of the resolution in preparation for the seminar.



**Justice in post-conflict situations:** OHCHR started the development of rule of law tools and guidelines for post-conflict states. The assessment mission to the United Nations Mission in Kosovo in October and consultations with relevant United Nations agencies in New York in November identified challenges and needs in the area of criminal justice reform in post-conflict states. It was determined that a multi-faceted approach to criminal justice reform, incorporating not only the courts, law enforcement and corrections but also policy-makers, human rights experts and civil society, was required. Adapting legal frameworks to ensure compliance with international human rights standards, providing training in basic legal skills, and enhancing the role of defence counsels have also been identified as critical needs in post-conflict states.

**Rule of law and the administration of justice:** OHCHR facilitated the work of experts who prepared the revised version of the *Basic Principles and Guidelines on the right to a remedy and reparation for victims of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law*. In October, OHCHR convened the second consultative meeting for governments, international and non-governmental organizations to consider the revised *Basic Principles and Guidelines*. OHCHR prepared a study outlining the issues that emerged from the meeting for the 60th session of the Commission.

In December, OHCHR organized an experts' workshop on best practices to combat impunity. Discussions and findings of the workshop were included in an independent study submitted to the 60th session of the Commission. The study recommended the appointment of an independent expert to update the *Joint Principles for the protection and promotion of human rights through action to combat impunity*.

OHCHR also prepared an annual report on the death penalty, as mandated by the Commission. Assistance in preparing reports was also provided to the Sub-Commission working group on the administration of justice, special rapporteurs and experts of the Sub-Commission.

## Human rights in development practice

**Integration of human rights into poverty-reduction strategies:** Based on the draft guidelines on a human rights approach to poverty-reduction strategies, which were prepared in 2002, OHCHR produced a draft publication on the relationship between

human rights and poverty reduction, which will be published in 2004. The draft guidelines will be finalized in 2004 after consultations with development practitioners, governments, international financial institutions, United Nations agencies, donors, academics and civil society.

**Human rights and the Millennium Development Goals:** OHCHR prepared a draft concept paper discussing the linkages between human rights and the Millennium Development Goals. The concept paper, once finalized, will serve as the basis for a publication intended for development practitioners.

**Reaching the country level:** As requested by the Secretary-General in his second reform report, OHCHR engaged in intensive consultations with the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) and the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs (ECHA). An inter-agency plan of action, adopted in September by the 22 heads of agencies members of these two bodies, recognizes the leadership role to be played by the United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) in strengthening national human rights systems and improving coordination of human rights activities undertaken by different agencies. The plan's immediate objective is to build the capacities of the UNCTs.

Working with UNDG: OHCHR participated in the working groups and task forces under UNDG to promote the integration of human rights within the United Nations coordinated policies for development. OHCHR also participated in the second inter-agency workshop, held in the United States in May, to improve understanding of a human rights-based approach to development. The human rights elements of the revised guidelines for preparing the CCA/UNDAF were strengthened, and a short "statement of common understanding" on what constitutes a human rights-based approach was developed, highlighting that human rights principles and standards should guide United Nations development cooperation.

CCA and UNDAF: OHCHR and the Turin United Nations Staff College piloted a training module aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of the UNCTs in integrating human rights in the CCA/UNDAF. The module was tested in three countries – Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – that were rolling-out their CCA and UNDAF during the year. Based on comments acquired through the pilot scheme, the training module was extensively revised.

Building OHCHR capacity: OHCHR, in cooperation with the Staff College, organized three training sessions aimed at building the Office's capacity to promote human rights throughout the United Nations system and to develop operational strategies consonant with the strategies and methodologies of United Nations development and humanitarian actors. A total of 60 staff members from all functional units at headquarters and from field offices attended the two-and-a-half-day sessions.

**Cooperation with UNDP (HURIST):** OHCHR continued to implement the joint UNDP/OHCHR Human Rights Strengthening (HURIST) programme. Implemented in some 30 countries around the world, HURIST focuses on piloting a human rights-based approach to poverty-reduction, democratic decentralization, the environment, access to justice and parliamentary development. It also supports the development and implementation of national human rights action plans in six countries. In June, UNDP issued a practice note on poverty reduction and human rights that was developed under the programme. Human rights-based reviews of UNDP country programmes were carried out in three countries during the year with several further reviews planned for the beginning of 2004. HURIST supported the UNDP Sub-regional Resource Facility (SURF) Asia and Pacific Access to Justice and Human Rights sub-practice forum in Sri Lanka, November 2003, validating a number of human rights-based programming tools including a Practitioners Guide to Access to Justice; a knowledge map on access to justice and human rights programming; a rights-based programming primer; and a compilation of process lessons from the sub-practice. The HURIST programme also co-sponsored the second inter-agency workshop on a rights-based approach in the context of United Nations reform held in the United States in May.

**Rights-sensitive development indicators:** OHCHR prepared a discussion paper for the expert group meeting on monitoring housing rights that was jointly organized by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) and OHCHR in Geneva in November. The discussion paper detailed three categories of housing rights indicators to measure: housing adequacy; the denial and violation of housing rights; and the process of fulfilment of the right to adequate housing. OHCHR also supported the work of the Special Rapporteurs on the right to health, and on adequate housing in developing their approaches to the use of indicators.

## Promoting the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights

**The right to development:** OHCHR provided research support to the Independent Expert on the impact of international economic and financial developments on the enjoyment of the right to development, and helped to prepare his missions to Argentina, Brazil and Chile as well as his consultations with the World Bank and the IMF.

**Right to adequate food:** OHCHR cooperates with FAO in servicing the Inter-Governmental Working Group (IGWG), which has begun elaborating voluntary guidelines for the realization of the right to adequate food. A staff member was appointed to be part of the IGWG's secretariat, which is funded by the FAO. OHCHR convened two expert consultations, in February and December, to ensure that human rights bodies and experts contributed to the work of the IGWG. The Office also participated in the first and second sessions of the IGWG, which were held in Rome in March and October.

**Housing rights:** In 2003 OHCHR continued to cooperate with the UN-HABITAT under the joint United Nations Housing Rights Programme and organized a joint expert group meeting, held in Geneva in November, to discuss suitable indicators to facilitate the monitoring of housing rights. The Programme also supported the study on women and adequate housing by the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, and initiated the preparation of a joint study on indigenous people and housing rights. Activities under the joint housing-rights programme are funded directly by UN-HABITAT.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The human rights and development team and the rule of law team are located within the Research and Right to Development Branch. All activities are conducted in close partnership with relevant United Nations agencies and departments.

## ■ COORDINATION

OHCHR works through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the UNDG and its various working groups. Steering groups and other bodies have been created to provide policy

guidance and oversight to projects undertaken jointly with other United Nations agencies, such as the housing-rights programme and HURIST.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

The immediate beneficiaries of the project are those United Nations partners seeking to mainstream human rights into their work. OHCHR's enhanced research and analysis capacity benefits the human rights policy-making bodies and mandate-holders appointed by these bodies.

### ■ LESSONS LEARNED

The inter-agency plan of action adopted by UNDG and ECHA in September 2003 on strengthening national human rights systems and improving the coordination of human rights activities calls for greater efforts in enhancing the impact of United Nations operational activities and their effectiveness. Based on experience and direction provided by the Secretary-General, OHCHR will have to work closely and intensely with partner agencies. Since the Office is comparatively smaller than its sister agencies, working with and through others requires a carefully crafted strategy, and recognition that time is required to produce changes to existing operational approaches will be required.

### ■ FUNDING

All activities were funded by voluntary contributions, including from the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation (i.e. support to UNCTs) which were complemented by regular budget staff providing backstopping. Many of the activities were implemented under joint projects with other United Nations agencies and programmes, as specified above. In these cases, OHCHR's contribution was in the form of substantive support to the joint activities.

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	677,001
Adjustment <sup>1</sup>	(17,113)
Income from contributions	867,956
Other funds available <sup>2</sup>	823
Total funds available	1,528,667
Expenditure <sup>3</sup>	635,696
<b>Closing balance<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>892,971</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings and refunds to donors.

<sup>2</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS.

<sup>3</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN DEMOCRACY, DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	493,571	287,555
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	25,735	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	27,382	72,300
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	11,421	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	90,513
Supplies and acquisitions	4,454	(971)
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>562,563</b>	<b>449,397</b>
Programme support costs	73,133	58,422
<b>Total</b>	<b>635,696</b>	<b>507,819</b>

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	0	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	4,525	187,930
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	7,320	30,603
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	2,458	13,176
Contractual services	4,374	0
General operating expenses	49	510
Supplies and acquisitions	0	734
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>18,726</b>	<b>232,953</b>
Programme support costs	2,434	30,284
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,160</b>	<b>263,237</b>

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN SUPPORT TO UN COUNTRY TEAMS

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs		
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	29,001	6,743
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	7,245	20,066
Commission members		
Representatives and other participants		
Contractual services	197,837	22,136
General operating expenses		
Supplies and acquisitions		
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars		
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>234,083</b>	<b>48,945</b>
Programme support costs	30,431	6,363
<b>Total</b>	<b>264,514</b>	<b>55,308</b>

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003 US\$	Revised budget 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2002 (final) US\$
Democracy, development and human rights	1,510,132	1,191,769	635,696	507,819
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,510,132</b>	<b>1,191,769</b>	<b>635,696</b>	<b>507,819</b>



## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Earmarking by donor	Allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Unearmarked contributions</i>			
Spain	Democracy, development and human rights	50,112	50,000
<i>Earmarking to democracy, development and human rights</i>			
Belgium	Democracy, development and human rights	258,762	283,301
Netherlands	Democracy, development and human rights	250,000	250,000
Norway	Democracy, development and human rights	136,986	140,814
Sweden	Democracy, development and human rights	116,415	121,004
<i>Specific earmarking</i>			
Canada	Independent expert's study on impunity	30,882	22,837
Canada	Experts' workshop on best practices to combat impunity	19,145	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>862,302</b>	<b>867,956</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.



# SUPPORT TO HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES AND ORGANS

## ■ BACKGROUND

The Treaties and Commission Branch (TCB) of OHCHR supports the Commission on Human Rights (Commission), the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Sub-Commission) and the human rights treaty bodies. The Branch is also responsible for processing all documentation prepared by the Office.

The Commission is the United Nations inter-governmental body responsible for human rights. The Sub-Commission, comprising 26 independent experts, is a subsidiary body of the Commission. The treaty bodies are committees composed of independent experts in the field covered by the relevant treaty. They monitor implementation of the core human rights treaties and their optional protocols by reviewing reports submitted by States Parties and by considering individual complaints and conducting inquiries. During 2003, OHCHR provided technical and substantive support to five of the seven human rights treaty bodies in operation: the Human Rights Committee; the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; the Committee against Torture; and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, whose membership increased from 10 to 18 during 2003. Preparations were also made for the first meeting, held in March 2004, of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs supports the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Improve the support provided to the Commission both substantively and technically by establishing an automated system to control workflows and by enhancing information-sharing about the Commission's mandates among OHCHR staff.
- ♥ Reduce the average time between the receipt of a State Party's report and its consideration by the relevant treaty body from about 24 months to one year.
- ♥ Develop workable proposals to streamline and rationalize the treaty body reporting system.
- ♥ Reduce the average time between the receipt of an individual complaint and a final decision by the relevant committee to 18 months.
- ♥ Implement initiatives to improve States Parties' follow-up to treaty body recommendations and observations.
- ♥ Develop systems to streamline and rationalize documentation.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

Activities in 2003 focused on implementing the Secretary-General's reform proposals to streamline reporting to treaty bodies. Work began on preparing draft guidelines for an expanded core document and consolidated guidelines for reporting involving consultations with States, treaty bodies, United Nations entities and NGOs. All the treaty bodies convened informal meetings with States Parties to discuss work methods, and treaty bodies were encouraged to adopt common working methods based on best practices and reduce the time-lag between the receipt of reports and their consideration. Induction courses for new Committee members were convened and the TCB assisted treaty bodies in drafting general comments.

The Petitions Team continued its efforts to ensure that the petitions' procedures of the Human Rights Commission, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the Committee against Torture are consistent. Correspondence received in English, French and Spanish is now handled within ten working days, and substantial progress has been made on processing Russian-language correspondence. The Human Rights Committee convened an additional week of meetings in 2003 to reduce the backlog of pending complaints. Volume IV of the



selected decisions of treaty bodies was compiled, as was a manual to guide staff-processing petitions. Work has also begun on ensuring cross-fertilization of jurisprudence among treaty bodies, regional human rights bodies and national courts and tribunals.

There have been a number of activities designed to facilitate and enhance implementation of treaty body recommendations at the country level. In this regard, national workshops and training sessions in Geneva were held for representatives of NGOs, national human rights institutions and the media to encourage engagement with the human rights treaty body system.

A staff member of the Treaties and Commission Branch was seconded to support the OHCHR's representative for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago de Chile.

In line with Action 2 of the Secretary-General's reform proposals work began on the development of tools and training programmes for the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) which will help disseminate information on treaty body recommendations throughout the United Nations system. The results of each treaty body sessions are disseminated through an automatic electronic list-serve.

The prototype CD-ROM on the work of the Commission on Human Rights has been developed. Its user-friendly format provides government and non-governmental actors with accessible information on the Commission and facilitates implementation of resolutions and decisions.

Coordination of the planning, submission and processing of OHCHR documentation and publications by the Documents Processing Unit (DPU) has improved compliance with United Nations norms and procedures and is in keeping with the Secretary-General's recommendations on rationalizing documentation. OHCHR's document database provides an overview of both documentation already in circulation and that to be produced, allowing managers to make informed decisions about streamlining the production of documentation.

Support was provided to the independent expert appointed by the Secretary-General to lead his study on violence against children.

### ■ COORDINATION

A joint meeting between special procedures mandate-holders and the chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies is held annually. The TCB also worked with the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch in organizing training activities both in Geneva and in Member States, and worked with the Resource Mobilization Unit to ensure sufficient resources for activities.

### ■ BENEFICIARIES

The work of human rights treaty bodies has benefited from induction courses for new members. Individual victims of human rights violations benefit from the timely processing of their complaints. States parties have also benefited from the reduced time-lag between the submission of the report of a State party and its review by the relevant Committee thereby ensuring more timely and effective implementation of the concluding observations of the treaty bodies.

### ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The average time-lag between the submission and review of States Parties' reports by the treaty bodies has been reduced. The complaints database provides a clear picture of the number and status of cases pending before the treaty bodies. A draft complaints manual was prepared and a number of fact sheets were revised.

The second workshop on follow-up to concluding observations of treaty bodies was held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, in December, and preparations began for follow-up workshops to be held in 2004.

Nearly half of the documents mandated by the Commission on Human Rights were submitted in compliance with United Nations rules and procedures, including the rule that documents must be made available 10 weeks before the relevant meeting. Only two per cent of the documents exceeded the length limit.

The first workshop for NGOs, national human rights institutions and the media on the human rights treaty system was welcomed, and participants encouraged the implementation of in-country follow-up seminars. Interaction with the secretariats of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the

African Union has deepened, and joint training programmes and staff exchanges are planned.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

A number of planned activities were not implemented because of insufficient human and financial resources. Given the priority placed on supporting the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against children, the International Workshop on Juvenile Justice was postponed. A system for compiling and updating information on best practices in implementing human rights recommendations was not established, and the updating of the reporting manual was postponed, pending finalization of the recommendations made in keeping with the Secretary-General's plan to reform reporting under human rights treaties. Delays in the payment of pledged funds resulted in the postponement of training workshops for NGOs, national human rights institutions and media networks until late in the year.

## ■ FUNDING

The United Nations regular budget provided for 30 professional and 15 general service staff; voluntary contributions provided for 17 professional and 5 general service staff.

## The Treaties

*International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965)*

*International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) (1966)*

*International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)*

*Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979)*

*Convention against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1984)*

*Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)*

*International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (1990)*

## The Treaty Bodies

*Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)*

*Human Rights Committee (HRC)*

*Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)*

*Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)*

*Committee against Torture (CAT)*

*Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)*

*Committee on the Convention of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)*

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	1,371,203
Adjustment	0
Income from contributions	2,936,264
Other funds available <sup>1</sup>	7,515
Total funds available	4,314,982
Expenditure <sup>2</sup>	1,749,915
<b>Closing balance<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>2,565,067</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS.

<sup>2</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	1,205,989	1,446,324
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	7,433
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	121,308	60,324
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	183,610	0
Contractual services	15,617	27
General operating expenses	3,071	30,687
Supplies and acquisitions	(7,794)	27,711
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	26,796	19,579
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,548,597</b>	<b>1,592,085</b>
Programme support costs	201,318	206,971
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,749,915</b>	<b>1,799,056</b>

## SUPPORT TO HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANS AND BODIES

### BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Support to human rights bodies and organs	3,988,674	2,399,087	1,749,915	1,799,056
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,988,674</b>	<b>2,399,087</b>	<b>1,749,915</b>	<b>1,799,056</b>

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Earmarking by donor	Allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Unearmarked contributions</i>			
Algeria	Human rights bodies and organs	50,000	49,978
Cameroon*	Human rights bodies and organs	9,059	0
Costa Rica*	Human rights bodies and organs	5,000	0
Denmark	Human rights bodies and organs	316,957	294,551
France	Human rights bodies and organs	65,881	69,260
Ireland	Human rights bodies and organs	76,911	85,000
Malta	Human rights bodies and organs	1,500	1,500
Spain	Barcelona forum	60,140	60,000
Sweden	Human rights bodies and organs	58,208	33,157
Private donor*	Human rights bodies and organs	100	0
<i>Earmarking to HR bodies and organs</i>			
Germany	Human rights bodies and organs	164,654	176,678
Ireland	Human rights bodies and organs	365,344	403,755
Italy	Human rights bodies and organs	285,714	285,714
Norway	Human rights bodies and organs	273,973	281,627
Sweden	Human rights bodies and organs	291,036	302,510
Switzerland	Human rights bodies and organs	17,986	18,382
<i>Specific earmarking</i>			
Australia	CD-ROM (59th CHR)	2,519	2,500
Switzerland	Treaty reporting in Bosnia & Herzegovina	19,231	18,519
United Kingdom	IT support to treaty bodies	456,559	0
European Commission	Follow-up to TB recommendations	0	853,133
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,494,462</b>	<b>2,936,264</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* Pledged and paid in late 2003 and recorded as income by OHCHR in 2004.



# RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS: SUPPORT TO THE SPECIAL PROCEDURES

## ■ BACKGROUND

The special procedures are mechanisms established by the Commission on Human Rights to address either specific country situations or thematic issues. The special procedures provide a link between the international community, individual governments, civil society and victims of human rights abuses. Although the mandates given to special procedure mechanisms vary, their common tasks are to examine, monitor, advise and publicly report on human rights situations in specific countries or territories (country mandates) or on major currents concerning human rights violations worldwide (thematic mandates). After receiving information on alleged human rights violations, the special procedures mandate-holders work with the governments involved to address the allegations. At the invitation of governments, they may undertake country visits to assess the human rights situation and recommend improvements.

There are currently 35 special procedures mandates serviced by OHCHR: 25 thematic mandates and 10 country-specific mandates. Over the past decade, OHCHR has strengthened the analytical, communications, information and logistical assistance that it is mandated to provide to special procedures. In his 2002 report, "Strengthening of the United Nations: An agenda for further change", the Secretary-General emphasized the vital role of special procedures and called on OHCHR to strengthen its support to special procedures.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

The long-term objectives of the project are to:

- ♥ Support thematic and country-specific mechanisms to enable mandate-holders to respond to requests for action in a timely and effective manner. This includes fielding fact-finding missions, conducting relevant studies within the scope of the mandates, and coordinating action with other partners

within and outside the United Nations system, especially with human rights treaty bodies and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs);

- ♥ Ensure that timely and efficient action is taken in response to requests for urgent intervention on behalf of persons at risk of human rights violations through the Quick Response Desk;
- ♥ Ensure that allegations of human rights violations are adequately processed and addressed with the government concerned; and
- ♥ Develop an information and awareness-raising infrastructure: This includes providing induction sessions to new mandate-holders, upgrading the web site on special procedures and developing individual web sites for each mandate, producing publications on special procedures, and developing training modules on special procedures.

Immediate objectives in 2003 included:

- ♥ Developing a system to facilitate follow-up to communications sent by mandate-holders;
- ♥ Ensuring the consistency of data entered into the thematic database and extending its coverage to include as many thematic and country-specific mandates as possible; and
- ♥ Providing funding to ensure that thematic mandate-holders, accompanied by one OHCHR staff member, can conduct one additional fact-finding mission per year and can participate in seminars, conferences and other meetings.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

**Documentation:** Some 103 reports were submitted by special procedures mandate-holders to the 59th session of the Commission on Human Rights; 18 reports were submitted to the 58th session of the General Assembly. All the reports were available to participants before the opening of the Commission's session, and edited versions of all the reports submitted by special procedures were available on OHCHR's web site in advance of the session.



**Fact-finding missions:** Special procedures mandate-holders undertook 77 fact-finding missions (62 of them by thematic mechanisms, and 15 of them by geographic mechanisms), on which they will report to the 60th session of the Commission on Human Rights.

**Communications and urgent action:** During 2003, the Quick Response Desk extended coverage of the urgent-action database to all thematic and geographic mandates. More than 670 communications dealing with cases where an alleged human rights violation is ongoing or has a high risk of occurring (urgent appeals) were sent to governments, some 60 per cent of which were communications sent on behalf of two or more mandate-holders (joint urgent appeals). During the year, 350 communications concerning allegations of past violations of human rights (letters of allegation) were sent to governments. Since July, all letters of allegations were processed by the Quick Response Desk through the urgent-action database. The urgent-action database was also upgraded to facilitate coordination of and follow-up to communications, and an improved design makes it more user-friendly. The new database was launched in January 2004.

**Thematic studies:** A number of thematic studies have been undertaken, either at the request of the Commission on Human Rights or the General Assembly, or at the mandate-holders' own initiatives. These studies allow mandate-holders to analyze, define and clarify specific rights and the relationship between these rights and other human rights. Studies undertaken during 2003 include: "Implementing the right to access to information"; "The sale and trade of instruments of torture"; "The situation of Muslim and Arab peoples in various parts of the world"; "Migrant domestic workers"; and "Political platforms which promote or incite racial discrimination".

**Coordination:** During their annual meeting, mandate-holders focused their discussions on the Secretary-General's 2002 reform agenda with respect to special procedures (Action 4) and ways to build on OHCHR's first steps in implementing the agenda. Participants also discussed implementation of Action 2, particularly concerning greater interaction between UNCTs and special procedures.

**Information-sharing:** The establishment of an electronic list-serve enables regular sharing of information among special procedures experts. In addition, the information kit for special procedures mandate-holders was updated and made available to

all experts at their annual meeting. During the year, three individual induction sessions were organized: Newly appointed experts were briefed on the United Nations human rights mechanisms, OHCHR and its activities, and the special procedures' methods of work. They also met with OHCHR staff and management, NGOs, Member States, and relevant United Nations partner organizations.

**Collaboration with human rights mechanisms and the United Nations system:** The additional staff support and activities provided from extra-budgetary resources have improved the ability of special procedures to incorporate the work of other human rights mechanisms into their own mandates and to share the results of their work with other human rights bodies. Increased support also improves the extent to which the special procedures can collaborate with, benefit from and encourage the human rights-related activities of other United Nations bodies and agencies.

**Dialogue with the Commission on Human Rights:** At its 59th session, the Commission on Human Rights held an interactive dialogue with special procedures mandate-holders which significantly improved communication between special procedures and Member States. Eight additional countries extended a standing invitation to thematic special procedures during 2003, bringing the total number of countries that had issued such invitations to 48.

**Review of special procedures:** In the context of Action 4 of the Secretary-General's reform OHCHR initiated a review of special procedures mechanisms. This review resulted in preliminary steps taken to:

- ♥ Identify ways of raising awareness among OHCHR's partners about the special procedures, including by upgrading the relevant page of the web site, developing a training module on special procedures, and producing additional briefing materials on special procedures;
- ♥ Develop a methodology and analysis capacity in the Office to rationalize and streamline the special procedures' methods of work; and
- ♥ Explore linkages and cooperation with the field and with United Nations technical assistance work, particularly in the context of Action 2 of the Secretary-General's reform agenda.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

In response to a recommendation made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services, a Special Procedures Branch was created on 1 May 2003. The Branch services the mandates previously serviced by the thematic team of the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch. The internal structure of the thematic team was reviewed with the aim of improving the new Branch's managerial structure and strengthening its coordination and information capacities.

Some 51 staff members, including 40 professionals, nine secretaries and two data processors, who are funded by both regular and extra-budgetary resources, are directly servicing special procedures mandates in Special Procedures Branch, the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch and the Research and Right to Development Branch. At a minimum, one professional staff should service each special procedure mandate. Since funds appropriated to special procedures in 2003 under the regular budget were still insufficient to allow for support at this level, extra-budgetary funds were used to bridge the gap.

Each year, the regular budget provides funds for two to three field visits by mandate-holders, two visits to Geneva to report to the Commission on Human Rights and to hold consultations, and one visit to New York for those who also report to the General Assembly. In 2003, extra-budgetary resources were used to cover additional visits, when necessary, to allow OHCHR geographic desk officers to participate in certain field missions by thematic mandate-holders, and to allow mandate-holders to participate in conferences and seminars.

Consultants, hired on an *ad hoc* basis, assisted in conducting in-depth research for studies on human rights issues related to various mandates.

## ■ COORDINATION

Special procedures mandate-holders coordinate their field visits, communications on individual cases, and substantive studies with a wide range of partners, including governments, OHCHR field offices, UNCTs, United Nations departments and agencies, regional inter-governmental organizations, international, regional and local NGOs, academic institutions, and victims of human rights violations.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The direct and short-term beneficiaries of the project are special procedures mandate-holders. In addition, through improved support to mandate-holders, more cases are brought to the attention of governments and the international community, and these cases are more systematically pursued. Since recommendations of the special procedures have often triggered actions by governments to benefit individuals or groups, the ultimate beneficiaries of these mechanisms are individuals and victims of human rights abuses.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Strengthened and improved support to special procedures has resulted in greater efficiency of these procedures, and has enhanced their effectiveness. For example, the capacity of special procedures mandate-holders to analyze and clarify further the substance of their mandates has improved.

This has had a direct impact on victims of human rights violations: Special procedures mandate-holders have brought more individual cases to the attention of concerned governments and continue to cooperate with the latter in identifying adequate means to fight impunity and take remedial action; follow-up on such cases will be further developed; more fact-finding missions will be undertaken and follow-up thereto will be possible, including through the active involvement of partners; improved coordination with OHCHR field operations and UNCTs will bring special procedures closer to victims.

## ■ FUNDING

Resources under the regular budget still do not adequately cover the requirements of the special procedures. For example, fewer than half of the professionals servicing special procedures are funded by the regular budget. In recent years, OHCHR has resorted to the use of extra-budgetary resources to recruit additional staff and engage in activities aimed at building the capacity of special procedures. As in previous years, most of the extra-budgetary funds available in 2003 were devoted to ensuring that each mandate was serviced by at least one staff member, maintaining continuity in servicing the mandates, and strengthening OHCHR's support to special procedures.



## Thematic mandates

*Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances (1980)*

*Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (1982)*

*Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (1985)*

*Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (1986)*

*Special Rapporteur on the question of the use of mercenaries (1987)*

*Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (1990)*

*Working Group on arbitrary detention (1991)*

*Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons (1992)*

*Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (1993)*

*Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression (1993)*

*Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (1994)*

*Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences (1994)*

*Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes (1995)*

*Independent Expert on the right to development (1998)*

*Special Rapporteur on education (1998)*

*Independent Expert on extreme poverty (1998)*

*Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (1999)*

*Special Rapporteur on adequate housing (2000)*

*Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders (2000)*

*Special Rapporteur on the right to food (2000)*

*Independent Expert on structural adjustment policies and foreign debt (2000)*

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples (2001)*

*Special Rapporteur on the right to everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health (2002)*

*Working Group people of African descent (2002)*

*Special Representative of the Secretary-General on children in armed conflicts (1996)*

## Country mandates

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (2003)*

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq (1991)*

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (1992)*

*Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia (1993)*

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 (1993)*

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia (1993)*

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (1994)*

*Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi (1995)*

*Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti (1995)*

*Independent Expert on technical cooperation and advisory services in Liberia (2003)*

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	1,714,502
Adjustment	0
Income from contributions	3,665,421
Other funds available <sup>1</sup>	7,300
Total funds available	5,387,223
Expenditure <sup>2</sup>	1,909,312
<b>Closing balance<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>3,477,911</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS.

<sup>2</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	1,555,747	1,372,584
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	110,984	107,704
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	8,912	(7,221)
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	12,960	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	59	(5,894)
Supplies and acquisitions	995	16,934
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,689,657</b>	<b>1,484,107</b>
Programme support costs	219,655	192,934
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,909,312</b>	<b>1,677,041</b>

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003 US\$	Revised budget 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2002 (final) US\$
Support to the special procedures	2,994,726	2,518,337	1,909,312	1,677,041
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,994,726</b>	<b>2,518,337</b>	<b>1,909,312</b>	<b>1,677,041</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Earmarking by donor	Allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Unearmarked contributions</i>			
Denmark	Special procedures	316,957	294,551
Ireland	Special procedures	323,236	357,360
Saudi Arabia	Special procedures	100,000	100,000
South Africa	Special procedures	17,800	17,540
<i>Earmarking to special procedures</i>			
Belgium	Special procedures	192,097	189,801
Finland	Special procedures	114,286	117,371
France	Special procedures	65,862	69,240
Germany	Special procedures	85,714	81,345
Ireland	Special procedures	313,152	346,327
Netherlands	Special procedures	500,000	500,000
Poland	Special procedures	5,000	5,000
Sweden	Special procedures	349,243	363,013
Switzerland	Special procedures	53,957	54,356
<i>Specific earmarking</i>			
Canada	SR violence against women	22,901	20,215
Switzerland	SR human rights defenders	35,971	36,762
European Commission	7 thematic mandates	0	1,112,540
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,496,176</b>	<b>3,665,421</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.



# GENDER MAINSTREAMING, DISABILITY AND HIV/AIDS

## ■ BACKGROUND

Certain groups of people are prevented from fully enjoying their human rights because they are victims of discrimination based on their membership to a group. The General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights mandated OHCHR to undertake research in and develop activities that address the human rights dimension of gender inequality, disability and HIV/AIDS.

- ♥ *Gender inequality:* Women make up more than half of the world's population. OHCHR focuses on facilitating the integration of gender perspectives and women's rights issues into all the activities of the United Nations human rights system. Particular attention is paid to sexual and reproductive rights and harmful traditional practices.
- ♥ *Disability and human rights:* Over 600 million people, or approximately 10 per cent of the world's population, have a disability of one form or another; more than two-thirds of them live in developing countries. OHCHR is working to strengthen its work on the human-rights dimension of disability.
- ♥ *HIV/AIDS:* Some 40 million people around the world live with HIV/AIDS, the vast majority of them in developing countries. Discrimination against persons with HIV/AIDS can prevent them from getting treatment and support, thereby increasing the possibility that others will become infected with HIV. The promotion and protection of human rights is now considered a core component of international efforts to combat the pandemic.

## ■ OBJECTIVES

The immediate objective of the project is to improve OHCHR's capacity to:

- ♥ Conduct research and analysis to develop policies on human rights aspects of gender inequality, disability and HIV/AIDS;

- ♥ Support the integration of the human rights dimension of gender inequalities, disability and HIV/AIDS into the activities of the United Nations human rights system; and
- ♥ Encourage the mainstreaming of a human rights approach to gender, disability and HIV/AIDS activities throughout the United Nations system.

The ultimate objective of the project is to increase OHCHR's capacity to provide global and regional advocacy, including by encouraging human rights mechanisms, governments, NGOs, civil society, and national and international organizations to address the human rights dimension of gender inequality, disability and HIV/AIDS in their policies and activities.

## ■ IMPLEMENTATION

### Gender

- ♥ Implementation of OHCHR's gender mainstreaming strategy, adopted in July 2002, continued. The role of the network of gender focal points continues to be particularly important in that regard. In addition, emphasis was placed on the gender review of draft OHCHR project proposals, particularly at the pre-screening stage. Monitoring reports presented to the Commission on Human Rights now pay particular attention to the integration of gender perspectives in OHCHR's activities (as well as those of the inter-governmental and expert bodies) and to the participation of women in human rights activities.
- ♥ In cooperation with the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the brochure *Gender and Racism*, published for the 2001 Durban World Conference, was updated. The new booklet will be published in 2004.
- ♥ The late High Commissioner took part in commemoration events related to the International Women's Day held in New York on 7 February 2003, drawing attention to women's rights in relation to the Millennium Development Goals. He also



opened a panel on violence against women during the 59th session of the Commission on Human Rights in April 2003 and led a public event organized in Vienna in May to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights, providing an assessment of achievements and remaining challenges in the area of women's rights.

- ♥ Work continued on integrating gender perspectives and women's rights issues into the human rights work of United Nations missions to areas of conflict, particularly in Iraq, Côte d'Ivoire and Afghanistan. OHCHR continued to work with and through the inter-agency network on gender and women's equality. Inter-agency work is also particularly important with regard to issues such as gender and trade, and gender and Millennium Development Goals.
- ♥ Training opportunities on human rights perspectives to gender activities was provided to members of the gender network. OHCHR participated in a meeting on women's political participation organized by the OSCE in Warsaw in May, a training workshop on new women's rights instruments in Africa organized by the Centre for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria in September, a joint meeting on women and armed conflict, focusing on Afghanistan, organized in Paris by the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and the OECD/DAC Network on Gender Equality, and a meeting on women's participation in the negotiation of peace agreements organized by DAW, the Office of the Special Adviser on the Advancement of Women and Gender Equality, and the Department of Political Affairs in Ottawa in November.

### Disabilities

- ♥ The study, published in English in 2002, on *Current use and future potential of the United Nations human rights instruments in the context of disability* was published in June 2003 in French and Spanish. OHCHR worked closely with NGOs, particularly the Disability Rights Promotion International, to facilitate the provision of relevant information to the human rights treaty bodies. A fact sheet on human rights and disability, based on the study, will be published in 2004.
- ♥ OHCHR participated in the second session of the Ad Hoc Committee established by the General Assembly to consider proposals for a comprehensive international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. The session was held in New York in June.
- ♥ OHCHR staff participated in regional meetings held in Ecuador (April), South Africa (May) Lebanon (May) and Thailand (October) to discuss the proposed convention.
- ♥ OHCHR shared its expertise on the human rights dimension of disabilities in meetings organized by the Council of Europe (February), the European Disability Forum (April), the World Health Organization (May), and the Landmine Survivors Network (October).
- ♥ Throughout the year, OHCHR also convened a series of informal meetings for Geneva-based agencies to facilitate their increased attention to the human rights of persons with disabilities. Participation and interest in these informal consultations has grown steadily, with involvement of key NGOs.

### HIV/AIDS

While the scale and complexity of human rights challenges presented by the global HIV/AIDS pandemic are enormous, OHCHR's work in this area seeks to influence the strategies and policies of others and to support a human rights approach in the development and implementation of HIV/AIDS-related activities.

- ♥ Working with UNAIDS, OHCHR drafted briefing notes for use by the human rights treaty bodies. They contain information on the background and status of the epidemic in selected countries, analyses of the links between HIV/AIDS and the core human rights treaties, and identification of particular issues of concern. OHCHR also provided support to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in developing the General Comment on HIV/AIDS and the rights of the child and the General Comment on adolescent health and development.
- ♥ In June, UNAIDS and OHCHR jointly hosted a meeting to develop a strategy for integrating HIV/AIDS-related issues into the mandates and work of special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts appointed by the Commission on Human Rights, with the aim of strengthening country-level human rights work. The Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on HIV/AIDS in Asia-Pacific also attended the meeting. Plenary discussions addressed HIV/AIDS-related human rights issues in the context of mandates of the special procedures, women, children, migrant prisoners, and emergency and armed conflict situations.
- ♥ OHCHR and UNAIDS continued to promote and disseminate the OHCHR/UNAIDS *International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights*. The two agencies are developing a set of

best practices and case studies that demonstrate how the human rights dimensions of HIV/AIDS can best be addressed at the national level; they are also developing training manuals for national human rights institutions.

- ♥ Working with WHO and UNAIDS, OHCHR developed a cartoon aimed at young people that provides rights-based information about HIV/AIDS. The Office also prepared a fact sheet on HIV/AIDS, gender and human rights which will be included in an updated inter-agency kit on gender and HIV/AIDS.

In 2004, activities will focus more on broader dissemination of information concerning HIV/AIDS and human rights at the regional, sub-regional and national levels, working with United Nations Country Teams and developing practical and user-friendly materials.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

As awareness of the human rights dimensions of gender inequality, disability and HIV/AIDS increases, so does the demand for OHCHR's involvement in these three areas. Human and financial resources allocated to this project are already strained and greater resources are needed if OHCHR is to be able to meet these growing demands. Limited resources for extensive or systematic staff training and capacity building for experts is a particular challenge for gender mainstreaming.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Activities were implemented by the Research and Right to Development Branch, in close cooperation with other branches dealing with treaty bodies and national human rights institutions and the network of OHCHR gender focal points. A number of the activities outlined above were organized jointly with UNAIDS, which directly funds related expenditures. Activities are also frequently implemented in close collaboration with DAW, the Division of Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the ILO, the WHO, and a number of NGOs and civil society organizations, including women's organizations and organizations representing persons with disabilities.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The project benefits the international human rights mechanisms, including OHCHR, the treaty bodies and the special

procedures of the Commission on Human Rights. United Nations bodies and agencies, national human rights institutions and NGOs benefited by gaining greater awareness of the human rights dimensions of gender inequality, disability and HIV/AIDS. The ultimate beneficiaries of this programme are persons vulnerable to discrimination based on sex and disability and those who are infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and those who may become so.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Demand for additional support (from staff members) concerning the need to integrate gender perspectives and women's rights and for contributions (from other organizations) continues to grow and can be regarded as evidence of the success of the awareness-raising activities. The work of the Office in the area of disability has been received with growing interest amongst its partners compared to previous years with a growing demand from governments, civil society groups and inter-governmental organizations for OHCHR participation in their activities. The issue of HIV/AIDS is now routinely addressed by the various human rights treaty bodies when they consider the periodic reports submitted by States Parties and increasingly highlighted by special procedures.

## ■ FUNDING

In addition to the expenditure of project funds as reported, implementation benefited from additional regular budget funds to cover the cost of one post that had initially been budgeted under the project. Joint activities on HIV/AIDS, which had been included in the budget, were funded directly by UNAIDS.

Some of the expenditure related to translation and printing of publications is charged to project accounts with significant delays, and several activities were undertaken in collaboration with partners, minimizing expenditure in 2003. The recruitment of a senior gender adviser was delayed following the death of the late High Commissioner. Earmarked funds for this post were carried over into 2004. This situation has led to an unusually high carry-over of funds into 2004.

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	498,500
Adjustment <sup>1</sup>	19,061
Income from contributions	527,527
Other funds available <sup>2</sup>	1,815
Total funds available	1,046,903
Expenditure <sup>3</sup>	312,780
<b>Closing balance<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>734,123</b>

- <sup>1</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings and refunds to donors.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS.  
<sup>3</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.  
<sup>4</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	223,850	252,276
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	3,030	4,694
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	25,922	35,235
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	45,396
General operating expenses	(2,484)	21,798
Supplies and acquisitions	1,204	5,072
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	25,274	59,071
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>276,796</b>	<b>423,542</b>
Programme support costs	35,984	55,060
<b>Total</b>	<b>312,780</b>	<b>478,602</b>

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003 US\$	Revised budget 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2002 (final) US\$
Gender mainstreaming, disability and HIV/AIDS	1,058,471	539,461	312,780	478,602
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,058,471</b>	<b>539,461</b>	<b>312,780</b>	<b>478,602</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Earmarking by donor	Allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Earmarking to gender, disability and HIV/AIDS</i>			
Ireland	Gender, disability and HIV/AIDS	260,960	288,606
Netherlands	Gender, disability and HIV/AIDS	100,000	100,000
Norway	Gender, disability and HIV/AIDS	75,342	77,598
<i>Specific earmarking</i>			
Germany	Regional consultation on women and housing	28,571	27,115
Spain	Gender mainstreaming	151,696	34,208
<b>Total</b>		<b>616,569</b>	<b>527,527</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.



# MINORITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

## INTRODUCTION

OHCHR works directly with indigenous and minority organizations from all parts of the world. Proposed activities for 2003 were based on the recommendations of the principal United Nations and expert bodies dealing with indigenous peoples and minorities, such as the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and its Working Groups. Activities included providing training to indigenous and minority groups and convening workshops and seminars to facilitate dialogue among those groups, governments and United Nations agencies, including at the regional level. The long-term aims of the project are to see that indigenous and minority issues are included in the work of the treaty bodies and technical assistance projects, and in the development of country-level human rights activities, by building partnerships with governments, indigenous peoples, minorities, and other United Nations organizations.

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	141,547
Adjustment	0
Income from contributions	241,483
Other funds available <sup>1</sup>	747
<b>Total funds available</b>	<b>383,777</b>
Expenditure <sup>2</sup>	124,709
<b>Closing balance<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>259,068</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS.

<sup>2</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	106,451	135,143
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	14,563
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	12,828	48,007
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	(1)
General operating expenses	10,540	290
Supplies and acquisitions	(351)	3,155
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	(19,106)	137,140
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>110,362</b>	<b>338,297</b>
Programme support costs	14,347	43,978
<b>Total</b>	<b>124,709</b>	<b>382,275</b>



## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Minorities and indigenous peoples	800,718	384,058	124,709	382,275
<b>Total</b>	<b>800,718</b>	<b>384,058</b>	<b>124,709</b>	<b>382,275</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Earmarking by donor	Allocation	Pledge	Income
		US\$	US\$
<i>Unearmarked contributions</i>			
Armenia	Minorities and indigenous peoples	1,250	1,250
Denmark	Minorities and indigenous peoples	41,141	38,260
Ireland	Minorities and indigenous peoples	45,219	50,000
Spain	Minorities and indigenous peoples	66,797	66,693
<i>Specific earmarking</i>			
Norway	Protection of minorities	68,493	70,574
Switzerland	Minorities	14,388	14,706
<b>Total</b>		<b>237,288</b>	<b>241,483</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## MINORITIES

### ■ BACKGROUND

Minorities number as many as one billion people, or 15 to 20 per cent of the world's population. OHCHR's work on minority issues has been mandated in resolutions from the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. The Secretary-General's reform agenda supports efforts to mainstream the rights of persons belonging to minorities into the work of the United Nations.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Facilitate the participation of disadvantaged communities in the Working Group on Minorities.
- ♥ Raise awareness of the causes of rights violations against persons belonging to minorities and suggest ways to address them.

- ♥ Support the integration of minority issues into the work of the human rights bodies, especially the treaty bodies, national institutions, thematic special procedures and regional teams.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### The Working Group on Minorities

OHCHR supported the participation of several minority representatives from South, South-East and West Asia, Latin America,

the Southern Caucuses and Central Africa in a training programme on how to use the human rights procedures to better promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to minorities. The programme was held in May, just prior to the Working Group on Minorities. The *United Nations Guide for Minorities* was used as the primary training material. Other teams within OHCHR gave sessions on treaty bodies, individual complaints procedures, and other United Nations human rights mechanisms.

Over 2,000 copies of the *United Nations Guide for Minorities*, translated into all six official United Nations languages, were distributed for other training events throughout the year. Statements made by minority representatives at the Working Group on Minorities were published on OHCHR's web site.

### Enhancing the understanding of minority issues and regional specificities

Experts on minority issues were identified and commissioned to write papers on the situation of minorities in specific countries and regions including Ghana, Fiji, Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malaysia, Nigeria, Philippines, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Asia, Southern Caucasus, Thailand, Vietnam, Rom in the Americas and Afro-descendants in Latin America. Minority representatives from Colombia, Sri Lanka and the Russian Federation were selected to receive training from OHCHR on the work of the treaty bodies.

### IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The project was managed by a human rights officer with experience in minority and cultural-diversity issues. OHCHR staff from the treaty bodies and special procedures units participated in the training programme.

### IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Minority representatives were given an opportunity to address international meetings and to network with other representatives.

## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

### BACKGROUND

Indigenous peoples are among the most disadvantaged, poor and discriminated groups in society, whether living in developed or developing countries. The United Nations has established a number of mechanisms that promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples, including the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Working Group on the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples of the Commission on Human Rights, and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of

human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples. The International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1995–2004) was proclaimed by the General Assembly to promote international cooperation in all areas and is coordinated by the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Office in the area of indigenous peoples' rights are to organize meetings mandated by the legislative bodies of the United Nations, implement relevant recommendations, prepare research, policy notes, reports and background papers on indigenous issues, undertake activities in the framework of the International Decade, contribute to inter-agency processes and the newly established Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, support the two Voluntary Funds on indigenous issues, and assist the Special Rapporteur on indigenous issues. In addition, the Office aims to strengthen national protection of indigenous peoples' rights, increase indigenous participation and decision-making in the work of the United Nations, and build the capacity of indigenous organizations so they can defend their rights.

### IMPLEMENTATION

- During the reporting period, the Office organized the 22nd session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (July) whose principal theme was "indigenous peoples and globalization", and the ninth session of the working group on the draft indigenous declaration (September).
- OHCHR helped to research the administration of justice and indigenous peoples for the Special Rapporteur's annual report to the Commission, assisted the Special Rapporteur with case work on human rights violations, and organized two official missions to Mexico and Chile (June and July). The Office also organized a seminar on the administration of justice in cooperation with the National University for Distance Learning in Madrid (October).
- The Office provided reports to and participated in the second session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (May), which included a high-level panel discussion on indigenous children. OHCHR also organized a day of discussions on indigenous children among the Committee on the Rights of the Child (September).

- ~ Staff participated in three meetings of the Inter-agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (February, July and September), a body established by the High Commissioner in 2001 to promote inter-agency cooperation on indigenous peoples and contribute to the Permanent Forum.
- ~ Substantive contributions were also made to the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (see page 30 and 32).
- ~ As in previous years, the Office organized the Indigenous Fellowship Programme (April–October), which provides human rights training to 15 indigenous resource persons.
- ~ In cooperation with the World Bank, OHCHR organized a workshop on follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (February) and, in accordance with an ECOSOC decision, organized a seminar on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous peoples (December).
- ~ OHCHR contributed to two major research publications: a joint OHCHR/United Nations Habitat project on indigenous peoples and the right to adequate housing, and the UNICEF Digest on indigenous children. Approximately 30 reports on indigenous issues were prepared for the legislative bodies, including a review of United Nations mechanisms relating to indigenous peoples for the July ECOSOC session.
- ~ The Office also coordinated and supported activities undertaken within the framework of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (see page 32).

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Seminars on treaties, administration of justice, and sustainable development were appreciated by States and indigenous peoples and the recommendations made during the seminars were disseminated to the appropriate United Nations bodies. Indigenous experts were elected as Chairperson/Rapporteur in two of the seminars. Participants in previous human rights training sessions participated in numerous United Nations activities as experts and lobbyists.

## ■ FUNDING

Most of these activities were supported by regular budget funds other than activities related to the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.



# BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF OHCHR

## INTRODUCTION

Activities under this section represent core support to the activities of the Office that are not funded by the United Nations regular budget.

In 2003, "Building the capacity of OHCHR" included six core areas of work which are described in the sections which follow:

- ♥ Executive office, media relations, communications and NGO partnerships;
- ♥ Policy analysis and methodology;
- ♥ Resource mobilization;
- ♥ Core management system;
- ♥ Human rights knowledge management; and
- ♥ Staff security.

Some of the activities described herewith form part of the External Relations Branch which seeks to help communicate better the work and achievements of the United Nations in promoting and protecting human rights. This branch includes the resource mobilization unit and media relations, which were previously part of the executive office and two new units: communications and NGO partnerships.

The executive office focused on providing immediate support to the High Commissioner and his Deputy, and sought to improve coordination, expert advice, planning and management further to the creation of the post of chief of the executive office.

OHCHR's core management system seeks to strengthen the Office's capacity to provide basic administrative support for budgeting and for financial reporting and control.

Policy analysis and methodology, and information knowledge management fall within the Research and Right to Development Branch and seeks to develop an evaluation and lessons learned

capacity within the Office, develop human rights manuals and training materials, integrate human rights into humanitarian work as well as ensure that the Office is well-equipped in terms of information and reference services, the Documentation and Electronic Information Centre, registry, IT services and publications.

OHCHR's security unit located in the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch, focused on ensuring the safety of staff members as they perform their tasks and responsibilities in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator (UNSECOORD).

Contributions received in this area of work reflect positive interest and concern in ensuring that OHCHR strengthens its core management and administrative functions. A high closing balance at the end of 2003 was essentially due to the delay of some activities related to media relations and communications in line with the late High Commissioner's priorities and the need to secure adequate funds for the renewal of staff contracts in the new year.

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	4,515,398
Adjustment <sup>1</sup>	35,470
Income from contributions	4,213,424
Other funds available <sup>2</sup>	6,556
<b>Total funds available</b>	<b>8,770,848</b>
Expenditure <sup>3</sup>	4,812,060
<b>Closing balance<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>3,958,788</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings and refunds to donors.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes interest income earned on funds held by UNOPS.  
<sup>3</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.  
<sup>4</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003.

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003	Revised budget 2003	Expenditure 2003	Expenditure 2002 (final)
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
Executive office, media relations, communications and NGO partnerships	1,810,825	1,529,379	623,616	669,637
Policy analysis and methodology	558,333	261,539	45,180	0
Resource mobilization	856,879	810,611	758,758	597,275
Core management system	1,743,590	1,585,586	1,183,590	587,945
Human rights knowledge management	2,272,204	1,610,293	1,837,030	1,106,569
Staff security	561,723	361,942	363,886	377,286
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,803,554</b>	<b>6,159,350</b>	<b>4,812,060</b>	<b>3,338,712</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Earmarking by donor	Allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Unearmarked contributions</i>			
Denmark	Media relations, communications and NGO partnerships	107,575	100,000
	Core management system	53,819	50,000
	Staff security	24,406	22,653
Finland	Executive office	97,371	100,000
	HR knowledge management	243,429	250,000
	Staff security	100,331	103,039
Indonesia	Executive office	20,000	19,945
Liechtenstein	Executive office	41,135	41,135
New Zealand	HR knowledge management	20,504	20,177
Saudi Arabia	Resource mobilization	10,000	10,000
Spain	Media relations, communications and NGO partnerships	8,819	8,798
	Resource mobilization	15,000	15,000
	Core management system	50,112	50,000
Sweden	HR knowledge management	19,823	19,823
	Staff security	26,310	27,347
<i>Earmarking to building the capacity of OHCHR</i>			
Ireland	Resource mobilization	99,457	110,000
	HR knowledge management	109,311	120,884
Netherlands	Resource mobilization	150,000	150,000
	HR knowledge management	400,000	400,000
	Staff security	29,279	29,279
Norway	Resource mobilization	97,260	100,000
	HR knowledge management	256,110	263,254
	Staff security	194,575	200,000
Sweden	Media relations, communications and NGO partnerships	37,598	39,080
	Resource mobilization	33,608	34,933
	Core management system	115,448	120,000
	HR knowledge management	42,331	44,000
	Staff security	120,258	125,000
<i>Specific earmarking</i>			
Spain	Public information (Palais Wilson exhibition)	0	34,000
Sweden	Resource mobilization	232,829	242,009
United Kingdom	NGO, media and communication	684,838	923,348
	Policy planning and methodology	0	439,750
	Resource mobilization	504,403	0
	Core management system	756,925	0
	Information technology and management	821,806	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,524,670</b>	<b>4,213,424</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE, MEDIA RELATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND NGO PARTNERSHIPS

### ■ BACKGROUND

The challenge for the executive office in 2003 was to sustain continuity and progress in a time of unusual uncertainty about the leadership of OHCHR. The executive office has sought to honour the legacy of Sergio Vieira de Mello by pursuing the management and program reforms he advocated and instituted. In addition, OHCHR strengthened offices for media relations, communications and NGO partnerships.

The High Commissioner placed particular emphasis on conveying the human rights message to all parts of the world. Thus, the media relations unit and the communications and NGO partnerships unit, both within the External Relations Branch, provide support to realize the advocacy potential of the Office. The two units worked in concert to draw the attention of partners, constituencies and the public to human rights issues and to OHCHR's related work. Interviews with and comments by the High Commissioner were publicized with the aim of mobilizing support for human rights, for the human rights mechanisms, and for the Office itself. The units, which rely on organization-wide expertise to highlight important issues and nurture debate, ensured that OHCHR communicated a consistent and convincing message.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The Secretary-General's second reform report and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and its supplementary report constitute the framework within which the executive office pursued its objectives. The primary objectives were to sharpen the Organization's focus and management processes, in part through the creation of the post of chief of the executive office.

In the area of public information activities of the Office, the following specific objectives were set:

- ~ Improve the ability of OHCHR and the human rights mechanisms to communicate their policies and activities through print, television and other media;
- ~ Increase the production of basic publications, and introduce promotional and informative catalogues, leaflets and posters on human rights themes in all official United Nations languages;
- ~ Plan and implement special events and campaigns to mark International Human Rights Day and other prominent anniversaries;
- ~ Develop communications training programmes for OHCHR staff;
- ~ Improve communications with external partners, including Member States, United Nations agencies, NGOs and civil society; and
- ~ Organize public events for groups visiting OHCHR headquarters.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### Executive office

- ~ Provided assistance and advice to the Acting High Commissioner; and supervised overall management and planning processes within the office.
- ~ With the death of the High Commissioner, the chief of the executive office, whose post was created at the beginning of the year and was filled in mid-July, served as the second-ranking official at the Geneva headquarters. He directed programming and management throughout the organization, and was responsible for improving internal procedures. He ensured that there was Office-wide coordination on important issues, and that the High Commissioner received timely advice and information from the staff. The chief of the executive office chaired the Office's management board and its project review committee.

#### Media relations

- ~ Arranged more than 90 interviews with the High Commissioner, Acting High Commissioner and senior OHCHR officials for members of the international media.
- ~ Participated in more than 50 bi-weekly press briefings, and arranged three press conferences by the High Commissioner in Geneva and New York, two press conferences by the Acting High Commissioner in Geneva, and some 35 press briefings by special procedure mandate-holders.
- ~ Issued approximately 160 press releases, half of which were issued at the request of the Special Procedure mandate-holders.
- ~ Created and updated the "Press Room Page" at OHCHR's web site, including pages on the Commission on Human Rights, the Iraq emergency operation, a special "From the Field" page, and a special memorial page on the late High Commissioner.

- ♥ Assisted the Commission on Human Rights with its media relations during its 59th session by arranging two press conferences given by the Chairperson of the Commission, informing the media daily about resolutions adopted by the Commission, and issuing press kits in English and French.

### Dissemination of information

- ♥ Supported the production of several documentary films on OHCHR and the High Commissioner (for French-speaking Swiss TV and ARTE) and participated in the first International Film Festival on Human Rights held in Geneva in March 2003, which was co-sponsored by the High Commissioner.
- ♥ Undertook several missions, including to Guatemala, to prepare a human rights radio programme in Spanish to be broadcast throughout Latin America.
- ♥ Created a selection of basic information materials, posters and banners illustrating human rights themes and OHCHR activities; and produced a variety of promotional items and souvenirs displaying the OHCHR logo and human rights messages.

### Events

- ♥ Launched the human rights theme for the year 2003 - "Know Your Human Rights" - through the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI), the United Nations Information Centres (UNIC), and the United Nations Resident Coordinator system.
- ♥ Organized the participation of OHCHR in the International Open Door event at the opening of the Geneva stadium, with the Swiss Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the former President of the Swiss Confederation, and the authorities of the town of Lancy. OHCHR contributed a giant banner on the theme of human rights and set up an information stand. The Office also organized, in collaboration with Geneva State and Canton authorities, a "Vigne des Nations" event, honouring OHCHR.
- ♥ Organized events for the commemoration of Human Rights Day on 9-10 December in Geneva and New York, including: a special session of the Geneva State and Canton on the Commission on Human Rights; an exhibition to honour all Human Rights Prize-winners including the laureates of 2003; an exhibition of posters on human rights themes created by students of the Bulgarian National Academy of Art; and a panel discussion on the 10th Anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. In addition, a set of four posters on human rights themes was produced in the six official United Nations

languages, banners commemorating Human Rights Day were displayed at United Nations Headquarters in New York and at OHCHR Geneva; and human rights messages, spelled out with lasers, were displayed on the north façade of the United Nations Secretariat building in New York.

### Liaison

- ♥ Performed protocol services during official visits of groups and delegations, and organized briefings for visiting groups of academics, civil society and NGOs.
- ♥ Compiled a database of NGOs to more easily inform them about human rights mechanisms and procedures for participating in the work of the United Nations bodies, particularly in the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

The media relations unit requires more personnel, as the two professional staff now handle not only media relations for the High Commissioner and the Office, in general, but also for the many special procedures mandate-holders and treaty bodies. The communications and NGO partnerships unit is still in its infancy and is building its relationship with partners.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner positions, the executive office is composed of seven professional and eight general staff. The media relations unit consists of a spokesperson and an information officer. The spokesperson reports to the Chief of the External Relations Branch and is responsible for coordinating OHCHR's media relations. During the reporting period, the communications and NGO partnerships unit consisted of a senior communications officer and a secretary, but initiated recruitment of two more staff members.

## ■ COORDINATION

The executive office works with all branches. In 2003, a human rights officer was seconded from the Treaties and Commission Branch to the executive office in order to provide exposure and bring experience back to the branch level. In the future, other staff members will be seconded to the executive office in order to enhance the relationships between the various branches and the executive office.

OHCHR works with the DPI in disseminating information and coordinating media events, including press briefings, commemorative events and production of information materials. The Office also works with the media staff of other United Nations agencies in Geneva and around the world for joint events and campaigns. For strengthening its communications capacity, the Office coordinates with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, DPI, UNOG, the communications offices of the United Nations Secretariat, the specialized agencies and inter-governmental organizations based in Geneva. It also works with Member States, host-country institutions, private think tanks and foundations. Coordination of activities within the United Nations system is undertaken through participation in work of the Geneva-based United Nations Communications Group and through membership in the United Nations Communications Group at headquarters in New York.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of a strengthened executive office are all OHCHR partners, in particular human rights victims on whose behalf the High Commissioner is sending a human rights message. Other beneficiaries are international and national media and their readers and viewers who will receive in-depth information on the work of the Office and on key human rights issues. Target groups identified within the context of each individual theme or campaign, and NGOs also benefit from improved outreach activities.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The executive office has been effective in providing coordinated information to the Acting High Commissioner, and has substantially strengthened a range of office-wide management and coordination procedures. During bilateral consultations held with major donor governments in early 2004, many of the donors expressed satisfaction with the improvements in the executive office's operations.

In terms of public relations, OHCHR met the large media and public demand for objective and authoritative human rights information by arranging numerous interviews with the High Commissioner and Acting High Commissioner, including an appearance by the High Commissioner on the high-profile BBC programme, "Hard Talk". The Office placed an opinion piece on collective security and human rights by the late High Commissioner in a

number of major international publications, including the Wall Street Journal (United States), El Pais (Spain) and La Croix (France). The series of events commemorating International Human Rights Day and the tenth anniversary of the Vienna Conference helped to raise OHCHR's profile.

## ■ FUNDING

In the executive office, three professional staff, including the chief of the executive office, and one general staff were funded from voluntary contributions. In addition voluntary funds were used to support the spokesperson and the information officer, media-related travel to accompany the High Commissioner, printing costs for posters, translations and training. Expenditures amounted to US\$ 623,616 against a budget of US\$ 1,810,825. The post of senior communications officer was funded from the regular budget.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN EXECUTIVE OFFICE, MEDIA RELATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND NGO PARTNERSHIPS.

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	463,164	568,873
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	30,613	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	14,955	(16,615)
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	27,408	32,530
General operating expenses	4,816	1,292
Supplies and acquisitions	10,917	6,519
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>551,873</b>	<b>592,599</b>
Programme support costs	71,743	77,038
<b>Total</b>	<b>623,616</b>	<b>669,637</b>



## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE, MEDIA RELATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND NGO PARTNERSHIPS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Denmark	Unearmarked contribution	107,575	100,000
Finland	Unearmarked contribution	97,371	100,000
Indonesia	Unearmarked contribution	20,000	19,945
Liechtenstein	Unearmarked contribution	41,135	41,135
Spain	Unearmarked contribution	8,819	8,798
Spain	Public information (Palais Wilson exhibition)	0	34,000
Sweden	Capacity building	37,598	39,080
United Kingdom	NGO, media and communication	684,838	923,318
<b>Total</b>		<b>997,336</b>	<b>1,266,276</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## POLICY ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY

### ■ BACKGROUND

To ensure more efficient and consistent work throughout the Organization, OHCHR is developing a system for evaluating its own work, designing training tools, including guidelines and manuals, and elaborating a system of norms and procedures to be applied in its human rights work.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ Develop an evaluation and lessons-learned system.
- ♥ Develop human rights manuals and other training materials.
- ♥ Integrate human rights into humanitarian work.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### Evaluation and lessons learned

The methodology, education and training unit researched the evaluation systems of other United Nations agencies and international organizations, such as OECD, DANIDA and USAID, in preparation for formulating its own evaluation system. A report on its findings will be presented to OHCHR's Policy Review Board.

#### Methodology and training

A comprehensive inventory of human rights training manuals, handbooks and other materials was undertaken and a survey was conducted on the use of manuals both in the field and at headquarters. The result of the survey will be discussed in the inter-branch task force on training, which was established in 2003. Three manuals were developed and will be finalized in 2004: a *Handbook on Human Rights for Parliamentarians*, prepared in cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a *Handbook on Human Rights Conflict-Preventive Measures*, and a *Training Manual on Human Rights for the Armed Forces*.

#### Mainstreaming human rights in United Nations humanitarian work

In response to a proposal by the United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Task Force on Humanitarian Action and Human Rights, work began on developing guidelines on human rights in humanitarian action. The guidelines, intended for use by humanitarian coordinators, will complement two other publications, *Frequently Asked Questions on International Humanitarian, Human Rights and Refugee Law* and *Growing the Sheltering Tree*.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

Some activities planned for 2003 were delayed because of the restructuring of the Branch and the slow pace of the recruiting process for project personnel.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The methodology, education and training unit is located in the Research and Right to Development Branch. Recruitment of one project staff member was pending as of December 2003.

## ■ COORDINATION

OHCHR worked closely with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, Task Force on Humanitarian Action and Human Rights in integrating human rights into humanitarian work.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

OHCHR, other United Nations agencies, humanitarian agencies, such as OCHA, UNHCR, ICRC, government departments, regional organizations, NGOs and academic institutions all benefit from this project.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN POLICY ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	19,982	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	14,014	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	0	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	5,986	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>39,982</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme support costs	5,198	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,180</b>	<b>0</b>

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
United Kingdom	Policy planning and methodology	0	439,750
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>439,750</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

### ■ BACKGROUND

In 2003, US\$ 44 million was raised from Member States, foundations and individual donors; US\$ 25.8 million came from the United Nations regular budget. As OHCHR's share of the regular budget is not expected to increase dramatically in the near future, the Office will continue to rely on extra-budgetary resources if the total United Nations regular budget is maintained at zero growth.

Though OHCHR has been successful in expanding its donor base during the past few years, it still depends on a few donors for its financial security. Ten major donors provided 78 per cent of OHCHR's total voluntary contributions during the reporting period. While this is an improvement over 2002, when ten major donors provided 81 per cent of total voluntary funding, a close working relationship with the Office's 10 to 15 major donors is crucial for obtaining a higher level of predictable and flexible funding.

Despite the difficulties and uncertainties OHCHR faced during 2003, donor confidence in OHCHR remained high. Contributions increased by US\$ 4 million from the previous year, and Member

States continued to participate in briefing sessions organized by OHCHR to review substantive and financial information on the Office's activities. Since the resource mobilization unit was placed within the newly created External Relations Branch in November 2002, the work of the unit and the branch have become mutually reinforcing. External relations activities aimed at donors have helped, in turn, to build donor interest in human rights and the work of OHCHR.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ♥ *Obtain predictable and timely funding at an increased level.* Credibility, trust and transparency are the basis upon which OHCHR tries to build its relationships with its donors. Open, frank and sustained dialogue with donors in Geneva, in State capitals, and in the field must be fostered and reinforced to strengthen mutual support and understanding of the challenges facing both States and OHCHR.
- ♥ *Obtain flexible contributions.* OHCHR works with donors to promote acceptance of standardized reporting formats and to encourage contributions, even portions of annual contributions that are not earmarked.
- ♥ *Expand the donor base.* The Office seeks to obtain financial support from new budget lines among major donors and secure more funding from new donors who contribute less or irregularly.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### Negotiating with donors

- ♥ Strengthened existing relations with the main donors by regularly exchanging information on operational, political and financial issues.
- ♥ Organized bilateral annual consultations with high-level government delegations early in the year, and undertook fundraising missions to donor capitals.
- ♥ Negotiated for new contributions and reviewed existing funding agreements with the aim of improving the predictability of funding, promoting multi-year agreements, and insisting on the importance of flexible funding with less earmarking and conditions.
- ♥ Advised and briefed the High Commissioner on funding strategies.
- ♥ Carried out routine tasks in a timely manner, including following up on pledges and contributions, responding to donor requests, updating relevant funding tables, and preparing briefing notes for the High Commissioner and senior management.

#### Preparing submissions and reports

- ♥ Issued the Annual Appeal for 2004 and the Annual Report on 2002 as scheduled and presented them to Member States;
- ♥ Prepared tailored proposals for the European Commission and various foundations;
- ♥ Devoted substantial time to reporting to important individual donors in accordance with their constraints and requirements; and
- ♥ Coordinated the preparation of narrative and financial information for the United Nations Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) and participated in relevant events/meetings, such as the launch of the CAP and mid-year review of the CAP with donors.

#### Sharing information with donors

- ♥ Coordinated the narrative part of the mid-year review to be shared with donors and adjusted programmes according to priorities and the availability of funds.
- ♥ Organized formal and informal briefing sessions for Member States and donors to share information on the implementation of activities at the global, regional and country levels and/or on specific projects that are of particular interest to donors.

#### Promoting resource mobilization within OHCHR

- ♥ In coordination with the Administrative Service, continued to promote the use of the Annual Appeal as a project-planning tool within the Office, and worked with the chiefs of branches and the Administrative Service to ensure that this tool is applied consistently and effectively.
- ♥ Undertook missions in the field to monitor specific projects and train local staff on reporting and resource mobilization-related matters.
- ♥ Worked with the Administrative Service to improve the contributions tracking systems and procedures so that donors are regularly provided with accurate contribution reports and financial charts.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

In order to win greater donor confidence, OHCHR must accelerate improvements in financial and programme management, emphasizing impact and evaluations and pursuing strategic planning and rigorous prioritization. As the resource mobilization unit relies heavily on other parts of the Office to effect these changes, a pre-requisite for obtaining high levels of voluntary funding is management's will to promote such reform.

All funding agreements with donors must be cleared and approved by UNOG before being signed. The process has been work-intensive and time-consuming, often requiring OHCHR to go back and forth between the donor and UNOG, resulting in delays in the payment of contributions.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The resource mobilization unit, part of the External Relations Branch, is led by the head of the unit, who reports to the Chief of the Branch. (In May 2003, the head of the resource mobilization unit was appointed acting Chief of the External Relations Branch. She therefore oversees both the unit and the branch). The unit consists of five professional staff members, a junior professional officer and a secretary.

## ■ COORDINATION

As OHCHR works to strengthen its activities at the national level, coordination with other United Nations agencies and programmes in the countries of implementation has become increasingly important. The unit worked with OCHA to coordinate OHCHR submissions to the 2004 Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal Process (CAP) and the revised Flash Appeal for the Iraq Crisis.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### Increased funding levels

The Office raised voluntary funds totalling US\$ 44 million (in pledges), up from US\$ 40 million in 2002 (pledged). Income in 2003 reached US\$ 47.4 million, exceeding the 2002 figure of US\$ 40.2 million and the 2001 figure of US\$ 31.4 million. Several major donors made multi-year contributions, which helped to provide predictability and stability in funding.

Annual consultations with major donors were organized in and/or with Belgium, Denmark, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Those held between January and March 2004 resulted in earlier pledges and, in some cases, payments made earlier in the year. Informal meetings with other donors were also organized.

Several fund-raising missions to donor capitals were undertaken, including to Bern, Brussels, Madrid and Paris, where the High

Commissioner and/or senior managers attended high-level meetings in which they presented the Office's priorities and discussed policies on human rights issues.

### Greater proportion of unearmarked contributions

The resource mobilization unit continued to urge major donors to provide a large portion of their annual contributions unearmarked. Many medium- and small-sized donors also left all or part of their contributions unearmarked in response to the High Commissioner's request earlier in the year. As a result, the Office was able to raise US\$ 5.5 million unearmarked funds in 2003, a major increase from the US\$ 2.8 million unearmarked funds raised in 2002. There is a trend towards lighter earmarking in general.

### Improved Annual Appeal and Annual Report

The Annual Report 2002 and Annual Appeal 2004 were issued as scheduled and contained improvements in substance and presentation. A thorough process of analysis, planning and prioritization took place in preparation for the Annual Appeal 2004. The result of such a rigorous prioritization exercise was a leaner and more realistic work-plan for the Office. The Annual Report 2002 provided a more transparent and consolidated review of achievements and impact of OHCHR's work, and included additional tables on contributions received and on the use of the funds to better illustrate the financial situation of the Office. The detailed financial analysis was well received by Member States and contributed to increasing donor confidence towards OHCHR's reporting capacity.

Both the Appeal and the Report have become essential sources of information for donors and other partners. The Office has issued five Annual Appeals and three Annual Reports to date, and the preparation of the documents has become an integral part of the Office's programming cycle.

### Regularly updated data on implementation for Member States

The Office updated donors on implementation on a more regular basis. A mid-year review with major donors was organized in September during which OHCHR shared the results of project implementation during the first half of 2003 and provided important financial updates, such as on shortfalls and re-allocation of

funds. Many other meetings were organized to facilitate dialogue between Member States and OHCHR on technical cooperation activities, field presences, specific projects, such as the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Human Rights Commission in Afghanistan, and activities in Iraq, and on management and funding. Presentations by chiefs, heads-of-field-presences, team leaders and desk officers were well-received by Member States.

### ■ LESSONS LEARNED

Considerable improvements have been made and goals achieved in resource mobilization over the past four years. However, the unit's capacity lags far behind that of other United Nations agencies, such as UNHCR or UNICEF, which have a large branch/department consisting of sections/teams servicing various donor needs. While the fundraising arrangements of large agencies would not be appropriate for OHCHR, the capacity of the resource mobilization unit must be reinforced if the Office is to substantially raise the level of its voluntary contributions.

### ■ FUNDING

All activities of the resource mobilization unit, including staff costs, were funded from extra-budgetary resources. Expenditure amounted to US\$ 758,758 against a budget of US\$ 856,879.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	594,224	329,367
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	128,075
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	20,073	19,013
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	56,531	52,107
General operating expenses	639	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>671,467</b>	<b>528,562</b>
Programme support costs	87,291	68,713
<b>Total</b>	<b>758,758</b>	<b>597,275</b>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Ireland	Capacity building	99,457	110,000
Netherlands	Capacity building	150,000	150,000
Norway	Capacity building	97,260	100,000
Saudi Arabia	Unearmarked contribution	10,000	10,000
Spain	Unearmarked contribution	15,000	15,000
Sweden	Capacity building	33,608	34,933
	Resource mobilization	232,829	242,009
United Kingdom	Resource mobilization	504,903	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,142,557</b>	<b>661,942</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

## CORE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

### ■ BACKGROUND

This project was initiated in 2001 in the framework of OHCHR's change management process and following several internal and external management reviews. Its aim is to strengthen the Office's systems and procedures in financial and contributions management, human resources management, and project/programme management in order to become more efficient, transparent and effective. The term "management system" encompasses not only systems and processes, but also the staffing, equipment and structures required to support them.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

- ~ Rationalize the management of voluntary contributions through improved information-sharing, including regular reports and advice to programme managers, and through tighter control and follow-up with partners.
- ~ Improve planning and programming by reviewing/updating programming tools and manuals, organizing office-wide project-management training, and providing advice on project management to programme managers.
- ~ Continue to improve specific areas of human-resources management, including recruitment and the contractual status of staff, and provide guidance on personnel issues to programme managers.
- ~ Build a data warehouse of basic financial and substantive project-related information that will be accessible to staff at Headquarters and in the field via the Intranet.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### Financial and contributions management

During the year, the Office built upon processes and procedures previously introduced. Monthly financial reports on projects funded from extra-budgetary resources continued to be provided to project managers and are available on the Intranet. The same site provides current information on voluntary contributions. Quarterly reviews of technical cooperation projects, coordinated by the project management unit in collaboration with the Administrative Service and geographical teams, helped identify unspent resources that could be re-allocated to other areas.

The Office published its third Annual Report (for the year 2002) in June 2003, providing a fully transparent account of how voluntary contributions received during the year had been spent. The report, based on financial statements provided by UNOG and UNOPS, won acclaim from most donors; only a few donors still request tailor-made reports on their contributions. The 2003 Mid-Year Review of expenditure, availability of funds, and implementation of activities, introduced in 2001 as a vehicle for internally monitoring and reviewing projects funded from voluntary contributions, was conducted in July. The results were presented to donors in early September.

The budget and finance unit in the Administrative Service provided daily support and advice on budgeting, allotments, grants, payments, expenditure recording, contributions recording, and donor reporting and provided senior management with background data so informed decisions could be made on the allocation of unearmarked and lightly earmarked funds. The unit also contributed to the annual planning and review process, particularly on budgetary matters. It assisted the secretary of the Project Review Committee in reducing planning figures to more realistic levels of funding in order to establish a healthy framework for the budgeting exercise linked to the Annual Appeal 2004.

#### Programme/project management

In addition to its Office-wide responsibility for project management, the project management unit in the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch also serves as secretariat for the Project Review Committee.

Two training workshops on project management were organized for OHCHR staff in 2003. Both were organized in cooperation with the ILO Turin Centre. A total of 50 staff members, nine of them from the field, participated in the workshops, which were held in January and in November. As a follow-up to the workshops, a programme of weekly "coffee-briefings" was launched in March. Participants at the briefings discuss project-management and technical-cooperation issues. Tools, guidelines and manuals for project management are available on the Intranet and new information/tools will be added as they are developed.

#### Human resources management

As of 2003, all headquarters staff were integrated under UNOG administration to allow OHCHR to move towards a more integrated

human-resources system in the framework of the United Nations Secretariat and to implement recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and the United Nations Comptroller.

The personnel unit provided general advice on personnel matters to OHCHR programme managers, senior management and the staff. The unit also serves as secretariat for the Advisory Panel on Personnel Issues (APPI). The rules of procedure and working methods of the APPI were refined and a review of its terms of reference began. An internal task force was established to review the contractual status of professional staff funded by voluntary contributions. The roster of human rights officers willing and able to serve in peacekeeping operations was maintained as per the memorandum of understanding signed between OHCHR and DPKO. Generic job descriptions for positions in the area of human rights were drafted. In an effort to introduce more mobility for OHCHR's professional staff, a number of lateral moves were made at headquarters and several long-term (6-12 months) field missions were undertaken by staff previously based at headquarters.

### Building a data warehouse

A reporting site was created on the Intranet and work began on building a new financial reporting and budgeting system. The contributions tracking system was improved and prepared for relocation to a more modern platform. However, the programmer assigned to the project resigned from OHCHR in September and limited progress was made on the development of the data warehouse.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

OHCHR is an integral part of the United Nations Secretariat and as such does not have delegated financial authority from the United Nations Controller. Requests to engage in activities and commit funds must therefore be approved by UNOG. Funding agreements with donor governments must also be approved through the same channel. Although all personnel actions, including recruitment, are initiated in OHCHR, they must be approved by UNOG. At times, delays in obtaining such approval reduce the Office's operational effectiveness. OHCHR would like to seek delegated authority for extra-budgetary resources from the United Nations Controller. UNOPS' reporting on funds received and spent and issuing contracts for staff in the field is often slow. The Office still lacks the basic management system required to automate

procedures and ensure a standardized approach to managing extra-budgetary projects and resources. The Administrative Service, as other key services in OHCHR, depends to a high degree on voluntary funding.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Chief of the Administrative Service is responsible for managing this project. Most activities are placed in the Administrative Service, with the exception of the programme management and data warehouse components. The Administrative Service consists of three sub-units: the budget and finance unit, the personnel unit, and the general services unit, each with distinct administrative support functions.

The newly created programme management unit provides office-wide advice and training on programme management. The developers working on the project are integrated into the Office's overall information technology support structure, located within the Research and Right to Development Branch. During the reporting period, the project included four posts in financial and contributions management, five posts in human resources management, and three posts in project management. Funding for the project also covered equipment and related services from the International Computing Centre (ICC) for development of the data warehouse.

### ■ COORDINATION

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed between UNOG and OHCHR in late 2003. The MOU provides the framework for cooperation and clarifies the division of responsibility between the two offices, including a cost basis for services rendered. As of 1 January 2003, all Geneva-based staff were absorbed under UNOG administration.

OHCHR also has a MOU that guides its working relationship with UNOPS. This MOU was initially signed in 1998 and revised in 2003. UNOPS implements many of OHCHR's field-based activities and administers staff in its offices in Angola, Burundi, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Serbia and Montenegro.

In 2001, a cross-departmental working group was formed to discuss financial, project management, planning and reporting issues and to move the project forward. Human resources-related issues

are regularly presented to decision-makers in OHCHR's Management Board and the Advisory Panel on Personnel Issues (APPI).

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The project benefits OHCHR and the various constituencies the organization serves. Effective financial management, monitoring and control enable more reliable reporting and optimal utilization of resources. Better project management leads to improved planning and implementation. A more effective personnel management enables the Office to utilize its human resources efficiently to get the work done.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ♥ The Annual Report is OHCHR's main reporting tool to donors. It has reduced the need to prepare donor-specific reports and is used as a model by other United Nations departments.
- ♥ The Mid-Year Review allows OHCHR programme managers and donors to measure progress half-way through the year, re-allocate funds, if necessary, and assess whether plans made at the beginning of the year need to be adjusted.
- ♥ The daily support provided by the Administrative Service on financial and budgetary matters ensures that project costs are kept within United Nations standards and that financial monitoring and controls are in place for all project activities.
- ♥ Support for project management and the development of new tools and training activities have enhanced the capacity of OHCHR staff to manage extra-budgetary projects.

- ♥ Increased support in human resources management has made the recruitment process in OHCHR more transparent, effective and professional, in keeping with established United Nations Secretariat rules and regulations. The establishment of the task force on contractual status created a forum in which staff and management are able to reconcile views and priorities, identify solutions and make proposals for an integrated personnel system. Pre-screening candidates for extra-budgetary positions has rationalized the recruitment process and alleviated the administrative burden on programme managers.

## ■ FUNDING

In 2003, the Administrative Service received funding from the regular budget to cover ten posts. In addition, 11 posts were covered by the 13 per cent programme support account. Voluntary contributions accounted for 38 per cent of the total funds appropriated for the Administrative Service, covering nine posts. The project management unit in the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch is funded exclusively from voluntary contributions. While most posts in the information technology management unit were funded from the regular budget during the reporting period, many of the services, including equipment, were funded from voluntary contributions.

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS CORE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Denmark	Unearmarked contribution	53,819	50,000
Spain	Unearmarked contribution	50,112	50,000
Sweden	Capacity building	115,448	120,000
United Kingdom	Core management system	756,925	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>976,304</b>	<b>220,000</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.



## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN CORE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	900,967	447,648
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	11,460	7,947
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	123,675	46,800
General operating expenses	0	0
Supplies and acquisitions	11,323	17,910
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
Sub-total	1,047,425	520,305
Programme support costs	136,165	67,640
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,183,590</b>	<b>587,945</b>

## HUMAN RIGHTS KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

### ■ BACKGROUND

Information Technology and Management (ITM), which includes web-based databases and media and printed publications, is not only crucial to OHCHR's day-to-day operations, it stands at the heart of human rights work. OHCHR's Internet web site is a frequently used source of United Nations human rights information; its Extranet is an effective platform for institutional networking; and its Intranet is the most efficient means of sharing knowledge among OHCHR staff. Through its printed publications, OHCHR raises awareness about human rights among a wide international audience.

### ■ OBJECTIVES

The ITM component of the project aims to provide a sustainable, secure ITM infrastructure, including field connectivity and development capacities, by creating and maintaining comprehensive web-based systems, including a human rights protection database, a human rights document management system, an OHCHR portal (Intranet, Extranet, Internet and Wireless Internet) and an OHCHR e-management system.

OHCHR's publications not only seek to promote the concept of human rights, but also to encourage debate on human rights issues under discussion in United Nations bodies. The objective of the publications component of the project is to produce strategically chosen, high-quality printed materials.

OHCHR also aims to provide comprehensive and efficient information and reference services to partners of the Office, United Nations human rights mechanisms and experts, and its own staff in an effort to establish global networks and partnerships.

### ■ IMPLEMENTATION

#### IT services, system and database development and Internet web publishing

During the past two years, OHCHR made substantial improvements to its infrastructure. Following the installation of Microsoft.Net and SQL Servers in March, a generic web-based human rights protection database was developed. By December, the database proved useful for the work of the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights and the communications procedure under resolution 1503 (XLVIII) of the Economic and Social Council.

OHCHR's portal was designed and developed after an Oracle database and application servers were installed in May. The portal site was launched in November and, by the end of the year, OHCHR staff around the world could access information via the portal.

#### Publications

As part of the Office's public information strategy, the publications project focuses on:

- ♥ Providing support to the High Commissioner in his role as advocate for human rights;
- ♥ Providing the general public with basic information on human rights and OHCHR's work;
- ♥ Distributing training and educational material for use by professional groups and educational institutions; and
- ♥ Disseminating human rights information and reference material among Member States, United Nations human rights mechanisms and experts, international organizations, NGOs, universities and research institutes.

OHCHR revised a number of outdated publications and issued new ones, notably special issue papers. Several treaty body fact sheets will be published in 2004.

OHCHR's publications list now contains 83 titles, available in some or all official United Nations languages. The list, which also serves as an order form, indicates the language, Internet and stock availability of publications. The list is updated every month, posted on OHCHR's web site, and distributed at meetings, conferences and major events. During the reporting year, well over 100,000 copies of publications were distributed to 109 countries in all parts of the world. An increasing number of publications translated into Arabic, Chinese and Russian may now be consulted on OHCHR's web site.

The publications listed below were produced in 2003 in cooperation with the publishing service of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and external partners, and are available on OHCHR's web site. **Fact sheets** provide concise information on a wide range of subjects; **special issue papers** explore selected issues in greater depth; and OHCHR's **training and educational material** consists of guides, manuals and handbooks for indigenous peoples, minorities, professional groups and educational institutions. **Reference material** gives researchers and human rights law practitioners access to key human rights instruments and other essential information. **Promotional material** informs the general public about United Nations work in the field of human rights. All fact sheets and many other publications will ultimately be made available in the six official languages of the United Nations.

#### **Fact sheets**

- ♥ No. 4 (Rev.1), *Combating Torture* (French, Spanish)
- ♥ No. 7 (Rev.1), *Complaint Procedures* (French, Spanish)
- ♥ No. 24, *The Rights of Migrant Workers* (Arabic)

#### **Professional training series**

- ♥ No. 5/Add.2, *Human Rights and Law Enforcement: A Trainer's Guide on Human Rights for the Police* (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian)

#### **Special issue papers**

- ♥ *Human Rights and Disability: The current use and future potential of United Nations human rights instruments in the context of disability* (French, Spanish)

- ♥ *Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking* (Russian)
- ♥ *Abolishing Slavery and its Contemporary Forms* (Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish)
- ♥ *Digest of jurisprudence of the United Nations and regional organizations on the protection of human rights while countering terrorism* (English)

#### **Promotional material**

- ♥ *OHCHR brochure* (French, Spanish)

#### **Reference material**

- ♥ *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments – Universal Instruments* (sixth revision) (English, Russian)
- ♥ *Selected Decisions of the Human Rights Committee under the Optional Protocol* (volume 3) (French, Russian, Spanish)

#### **Information and reference services**

- ♥ The library became operational in June and was open to the public on 10 December. Assistance and advice was provided to visiting archivists and librarians for human rights documents and materials. Research assistance and reference services were provided to OHCHR staff.
- ♥ Donations from the United Nations, international and national institutions, and research institutions were added to the collection. Additional books were purchased, received and catalogued.
- ♥ OHCHR subscribes to the Lexis/Nexis services, which provides access to full texts of legal journals and major newspapers.
- ♥ From the middle of the year, the Human Rights Education Resource Collection was absorbed into the Library/Documentation Centre, allowing for information to be disseminated on a single platform with web interface. This required a number of adjustments, including acquiring a consolidated library catalogue index system. A system selected to ensure compatibility with the UNOG Main Library system will be operational in 2004.

#### **Registry**

In January, the OHCHR Registry was placed within OHCHR Administrative Services.

## ■ CONSTRAINTS

Some activities planned for the first five months of the year, particularly web-related activities, could not be implemented because of lack of funds and limited human resources.

Cyber attacks on the Office, unsolicited incoming e-mail messages (spam), and computer viruses have increased exponentially. Seventy per cent of all in-coming e-mail messages are spam and ten per cent contain viruses. The Office had to spend more resources on computer security issues and, as a result, there was a delay in information and communication technology activities.

Implementation of a forward-looking publications policy was impeded by funding constraints and the low priority accorded to publications by the UNOG Conference Services Division. Lack of funds has also made it impossible to recruit a publications expert and to engage the services of external resource persons with human rights expertise and proven writing skills. As a result, most of the writing is done by OHCHR staff, who have little time to devote to assignments that are not part of their normal duties.

## ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The LAN, e-mail, database and web servers are hosted and managed by the United Nations International Computing Centre (ICC); the design and development of the database is outsourced to ICC; and external translators were recruited for preparing web pages in different languages.

All decisions related to information management and information and communication technology made by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the United Nations Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Board are reflected in the development of OHCHR's technology systems. The compatibility of all OHCHR's systems is ensured through the ICC Management Committee and the ICT Board. ICC and UNOG are OHCHR's major operational partners.

The UNOG working group of the Publications Board oversees the implementation of OHCHR's biannual publications programme under the regular budget. OHCHR's Publications Committee meets once a month to plan new publications and to ensure high quality of and consistency in all OHCHR publications. UNOG's Publishing Service provides OHCHR with support in designing, formatting

and printing publications. Recruitment of external translators is often required.

The publications team consists of an English-language editor, a publications assistant and a publications distribution clerk. The editor oversees the publications' accuracy, editorial consistency, impartiality and readability. The publications assistant coordinates the planning, design and production of publications and the overall implementation of the publications programme. The publications distribution clerk, who was recruited in May, dispatches publications and manages the publications stock.

The selection of the new library catalogue index system was coordinated with the UNOG Main Library.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

The system log recorded more than a million hits to OHCHR's web site every month. Information and system users include OHCHR staff members, partners of United Nations entities and agencies, governments, NGOs, academics, grassroots human rights activists and the general public.

OHCHR's publications are distributed to governments, international organizations, national human rights institutions, NGOs, human rights experts, academic institutions, students and the general public. They are widely used in seminars and workshops organized by OHCHR. Manuals and other training materials are used by human rights workers and United Nations agency staff in the field.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

After improving the ITM infrastructure, ITM system availability dramatically increased from 85 per cent in 2002 to 99 per cent in 2003. This means that OHCHR staff do not have to wait to gain access to the web, and interested persons outside OHCHR have more opportunities to access OHCHR's web site.

With the Virtual Private Network and the OHCHR portal, communication between headquarters and field presences is now assured and sustainable.

## FUNDING

Human resources and part of the ICT infrastructure is paid from the United Nations regular budget. Voluntary funds are used for web development and IT application development.

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS HUMAN RIGHTS KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Finland	Unearmarked contribution	243,429	250,000
Ireland	Capacity building	109,311	120,884
Netherlands	Capacity building	400,000	400,000
New Zealand	Unearmarked contribution	20,504	20,177
Norway	Capacity building	256,110	263,254
Spain	Unearmarked contribution	19,823	19,823
Sweden	Capacity building	42,331	44,000
United Kingdom	Information technology and management	821,806	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,913,314</b>	<b>1,118,138</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN HUMAN RIGHTS KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	386,507	173,735
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	1,214	0
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	34,122	0
General operating expenses	0	13,000
Supplies and acquisitions	195,564	163,898
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	1,008,283	628,632
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,625,690</b>	<b>979,265</b>
Programme support costs	211,340	127,304
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,837,030</b>	<b>1,106,569</b>

## STAFF SECURITY

### BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The United Nations security management system aims to ensure the safety and security of United Nations staff as they conduct their activities. The mandate of the OHCHR security unit is based on the General Assembly resolution A/57/365 entitled "Inter-governmental security measures: framework for accountability for the United Nations field security management system". OHCHR's security unit, which is part of the United Nations security network, focuses its efforts on keeping OHCHR staff members safe as they perform their tasks.

### IMPLEMENTATION

The Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS), established by the General Assembly, came into force in all duty stations in 2002. These standards detail the mandatory equipment, training and preparations required to ensure that staff members working in unsafe environments can handle anticipated security risks. MOSS also includes a standard for budgeting and procurement

of security equipment that must be programmed into annual project planning.

The *Basic Security in the Field* CD self-trainer was introduced by the Secretary-General in April 2003 and all United Nations staff, experts and consultants are required to complete the course. As of 31 December 2003, OHCHR achieved one of the highest completion levels within the United Nations system.

The security unit, led by the senior security manager, covers activities in the field and ensures that the Office complies with statutory security-management requirements, as specified in MOSS. The OHCHR security team:

- ♥ Gathers, analyzes and exchanges information on risk and informs staff of potential risks in a timely manner;
- ♥ Trains staff to achieve a high level of personal-security awareness;
- ♥ Provides equipment and training in the appropriate use of that equipment for the environment in which the staff is operating;
- ♥ Facilitates security clearances and authorizations to work in insecure areas;
- ♥ Provides a stand-by emergency telecommunications capability;
- ♥ Provides a Minimum Operating Security Standards focal point;
- ♥ Maintains a database for staff tracking and staff-training databases;
- ♥ Monitors aircraft safety issues; and
- ♥ Oversees issues related to transport safety.

Members of the security unit travelled to Angola, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza/West bank, Iraq, Israel and Jordan to support OHCHR staff and special rapporteurs when required and when alternate arrangements with other partners in the security-management system could not be found.

The security unit participated in the development of an advanced CD-ROM security self-training programme, participated in MOSS and emergency telecommunications working groups, and contributed to the security portion of the Secretary-General's Feasibility Study on a Potential Commission of Inquiry for Côte d'Ivoire.

In the aftermath of the 19 August 2003 attack of the United Nations headquarters in Iraq, in which the High Commissioner for Human Rights was killed, the Secretary-General called on OHCHR's senior security manager to lead the team investigating the incident. The senior security manager provided assistance and support to

President Ahtisaari in compiling his report and was subsequently named to the Secretary-General's panel tasked with determining accountability in relation to the attack.

### ■ CONSTRAINTS

The Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator (UNSECOORD) continues to develop new procedures, rules and reporting requirements for security systems throughout the United Nations. These include developing and maintaining a staff-tracking and security-clearance database, participating in a new Significant Incident Reporting System, and establishing a training regime for all staff, complete with certifications, records-keeping and monitoring for expiration and recertification dates. OHCHR's security unit is doing its best to handle these additional requirements, but at current staffing and funding levels it cannot meet the required standard.

### ■ IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

One professional security officer at Geneva headquarters was responsible for managing and overseeing security for all OHCHR field presences, covering five geographical teams, 26 offices and approximately 235 staff. One security assistant managed the security-clearance programme, processing 600 requests and ensuring compliance with the duty-station minimum operating security standards. The security assistant also issued daily security bulletins and ensured that travel advisories were passed on to staff in a timely manner.

Due to high threat levels, two security officers were posted in Burundi and three in Colombia, one each in Bogota, Cali and Medellin. These officers are responsible for overseeing the day-to-day security and logistical requirements of these field offices. They report to both the head of the field presence and the senior security manager in Geneva.

### ■ COORDINATION

United Nations security management is coordinated centrally by UNSECOORD. OHCHR and all other agencies, programmes and funds are members of the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, an organ of the Chief Executives Board. OHCHR is also a member of a subsidiary working group on training, which also includes WHO, WFP, UNHCR and UNICEF. The Network manages all activities and shares information and,

sometimes, resources; it also formulates policy and procedures that are reviewed by the High Level Committee on Management and, eventually, by the Chief Executives Board.

To ensure maximum protection for staff, the security unit works with host governments and their law-enforcement officers, other United Nations organizations and operational partners. By doing so, duplication of effort is avoided and the cost-effectiveness of the United Nations security management system is improved.

## ■ BENEFICIARIES

Field presences, OHCHR staff, independent experts, special rapporteurs, human rights investigations and missions of inquiry all benefit from the work of the security unit.

## ■ IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

OHCHR experienced few security-related incidents and loss of property during 2003. There was no serious injury or loss of life in places where the OHCHR security unit provided security support. There were a number of cases in which OHCHR staff and/or family members were threatened, but quick and effective intervention by OHCHR security officers resolved the problem.

Improved security awareness among staff also contributed to a safer working environment for all. The United Nations recognized OHCHR's work in staff security as representing best practices.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN STAFF SECURITY

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	287,216	321,692
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	9,760	10,882
Commission members	0	0
Representative and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	0
General operating expenses	237	1,307
Supplies and acquisitions	24,810	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>322,023</b>	<b>333,881</b>
Programme support costs	41,863	43,405
<b>Total</b>	<b>363,886</b>	<b>377,286</b>

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS STAFF SECURITY

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Denmark	Unearmarked contribution	24,406	22,653
Finland	Unearmarked contribution	100,331	103,039
Netherlands	Capacity building	29,279	29,279
Norway	Capacity building	194,575	200,000
Sweden	Unearmarked contribution	26,310	27,347
	Capacity building	120,258	125,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>495,159</b>	<b>507,318</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.





# MISCELLANEOUS

This section presents a variety of activities undertaken during the year that were not originally budgeted for and did not appear in the Annual Appeal 2003. In addition, some projects in this section represent adjustments from previous years. Programme support refers to the administrative support to the Branches, the field presences and the executive office, in matters such as travel requests for OHCHR staff, special rapporteurs and others who travel on behalf of the High Commissioner, the employment contracts of staff recruited through UNOPS, providing budgetary and financial support to project managers, advising on the availability of funds and preparing financial report, including for donors.

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2003, inclusive of new contributions and carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2003 and total balance as at 31 December 2003.

Summary	US\$
Opening balance	4,956,042
Adjustment <sup>1</sup>	(549,330)
Income from contributions	519,438
Other funds available <sup>2</sup>	1,276,485
Total funds available	6,202,635
Expenditure <sup>3</sup>	78,597
<b>Closing balance<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>6,124,038</b>

- <sup>1</sup> Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings and refunds to donors.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes interest income of US\$ 1,035,699 under the trust fund for support activities of OHCHR.  
<sup>3</sup> Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations by UNOG and UNOPS as at 31 December 2003.  
<sup>4</sup> Includes all funds held by UNOPS as well as relevant contributions held by UNOG as at 31 December 2003. Includes cash operating reserves of US\$ 4.4 million which could not be used for activities in 2003.

## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

This table indicates the budgeted amount for planned activities as per the Annual Appeal 2003 and mid-year revised budgetary requirements versus actual expenditures incurred in 2003. The 2002 expenditure column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	Annual Appeal budget 2003 US\$	Revised budget 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2003 US\$	Expenditure 2002 (final) US\$
Concert 1 June (WCAR)	0	0	0	22,749
Workshop on gender integration for SR and treaty bodies	0	0	0	11,242
Programme support project	0	0	7,677	167,283
Programme development project	0	0	0	31,295
<b>Sub-total UNOPS projects:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,677</b>	<b>232,570</b>
Fellowship programme in Belgium	0	0	0	10,850
Miscellaneous projects	0	0	70,920	0
<b>Sub-total UNOG projects:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70,920</b>	<b>10,850</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>78,597</b>	<b>243,420</b>



## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary funds pledged and actual contributions received for activities in 2003.

Donor	Earmarking/allocation	Pledge US\$	Income US\$
<i>Governments</i>			
Denmark	Evaluations*	168,037	132,730
Germany	Afghanistan	102,138	102,138
Guatemala	Unearmarked	600	600
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Unearmarked <sup>1</sup>	2,000,000	0
Norway	Contingency fund	273,973	281,627
<i>Other donors</i>			
Private donor	UN Staff memorial fund	2,544	2,343
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,547,292</b>	<b>519,438</b>

With reference to the pledge and income column, in some instances a pledge is made in the prior year and payment is received in the current year. In other instances a pledge is made in the current year and payment is received the following year.

\* Unearmarked contribution, allocated by OHCHR.

<sup>1</sup> To be allocated when paid.

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

This table indicates expenditure per budget item for activities in 2003. Expenditures include total disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2003. The 2002 column corresponds to disbursements while the 2003 column includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations (see page 7).

	2003 US\$	2002 (final) US\$
Staff costs	41,453	37,574
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0	0
Travel:		
OHCHR staff	9,574	57,623
Commission members	0	0
Representatives and other participants	0	0
Contractual services	0	19,997
General operating expenses	6,921	357
Supplies and acquisitions	11,607	80,314
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0	19,551
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>69,555</b>	<b>215,416</b>
Programme support costs	9,042	28,004
<b>Total</b>	<b>78,597</b>	<b>243,420</b>