

# 2007 Report

Activities and Results

HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
HUMAN RIGHTS



United Nations  
**Human Rights**

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



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# Foreword by the High Commissioner

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The OHCHR 2007 Report represents the latest document in a set of management tools that has guided OHCHR's internal operational approach, and has steered the direction of our relations with the community of stakeholders and donors since 2005. Together with my 2005 Plan of Action and the biennial Strategic Management Plan, this report offers a comprehensive overview of our activities and strategies. These three tools thus present the whole span of OHCHR management cycle, from vision and planning, through decision-making and budgeting, to assessing and stock-taking. Unlike its forward-looking companion documents, however, the OHCHR 2007 Report is necessarily retrospective in nature.

This year such retrospection bears an additional layer of reflection, since the current report will be the last of its kind under my leadership of OHCHR. I look back at the four years of my mandate with a sense of achievement and pride in the work of dedicated OHCHR staff, and of gratitude towards our increasing pool of supporters and contributors. Indeed, my colleagues and I have had the privilege to engineer the largest expansion of the Office and, with a doubling in our global operating budget over a four-year period, have been granted the resources to sustain our commitments and increasing range of endeavours.

OHCHR equipped itself for this effort by strengthening its management systems and executing elements of the reform programme that began in 2005. As I have often stated in the past, implementation of human rights standards must be the guiding principle and objective of all components of the human rights institutional machinery, both at the national and the international levels. With this goal in mind, OHCHR has consolidated and expanded its field presences and operations, leadership visibility, and capacity to assist the Human Rights Council, which, at the time of writing, is about to embark on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), possibly the most ambitious plank of the institutional reform. The first round of the Review, an assessment of the human rights situation that will eventually involve all UN Member States, begins in April 2008. With an exceptional commitment of resources and staff, my Office has prepared the first set of documents that will serve as the basis for the Review. As the UPR process progresses, we must ensure that even the least developed countries are enabled to participate fully and that all countries follow up with its recommendations.

The full participation of all Member States will also send a powerful signal that the goals and ambitions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, whose 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary falls in December 2008, will be honoured both in letter and in spirit. To this end, the Secretary-General launched a year-long, system-wide campaign last December. OHCHR is leading the campaign to maximize the combined support and initiatives that all other constituent parts of the United Nations will devote to it.

The commemoration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary will also serve as a reminder that, despite undeniable progress in refining our knowledge of human rights standards and their application, and despite our increased ability to sharpen our tools, and to deliver human rights support, the tasks ahead of us remain as

daunting as they have always been. Poverty, discrimination, conflict, democratic deficits, environmental degradation, and violence will continue to define the struggle of institutions, individual leaders, duty-bearers and stakeholders for years to come.

Indeed, no one has the luxury of resting on the laurels of battles won on behalf of human rights, or of claiming impotence in the face of obstinate abuse. The lesson that I have learned is that what ultimately nurtures and defines the worthiest and most enduring pursuits are the humility not to be distracted by success and a firm determination not to be disheartened by setbacks.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louise Arbour', with a stylized, flowing script.

Louise Arbour  
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

April 2008



# Executive Summary

***“Our objective must be to help bridge the gap between the lofty rhetoric of human rights in the halls of the United Nations, and its sobering realities on the ground.”***

High Commissioner’s 2005-2011 Plan of Action

This report reviews the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in 2007, documenting the many activities and initiatives undertaken during the course of the year, and presenting an assessment of the results achieved and challenges encountered. The report provides UN Member States and their citizens, all of whom have a stake in OHCHR’s work, as well as donors, whose voluntary contributions pay for so much of what OHCHR does, with a comprehensive report card on implementation of the Office’s programme of work, set out in the High Commissioner’s Strategic Management Plan (SMP) for the 2006-2007 biennium. It also contains detailed information on funding sources and expenditure, including financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2007.

2007 was the second year in a biennium characterized by rapid organizational growth and internal reform in OHCHR, in line with the vision of an expanded and more operational UN human rights programme first articulated by the High Commissioner in the 2005 Plan of Action. The investment made at the start of the biennium in recruiting new staff and strengthening the capacity of the Office in selected substantive and management-related areas began to yield returns in 2007, as levels of activity, output and visibility all rose steadily.

Much of this additional activity was carried out in the field, where most of the growth of the past biennium has been concentrated. Underlying OHCHR’s story of expansion over the past two years is a small but significant shift in the institution’s centre of gravity, from headquarters to the field. Of the 303 additional staff recruited between 1 January 2006 and 31 December 2007, nearly two-thirds were field-based, reflecting the importance placed on strengthening OHCHR’s operational human rights work at the country level.

Other areas of growth in 2007 included thematic human rights research. Several new units created in 2006, on women’s human rights and gender, the Millennium Development Goals and the right to development, became fully operational in 2007. New staff members were also hired to support the expanding work of the Human Rights Council, the treaty bodies, and special procedures mandate-holders, as well as to strengthen the Office’s communications and civil society-liaison capacities and core management-related functions, including finance, human resources and planning and evaluation.

This report presents numerous examples of how OHCHR’s efforts contributed in some way to a given result. Inevitably, the nature of these results varies enormously. At the more tangible end of the spectrum, the report documents cases where OHCHR’s intervention has helped bring about new laws improving human rights protection, or led to the creation of national human rights institutions or the strengthening of judicial appointment processes. Less tangible, although no less significant, are the countless soldiers, police officers, judges, prosecutors and legislators, and civil society activists who benefited from the training courses OHCHR staff ran in countries around the world to raise awareness and increase understanding of human rights principles and the UN human rights system. In many cases, the results of OHCHR’s efforts are only properly reflected in the work of others, such as mainstreaming human rights throughout the UN system, ensuring that all UN departments, agencies and programmes include a human rights dimension in their own planning and programme implementation.

## OHCHR in the Field

By the end of 2007, OHCHR had 11 country offices, nine regional offices and 13 human rights advisers in UN Country Teams, and also supported human rights components in 17 peace missions. It is expected that in the course of 2008, four more regional offices will become operational, in Central Asia, Southwest Asia, West Africa and North Africa, together with a human rights training and documentation centre for Southwest Asia and the Arab region in Qatar, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 60/153 of 16 December 2005.



OHCHR staff in Parsa, Nepal

In 2007, additional staff were deployed to existing country offices in Angola, Cambodia, Nepal, the occupied Palestinian territory, Togo and Uganda and to regional offices in Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Beirut, Pretoria, and Suva. One new country office was established, in Bolivia, and a new regional office for Central America opened in Panama City. The number of human rights advisers deployed to support the human rights work of UN Country Teams increased to 13 by the end of the year, with new advisers deployed in Ecuador, Georgia, Guyana, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Maldives, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Somalia and Serbia. Their success in integrating a human rights dimension into the work of UN partners was reflected, in part, in the number of UN Development Assistant Frameworks that include human rights as a cross-cutting theme and as a category of activities. OHCHR also continued to support the human rights components of 17 UN peace missions, assisting with recruitment, providing substantive expertise and advice, and contributing some funding for activities.

The capacity of OHCHR to react promptly to critical human rights situations improved in 2007, thanks to

the work of its Peace Missions Support and Rapid Response Unit, established in 2006. In 2007, OHCHR deployed missions or mobilized surge capacity in support of country or regional offices, UN Country Teams or peace missions in Guinea, Afghanistan, Somalia, Nepal, Thailand, Togo and the occupied Palestinian territory. It also deployed personnel at short notice to support the work of the Group of Experts mandated by the Human Rights Council to investigate the human rights situation in Darfur, and the Council's Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar in his efforts to investigate alleged violations of human rights in relation to the crackdown on the protests of August-September 2007.

In 2007, OHCHR's work in the field contributed to, *inter alia*:

- ▶ Human rights-related laws drafted or adopted in Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cambodia, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Guatemala, Kosovo (Serbia), Mexico, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan.

- ▶ Measures to prevent torture introduced in Cambodia, Guatemala, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, the Maldives, Thailand and Uganda.
- ▶ New national human rights institutions established in Sudan and Sierra Leone, and steps taken to strengthen the capacity of existing institutions in Azerbaijan, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Madagascar, Uganda, and Timor-Leste.
- ▶ Conditions of detention in prisons improved following OHCHR intervention in Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Nepal and Uganda; several illegally detained persons released in Burundi and Sudan; and numerous cases of human rights violations by national police officers are being reviewed in Timor-Leste.
- ▶ The prevention of violence in many parts of Nepal, where OHCHR human rights officers were present, enabling national human rights defenders to carry out their work in greater security.
- ▶ OHCHR training for prison officers, police officers, soldiers and judges, conducted in more than 30 countries in 2007, contributed to increased awareness and knowledge of human rights amongst prison staff and members of national police forces, armies and judiciaries.
- ▶ Increased public awareness of human rights principles and the international human rights system in many countries where OHCHR actively disseminated information to the general public and lent support to civic education campaigns, including in remote areas of Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Haiti, Nepal and Sudan.
- ▶ Human rights education was introduced into school curricula in Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Tajikistan and Timor-Leste.

## Thematic Human Rights Challenges

OHCHR's programme of thematic human rights research and methodology development was more active than ever and on a wider range of human rights issues, reflecting efforts made in 2006 to strengthen substantive expertise in areas including women's rights and gender, the Millennium Development Goals and the right to development. In 2007, OHCHR's thematic research and methodological work contributed to, *inter alia*:

- ▶ Improved guidance on conducting human rights investigations and fact-finding missions, which will inform future work.
- ▶ Increased capacity of UN Country Teams to integrate human rights into their work through

the deployment of more human rights advisers, dissemination of a common learning package, and training activities.

- ▶ Increased knowledge of international human rights mechanisms amongst legislators in nine African countries, where OHCHR conducted training workshops for parliamentarians.
- ▶ The General Assembly's adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- ▶ The opening for signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol.
- ▶ The Human Rights Council adopted a resolution on ensuring the integration of gender and women's rights into its work.
- ▶ Guidance was issued to peace missions on improved reporting on sexual violence.

## Support for United Nations Human Rights Mechanisms

Further steps were taken to strengthen OHCHR's support for the key mechanisms of the international human rights system. The Office worked to support the Human Rights Council throughout its now almost-complete institution-building phase, including its review of mandates of the special procedures mandate-holders—the independent experts tasked to investigate and report on human rights issues or country-specific situations. It also increased the assistance it offers individual mandate-holders, providing additional research support where necessary and encouraging better coordination and more joint initiatives among mandate-holders. By the end of 2007, OHCHR was deeply involved in preparations for the new Universal Periodic Review, through which every Member State will have its human rights record scrutinized and discussed periodically on the floor of the Human Rights Council. The combination of the increased frequency of sessions of the Human Rights Council and the launch of the Universal Periodic Review has generated additional work for the Office, which will be manageable only by increasing the size of the Human Rights Council secretariat.

OHCHR also continued to lend strong support to the international human rights treaty bodies, encouraging Member States to sign and ratify those treaties to which they are not already party, working with States to encourage them to clear the backlog of overdue reports to the treaty bodies, providing training in treaty body reporting, and working to rationalize and to some extent harmonize the working methods and reporting requirements of the various treaty bodies.



In 2007, the Office's support to the Human Rights Council, special procedures and treaty body system contributed to, *inter alia*:

- ▶ The retention of the special procedures as an essential element of the UN human rights machinery. With OHCHR support, individual mandate-holders are increasingly coordinating their efforts and working together on joint initiatives.
- ▶ The adoption, in June 2008, after a year of discussions in the Human Rights Council, of a resolution setting out future working methods, structures and procedures, including the establishment of a new expert advisory body, a new procedure for individual complaints, and the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, under which every country will have its human rights record reviewed by the Council every four years.
- ▶ The further consolidation of the treaty body system, with the relocation of the Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women from New York, where it was previously serviced by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to Geneva, where, since January 2008, it is being serviced by OHCHR.
- ▶ The introduction and use of a Common Core Document for reporting to treaty bodies, helping rationalize treaty body reporting and ensure a higher rate of compliance with reporting requirements.
- ▶ A successful start to the work of the new Sub-committee on the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

## Outreach

The High Commissioner, as the United Nation's senior official on human rights, plays a unique leadership role in helping to identify human rights problems and articulating responses either privately, in contact with senior government leaders, or through public advocacy work. In 2007, the High Commissioner travelled to 24 countries and delivered over 30 keynote speeches at a variety of international conferences during the year. She also addressed each session of the Human Rights Council, held bilateral meetings with Ambassadors from 66 countries and held ministerial-level meetings with representatives of 46 countries.

OHCHR's Communications Section, which was established in mid-2006 and became fully

operational in 2007, led efforts to upgrade communications methods and extend the reach of the Office's advocacy. Links have also been strengthened with civil society, with a new Civil Society Unit now working to assist NGOs and others to understand and access the UN human rights mechanisms. Additional resources were invested in strengthening OHCHR's office in New York, which provides a vital bridge to the many decision-making bodies based there.

Examples of OHCHR's increasing visibility and outreach in 2007 include:

- ▶ The number of references to the work of the Office or the High Commissioner in national and international print and electronic media rose by some 15 per cent.
- ▶ Opinion articles by the High Commissioner on topical human rights issues were published in newspapers in 60 countries.
- ▶ A 31 per cent increase in the number of unique visits to OHCHR's website ([www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org)), from 1.9 million in 2006 to 2.5 million in 2007, reflecting growing public interest in the work of the Office.
- ▶ The level of NGO participation in sessions of the Human Rights Council remained high, with between 110 and 179 NGOs taking part in each session.



High Commissioner Louise Arbour at the UN General Assembly, March 2007



## Programme Planning, Management and Support

The Office's growth over the past biennium has put considerable strain on OHCHR's administrative capacity, which has been progressively strengthened to cope with the challenges involved in managing a larger, more dynamic and more operational organization. In 2007 alone, OHCHR handled 143 recruitments, including new and existing posts, successfully reducing by 51 days the average amount of time taken to recruit. Measures established in 2006 to broaden the pool of potential applicants and increase the geographic diversity of OHCHR staff started to show significant results, with the proportion of staff from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and Eastern Europe all increasing, and the proportion from Western Europe falling markedly. Steps were also taken to strengthen administrative support to field presences and provide training to locally-based administrative staff to increase their familiarity with the Office, internal policies and procedures, and UN regulations and rules. After several years of discussion with the UN Controller's Office, new delegation of authority was obtained for managing extra-budgetary resources and property and will be implemented in 2008.

The Office continued to make steady progress in improving and systematizing its approach to planning, implementation, evaluation and learning lessons. A predictable, two-year, streamlined planning process was established, and individual strategic plans developed and adopted for all field presences, and headquarters branches, sections and units. A limited number of Office-wide expected accomplishments were adopted, replacing branch-based expected

accomplishments that featured in the 2006-2007 Strategic Management Plan. A common set of 16 national-level indicators and 22 global-level indicators were adopted, allowing for clearer identification of the impact made by field presences on the eight expected field-level accomplishments. The results of this work are reflected in the current Strategic Management Plan 2008-2009, which the High Commissioner launched in January 2008.

## Donor Support

OHCHR continued to rely on its donors to contribute almost two-thirds of its total budget in 2007. Donor support was reflected in the overall increase in voluntary contributions, which rose from \$85.3 million to \$95.7 million, and the proportion of funding provided without earmarking, which rose from 37 per cent of the total to 43 per cent. The number of institutional donors also increased—from 65 to 72—with more Member States, international organizations and foundations providing support than in any previous year.

Sustaining recent increases in the level of contributions, securing more unearmarked funding, and achieving a further increase in the number of donors are all priorities for the new biennium, as OHCHR seeks to consolidate its recent growth and establish a broader support base for its work. In 2008, the year in which the world will celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, OHCHR is encouraging all Member States to indicate their support for the ideals of the Declaration by making a financial contribution, even if only of a symbolic amount, to support the UN human rights programme.



OHCHR staff in Nepal



# OHCHR 2007 Report



# About OHCHR

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which is part of the UN Secretariat, has lead responsibility for implementing the UN human rights programme. Headed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, a position established by the General Assembly in 1993, OHCHR has a mandate to promote and protect all human rights around the world. The Office works to build awareness of and respect for human rights, empowering individuals to claim their rights and assisting States in upholding them. OHCHR is headquartered in Geneva, with a presence in New York and a network of 20 regional and country offices spanning five continents.

## Mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is charged by General Assembly resolution 48/141 to be the United Nations official with “principal responsibility” for UN human rights activities, with the mandate:

- To promote and protect all human rights for all
- To make recommendations to the competent bodies of the UN system for improving promotion and protection of all human rights
- To promote and protect the right to development
- To provide technical assistance for human rights activities
- To coordinate UN human rights education and public information programmes
- To play an active role in removing obstacles to the realization of human rights
- To play an active role in preventing the continuation of human rights violations
- To engage in dialogue with governments with the aim of securing respect for all human rights
- To enhance international cooperation
- To coordinate human rights promotion and protection activities throughout the UN system
- To rationalize, adapt, strengthen and streamline the UN human rights machinery

## Method

High Commissioner Louise Arbour, who was appointed in July 2004, set out her Office’s priorities in a six-year Plan of Action for the period 2006-2011. Key priorities include greater country engagement, which involves working closely with OHCHR partners at the regional, country and local levels in order to ensure that international human rights standards are implemented on the ground; a stronger leadership role for the High Commissioner; and closer partnerships with civil society and UN agencies. In order to provide more detailed operational strategies for implementing the Plan of Action, OHCHR issues biennial Strategic Management Plans, the first of which was launched in 2006 and covered the 2006-2007 biennium. In January 2008, OHCHR published its current Strategic Management Plan for the 2008-2009 biennium.

OHCHR’s work focuses on three areas: human rights standard-setting, monitoring and implementation on the ground. OHCHR works to offer the best expertise and substantive and secretariat support to the various UN human rights treaty bodies as they discharge their standard-setting and monitoring duties. In the first instance, OHCHR serves as the secretariat of the Human Rights Council. The Council, composed of 47 Member States, is the key UN intergovernmental body responsible for human rights. It addresses violations, reviews States’ human rights records, works to prevent human rights abuses, responds to emergencies, serves as an international forum for human rights dialogue, and makes recommendations to the General Assembly for the development of international human rights law. OHCHR also supports the work of the special procedures—individuals or expert groups appointed by the Council to monitor human rights in different countries or in relation to specific issues. OHCHR assists these independent experts as they conduct visits to the field, receive and consider complaints from victims of human rights violations, and appeal to governments on behalf of victims.



Another example of the standard-setting and monitoring dimensions of OHCHR's work is the legal research and secretariat support it provides to the core human rights treaty bodies. These committees are composed of independent experts who monitor States Parties' compliance with their treaty obligations. They meet regularly to examine reports from States Parties and issue recommendations. Some of these committees, such as the Human Rights Committee, which monitors implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, also consider individual complaints against violations of treaty provisions. These decisions help

to build the body of jurisprudence on international human rights law. The "general comments" issued by treaty bodies also contribute to the set of interpretations of international human rights treaties.

Over the years, OHCHR has increased its presence in the field. OHCHR field offices and presences play an essential role in identifying, highlighting and developing responses to human rights challenges in close collaboration with governments, the UN system and civil society. Such responses include monitoring and public reporting, and implementing projects, such as providing technical training and support in

### History of the UN Human Rights Programme



Eleanor Roosevelt holding a poster of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1949

The UN human rights programme has grown considerably since its modest beginnings some 60 years ago. Organizationally, it started with a small division in the UN Secretariat in the 1940s. The division later moved to Geneva and was upgraded to the Centre for Human Rights in the 1980s. At the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993, Member States decided to establish a more robust human rights institution. Later that year, the General Assembly passed a resolution establishing the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with a wide-ranging mandate, and transforming the former Centre for Human Rights into OHCHR. Twelve years later, at the 2005 UN World Summit, Heads of State from around the world committed themselves to an historic expansion of the UN human rights programme and recognized the importance of

ensuring a human rights approach in all aspects of UN system's work.

The growth in UN human rights activities reflects the increasing strength of the international human rights movement since the General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948. Drafted as "a common standard of achievement for all peoples and nations," the Declaration sets out basic civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights that all human beings should enjoy. Over time, this unprecedented affirmation of human rights has become widely accepted as the standard to which all governments should adhere. Indeed, 10 December is observed worldwide as International Human Rights Day. In 2008, OHCHR will support an international campaign to celebrate the Declaration's sixtieth anniversary. The Declaration, together with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two Optional Protocols, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, form the "International Bill of Rights."

As international human rights law developed, a number of UN human rights bodies were established to

respond to changing human rights challenges. These bodies, which rely on OHCHR for substantive and secretariat support, can be either Charter-based (political bodies composed of State representatives with mandates established by the UN Charter) or treaty-based (committees composed of independent experts, established by international human rights treaties and mandated to monitor States Parties' compliance with their treaty obligations). The United Nations Commission on Human Rights, which was established in 1946 and reported to the Economic and Social Council, was the key UN intergovernmental body responsible for human rights until it was replaced by the Human Rights Council in 2006. In addition to assuming the mandates and responsibilities previously entrusted to the Commission, the newly created Council, which reports directly to the General Assembly, is also charged with making recommendations to the General Assembly to develop international human rights law and undertaking a Universal Periodic Review of each State's adherence to its human rights obligations and commitments. OHCHR provides substantial and secretariat support to the Council.

the areas of administration of justice, legislative reform, human rights treaty ratification, and human rights education. These programmes are designed in cooperation with Member States.

## Staff

To implement its mandate, as of 31 December 2007 OHCHR employed 942 members of staff, of whom 484 (51 per cent) were based in the field, 442 (47 per cent) in Geneva, and 16 (two per cent) in New York. It also supported an additional workforce of over 420 international human rights officers serving in 17 UN peace missions, and 13 human rights advisers in UN country teams in the field.

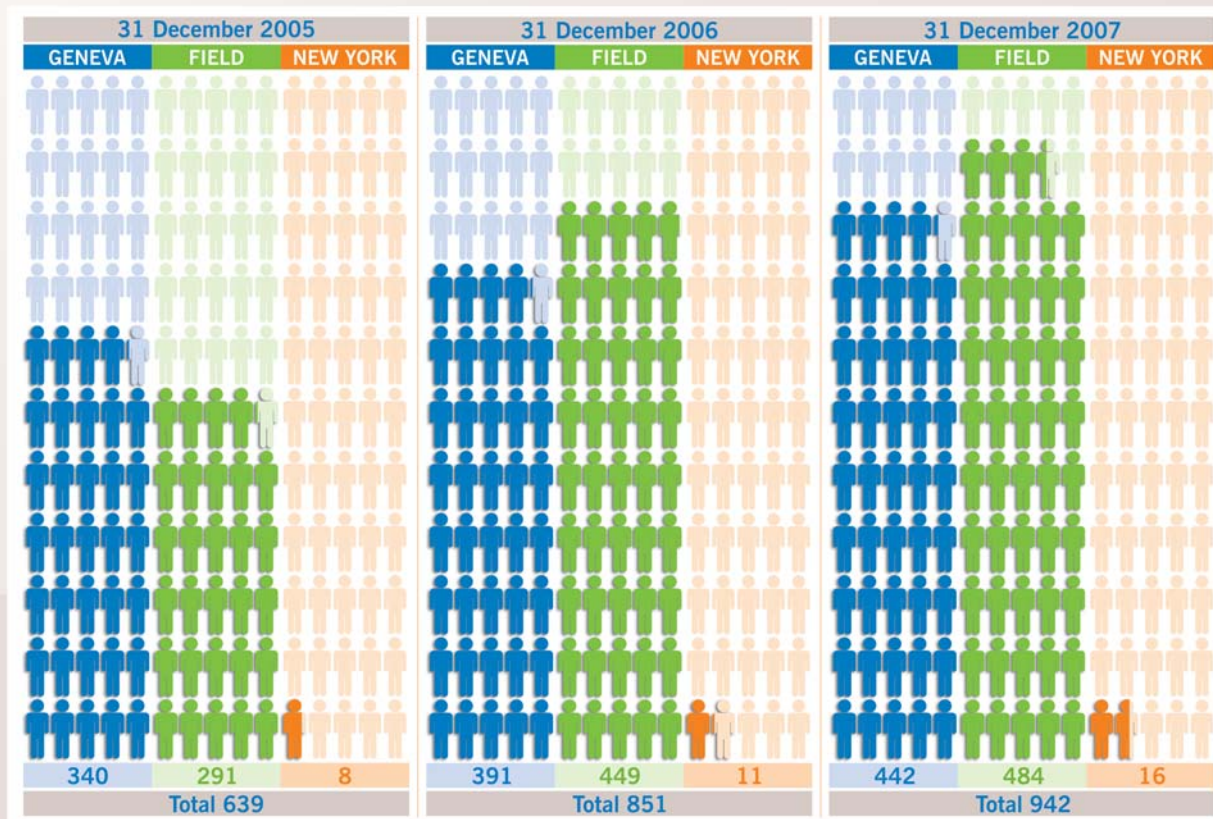
The total number of OHCHR staff grew by 91 in 2007, bringing to 303 the number of new posts filled since the start of the biennium. Of the new recruits in 2006-2007, 193 (64 per cent) were based in the field, 102 (34 per cent) in Geneva, and eight (three per cent) in New York.

## Structure

Besides its headquarters in Geneva, OHCHR has an office at the United Nations in New York and, as of 31 December 2007, nine regional offices and 11 country offices (see map on pages 18-19). Three additional regional offices are planned for 2008.

At the beginning of 2008, OHCHR underwent an organizational restructuring, upgrading its four main substantive branches to divisions, each to be headed by a division director once recruitment is complete. These four divisions are: the Human Rights Council and Treaties Division, which provides substantive secretariat support to the Human Rights Council, the treaty bodies and various working groups; the Special Procedures Division, which supports the work of the Council's independent experts assigned different thematic or country-specific mandates (special procedures mandate holders); the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division, responsible for overseeing and implementing OHCHR's work in the field; and the Research and Right to Development

OHCHR staff\* (by year and location)



 = ten staff members

\* Includes international and national staff, in both the professional and general service categories, and national consultants. Excludes international consultants, junior professional officers, interns and UN Volunteers.



Division, which carries out thematic research on human rights issues and provides expert advice. Core administrative, planning, coordination and outreach functions are handled separately by dedicated sections reporting directly to the Deputy High Commissioner. For a current organization chart, please refer to page 179.

## How OHCHR is Funded

OHCHR is funded from the UN's regular budget, which, inclusive of the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation, provides just over a third of the resources required to implement the Office's programme of work, and from voluntary contributions from donors, mainly Member States. The trend in recent years has been one of strong growth both in the amount OHCHR receives from the regular budget and in the level of voluntary contributions. Under the programme budget for OHCHR for the 2008-2009 biennium regular budget resources have grown by 70 per cent since 2004-2005 (net of any additional resources to fund new work associated with the establishment of the Human Rights Council, the Universal Periodic Review process and the transfer of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women from the Department for Economic and Social Affairs to OHCHR in 2008). Voluntary contributions have risen by over 40 per cent in the past three years, with much of that growth taking the form of unearmarked contributions, which grew from 25 per cent of the total in 2005 to 43 per cent in 2007.

Please refer to pages 146-156 for more information on who funds OHCHR, key trends and challenges, and to pages 157-175 for profiles of all institutional donors in 2007.

## How OHCHR Spends its Budget

Total expenditure, including both expenditure under the regular budget and extrabudgetary spending, rose again in 2007 to a new high of \$134.8 million. The increase followed several years of sustained growth, as OHCHR has sought to push forward its plans for an expanded and more operational human rights programme. Expenditure is set to rise further, although at a slightly slower pace, in the 2008-2009 biennium.



Excluding expenditure associated with three grant-making humanitarian funds administered by OHCHR, around 52.8 per cent of OHCHR's total expenditure in 2007 was devoted to fieldwork, principally capacity-building projects and human rights monitoring, which is financed mostly through voluntary contributions. Approximately 10.8 per cent was spent on thematic research and human rights mainstreaming, 9.6 per cent on supporting the human rights treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council and its various subsidiary bodies, and 6.8 per cent on support to the Council's special procedures mandate-holders. The remainder was devoted to programme support (7.5 per cent) and to executive direction and management, fundraising and outreach activities (6.7 per cent).

Financial accounts for the year to 31 December 2007, as well as additional information on the breakdown of expenditure and allocation of voluntary contributions, can be found in Section IV, pages 138-142.

# OHCHR at a glance







**Middle-East, North Africa**

- Middle East - from Beirut
- North Africa - to be covered from new regional office planned for 2008 – options for location being considered

**Europe, North America, Central Asia**

- Central Asia - from Bishkek (Currently works with a Regional Representative. Regional Office planned for 2008)

**Latin America, Caribbean**

- Latin America - from Panama

Staff numbers are as of 31 December 2007

Map only refers to No. of staff at headquarters, New York office, regional and country offices

# Supporting the Human Rights Council and Treaty Bodies

The Human Rights Council and the human rights treaty bodies constitute two core elements of the international human rights system. OHCHR's Treaties and Council Division (until 31 December 2007, the Treaties and Council Branch) supports the Council's regular and special sessions, commissions of inquiry, and fact-finding missions, as well as the work of the human rights treaty bodies in reviewing periodic reports, issuing recommendations to States Parties, considering individual complaints, conducting inquiries and carrying out visits. In keeping with the vision set out in the High Commissioner's Plan of Action, the Division collaborates with other parts of the Office to integrate the work of the treaty bodies into OHCHR's monitoring and capacity-building work at the country level. The Division is also responsible for processing all documentation prepared by the Office, and for providing support to the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and the Independent Expert appointed by the Secretary-General to lead the study on violence against children.

## Context

### Human Rights Council

On 15 March 2006, the General Assembly replaced the Commission on Human Rights with the Human Rights Council (resolution 60/251). On 18 June 2007, a year after its first meeting and after protracted discussions about its working methods and institutional architecture, the Council adopted resolution 5/1, which establishes the structure, mechanisms and procedures to guide its future work. Among other things, the resolution preserves the system of special procedures and provides for the establishment of an expert advice body, the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, which replaces the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. The resolution also provides for the establishment of a Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism, and the replacement of the previous 1503 complaint procedure with a new procedure for confidential complaints to be examined by the Working Group on Communications and the Working Group on Situations.



4<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, March 2007



## Treaty Bodies

Treaty bodies are committees of independent experts, elected by States Parties, that monitor implementation of the core human rights treaties and optional protocols. OHCHR supported seven of the eight human rights treaty bodies during 2007:

- ▶ **The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** (CESCR), which monitors compliance with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
- ▶ **The Human Rights Committee** (HRCtee), which monitors compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its optional protocols;
- ▶ **The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** (CERD), which monitors compliance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- ▶ **The Committee against Torture** (CAT), which monitors compliance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- ▶ **The Sub-committee on Prevention of Torture**, which carries out preventive visits to places where persons may be deprived of their liberty in States Parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and supports national preventive mechanisms to carry out such work in order to achieve the aims of the Convention;
- ▶ **The Committee on the Rights of the Child** (CRC), which monitors compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its optional protocols; and
- ▶ **The Committee on Migrant Workers (MWC)**, which monitors compliance with the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

In January 2008, responsibility for providing technical and substantive support to an eighth treaty body, the **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women** (CEDAW), which monitors compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, was transferred from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in New York to OHCHR. This will ensure that women's rights will be situated at the heart of an integrated human rights system.

In December 2006, the General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. These Conventions will be monitored by new treaty bodies, which will be supported by OHCHR.

Treaty bodies meet regularly throughout the year to review reports of States Parties and issue recommendations to them. Four treaty bodies—the HRCtee, CAT, CERD and CEDAW—also consider complaints received under their Optional Protocols from individuals. CAT and CEDAW can conduct inquiries in cases where they receive reliable information indicating serious or systematic violations of the conventions by a State Party.

## Activities

### Human Rights Council

- ▶ Supported six weeks of formal meetings of the Council's intergovernmental institution-building working groups, leading to the adoption of Council resolution 5/1.
- ▶ Provided substantive and technical support during ten weeks of Council meetings, including regular and special sessions, and organizational meetings, and meetings of its subsidiary bodies.
- ▶ Contributed to a successful high-level segment at the fourth regular session in March 2007, in which more than 82 dignitaries took part.
- ▶ Facilitated the presentation of reports by, and dialogues with, special procedures mandate-holders, and the submission of reports by the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner.
- ▶ Facilitated special events on violence against children and on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and a discussion on the integration of a gender perspective in the Council's work, with the participation of high-level panellists.
- ▶ Undertook preparatory work for the elections of members of the Advisory Committee, including establishing and maintaining a list of candidates received in accordance with Council resolution 5/1.



Meeting of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in Geneva



Voting device used during Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva

- ▶ Following the Council's adoption of general guidelines on the preparation of information for the UPR, OHCHR began to prepare UPR compilations and stakeholder summaries for the first 16 States to be reviewed in April 2008.
- ▶ Supported the process for selecting new special procedures mandate-holders and meetings of the consultative group, where the list of eligible candidates established and maintained by OHCHR was considered by the Consultative Group and the President of the Human Rights Council.
- ▶ Supported the 1503 complaint procedure and the Council's new complaint procedure. Some 2,244 new communications were registered under the complaint mechanism in 2007. The Working Group on Communications examined 10,167 communications under the new complaint procedure.
- ▶ Supported the establishment and conduct of Council-mandated investigative missions to examine the human rights situations in Darfur (Sudan) and in Myanmar.

### Treaty Bodies

- ▶ Supported 14 sessions of the treaty bodies in Geneva (each session lasting between one and four weeks) during which 97 reports were reviewed. The Committee on the Rights of the Child met once in two chambers as an exceptional and temporary measure to eliminate the backlog of reports awaiting review. About 120 new State Party reports were submitted to OHCHR in 2007.
- ▶ Examined 7,646 pieces of correspondence, registered a total of 230 new cases and examined and adopted final decisions on 112 communications.
- ▶ Undertook work leading to the adoption of General Comments by the Committee on Economic, Social

and Cultural Rights, the Committee against Torture, and the Human Rights Committee.

- ▶ Organized and supported country visits by the Sub-committee on the Prevention of Torture to Mauritius and the Maldives.
- ▶ Supported the preparatory work for and the adoption by the Committee against Torture of a new procedure concerning the submission of answers to a list of questions prior to reporting.
- ▶ Conducted eight training workshops on treaty body reporting and follow-up for 350 participants and provided staff members as resource persons in several training activities organized by external partners, including the Francophonie and the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
- ▶ In collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, organized two training sessions for members of the Sub-committee on Prevention of Torture.
- ▶ Deployed a staff member to the Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Sri Lanka for three months to assist the Government in meeting its treaty body reporting obligations.
- ▶ Organized an informal session of CEDAW in Geneva together with the Swiss Government.
- ▶ Organized a Day of General Discussion with the Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- ▶ Promoted the harmonization and standardization of the work of the treaty bodies, including through supporting the harmonization working group and the working group on reservations, and organizing the sixth inter-committee meeting of the human rights treaty bodies and the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the chairpersons of treaty bodies.
- ▶ Conducted training on the use of guidelines for the Common Core Document in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Panama and Nicaragua, and provided technical assistance on treaty reporting to several governments, including Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Georgia, Guyana, Maldives, Thailand and Sri Lanka. Supported the development and adoption of treaty-specific reporting guidelines to be used in tandem with the guidelines for the Common Core Document by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

### The UN Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children

- ▶ Disseminated the Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children in hard copy and on CD-ROM, and helped finalize and distribute two follow-up publications issued jointly with UNICEF and the World Health Organization.



## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL: OUTCOME OF SESSIONS HELD IN 2007

SESSIONS	OUTCOMES
4 <sup>th</sup> session (12-30 March)	<p>The Council adopted resolutions and decisions on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● economic, social and cultural rights;</li> <li>● an extended deadline for the submissions to the draft Special Procedures manual;</li> <li>● follow-up to missions to Darfur and the Occupied Palestinian Territory;</li> <li>● human rights and unilateral coercive measures;</li> <li>● the right to development;</li> <li>● the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;</li> <li>● globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights;</li> <li>● strengthening OHCHR:</li> <li>● the legal status of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;</li> <li>● combating defamation of religions;</li> <li>● the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief; and</li> <li>● transitional justice.</li> </ul>
5 <sup>th</sup> session (11-18 June)	<p>By resolution, the Council reached agreement on the Council's institution-building package and adopted a text setting out the basic structure for the Council's new institutional machinery, including the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism, the Special Procedures, the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, and the Complaint Procedure. It also adopted the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures mandate-holders.</p>
1 <sup>st</sup> Organizational meeting (19-22 June)	<p>The Council adopted resolutions and decisions on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● follow-up to the report of the Commission of Inquiry on Lebanon; and</li> <li>● follow-up to missions to Darfur and the occupied Palestinian territory.</li> </ul>
6 <sup>th</sup> session (10-28 September and 10-14 December)	<p>The Council adopted resolutions and decisions on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● the protection of cultural rights and property in situations of armed conflict;</li> <li>● human rights and international solidarity;</li> <li>● cultural rights of everyone and respect of cultural diversity;</li> <li>● human rights and unilateral coercive measures;</li> <li>● human rights and equitable access to safe drinking, water and sanitation;</li> <li>● the development of public information activities in the field of human rights;</li> <li>● United Nations Declaration on human rights education and training;</li> <li>● the protection of cultural heritage;</li> <li>● the Social Forum;</li> <li>● the Forum on Minorities Issues;</li> <li>● the establishment of a fund for the Universal Periodic Review mechanism;</li> <li>● follow-up to missions to Darfur and the occupied Palestinian territory;</li> <li>● religious and cultural rights in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem;</li> <li>● regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights;</li> <li>● the elaboration of international complementary standards to the International Covenant on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;</li> <li>● concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;</li> <li>● preparations for the Durban Review Conference;</li> <li>● the World Programme for Human Rights Education;</li> <li>● regional cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asia-Pacific region;</li> <li>● the elaboration of human rights voluntary goals to be launched on the occasion of the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;</li> <li>● integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system;</li> <li>● requesting the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar to conduct a follow-up visit to that country;</li> <li>● the Group of Experts on the situation of human rights in Darfur;</li> <li>● an informal meeting to discuss the most appropriate mechanisms to continue work in relation to indigenous populations;</li> <li>● creating a new expert mechanism on the human rights of indigenous peoples;</li> <li>● eliminating all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief;</li> </ul>



SESSIONS	OUTCOMES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● inviting the High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations to address the Council;</li> <li>● extending the mandates of the Special Rapporteur on human rights in Sudan; the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Liberia; the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Burundi;</li> <li>● extending the mandates of the following Special Procedures: the Working Group on arbitrary detention; the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living; the Special Rapporteur on the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons; the Special Rapporteur on the protection, promotion and universal implementation of the right to freedom of religion or belief; the Special Rapporteur on the right to food; and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people;</li> <li>● replacing the Working Group on contemporary forms of slavery with the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery;</li> <li>● follow-up to Human Rights Council Resolution 5/1;</li> <li>● extending the mandate of the Working Group on Communications of the former 1503 procedure until such time as the new Working Group of the Complaints Procedure is established;</li> <li>● prevention of genocide;</li> <li>● report of the Preparatory Committee on the Durban Review Conference;</li> <li>● transitional justice;</li> <li>● enhancing international cooperation in the field of human rights;</li> </ul> <p>The Council also agreed President's statements on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● the situation of human rights in Haiti; and</li> <li>● the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment.</li> </ul>
5 <sup>th</sup> special session (2 October)	The Council adopted a resolution by consensus on the situation of human rights in Myanmar in which it strongly deplored the violent repression of peaceful demonstrations and urged the Government of Myanmar to desist from further violence against peaceful protesters and release peaceful protesters and all other political detainees.

## Results

▶ A year of discussions in the Human Rights Council culminated in the adoption, in June 2007, of a resolution setting out future working methods, structures and procedures, including the establishment of a new expert advisory body, a new procedure for individual complaints, and the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, under which every country will have its human rights record reviewed by the Council every four years. The Council also started to review and rationalize existing country and thematic mandates.

▶ OHCHR contributed to an increase in the rate of participation by national human rights institutions, NGOs and the media in the work of the treaty bodies. Workshops on treaty body reporting, such as those held in 2007 in Guyana, Indonesia and the Philippines, ensured that reporting remained high on the national human rights agenda in the countries concerned and encouraged participants to provide direct assistance to the work of the treaty bodies, the special procedures and preparations for the Council's UPR mechanism.



Scenes from the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council



- ▶ The Office helped to focus attention at the national level on the implementation of recommendations of treaty bodies. During the year, OHCHR distributed over 6,000 copies of a training DVD on the work of the treaty bodies to governments, NGOs, field presences and UN entities. Sub-regional workshops in Burkina Faso, on recommendations of the CRC, and in Kyrgyzstan, on recommendations of the CESCR, helped emphasize the importance of implementation.
- ▶ Treaty body reporting requirements for States Parties were rationalized and compliance with reporting requirements increased through greater use of the Common Core Document. The acceptance by the chairpersons of the treaty bodies of the guidelines for the Common Core Document represented a significant step forward. All States Parties have now been informed that these guidelines should be used in preparing reports.
- ▶ OHCHR achieved a high rate of compliance with rules and regulations relating to documentation of the Human Rights Council and treaty bodies. In collaboration with the Conference Services Division at the United Nations Office at Geneva, OHCHR continued to meet the documentation demands of the treaty bodies and the Council and its working groups. Documentation relating to each session of the Council was made more easily accessible via a dedicated part of the OHCHR website. To further reduce delays associated with translation, “advance edited versions” of certain documents were also made available online before being issued in all languages.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Although the High Commissioner’s proposal for the creation of a unified standing treaty body was not accepted, it has prompted increased efforts among all treaty bodies to harmonize their working methods, and encouraged States Parties to streamline their reporting by using the guidelines for the Common Core Document.
- ▶ Recommendations of treaty bodies are still criticized as often too vague. A meeting amongst members of the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation, treaty body members and representatives of OHCHR field presences and UN partners was convened in November 2006 to discuss how treaty body recommendations might be better applied at the national level. The implications of the recommendations of this meeting are being considered by the treaty bodies.
- ▶ The preparation of UPR documents has been accepted as the common responsibility of the Office, and effective cross-branch cooperation has been established to fulfil this task. However, the review of 48 countries within the UPR framework in 2008 will be a challenge for the Office, given the need to prepare necessary documentation and support the sessions of the UPR working groups.
- ▶ Meeting the growing documentation demands of the Human Rights Council and treaty bodies represents a continuing challenge and will require further improvements to be made to the process of document preparation and dissemination.





## Supporting the Treaty Bodies: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
Enhanced participation of national human rights institutions, NGOs and the media in the work of the treaty bodies and overall reporting process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Continued work on encouraging national actors to engage with the treaty-implementation and -reporting processes through cycles of workshops</li> <li>▶ User-friendly and illustrative training tool in the format of a DVD developed and distributed</li> <li>▶ New webpage and booklet on good practices under preparation</li> </ul>
Reduction in the interval between the submission of a complaint and its review by a committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The average time between the registration of a complaint and a final decision has been reduced for complaints under CAT but not in relation to the HRCtee, where the number of complaints received and registered has significantly increased. For complaints under CERD and CEDAW, given the small number of pending cases, complaints are processed expeditiously and the time from registration to a final decision is relatively short</li> </ul>
Rationalization of the reporting burden on States Parties through greater use of the Common Core Document to achieve greater compliance with reporting requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Final version of the guidelines on the Common Core Document adopted by the meeting of the chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies</li> <li>▶ Treaty bodies started to prepare treaty-specific reports and CERD adopted its new reporting guidelines</li> <li>▶ More governments started to prepare or have been preparing Common Core Documents and treaty-specific reports according to the new guidelines, including Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Turkey</li> <li>▶ Common Core Documents have been received from Australia, Timor Leste and the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo</li> </ul>
Improved compliance with reporting requirements by States Parties and an increase in the number of States adopting the Common Core Document for reporting purposes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ OHCHR received overdue (five to 10 years) reports from Algeria (CAT), Bhutan (CRC), Bulgaria (CRC), Chad (CRC, ICCPR, ICESCR), Costa Rica (CAT), Cyprus (ICESCR), Djibouti (CRC), DRC (CRC, ICESCR), France (ICCPR), former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (CAT), India (ICESCR), Kenya (CAT), Latvia (ICESCR), Madagascar (ICESCR), Malawi (CRC), Mauritania (CRC), Namibia (ICERD), Nicaragua (ICCPR, ICESCR and ICERD), Niger (CRC), Panama (ICCPR), Rwanda (ICCPR), Sierra Leone (CRC), Slovakia (CAT), and Togo (ICERD)</li> </ul>
Compliance with rules and regulations pertaining to documentation, including timely delivery and high quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Through close cooperation with the Department for the General Assembly and Conference Management, New York, the number of documents submitted in a timely manner to the General Assembly doubled</li> </ul>

# Supporting Special Procedures

## What are Special Procedures?

Special procedures is the name given to the system of independent experts mandated by the Human Rights Council—and its predecessor, the Commission on Human Rights—to investigate and report on human rights violations from a thematic or country-specific perspective. Special procedures cover all sets of rights, including civil, cultural, economic, political, and social rights.

The mandate-holders—Special Rapporteurs, Special Representatives, Independent Experts, or members of Working Groups—serve in their personal capacities. They are not UN staff members and do not receive salaries or any other financial remuneration for their work. Their independence is crucial as it ensures that they exercise their function with impartiality. They interact frequently with actual and potential victims and constitute a unique link between governments, national institutions and civil society.

In 2007, OHCHR supported 40 special procedures mechanisms (28 thematic and 12 country-specific mandates) and the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures. Mandate-holders respond to individual complaints, conduct studies and visit countries, provide advice, engage in advocacy, raise public awareness and work in partnership with NGOs. They regularly prepare written submissions, or “communications,” addressed to specific governments, drawing attention to individual cases where human rights have allegedly been violated or making urgent appeals on behalf of alleged victims of violations.

OHCHR’s Special Procedures Division (formerly the Special Procedures Branch) provides direct support for the majority of thematic special procedures and works closely with other parts of OHCHR that service the country mandates and other special procedures. The Division provides thematic, fact-finding, policy and legal expertise, conducts research and analysis, and provides assistance with logistical and administrative matters.

### Special Procedures in 2007: Facts and Figures

In 2007, with OHCHR’s support, special procedures mandate-holders:

- Conducted 62 fact-finding missions to 51 countries
- Submitted 135 reports to the Human Rights Council, including 67 annual reports and 48 country visits reports
- Submitted 20 reports to the General Assembly
- Issued 125 press statements, a fifth being issued jointly by two or more mandate-holders
- Sent 1,003 ‘communications’ to 128 countries. Communications sent dealt with the cases of 2,294 individuals, of which 13 per cent were women. Governments replied to 32 per cent of communications, and 10 per cent of all communications were followed up by mandate holders.

## Context

The Human Rights Council, created in 2006, assumed the functions of the former Commission on Human Rights, including those relating to the special procedures. The General Assembly resolution establishing the Council gave it the responsibility of reviewing, improving and rationalizing the system of special procedures. To this end, the Council established a working group in 2006 to examine all existing mandates and make recommendations on necessary changes. Mandate-holders participated in this process, and the Special Procedures Division provided continuous assistance to the working group, including by submitting background documentation.

On 18 June 2007, the Council adopted two resolutions: resolution 5/1 relating to its own institution-building framework; and resolution 5/2 regarding the code of conduct of special procedures mandate-holders. These resolutions establish new procedures for the selection and appointment of mandate-holders, set out principles for further review, rationalization and improvement of individual mandates, and contain elements to guide mandate-holders in discharging their functions. All existing thematic mandates were extended, pending future review by the Council

according to its programme of work; and all but two country mandates were also renewed. The continuing review process undertaken by the Council at its sixth and seventh sessions in September and December 2007 and in March 2008 has resulted in the renewal of all thematic and country mandates assessed so far, with the exception of the mandate on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while two additional mandates, on access to safe drinking water and sanitation and on contemporary forms of slavery were created. The review has also led to a change in some titles of mandates (such as the former Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders, whose mandate was extended as a Special Rapporteur). As a result, mandate-holders formerly designated Special Representatives are now appointed by the Council, rather than by the Secretary-General or the High Commissioner.

During 2007, mandate-holders continued to pursue a coordinated approach to fulfilling their mandates, issuing joint communications and statements when appropriate and, in some cases, undertaking joint country visits and submitting joint reports. The Coordination Committee of Special Procedures, established in 2005, played an important role through its interaction with the Human Rights Council review of mandates, and by facilitating joint initiatives. In 2008, the Special Procedures Division will build on these strengths and focus on implementing the Council resolutions on institution-building. Notably, the Division will prioritize the review of mandates, the selection of new mandate-holders, and harmonization of the working methods of the system of special procedures as a whole.

OHCHR emphasizes the relevance and linkages between the work of special procedures, other human rights mechanisms and OHCHR's work at the country level. OHCHR's country and regional offices are actively involved in supporting country visits, in following up with governments on implementation of recommendations, and in establishing and maintaining contacts with civil society and potential or actual victims of human rights violations. Information stemming from the work of special procedures is critical in identifying, assessing, and addressing gaps in the implementation of human rights at the country level, and is referenced by the Office to ensure increased compliance with human rights standards. In addition, many mandate-holders and the Special Procedures Division work closely with treaty bodies to ensure that references to recommendations made by mandate-holders are included in treaty bodies' concluding observations wherever appropriate.



UN Special Rapporteur on extra-judicial executions Philip Alston meets with a relative of victims killed in "favela" violence in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

## Activities

- ▶ Provided substantive and administrative support to special procedures mandate-holders in relation to their fact-finding missions to countries.
- ▶ Assisted mandate-holders with the drafting and submission of reports to the Human Rights Council and General Assembly.
- ▶ Assisted mandate-holders with the preparation of press releases and helped arrange press conferences and interviews.
- ▶ Assisted mandate-holders with the preparation of communications (written submissions, including letters and urgent appeals), of which more than 1,000 were sent in 2007.
- ▶ Encouraged more joint and coordinated activities by mandate-holders, including more joint missions, reports, communications and press releases.
- ▶ Ensured regular contact between mandate-holders and civil society representatives, including in the context of country visits, and discussions at the Human Rights Council (during the fourth session of the Council alone, mandate-holders held over 80 meetings with civil society actors).
- ▶ Supported the work of six mandate-holders selected by the Human Rights Council to form the Group of Experts on Darfur under resolution 4/8 of 30 March 2007. The Group submitted its final report to the Council in December 2007.



- ▶ Organized a number of seminars and consultations with mandate-holders, including consultative meetings on global inequities in access to medicine, with the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; on regional mechanisms to protect the rights of minorities, with the Independent Expert on minority issues; on regulating the activities of militia and private security firms, with the participation of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries; on protecting women and girls from torture, with the Special Rapporteur on torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment; and on the protection of human rights under states of emergency, with the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers.
- ▶ Took steps to strengthen collaboration between special procedures mandate-holders and treaty bodies. In addition to referring to each other's conclusions and recommendations in their respective reports, special procedures mandate-holders and members of treaty bodies increasingly shared information, including through briefings. For example, a joint day of discussion on protecting children's rights was organized between the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living.

#### Follow-up Visits to Countries

In 2007, OHCHR supported three mandate-holders who returned to countries previously visited to follow-up on implementations of earlier recommendations, thereby ensuring greater impact of special procedures at the country level:

- The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders carried out a visit to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to follow-up on her previous visit in 2003.
- The Representative of the Secretary-General for the human rights of internally displaced persons undertook a mission to Côte d'Ivoire to look at the implementation of his recommendations made during his previous mission in April 2006.
- The Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions visited Brazil to follow-up on his predecessor's mission carried out in October 2003.

## Results

- ▶ More country visits were made by special procedures mandate-holders in 2007 (62 visits, compared with 48 in 2006).
- ▶ One additional country extended a standing invitation to thematic special procedures, bringing the total number to 57.
- ▶ Strengthened cooperation with UN Country Teams in relation to the organization and conduct of country visits led to a number of mandate-holders issuing recommendations directed specifically at Country Teams for follow-up.
- ▶ More reports were submitted to the Human Rights Council by mandate-holders (135, compared with 100 submitted in 2006 to the former Commission on Human Rights).
- ▶ More joint initiatives taken by mandate-holders, including three joint country visits (compared with one in 2006), 49 per cent of communications sent on behalf of two or more mandate-holders (compared with 48 per cent in 2006), and 25 joint press releases issued (compared with 19 in 2006).
- ▶ Substantive contributions to the discussions of the Human Rights Council on its review of mandates and the code of conduct for special procedures resulted in a resolution that enabled special procedures mandate-holders to continue exercising the majority of their currently mandated activities.
- ▶ Improved coordination amongst mandate-holders through the Coordinating Committee led to enhanced advocacy on behalf of the special procedures system, and to measures that addressed the implementation of the code of conduct of special procedures, including the establishment of an Internal Advisory Procedure. A task force will review the special procedures draft revised manual to ensure that it conforms with the code of conduct adopted by the Council.
- ▶ Increased use of special procedures by treaty bodies, reflected in references in at least ten concluding observations of treaty bodies (the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee against Torture, and the Human Rights Committee) referring to recommendations, conclusions or other activities of special procedures.
- ▶ Collaboration with national human rights institutions led to greater support for country visits by mandate-holders, for example the Bolivian national human rights institution (*Defensoria del Pueblo*) helped plan and supported the visit to Bolivia of the Special Rapporteur on indigenous peoples.
- ▶ Improved public access to information on special procedures through an improved webpage, a more comprehensive annual publication entitled *Facts and Figures*, and a quarterly *Special Procedures Bulletin*.

### Special Procedures in Practice

#### Côte d'Ivoire

The Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons visited Côte d'Ivoire in April 2006, while the country was still suffering conflict. His report included recommendations relating to the need for a new strategy for the protection of internally displaced persons. The issue was addressed in the provisions of the Ouagadougou Peace Agreement in March 2007. The Representative has since returned to the country to discuss with the authorities and other

partners how the rights of internally displaced persons and returnees can best be defended.

#### The Maldives

Following the visit to the Maldives by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers in February 2007, the Government decided to implement one of the Special Rapporteur's recommendations, which addressed gender discrimination in the judiciary, by appointing the country's first female judges in July 2007.

#### Sweden

The Special Rapporteur on health visited Sweden in January 2006. In his report, he urged the Government to promote and protect the rights of persons with psycho-social disabilities and guarantee adequate funding in this regard. The Government subsequently announced its intention to devote 750 million SEK (approximately \$120 million) to improving mental health care over the next three years.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The work of the Council on the review, rationalization and improvement of mandates will continue into 2008. Most of the mandates assessed so far have been extended, but new mandates might be created in 2008, mainly in the economic, social and cultural fields.
- ▶ The adoption of the Special Procedures Code of Conduct by the Council creates potential for controversy between mandate-holders and Member States, depending on the interpretation of specific provisions in the code.
- ▶ A new selection procedure is being established for mandate-holders. OHCHR considers it crucial that the degree of independence of future mandate-holders is maintained at a high level to retain the integrity of the special procedures system.
- ▶ While accepting that mandate-holders wish to retain their own approach to their respective roles, OHCHR will continue to emphasize the value of greater coordination and, where appropriate, collaboration.

### Special Procedures: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
Number of references to special procedures and their recommendations in major human rights reports, UN technical cooperation projects, and UNDAFs	▶ UN Habitat, the World Health Organization, the Inter-agency Standing Committee, and the UN Peace-building Commission all made references in major publications to special procedures mandate-holders' work and recommendations
Number of NGOs and civil society organizations making use of the special procedures mechanisms	▶ Mandate-holders sent communications based on information provided by 62 NGOs in 2007 (compared with 56 NGOs that provided information in 2006)
Number of joint actions amongst special procedures mandate-holders, including statements, missions, communications, and cross-references in reports	▶ 49% of communications were sent jointly by two or more mandate-holders ▶ 20% of press statements were issued jointly in 2007 ▶ Three joint missions were organized
Number of references to special procedures and their recommendations in Security Council resolutions and treaty body documents	▶ At least ten concluding observations of treaty bodies (Committee on the Rights of the Child, Committee against Torture, and the Human Rights Committee) made references to recommendations, conclusions or other activities of the special procedures

## SPECIAL PROCEDURES MANDATE HOLDERS IN 2007

Mandate	Established in	Mandate-holder
<b>Country mandates</b>		
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in <b>Belarus</b>	2004*	Mr. Adrian SEVERIN ( <i>Romania</i> )
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in <b>Burundi</b>	2004	Mr. Akich OKOLA ( <i>Kenya</i> )
Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in <b>Cambodia</b>	1993	Mr. Yash Ghai ( <i>Kenya</i> )
Personal Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in <b>Cuba</b>	2003*	Ms. Christine CHANET ( <i>France</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the <b>Democratic People's Republic of Korea</b>	2004	Mr. Vitit MUNTARBHORN ( <i>Thailand</i> )
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the <b>Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>	2004	Mr. Titinga Frédéric PACÉRE ( <i>Burkina Faso</i> )
Independent Expert appointed by the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in <b>Haiti</b>	1995	Mr. Louis JOINET ( <i>France</i> )
Independent Expert on technical cooperation and advisory services in <b>Liberia</b>	2003	Ms. Charlotte ABAKA ( <i>Ghana</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in <b>Myanmar</b>	1992	Mr. Paulo Sergio PINHEIRO ( <i>Brazil</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the <b>Palestinian territories occupied since 1967</b>	1993	Mr. John DUGARD ( <i>South Africa</i> )
Independent Expert appointed by the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in <b>Somalia</b>	1993	Mr. Ghanim ALNAJJAR ( <i>Kuwait</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the <b>Sudan</b>	2005	Ms. Sima SAMAR ( <i>Afghanistan</i> )
<b>Thematic mandates</b>		
Special Rapporteur on <b>adequate housing</b> as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living	2000	Mr. Miloon KOTHARI ( <i>India</i> )
Working Group on people of <b>African descent</b>	2002	Mr. Peter Lesa KASANDA ( <i>Zambia</i> ) Mr. Joe FRANS ( <i>Sweden</i> ) Mr. George N. JABBOUR ( <i>Syrian Arab Republic</i> ) Ms. Irina ZLATESCU ( <i>Romania</i> )
Working Group on <b>arbitrary detention</b>	1991	Ms. Leila ZERROUGUI ( <i>Algeria</i> ) Mr. Tamás BÁN ( <i>Hungary</i> ) Ms. Manuela CARMENA CASTRILLO ( <i>Spain</i> ) Mr. Seyyed Mohammad HASHEMI ( <i>Islamic Republic of Iran</i> ) Ms. Soledad VILLAGRA DE BIEDERMANN ( <i>Paraguay</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the <b>sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography</b>	1990	Mr. Juan Miguel PETIT ( <i>Uruguay</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the right to <b>education</b>	1998	Mr. Vernor MUÑOZ VILLALOBOS ( <i>Costa Rica</i> )
Working Group on <b>enforced or involuntary disappearances</b>	1980	Mr. Santiago CORCUERA ( <i>Mexico</i> )
Special Rapporteur on <b>extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions</b>	1982	Mr. Philip ALSTON ( <i>Australia</i> )
Independent expert on the effects of <b>economic reform policies and foreign debt</b>	2000	Mr. Bernard Andrew NYAMWAYA MUDHO ( <i>Kenya</i> )





Mandate	Established in	Mandate-holder
Independent Expert on the question of human rights and <b>extreme poverty</b>	1998	<b>Mr. Arjun SENGUPTA</b> ( <i>India</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the right to <b>food</b>	2000	<b>Mr. Jean ZIEGLER</b> ( <i>Switzerland</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to <b>freedom of opinion and expression</b>	1993	<b>Mr. Ambeyi LIGABO</b> ( <i>Kenya</i> )
Special Rapporteur on <b>freedom of religion or belief</b>	1986	<b>Ms. Asma JAHANGIR</b> ( <i>Pakistan</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental <b>health</b>	2002	<b>Mr. Paul HUNT</b> ( <i>New Zealand</i> )
Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of <b>human rights defenders</b>	2000	<b>Ms. Hina JILANI</b> ( <i>Pakistan</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the <b>independence of judges and lawyers</b>	1994	<b>Mr. Leandro DESPOUY</b> ( <i>Argentina</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of <b>indigenous peoples</b>	2001	<b>Mr. Rodolfo STAVENHAGEN</b> ( <i>Mexico</i> )
Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of <b>internally displaced persons</b>	2004	<b>Mr. Walter Kälin</b> ( <i>Switzerland</i> )
Independent Expert on human rights and <b>international solidarity</b>	2005	<b>Mr. Rudi Muhammad RIZKI</b> ( <i>Indonesia</i> )
Working Group on the use of <b>mercenaries</b> as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	2005	<b>Ms. Amada BENAVIDES DE PÉREZ</b> ( <i>Colombia</i> ) <b>Ms. Najat AL-HAJJAJI</b> ( <i>Libyan Arab Jamahiriya</i> ) <b>Mr. José Luis GÓMEZ DEL PRADO</b> ( <i>Spain</i> ) <b>Mr. Alexander Ivanovich NIKITIN</b> ( <i>Russian Federation</i> ) <b>Ms. Shaista SHAMEEM</b> ( <i>Fiji</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the human rights of <b>migrants</b>	1999	<b>Mr. Jorge A. BUSTAMANTE</b> ( <i>Mexico</i> )
Independent Expert on <b>minority issues</b>	2005	<b>Ms. Gay J. MCDUGALL</b> ( <i>United States of America</i> )
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of <b>racism</b> , racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	1993	<b>Mr. Doudou DIÈNE</b> ( <i>Senegal</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering <b>terrorism</b>	2005	<b>Mr. Martin SCHEININ</b> ( <i>Finland</i> )
Special Rapporteur on <b>torture</b> and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	1985	<b>Mr. Manfred Nowak</b> ( <i>Austria</i> )
Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of <b>toxic and dangerous products and wastes</b> on the enjoyment of human rights	1995	<b>Mr. Okechukwu IBEANU</b> ( <i>Nigeria</i> )
Special Rapporteur on <b>trafficking in persons</b> , especially in women and children	2004	<b>Ms. Sigma HUDA</b> ( <i>Bangladesh</i> )
Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and <b>transnational corporations and other business enterprises</b>	2005	<b>Mr. John Ruggie</b> ( <i>United States of America</i> )
Special Rapporteur on violence against <b>women</b> , its causes and consequences	1994	<b>Ms. Yakin ERTÜRK</b> ( <i>Turkey</i> )

\* Following the ongoing review of mandates by the Human Rights Council, this mandate was not renewed in June 2007.

# Thematic Human Rights Challenges

OHCHR provides legal and policy advice and undertakes substantive research on a broad range of thematic human rights issues, from rule of law and the administration of justice, to issues relating to poverty, development, discrimination, and the rights of various vulnerable groups. OHCHR's thematic programmes are implemented by the Research and Right to Development Division (formerly the Research and Right to Development Branch), which consists of seven units organized along thematic lines and one unit specialized in human rights methodology, education, training and resources. Each unit carries out research into key human rights issues, develops methodological tools and learning resources, and engages with stakeholders, disseminating research findings, providing advice and training, undertaking needs assessments, and designing and assisting in the implementation of capacity-building projects at the country level.

## Approach

The Division's main objectives are threefold:

- ▶ To integrate human rights and their gender dimension into development, humanitarian, peace and security, governance and rule of law programmes and activities of the UN system;
- ▶ To integrate the promotion and protection of the right to development in global partnerships for development; and
- ▶ To increase knowledge and understanding of thematic human rights issues through research, analysis, preparation of methodological tools, and training with the aim of strengthening promotion and protection of human rights at the country level and supporting human rights bodies.

The Division's work is grounded in research and analysis conducted in-house with contributions from external experts as required. A variety of research projects is undertaken each year, from mapping exercises aimed at identifying emerging human rights trends, to legal analyses of legislation and institutional arrangements for addressing human

rights problems, to documenting good practices in the implementation of human rights.

The results feed into OHCHR's policy planning and programming at multiple levels. Staff in the Research and Right to Development Division work closely with geographical desk officers at headquarters and staff in country and regional offices, sharing knowledge and applying it to a local context, undertaking needs assessments, and participating in the development and implementation of country engagement strategies. They also work with colleagues in supporting the Human Rights Council, special procedures and treaty bodies. The Division produces a range of methodological tools and learning packages for use at the country and headquarters levels to build the capacity of national institutions, civil society and other partners. In this way, the Division's work has a direct impact on the Office's wider efforts to engage directly with countries to tackle human rights problems. Staff in the Division also work with other parts of the United Nations to help mainstream understanding of human rights and ensure a human rights perspective is increasingly built into programmes implemented by other UN programmes and agencies.

## Rule of Law and Democracy

A dedicated team of 11 OHCHR staff work to strengthen human rights expertise in the field of rule of law. The Rule of Law and Democracy Unit works with Member States to identify where domestic laws fall short of established international standards; advises on necessary legislative and policy reforms to strengthen national protection systems; and provides the methodological tools and training needed to enhance the capacity and efficiency of State institutions. Within OHCHR, the unit provides legal advice to management, special procedures mandate-holders, OHCHR field operations and UN partners. It also contributes to the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force by leading the Working Group on "Protecting Human Rights while Countering Terrorism."



A container serving as a detention facility in Sudan

## Activities

- ▶ Developed and disseminated a manual on international commissions of inquiry and the elaboration of principles and best practices for national commissions of inquiry.
- ▶ Provided legal support to the Secretariat of the Fact-Finding Mission to Beit Hanoun established under Human Rights Council resolution S-3/1 through the assignment of a legal adviser to the Mission.
- ▶ In the area of transitional justice, where OHCHR has been designated as the lead entity within the UN system, promoted the operational use of existing standards and rule of law policy tools, including training on judicial monitoring for field-based staff in Afghanistan; a seminar in the Balkans on victims' rights to remedy and reparations; a roundtable on 'National Human Rights Institutions and Transitional Justice'; and a training-for-trainers on transitional justice in the Great Lakes region.
- ▶ Advanced the promotion of human rights in transitional justice through the elaboration of tools on amnesties and on national consultations on transitional justice and the exploration of the rule of law implications of economic and social justice for countries in transition; assisted governments in organizing national consultations on transitional justice; and provided advice to OHCHR field presences, including in Afghanistan, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Colombia, Iraq, Nepal, Timor Leste, and Uganda.
- ▶ Provided expert and technical support to the UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF) on democracy and rule of law-related projects.
- ▶ Provided training on human rights standards, procedures and mechanisms to legislators representing parliamentary legal and human rights committees in nine countries of Southern Africa.
- ▶ Established the High Commissioner's Judicial Group, which includes 14 senior judges from national legal systems.
- ▶ Contributed to *amicus curiae* briefs submitted in proceedings before the Supreme Court of the United States, on issues arising under Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and before the Iraqi High Tribunal in the case of Taha Yassin Ramadan on the application of the death penalty.
- ▶ Developed manuals and guidelines to assist Member States in strengthening the protection of human rights in the context of measures to counter terrorism, and a fact sheet on human rights, terrorism and counter-terrorism giving practical guidance on these issues.



- ▶ Provided legal advice to OHCHR and the human rights components of peacekeeping missions on issues including UN authority, privileges and immunities of OHCHR staff and special procedures mandate-holders, responsibilities in protecting the human rights of local population, and various transitional measures.

## Results

- ▶ Future fact-finding missions and commissions of inquiry will benefit from guidance made available by OHCHR, based on best practices and lessons learned from previous experience.
- ▶ Increased knowledge and use of existing standards and policies on transitional justice among OHCHR field presences, other UN actors and national stakeholders.
- ▶ Increased knowledge of international human rights mechanisms and procedures among 19 members of legal and human rights committees of parliaments in nine countries in Southern Africa. A series of recommendations made to enhance the role of parliamentarians in the development of human rights were adopted for implementation in the Southern Africa region.
- ▶ Strengthened support for the administration of justice in selected countries through the creation of a high-level network of judges intended to facilitate greater exchange of information and experience.
- ▶ Greater international awareness of the obligation to protect a range of human rights in the context of counter-terrorism, including the development of human rights-compliant anti-terrorism legislation and policy.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Increased training of OHCHR and other UN staff and national actors on the use of the nine transitional justice tools is needed to ensure they are effectively implemented.
- ▶ The Secretary-General's Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy has proved to be an effective means of rallying State and UN actors. However, mainstreaming human rights among all working groups within the counter-terrorism task force and stronger coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its executive directorate is needed to achieve the goals that have been set.

## Anti-discrimination

Equality and non-discrimination are fundamental principles of human rights, enshrined in Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status." OHCHR provides leadership within the UN system in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and in promoting the principle of equality and non-discrimination.

## Activities

- ▶ Undertook preparatory work ahead of the planned 2009 Durban Review Conference, intended to review implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action from the 2001 World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. This included servicing the Bureau and the organizational session of the Preparatory Committee and substantive research on various anti-discrimination issues mechanisms and measures.
- ▶ Assisted the five experts on complementary standards in the preparation of a study on gaps in existing international human rights standards. The study was submitted to the Intergovernmental Working Group on the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action to enable it to prepare complementary standards.
- ▶ Advised Member States on a variety of anti-discrimination initiatives, including a draft anti-discrimination law in Colombia, a strategy to fight racism and discrimination in Nepal, and national action plans, developed by the governments of Uruguay and Chile, to combat discrimination.
- ▶ Participated in seven regional inter-agency seminars and workshops intended to strengthen joint UN efforts to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.
- ▶ Assisted six national human rights institutions and 40 NGOs from West Africa in integrating the Durban agenda into their work at the national level. Engaged with civil society organizations in North and Latin America in preparing for their participation in the Durban Review Conference.
- ▶ Provided substantive and technical servicing to the Intergovernmental Working Group and to the Working Group on People of African Descent.

## Results

- ▶ Increased reference to universal human rights instruments concerning the elimination of racial discrimination in the work of OHCHR's regional partners in publications, training material, workshops and seminars.
- ▶ Increased ability of OHCHR field offices to act as reliable partners in providing assistance to Member States and other partners in combating racism and promoting the principles of equality and non-discrimination.
- ▶ Civil society organizations in West Africa, North and Latin America are more aware of their role in the preparatory process for implementation of the Durban agenda and the Durban Review Conference. A coordinating network of West African NGOs has been created and will seek to expand the existing network of NGOs within the Economic Cooperation Organization for West African States that is carrying out anti-discrimination work.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Preparatory work for the Durban Review Conference was overshadowed and, to an extent, hampered in 2007 by increasing political polarization among Member States over the optimal format and focus of the event. OHCHR will work to meet its obligations to help Member States and civil society prepare for the conference and ensure that the event is fully serviced. However, the outcome of the process and its impact will depend upon the capacity of Member States to overcome differences and agree on a way forward.

## Activities

- ▶ Prepared or contributed to guidelines, papers and publications on various issues concerning indigenous and minority rights, including: an information note on minorities for UN staff; guidelines on the situation of voluntarily isolated indigenous peoples and an accompanying publication; a publication on urban indigenous peoples; a paper on indigenous peoples, pollution and human rights, identifying administrative and legal remedies under existing international mechanisms; background papers on indigenous peoples and the private sector, and on climate change and indigenous peoples; and a series of papers on policing and minorities.
- ▶ Supported implementation of projects aimed at addressing indigenous and minority concerns in nine countries. For example, an OHCHR staff member worked with UNDP in Quito and La Paz to implement a programme on indigenous peoples and afro-descendants' rights in Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru. In Nepal, a needs-assessment mission was conducted to propose methods for better integration of indigenous and minority concerns into the OHCHR programme.
- ▶ Organized two expert seminars on urban indigenous peoples in cooperation with UN Habitat and another on integrating minority perspectives into policing.
- ▶ Supported the training of 28 indigenous and minority fellows from Bangladesh, Philippines, Cameroon, Ukraine, Finland, Mexico, Chile, Panama, Ecuador, Chad, Morocco, Canada, Algeria, Republic of Congo, and the Russian Federation. Minority Fellows participated from Laos, the Russian Federation, Nigeria, Canada, Iraq and the Golan Heights.
- ▶ Cooperated with more than 30 UN system or regional organizations and agencies. In cooperation

## Indigenous Peoples and Minorities

Indigenous peoples and minorities are often victims of discrimination and are among the poorest in many countries. OHCHR's Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Unit works to improve human rights protection for indigenous peoples and minorities at the international and national levels. The unit is responsible for mainstreaming minority and indigenous peoples' issues within the office and cooperating with inter-agency networks to support their integration in the UN system. The unit works with Member States, civil society and with indigenous and minority peoples and their representatives.



with the International Labour Organization, UNICEF and the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, OHCHR was instrumental in drafting guidelines on the mainstreaming of indigenous peoples' issues into UN country programmes. The guidelines were approved by the UN Development Group in early 2008 and will assist UN Country Teams in integrating indigenous issues into their programmatic work.

## Results

- ▶ The General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on 13 September 2007.
- ▶ An ongoing dialogue was established among the African Commission, indigenous peoples, NGOs and UN entities from Africa on how the human rights of indigenous peoples can be better protected.
- ▶ OHCHR, in cooperation with the Resident Coordinator in Bolivia, created a national forum for dialogue between indigenous peoples and the UN Country Team so that indigenous peoples' needs and views are better integrated into the planning, implementation and evaluation of UN programmes in the country. The model will be promoted in other countries.
- ▶ Indigenous and minority issues are now more systematically considered in the work of treaty bodies and special procedures mechanisms, following efforts to raise awareness among NGOs. Approximately three-quarters of urgent action requests under the International Covenant on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination are now presented by indigenous organizations.
- ▶ Twenty-eight trained minority and indigenous fellows are empowered to use UN human rights mechanisms. Six of the group went on to work as national fellows in field offices of the International Labour Organization and OHCHR in Cameroun, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and the Philippines.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Information on the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples should be made more widely available through OHCHR's field offices, particularly now the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has been adopted.
- ▶ The adoption of the Declaration, and the establishment of both the Forum on Minority Issues and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, will provide a new framework for OHCHR's work in this area in 2008.

### Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

After more than 20 years of discussions and negotiations under the auspices of the UN human rights programme, the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the General Assembly in September 2007. The Declaration recognizes indigenous peoples' rights to determine their own development priorities, own and use their traditional lands, and maintain and develop their political and social organizations. The Declaration invites States to address issues of exclusion and discrimination through concrete measures in economic and social areas. It offers to Governments and indigenous peoples a framework for reconciliation based on principles that have gained the support of Member States. With the approval of new guidelines for UN Country Teams based upon the Declaration, the UN system has the opportunity to engage at the country level to help governments implement policies and programmes that benefit indigenous peoples.

## Women's Human Rights and Gender

Human rights violations based on gender, including discrimination, sexual and physical violence and other forms of abuse continue to be a serious challenge to the full enjoyment of human rights worldwide. In her 2006-2007 Strategic Management Plan, the High Commissioner committed herself to placing gender and women's rights at the core of the work of the Office and, in late 2006, a Women's Human Rights and Gender Unit was established, tasked with ensuring that a gender perspective is reflected in all OHCHR programmes and in the programming of other parts of the UN system.



Girls attending camp schools in Chad



## Activities

- ▶ Held two expert group meetings on prosecuting perpetrators of sexual violence during and in the aftermath of conflict. The meetings informed a legal position paper on current jurisprudence relating to the prosecution of rape under international humanitarian law and human rights law.
- ▶ Held an expert group meeting to explore the use of temporary special measures, such as providing access to employment, health care, food and other economic and social rights, as a way of ensuring that women survivors of rape in post-conflict countries have access to justice. This analysis contributed to a legal position paper on the linkages between economic and social rights and the access of women to formal justice mechanisms.
- ▶ Commissioned a study on discriminatory laws, to assist and inform the intergovernmental process in identifying a way forward to eliminate *de jure* discrimination.
- ▶ Carried out training on women's human rights and UN protection mechanisms for Palestinian human rights defenders.
- ▶ Provided assistance to OHCHR units and field presences on gender issues, including training on skills and methods of investigating cases of sexual violence and developing an integrated gender strategy for the OHCHR office in Colombia.
- ▶ Assisted several special procedures mandate-holders and provided information to support treaty bodies' examination of women's rights.
- ▶ Organized events to integrate a gender perspective into the work of the Human Rights Council, the treaty bodies and special procedures, including a discussion at the sixth session of Human Rights Council, at which an expert panel considered ways to ensure a gender perspective is integrated into the Council's work.
- ▶ Participated in various inter-agency initiatives, including training for future gender advisers to humanitarian coordinators; the joint development with UNICEF, the World Health Organization and the UN Development Fund for Women, of "Caring for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict-Affected Areas"; and the "UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict" initiative.

## Results

- ▶ Two legal position papers were developed on different aspects of access to justice for victims of sexual violence, both of which will support the development of guidelines and learning resources in 2008.

- ▶ After receiving a considerable number of recommendations from OHCHR, in December 2007 the Human Rights Council adopted by consensus a resolution on ensuring the integration of gender and women's rights into its work.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Making a difference in the area of gender and women's rights requires a combination of capacity-building and fresh legal analyses, research and the development of learning resources in priority areas.

### Speaking out against penalization of victims of sexual violence

In mid-2006, a nineteen-year old woman was gang raped in an attack in the Eastern province town of Qatif in Saudi Arabia. The following year, seven men were found guilty of the rape by the Qatif General Court and were initially sentenced to prison terms ranging from ten months to five years. The victim herself was also penalized, the court having determined that she should receive physical punishment for having been in the company of men to whom she was not related. On 14 November, an Appeals Court doubled the prison terms of the rapists and increased the sentence of the victim to 200 lashes and six months in prison, apparently for telling her story to the media and hence, in the view of the court, seeking to influence the outcome of the case. The High Commissioner, together with other actors, addressed the authorities in this case and the victim was eventually pardoned by the King of Saudi Arabia.

## Millennium Development Goals and the Right to Development

In her 2005 Plan of Action, the High Commissioner committed the Office to working more closely with other parts of the UN system to see that the inter-relationship between human rights and development is more widely recognized and reflected in the full range of development and related activities carried out by OHCHR's UN and national partners, including in the areas of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), poverty reduction, trafficking, HIV/AIDS, corruption and trade.

## Activities

### Human rights mainstreaming

- ▶ Led the implementation of the inter-agency Action 2 Global Programme, aimed at strengthening the capacity of UN Country Teams in integrating human rights perspectives into their programming and assisting national partners in addressing human rights challenges. In 2007, the Programme assisted 47 UN Country Teams around the world with expertise and training, including the inter-agency Common Learning Package on Human Rights-based Approach to Programming. With funding provided in part through the Action 2 Global Programme, the Office deployed human rights advisers to five UN Country Teams upon the request of Resident Coordinators (Rwanda, Indonesia, the Maldives, Kyrgyzstan and Nicaragua).
- ▶ Contributed to a new induction programme for Resident Coordinators, agency heads and senior UN representatives, in partnership with the UN System Staff College and UN Development Group Office, and piloted an executive training programme on human rights for senior UN managers in Kyrgyzstan along with advanced modules on a human rights-based approach for programming staff.
- ▶ Contributed to the 2007 revision of the Common Country Assessment/UN Development Assistance Framework Guidelines, the UN Development Group e-learning kit on UN Common Programming, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/Development Assistance Committee's Action-oriented Policy Paper on human rights and development.

### Human rights and poverty reduction

- ▶ Advised UN Country Teams on integrating human rights into poverty-reduction strategies, and undertook poverty-assessment missions to Guatemala, Liberia and Nepal to identify how field presences in each country can strengthen their engagement with national counterparts on human rights and poverty reduction.
- ▶ Produced or contributed to a number of publications designed to assist development practitioners in integrating human rights principles and approaches in their MDG-related work, including "Claiming the MDGs: A Human Rights Approach" (to be finalized in 2008), "Human Rights and the Millennium Development Goals: Making the Link" (UNDP, 2007), and "Guidelines on Human Rights, Health and Poverty-reduction Strategies" (jointly with the World Health Organization, 2008). OHCHR also supported an inter-agency regional workshop in Latin America, organized jointly with the UN

Population Fund, UNICEF and the UN Development Programme, on how to integrate human rights into national MDG reports.

- ▶ Conducted a series of consultations among Member States, civil society and international human rights expert bodies on the draft Guiding Principles for the "Implementation of existing human rights norms and standards in the context of the fight against extreme poverty," and reported on the results to the Human Rights Council pursuant to Council resolution 2/2 of 2007.
- ▶ Supported the expert consultation by the Independent Expert on the effects of economic reform policies and foreign debt on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, pursuant to the Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2004/8 and 2005/19, and the annual consultation of the Independent Expert on extreme poverty with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

### Right to development

- ▶ Provided substantive and secretarial support to the High-level Task Force on the implementation of the right to development and the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development, including organization, participation and reporting of the Task Force's technical missions to pilot-test the criteria for the evaluation of Millennium Development Goal number eight.
- ▶ Engaged in dialogue with key actors on global development partnerships with the aim of integrating human rights, particularly the right to development, into their policies and operational activities.







- ▶ Provided administrative and secretarial support to the Independent Expert on international solidarity whose mandate includes international cooperation, global response to natural disasters, diseases and agricultural pests, and third-generation rights, including the right to development.
- ▶ Contributed a chapter for a book entitled, “WTO and Global Governance,” which examines the relationship between international trade policies and human rights and draws on OHCHR reports on liberalization of trade in services, foreign direct investment, and trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights.
- ▶ Conducted research and drafted a publication entitled, “Frequently Asked Questions on Trade and Human Rights.”

#### **A rights-based response to HIV/AIDS**

- ▶ Provided expert advice to OHCHR field operations and UN partners on the application of a rights-based response to HIV.
- ▶ Participated in the inter-agency Standing Committee Task Force on HIV.
- ▶ Provided briefings to treaty bodies and special procedures on human rights issues in relation to HIV and AIDS.
- ▶ Encouraged national human rights institutions to play a more active role in promoting a rights-based response to HIV/AIDS, including issuing a handbook on HIV and national

institutions and co-organizing an event with UNAIDS and the UN Development Programme at the eighth International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, in Sri Lanka, entitled, “Unblocking the Barriers to Universal Access: The Role of National Human Rights Institutions.”

- ▶ Issued press releases and statements by the High Commissioner on HIV and human rights, including on the occasion of World AIDS Day (1 December 2007).

#### **Trafficking**

- ▶ Conducted three expert consultations on trafficking-related research methodologies, in collaboration with the UNICEF Innocenti Centre.
- ▶ Carried out a human rights analysis of anti-trafficking interventions in Europe and Asia.
- ▶ Assisted the authorities in Nepal in relation to anti-trafficking measures, including holding two consultations with national and local government officials, training for representatives of the Nepal Human Rights Commission and the Government of Nepal, and support to a research project on trafficking and gender vulnerability in Western Nepal.
- ▶ Participated in the inter-agency Steering Committee of the UN Global Initiative to Fight Trafficking, and ensured that the human rights approach to anti-trafficking will be reflected in the 2008 Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking.



- ▶ Coordinated the inter-agency Group on Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling, and worked with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Alliance Expert Coordination Team on a common agenda for regional anti-trafficking engagement in the countries of Central Asia, and on preparations for the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking.

#### Good governance and anti-corruption initiatives

- ▶ Published a handbook on national good governance practices for the promotion of human rights, exploring linkages between these areas and illustrating positive governance reform initiatives through a series of 21 case studies.

#### Results

- ▶ A new international standard was established for the application of a human rights-based approach through the finalization of the inter-agency Common Learning Package.
- ▶ The inter-relationship between poverty and human rights was increasingly recognized by treaty bodies and special procedures, reflected in an increase in references in treaty body general comments and concluding observations and the reports of special procedures mandate-holders.

- ▶ Conclusions and recommendations by the High-level Task Force and the Working Group on the Right to Development in relation to criteria for periodic evaluation of global development partnerships were adopted by the Human Rights Council and form the basis of a three-year workplan.
- ▶ Strengthened UN system-wide capacity to apply a human rights-based approach to development programmes through the inter-agency Common Learning Package.

#### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ With the increased attention to integrating human rights in common UN programming frameworks since 2003, demand for training and guidance on the human rights-based approach at the national level, and in relation to specific thematic issues such as HIV, has dramatically increased. There is a need to strengthen the skills of OHCHR staff in this area, particularly those with responsibility for engaging directly with countries.
- ▶ Protecting the human rights of persons affected by trafficking remains a key challenge because of the primacy given to crime-prevention approaches used in anti-trafficking initiatives. In addition, structural and organizational linkages with migration work must be made at all levels of organizations working on this issue.



Coastguard intercepts a traditional fishing boat laden with migrants off the Canary Islands

## Economic and Social Issues

The Human Rights, Economic and Social Issues Unit provides Office-wide support to realize rights in three distinct areas: economic, social and cultural rights; human rights and disability; and, human rights and business.

### Activities

#### Economic, social and cultural rights

- ▶ Supported one session of the Working Group on an Optional Protocol to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and related activities, such as informal consultations, assistance to the Chairperson in drafting the optional protocol, and planning for a regional consultation in 2008.
  - ▶ Submitted a study on human rights and access to water and sanitation to the Human Rights Council.
  - ▶ Assisted colleagues in integrating economic, social and cultural rights into the OHCHR Monitoring Manual and violations database, and trained field staff on human rights monitoring in Addis Ababa in November 2007.
  - ▶ Elaborated the human rights dimensions of climate change in a speech delivered by the Deputy High Commissioner at the Bali Conference in December 2007.
- ▶ Supported OHCHR field presences in mainstreaming economic, social and cultural rights into their work, including organizing and participating in a regional seminar on Justifiability of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights held in Santiago de Chile in December 2007.
  - ▶ Published the “Handbook on Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons” and finalized Fact Sheet No. 31 on the Right to Health.
  - ▶ Developed an internal strategy to strengthen OHCHR’s work in the field of economic, social and cultural rights.



Refugees from Myanmar in northern Thailand



Woman knitting in front of her house in Ituri, Democratic Republic of the Congo



### Human rights and disability

- ▶ Formed an inter-departmental secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which consolidates the strengths of OHCHR and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
- ▶ With the Department of Social and Economic Affairs, co-chaired the first meeting of the Inter-agency Support Group for the Convention, comprising UN departments, funds, programmes and specialized agencies and the World Bank.
- ▶ In collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, published a “Handbook for Parliamentarians on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”, which will form the basis of regional training of parliamentarians in 2008 to promote ratification of the treaty.
- ▶ Attended major global conferences on disability that have strengthened partnerships with disabled persons’ organizations.
- ▶ Supported the mainstreaming of the rights of persons with disabilities within the work of Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council by holding an expert seminar for the Special Rapporteur on torture.
- ▶ The High Commissioner agreed to six commitments to promote the right to decent

work of existing and future OHCHR staff with disabilities, presenting a standard for other parts of the UN to follow.

### Human rights and business

- ▶ Hosted a consultation in Colombia for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on the social licence for business to operate, in which a large number of stakeholders, including indigenous peoples, were able to voice their concerns.
- ▶ Held a multi-stakeholder consultation in Geneva on the corporate duty to respect human rights, which demonstrated a growing acceptance by business groups and NGOs of the corporate responsibility to respect human rights as a baseline standard.
- ▶ Launched an e-learning tool for corporations on human rights aimed at broadening knowledge of human rights among business enterprises.
- ▶ Undertook a mapping of the scope and content of States’ obligations to protect human rights in the context of business activities, which has, in turn, contributed to strengthening the work of the SRSG and the Human Rights Council in this area.
- ▶ Issued a publication on human rights and business entitled, “Embedding Human Rights in Business Practices (Volume II).”

#### The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol are the first human rights instruments to be adopted by the General Assembly in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Convention represents a paradigm shift in attitude towards persons with disabilities, moving from a medical or charity approach to a rights-based approach to disability. This shift moves away from seeing persons with disabilities as merely problems to be fixed or passive recipients of charity or welfare, to an approach that regards them as individuals with human rights who have a right to make decisions for themselves and to live independently in the community. The Convention does not recognize new rights but clarifies existing responsibilities of States and other actors to promote and protect the civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others. The Convention establishes a treaty body, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to monitor its implementation. The Optional Protocol establishes a right of individual petition as well as an inquiry procedure into cases of grave or systematic violations of human rights. The Convention will come into force in 2008 when it has 20 ratifications.

### Results

- ▶ Economic, social and cultural rights are increasingly part of the work planned and implemented by other UN entities, including the World Health Organization, UN HABITAT, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Global Compact Office, and the Food and Agriculture Organization.
- ▶ After extensive support for its elaboration, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol were opened for signing on 30 March 2007.
- ▶ The Office’s work on the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities resulted in the Special Rapporteur on the right to education and the Special Rapporteur on torture mainstreaming these rights into their thematic work and country monitoring. The report to the Human Rights Council of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education on the right of persons with disabilities to education drew significant praise from the Council members.
- ▶ Increased interest shown by companies, UN agencies and civil society organizations working in individual countries to promote the principles of the Global Compact in human rights principles, as demonstrated in statements made at their annual meetings and an increased number



of requests for guidance, assistance and information.

- ▶ Increased acceptance amongst business groups and NGOs of the corporate responsibility to respect human rights as a baseline standard.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ While the Office has made progress in supporting the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights, further work is needed in gathering good practice examples of legislative, policy and budgetary measures at the national level to act as guidance to other States.

## Methodology, Education and Training

Quality and relevant tools to support human rights programming, education and training are vital to advancing human rights protection and promotion. OHCHR's Methodology, Education and Training Unit develops such tools for human rights assessment and planning; human rights monitoring and investigations; human rights education and training; and human rights in peace operations. It also provides general methodological support based on changing needs, and raises human rights knowledge



through its publications programme and its library references services.

### Activities

#### Human rights assessment and planning

- ▶ Developed an Office-wide methodology for preparing country engagement strategies.
- ▶ Led work to develop guidelines for the preparation of OHCHR reports under the Universal Periodic Review.
- ▶ Reviewed OHCHR experience on supporting the design and implementation of national human rights action plans to identify challenges and success factors. The results have been documented and made available to OHCHR staff and external partners.
- ▶ Reviewed the Protection Needs Assessment Framework on internally displaced persons developed by the inter-agency standing committee task force, which will guide the analysis of protection gaps and the identification of solutions in situations of internal displacement.

#### Human rights monitoring and investigations

- ▶ Developed, updated and tested guidance tools for OHCHR field offices and the human rights components of peace operations on: analyzing human rights information and actors; developing strategies for human rights protection; and engaging with national authorities, human rights institutions and civil society.
- ▶ Based on a decade of OHCHR experience, developed and validated "OHCHR Guidance on International Commissions of Inquiry and Fact-finding Missions," detailing best practice guidelines for the management and implementation of these missions.
- ▶ Developed a human rights case database to enable field offices to safely, coherently and systematically record information on cases of human rights violations, generate statistics and reports, and help professionalize and standardize Office work in this area. Piloting of the database began in three field offices and human rights components of peace operations.
- ▶ Conducted a post-mission review of the High-level Mission on the situation of human rights in Darfur (mandated by Human Rights Council resolution S-4/101 of 13 December 2006), which identified important lessons and good practices to inform future commissions of inquiry and fact finding missions.
- ▶ Developed and implemented training on strategies and skills to monitor and protect human rights for 89 international and national OHCHR staff, including staff from field offices,

members of the OHCHR rapid response roster, and staff assisting special procedures mandate-holders.

### Human rights education and training

- ▶ Initiated compilations of good practices in human rights education used by school systems in Asia and Europe.
- ▶ Supported implementation of 161 human rights education and training projects in 45 countries under the fifth phase (2005-2007) of the Assisting Communities Together (ACT) Project, a joint initiative of OHCHR and the UN Development Programme, which provides small grants to national and local NGOs for community-based human rights education and training projects.
- ▶ Provided expert advice to the planning, organization and delivery of more than 30 national human rights education and training activities, including for schools, police forces, prison officers and the armed forces.
- ▶ Continued worldwide coordination of the first phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education 2005-2009 (A/HRC/RES/6/24), which aims to integrate human rights education in primary and secondary school systems, including convening and participating in the UN Inter-agency Committee for Human Rights Education in the School System, composed of 12 UN entities.
- ▶ Continued development of OHCHR's Resource Collection on Human Rights Education and Training, a specialized collection of OHCHR's library.

### Human rights in peace operations

- ▶ Developed or contributed to policy and methodological guidance on human rights in peace operations to ensure that human rights issues are reflected in policies issued by the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations.
- ▶ Completed the design of the human rights section of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations Intranet, which now carries more than 100 existing human rights guidance and reference materials.
- ▶ Provided advice and training support to 18 human rights training programmes organized by Member States and UN peacekeeping operations to increase knowledge of human rights among peacekeeping personnel, especially those carrying out military and police functions.
- ▶ Provided substantive support to the Inter-agency Project on Capacity-building of the African Mission in Sudan, which conducted four eight-day training-of-trainers courses for 42 civil



Training session conducted by OHCHR staff in Uganda

police officers and 72 military officers, and sensitization training for 98 military and 1,096 civil police officers.

### General methodological support

- ▶ Finalized a paper documenting lessons learned and good practices by OHCHR on issues such as vetting of law enforcement agencies and anti-discrimination policies.
- ▶ In partnership with three research institutions, contributed to a project to document the experience of human rights field offices in conflict situations, and to consolidate relevant standards and practice, including through participation in three expert consultations.
- ▶ Updated a CD-ROM containing guidance and reference materials for staff deployed on new missions or offices.

### References and publications

- ▶ Distributed over 120,000 copies of OHCHR publications to 115 countries.
- ▶ Continued providing bibliographic and on-line information from OHCHR's library; and issued nine new publications and 31 translations of human rights reference materials.

## Results

- ▶ Helped identify common gaps in the implementation of national human rights action plans, which informed policies developed by the Council of Europe and the Commonwealth, including the “Commonwealth Model National Plan of Action on Human Rights.”
  - ▶ Strengthened institutional experience within OHCHR through the consolidation of guidelines on international commissions of inquiry and fact-finding missions, analysis of human rights information, engagement with key partners for human rights protection, and development of protection strategies.
  - ▶ Strengthened OHCHR’s approach to systematic and professional documentation of violations, reporting and advocacy through the development of the human rights case Database.
  - ▶ A more systematic approach to the identification of lessons learned and good practices on human rights monitoring, fact-finding and investigations was devised and successfully piloted in the aftermath of the High-level Mission on the situation of human rights in Darfur.
  - ▶ Contributed to harmonization of methodologies, exchange of experience and strengthened capacity in human rights monitoring and protection through training of field officers and other staff.
  - ▶ Strengthened UN system-wide coordinated support to national stakeholders and UN joint advocacy in the area of human rights education in the school system.
  - ▶ Human rights guidance and reference materials were made available to all components of peace operations through the Department of Peacekeeping Operations intranet. Human rights issues are now regularly addressed in training for senior management of peace operations.
  - ▶ OHCHR training materials developed for military and police personnel have been incorporated in training organized by UN partners and Member States.
- ▶ Training for OHCHR staff illustrated the need to further harmonize methodological approaches. At the same time, the rich variety of experience that exists among Office staff needs to be more effectively and systematically shared and documented to maximize opportunities for institutional learning.
  - ▶ Demands to deliver training or provide advice on key issues such as human rights monitoring, human rights education, exceed the capacity of the current Methodology, Education and Training Unit. More systematic efforts will be made to expand the pool of experts and trainers who can be called on to respond to internal and external demands.
  - ▶ Different dynamics and understanding of human rights training needs amongst agencies presented challenges for the project undertaken with the African Mission in Sudan, and prevented the full application of concepts developed by OHCHR.

### Human Rights Indicators

During 2007, OHCHR continued its work on developing indicators for human rights, responding primarily to requests from the Inter-Committee Meeting of Human Rights Treaty Bodies to help treaty bodies make use of statistical information in States Parties’ reports to assess implementation of human rights.

Work in 2007 was based on the conceptual and methodological framework for indicators completed in 2006, in consultation with a panel of experts, including members of treaty bodies, special procedures mandate-holders, agencies and civil society organizations. This framework was outlined in the report submitted to the Inter-Committee Meeting of Treaty Bodies in June 2006 (HRI/MC/2006/7). During 2007, lists of illustrative indicators on several human rights were prepared, then further refined and validated through a series of regional-level workshops in Asia and East Africa, a national workshop in Brazil and an expert consultation with key international stakeholders in Geneva.

As a result of these activities, OHCHR has developed lists of illustrative indicators on selected human rights, covering both civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights. In 2008, OHCHR will continue to improve and validate the conceptual and methodological framework and lists of indicators through further consultations and workshops. A report on the work will be submitted to the Inter-Committee Meeting of Treaty Bodies in June 2008. A user’s manual will be developed based on this work.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ A significant challenge in developing a methodology for the Universal Periodic Review was finding a way to involve a broad range of OHCHR staff and draw on all available expertise and experience. The process will be evaluated after the first batch of reviews in April 2008 to improve the methodology.



## Thematic Human Rights Challenges: OHCHR's Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
Increased reference to OHCHR policy positions and commentaries by concerned UN organs and bodies, and in policy and planning documents and major reports of key human rights partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Two new human rights policy guidelines developed by OHCHR and adopted by UN partners, bringing to 11 the total for the biennium (compared with three during 2004-2005)</li> </ul>
Increased number of UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and Poverty-Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) integrating a human rights-based approach to development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 11 UNDAFs and PRSPs prepared in 2007 integrated a rights-based approach to development, bringing to 29 the total for 2006-2007 (compared with 30 during 2004-2005)</li> </ul>
Greater awareness of human rights issues among Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators, Special Representatives of the Secretary-General (SRSGs) and UN Country Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 24 Resident Coordinators and 17 UN Country Teams received training from OHCHR in 2007. The total number of Resident Coordinators to receive OHCHR training rose from ten during 2004-2005 to 40 during 2006-2007</li> <li>▶ OHCHR participated in four training programmes for SRSGs and senior management of peace operations, compared with two in 2006</li> <li>▶ Work started on the development of a Learning and Briefing System for Humanitarian Coordinators, under the coordination of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)</li> <li>▶ UN Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee for Human Rights Education in the School System, for which OHCHR serves as the secretariat, carried out joint activities to raise awareness, amongst UN Country Teams, of the World Programme on Human Rights Education Plan of Action</li> <li>▶ OHCHR training materials for military and police personnel of peace operations were incorporated in a number of training programmes organized by the United Nations, Member States and training institutions</li> </ul>
Greater attention to human rights in discussions in the executive committees of UN agencies and in other UN bodies (such as the Peace-building Commission) and stronger inter-agency links with others in the United Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ OHCHR participated in the work and periodic meetings of the Policy Committee, the Inter-agency Steering Committee and the UN's four executive committees (on peace and security, humanitarian affairs, development, and economic and social affairs) and their ten sub-groups, as well as in 31 inter-agency groups on country-specific and thematic issues</li> <li>▶ OHCHR contributed to the work of the four New York-based intergovernmental organs (the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Security Council and the Peace-building Commission)</li> </ul>
Increased methodological coherence in implementing OHCHR's work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ OHCHR produced or updated 13 handbooks, training packs, and other tools in 2007, bringing the total for 2006-2007 to 25 (compared with 16 during 2004-2005)</li> <li>▶ Methodological guidelines, including process and content, for the preparation of OHCHR reports under the UPR were developed and used for the first cycle of UPR review</li> <li>▶ Guidance on human rights monitoring and investigations were developed and consolidated</li> <li>▶ Human rights case database was developed and tested in two pilot countries. The database is designed to harmonize data collection and facilitate safe storage and transfer of data. A user's manual was developed and training was provided to staff in pilot countries</li> </ul>
Level of support provided to relevant human rights mechanisms whose mandates relate to the right to development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ By the end of 2007, OHCHR had implemented or facilitated implementation of 100 per cent of all requests relating to the right to development coming from the Human Rights Council and the Working Group on the Right to Development</li> <li>▶ OHCHR supported the Working Group on the Right to Development and its High-level Taskforce, including by helping to apply, refine and develop the adopted criteria for evaluating global development partnerships, as identified in Millennium Development Goal Eight</li> </ul>

# Outreach

The High Commissioner's ability to contribute to and help shape international debate on human rights issues requires continuous engagement with Member States, the media, civil society and partners in the United Nations system. While all parts of OHCHR are involved in this effort to some extent, five organizational units, all housed within the Executive Direction and Management Branch play a particularly important role: the Executive Office of the High Commissioner and Deputy High Commissioner, the Donor and External Relations Section, the Communications Section, the Civil Society Unit, and the New York Office.

## High Commissioner's Leadership Role

As the United Nations' top human rights official, the High Commissioner has a broad leadership role in helping raise awareness of human rights problems and stimulate discussion on how best to address them. A small executive office of six professional and six general service staff support the work of the High Commissioner and her Deputy, providing substantive policy advice and administrative support, and coordinating suggestions and communications from other parts of the Office.



High Commissioner in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo

## Activities

In 2007, the High Commissioner:

- ▶ Undertook 17 official country missions to Afghanistan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burundi, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Panama, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, and also travelled to take part in meetings in Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- ▶ Addressed the Human Rights Council at each of its sessions, including a nine-hour interactive dialogue on 14 and 15 March 2007, and gave 31 other speeches at a variety of events, including: on poverty, at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro; on the responsibility to protect, at Dublin's Trinity College; on cultural diversity, at a Non-aligned Movement Conference in Tehran; and on the state of human rights and democracy in Europe, at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. The Deputy High Commissioner gave a speech on human rights and climate change at the Bali Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol.
- ▶ Authored nine opinion articles ('op-eds') for publication in print and electronic media on poverty, impunity for war crimes, the responsibility to protect, statelessness, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
- ▶ Filed a legal brief with the Iraqi High Tribunal on 8 February, asserting that international law prohibited the imposition of the death penalty in the case of former Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan; and filed a brief of *amicus curiae* with the Supreme Court of the United States of America on 24 August setting out the rights of detainees in United States' military custody in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, under international human rights law.
- ▶ Maintained regular, confidential communication with Member States on particular human rights concerns relating to both general issues and individual cases.

## Results

- ▶ The increased number of official country missions undertaken by the High Commissioner (17 in 2007, compared with 11 in 2006) helped raise the profile of the UN's human rights work and more specific human rights concerns in a greater number of countries.
- ▶ The High Commissioner's interventions with relevant national authorities contributed to the resolution of a number of individual cases, as well as to legislative and policy changes designed to strengthen national human rights protection systems.
- ▶ Speeches, newspaper opinion pieces, and press releases helped focus the attention of governments, national institutions, civil society and the public in general on a number of priority human rights issues, such as impunity, poverty and the significance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- ▶ Overall media visibility of the High Commissioner and her Office continued to grow, with an increasing number of media outlets quoting OHCHR and requesting interviews with the High Commissioner and other senior officials.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Media coverage of the High Commissioner's country missions was uneven. In future, more preparatory work should be done to develop a communications plan for each major mission, aimed at disseminating key messages.
- ▶ Greater coordination is needed between headquarters and the field to ensure that the High Commissioner's advocacy efforts are reinforced by initiatives at the field level.
- ▶ Further steps are needed to strengthen OHCHR's office in New York, which remains overstretched in spite of a recent increase in the number of staff based there. The High Commissioner will continue to make the case for the director's post to be upgraded and consideration will be given to relocating additional senior staff from Geneva.

## Donor and External Relations

The Donor and External Relations Section works closely with the High Commissioner and her Deputy to disseminate information on, and generate broad-based support for, the Office's human rights work among all UN Member States and the broader donor community. A critical part of the section's work involves fundraising—principally,



Deputy High Commissioner in Nepal

though not exclusively, from Member States. With the UN regular budget providing little more than a third of the total amount needed to implement OHCHR's programme of work, the Office looks to its donors to provide the additional funding it needs on a voluntary basis. The level of voluntary contributions has grown rapidly in recent years, more than doubling since 2003, and will need to continue rising over the coming biennium if the goals set by the High Commissioner in her Strategic Management Plan 2008-2009 are to be realized.

In 2007, the Donor and External Relations Section focused on establishing and strengthening relations with the diplomatic missions of a larger number of Member States, sustaining recent increases in the overall level of voluntary contributions, and increasing the proportion of contributions provided free of earmarking.

## Activities

- ▶ Arranged a programme of briefings in Geneva designed to share information on implementation of the Office's programmes more systematically with all Member States.
- ▶ Liaised regularly with donor representatives in Geneva, undertook missions to selected capitals and organized more formal, consultative meetings with delegations from major donor countries.
- ▶ Appealed to selected existing donors to raise their contributions and provide a larger proportion of their funding without earmarking.
- ▶ Solicited contributions from selected non-donors.



- ▶ Produced a wide range of written materials in support of funding requests, as well as the OHCHR Annual Report 2006.
- ▶ Launched, in December 2007, a 12-month universal “donorship” drive aimed at persuading as many Member States as possible to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 2008 by becoming donors to OHCHR.
- ▶ Engaged, albeit in a limited way, with private donors, including foundations, with the aim of expanding the pool of non-governmental donors.

## Results

- ▶ An increase in total contributions from \$85.3 million in 2006 to \$95.7 million in 2007, a rise of \$10.4 million, or 12.1 per cent.
- ▶ An increase in the amount of unearmarked funding from \$31.8 million (or 37 per cent of all contributions) in 2006 to \$40.9 million (or 43 per cent) in 2007, a rise of over \$9 million.
- ▶ An increase in the number of institutional donors from 65 to 72, with more Member States, international organizations and private donors contributing than in any previous year. Groundwork was also laid for a further, more significant expansion of the donor base in 2008, with contact established with a number of non-donor governments and the launch of the High Commissioner’s universal “donorship” drive.
- ▶ A greater level of awareness among Member States, especially among diplomatic

representatives in Geneva, of the Office’s work, plans and priorities, following a series of briefings organized in the last quarter of the year (and to be continued through 2008).

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The lack of delegated authority in financial matters, particularly the need to seek Secretariat approval before entering into agreements with donors and other UN entities or accepting and allocating contributions, continued to generate delays in the fundraising cycle in 2007. The UN Controller’s decision to grant limited delegation of authority with effect from 1 January 2008 should go a long way to resolving such problems in the future.
- ▶ Attempts to obtain more funding from foundations proved only partially successful in 2007, partly due to a lack of staffing capacity in-house to pursue potential funding opportunities, and partly due to a lack of enthusiasm among some foundations for funding intergovernmental organizations. The relatively high level of programme support costs, set centrally for the UN Secretariat as a whole, also proved off-putting for some private donors.
- ▶ While field-level fundraising can support and complement centrally directed efforts, it needs to be carefully coordinated to ensure that earmarked funding secured locally is not acquired at the expense of funds that might otherwise have been provided through capitals.



## A Voice for Human Rights at UN Headquarters in New York

The 16 members of staff based at the High Commissioner's New York office are responsible for ensuring a human rights perspective is included in high-level discussions at UN Headquarters in New York and is more generally reflected in the work of partners throughout the UN system. While the office in New York serves an important liaison function, it also carries out substantive human rights work, housing experts on peace and security, development, humanitarian affairs, economic and social affairs, rule of law, and gender and women's human rights, among other topics. Over the course of 2006-2007, the number of New York-based staff doubled from eight to 16, with five new staff members joining in 2007.

### Activities

- Provided support and advice to the Third Committee of the 62<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, which held 54 meetings and adopted 60 resolutions in 2007, as well as to the Fifth Committee and Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ).
- Followed the work of the General Assembly and the intergovernmental bodies on economic and social affairs, including the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and its functional commissions, as well as various inter-agency mechanisms, including the inter-agency support group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which adopted a Joint Statement of Commitment aimed at supporting implementation of the Convention's provisions.
- Followed the work of the UN Security Council, and participated

in planning for new integrated missions in Chad/Central African Republic and Sudan/Darfur, as well as an assessment mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to examine levels of sexual violence.

- Contributed expertise on gender issues, including by participating in the 51<sup>st</sup> Committee on the Status of Women, UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Interagency Taskforce and UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, and Taskforces on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse established by the Executive Committees on Peace and Security and on Humanitarian Affairs.
- Contributed expertise on rule of law and transitional justice-related issues, contributing to the work of the UN Rule of Law Coordination and Resources Group and collaborating with other UN departments, including on the Rule of Law Index, a joint OHCHR and Department of Peacekeeping Operations project.
- Chaired the UN Democracy Fund Programme Consultative Group and participated in the Fund's Advisory Board.
- Housed the secretariat for the Action 2 Global Programme and chaired meetings of the interagency taskforce established to oversee implementation.

### Results

- The Fifth Committee ultimately approved the Organization's programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, covering OHCHR's post and non-post expansion. It also approved the resources requested by the Human Rights Council to support

the implementation of its institution-building package.

- A human rights perspective was included in key guidelines, policies and tools developed by the UN Development Group for country teams.
- OHCHR's efforts on gender issues and women's human rights were reflected in guidance issued to peace missions on improved reporting on sexual violence and in specific provisions in mandate renewals. The General Assembly adopted a Victims' Assistance Policy elaborated, in consultation with OHCHR, under the auspices of Executive Committees on Peace and Security and on Humanitarian Affairs. Human rights messages were also reflected in discussions in the Policy Committee and the Executive Committee on Peace and Security on gender-based violence.
- OHCHR's rule of law and transitional justice policy tools were increasingly used by UN partners in New York and reflected in UN system-wide policies in relation to rule of law.
- With the participation of the office, some 200 democracy-related projects were selected to be the first given grants through the Democracy Fund in 2006.
- The Action 2 Global Programme was fully operational in 2007. It supported 47 UN Country Teams with a Common Learning Package, deployment of five human rights advisers (six additional advisers were approved for deployment in 2008), and seed funding for joint programming/capacity development.





Human Rights Day march from Psar Chas to Wat Phnom in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, December 2007

## Communications

In 2007, OHCHR put in place the remaining elements of an expanded communications capacity, identified as a priority in the 2006-2007 Strategic Management Plan. The Communications Section, established in 2006 and fully staffed by the end of 2007, developed a strategy based on close cooperation with communications partners, including other parts of the United Nations, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and educators. A range of public information materials was produced and other tools developed to enable the Office to project its key messages. During 2007, the campaign to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was developed and launched. By the end of that year, the impact of the Office's communications work was evident in greater media visibility, a rise in visits to the OHCHR website, and greater engagement with partners both within and beyond the UN system.

## Activities

- ▶ Developed and disseminated public information materials on a range of issues, including the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in six UN languages (information kit, posters, newsletters, logo, calendar); the Human Rights Council's first anniversary (fact sheets); and women, indigenous peoples, discrimination, human rights and business, and violence against children (facts sheets, brochures, flyers, web content).
- ▶ Issued 82 press releases on a variety of human rights issues, unfolding events and country missions undertaken by the High Commissioner.
- ▶ Organized or contributed to numerous events, including the launch of the campaign to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the inauguration of a memorial to those killed in the attack on the UN headquarters in Iraq in 2003.

- ▶ Oversaw the redesign of the OHCHR website and developed fresh content.
- ▶ Produced a short video in English on the work and mission of OHCHR (other UN language versions are in production).
- ▶ Gave 77 briefings on the UN human rights system to 1,900 visitors to the Office. A standardized presentation was also distributed to numerous UN entities for their own public information use.

## Results

- ▶ Increased visibility in print and electronic media (the Office's in-house tracking service recorded 3,800 references to OHCHR in 2007, up from 3,300 in 2006).
- ▶ A 31 per cent increase in the number of unique visits to OHCHR's website, from 1.9 million in 2006 to 2.5 million in 2007.
- ▶ The year-long campaign to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, led by the Secretary-General and involving the entire UN system, attracted engagement among governments, civil society and others, large numbers of which have developed their own plans to mark the anniversary in 2008.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Feedback revealed unmet demand among partners for more information materials that provide reliable factual information about human rights and define and describe the Office's leadership role in the international human rights system. The Communications Section will aim to meet this need in public information materials to be produced in 2008.

## Civil Society Liaison

Strengthening partnerships with civil society was one of the priorities identified for OHCHR in the High Commissioner's 2005 Plan of Action and 2006-2007 Strategic Management Plan. In late 2006, a decision was taken to establish a dedicated unit, under the supervision of the Deputy High Commissioner, to help the Office engage more systematically with civil society and support civil society actors, particularly NGOs, in accessing the international human rights system. The creation of the unit sent a welcome signal to the NGO community that the Office regards this sector as vitally important; Member States have also responded positively to the new unit. It should be noted, however, that for most of 2007, the unit continued to operate with just one member of staff pending the arrival of a new unit chief.



## Activities

- ▶ Developed an extensive NGO database that includes both international and local/indigenous NGOs and was used to disseminate, on a weekly basis, information on developments relating to the Human Rights Council and other human rights mechanisms.
- ▶ Provided logistical and substantive advice to NGOs seeking to participate in regular and special sessions of the Human Rights Council.
- ▶ Facilitated numerous meetings, before, during and after Council sessions, between groups of NGOs and the President and Bureau of the Council, and with the Council's Secretary.
- ▶ Developed and disseminated, in five of the six UN languages, a preliminary set of guidelines to assist civil society stakeholders in contributing to the Human Rights Council's new Universal Periodic Review process.
- ▶ Arranged translation of the previously published NGO manual, "Working with OHCHR: A Handbook for NGOs," in additional languages, available on-line, and carried out a survey of users with the aim of revising and updating the manual during 2008.

## Results

- ▶ Hundreds of civil society actors, particularly human rights defenders, assisted in accessing the

UN's human rights machinery, reflected in the level of NGO participation in sessions of the Human Rights Council (179 NGOs participated in the fourth session of the Council, 110 in the fifth session, 151 in the sixth session.)

- ▶ Information on the international human rights system, particularly the work of the Human Rights Council, more widely available and disseminated, with OHCHR's handbook for NGOs and weekly e-bulletin widely disseminated.
- ▶ Civil society perspectives and needs increasingly included in OHCHR's planning and activities.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The past year has seen demand grow among civil society actors, particularly NGOs, for practical information on the functioning of the Human Rights Council, the Universal Periodic Review, and other aspects of the human rights system.
- ▶ The creation of the Civil Society Unit has raised expectations among NGOs that may be difficult to meet with current resource and staffing capacity. Accordingly, the unit will focus on adding value, particularly by disseminating information on and facilitating access to the Human Rights Council and Universal Periodic Review, targeting civil society actors in sectors and geographic regions that are under-represented.

### Outreach: OHCHR's Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
Increased public outreach of the UN human rights programme and support for the work of the Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ More than 3,800 articles referring to OHCHR tracked using web-based search tools (up from 3,300 in 2006 and 2,100 in 2005)</li> <li>▶ 31 speeches by the High Commissioner and 45 press conferences, briefings and interviews given by the High Commissioner</li> <li>▶ Opinion articles by the High Commissioner appeared in 75 newspapers in more than 60 countries (in 2006, opinion articles appeared in 84 newspapers in 45 countries)</li> <li>▶ 31 per cent increase in the number of unique visits to the OHCHR website (from 1.9 million visits in 2006 to 2.5 million in 2007)</li> </ul>
More initiatives in place aimed at empowering and/or protecting civil society actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ NGO handbook on how to access UN human rights bodies and mechanisms available on-line in English, Arabic and Spanish</li> <li>▶ Guidelines and advice on contributing to the Universal Periodic Review disseminated to more than 1,000 civil society actors worldwide</li> <li>▶ 10 orientation briefings for NGOs on the Universal Periodic Review</li> </ul>
Greater funding provided with predictability and flexibility, contributed earlier in the year and on a multiyear basis, with a high proportion of funding provided with light or no earmarking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Voluntary contributions rose from \$85.3m to \$95.7m</li> <li>▶ Increase in amount of funding made available through multiyear agreements</li> <li>▶ Unearmarked funding increased from \$31.8 million (37 per cent of total contributions) in 2006 to \$40.7 million (43 per cent) in 2007</li> <li>▶ Proportion of contributions received in the first half of the year rose from 45 per cent in 2006 to 58 per cent in 2007</li> <li>▶ Number of donors providing funding on the basis of multiyear agreements increased by one, compared with 2006</li> </ul>

# Programme Planning, Management and Support

Translating the vision set out in the High Commissioner's Plan of Action into reality and implementing the more detailed proposals contained in the Strategic Management Plan 2006-2007 have required a sustained investment of financial and human resources and a commitment to improve internal procedures and management processes. During the 2006-2007 biennium, the Office implemented a programme of internal reform designed to strengthen key management functions and improve Office-wide planning and coordination. Administrative capacity was expanded, especially in the areas of finance and budget, human resources management, information technology, and support for the field. A new, dedicated Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Section was established to support the efforts of managers to start planning, managing and monitoring progress in relation to results, rather than simply in relation to activities.

## Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Section works closely with all parts of the Office in ensuring that the High Commissioner's strategic vision is converted into concrete priorities and operational plans and procedures, and that implementation is properly monitored, lessons are learned, and results are regularly evaluated. The section is also responsible for identifying gaps in OHCHR's policies, both in respect of internal issues and substantive human rights challenges, and for assisting in the development of new policy positions, as appropriate. In 2007, priorities included leading the biennial planning process for 2008-2009 and preparing the High Commissioner's second Strategic Management Plan.

## Activities

- ▶ Coordinated an Office-wide priority-setting and planning process, working closely with field presences, branches, sections and units on the development of new two-year strategic plans, and annual workplans and costplans.
- ▶ Prepared the 2008-2009 Strategic Management Plan (SMP).
- ▶ Initiated the development of the SMP monitoring framework with the adoption of a set of 22 global indicators and a common set of 16 national-level indicators, of which eight are primarily monitored by field presences.
- ▶ Prepared a series of guidelines to clarify and support the planning, monitoring and reporting processes and provided ad-hoc assistance to colleagues upon request.
- ▶ Arranged training in results-based planning, management and evaluation for managers and other staff in all branches.
- ▶ Carried out a mid-term management review.
- ▶ Developed an Office-wide evaluation plan for 2007 that included five project-level review and evaluations, an impact assessment of the Colombia country office, a thematic evaluation of OHCHR's performance in mainstreaming human rights within the United Nations at the country level (2003-2007), and three reviews of internal organizational and management issues.
- ▶ Serviced 30 meetings of the High Commissioner's Senior Management Team, providing substantive briefing materials and advice on a range of management issues and coordinating contributions on substantive human rights issues.

## Results

- ▶ A predictable two-year streamlined planning process established, and individual strategic plans developed and adopted for all field presences, and headquarters branches, sections and units.
- ▶ A limited number of Office-wide expected accomplishments adopted, replacing

branch-based expected accomplishments that featured in the 2006-2007 Strategic Management Plan.

- ▶ A common set of 16 national-level indicators and 22 global-level indicators adopted, allowing for clearer identification of the impact made by field presences on the eight expected field-level accomplishments.

#### Developing the 2008-2009 Strategic Management Plan

The current Strategic Management Plan is the product of a priority-setting and planning exercise that involved all field presences, and headquarters branches, sections and units over a period of several months in the second half of 2007. The process was led by the Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Section. Key steps included:

- A senior management retreat, during which strategic and operational priorities were identified on the basis of OHCHR's Strategic Framework for 2008-2009.
- Training on results-based management for 74 OHCHR staff from HQ and the field, including 22 at the P-5 level or above; elaboration of a broader strategy for building the capacity of the Office in this area during the coming year.
- Consolidation of a set of nine expected accomplishments for the Office as a whole, on the basis of which Branches and field offices developed their Strategic Plans for 2008-2009.
- Development of a common set of 16 national-level indicators and 22 global-level indicators, to be used in monitoring and evaluating performance in 2008-2009.
- A technical review of all draft strategic plans and a subsequent review by the Programme and Budget Review Board.
- The drafting and publication of the 2008-2009 Strategic Management Plan, in consultation with branches and services.

#### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Experience has shown that management processes must often be adjusted, depending on the type of field presence and the planning and reporting processes of UN partners with whom OHCHR often shares joint oversight responsibility.
- ▶ The adoption of a limited number of Office-wide expected accomplishments constitutes an important step towards greater cohesion, with joint accountability among branches and field

presences for contributing to results. The branches' contributions to those results will be directly measured by the results their activities are expected to produce. This will require more systematic coordination in the implementation of the SMP, including in the planning of in-country interventions conducted from headquarters and support to field presences.

- ▶ Further work is needed to improve staff understanding of evaluation requirements if evaluation activities are to yield optimal results. Not all evaluation activities implemented in 2007 generated useful lessons or provided an adequate basis for management action. In 2008, monitoring and evaluation of results will be emphasized in an effort to streamline the process and build staff capacity in this area.
- ▶ More effective ways must be found to manage the wealth of knowledge generated by OHCHR staff and ensure that experience is systematically shared throughout the Office.

#### Programme Support and Management Services

Programme Support and Management Services oversees key administrative functions and supports implementation of all programmes, including in the field. The Service, composed of 62 staff members at the end of 2007, is divided into four sections handling finance, human resources (including staff development), information technology and general services (travel, logistics, procurement and record-keeping). In 2007, efforts focused on upgrading and systematizing core administrative functions, improving support for the field, and preparing for greater delegation of authority, which took effect from January 2008.

#### Activities

- ▶ Handled 143 recruitment cases, including new and existing posts.
- ▶ Revised and, where appropriate, streamlined internal procedures and practices in the areas of finance, budgeting, procurement, recruitment and staff development.
- ▶ Obtained index numbers for all OHCHR staff, including local staff in field offices, facilitating easier access to on-line training opportunities.
- ▶ Developed new methodology and tools for extrabudgetary planning and budgeting.
- ▶ Undertook missions to field presences to assist staff with general administration, human



resources, finance and budget, logistics and procurement, and information technology.

- ▶ Organized a week of training in Geneva for administrative staff from country and regional offices.
- ▶ Made improvements to the OHCHR intranet, making information on the Office's internal procedures and administrative matters more readily available to staff.
- ▶ Began development of an administrative handbook that will codify all administrative guidelines and procedures for field offices.
- ▶ Established closer links with other UN organizations working in the field to make best use of available resources, especially during emergencies.

## Results

- ▶ Total number of OHCHR staff increased by 91 during 2007 (from 851 on 31 December 2006 to 942 on 31 December 2007).
- ▶ Average time for recruitment shortened by 51 days, compared with 2006.
- ▶ Geographic diversity of OHCHR staff increased, following introduction of new measures.
- ▶ Administrative support to field presences strengthened and training provided to locally-based administrative staff to increase their familiarity with the Office, internal policies and procedures, and UN regulations and rules.
- ▶ New delegation of authority obtained in relation to management of extrabudgetary resources and property management, for implementation in 2008.
- ▶ Fellowship programme established with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for young people from least developed countries.
- ▶ Negotiations with the UN Controller in New York and discussions with Member States during the legislative review of the OHCHR programme budget resulted in significant progress towards the doubling of the Office's share of UN regular budget resources mandated by the General Assembly in the 2005 World Summit outcome resolution. The Office also secured subsequent approval of resources for support to the Universal Periodic Review mechanism and to the increased frequency of meetings of the Human Rights Council.

### Increasing the Geographic Diversity of OHCHR Staff

The High Commissioner is committed to increasing the geographic diversity of her staff, recognizing that, in the past, certain regions were disproportionately represented. The former Commission on Human Rights and, more recently, the Human Rights Council have emphasized the need for greater geographical diversity, and the issue has also been the subject of several reports by the Joint Inspection Unit.

2007 saw significant progress in increasing the geographic diversity of OHCHR staff by region. As of 31 December 2007, 13.1 per cent of all OHCHR professional staff were from Africa (up from 11.1 per cent one year earlier); 12.6 per cent from Asia (up from 11.9 per cent); 11.9 per cent from Latin America and the Caribbean Group (up from 9.6 per cent); 4.8 per cent from eastern Europe (up from 3.3 per cent); and 57.5 per cent from countries belonging to the Western Europe and Other group (down from 64.1 per cent). The decline in the proportion of staff from Western countries is especially striking, and reflects sustained efforts across the Office to widen the recruitment pool for positions at all levels.

The Office will continue to implement the High Commissioner's procedures for improving geographic diversity. It is anticipated that the positive trend will continue during the 2008-2009 biennium as the Office aims to maximize the opportunity afforded by its continuing growth to further increase geographic diversity.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Field offices require closer support from the outset; existing offices need assistance to improve and standardize their administrative systems.
- ▶ Clear, written guidance is needed in respect of the full range of administrative issues.
- ▶ More comprehensive induction training should be developed for new staff.
- ▶ Further improvements in the time it takes to recruit new staff and reduce vacancy rates will depend upon programme managers moving more quickly to fill positions on a long-term basis, not resorting to temporary appointments.
- ▶ Further efforts are required to obtain delegation of authority for human resource management, which will improve efficiency, particularly when dealing with urgent staffing needs.
- ▶ Further steps are needed to improve IT connectivity for field offices.

## Programme Support and Management: OHCHR's Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
Country assessment and engagement strategies used by the entire Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Draft guidelines developed for country assessments</li> <li>▶ Country assessments developed for five pilot countries</li> <li>▶ Terms of Reference developed for Country Task Forces on Country Engagement Strategies</li> <li>▶ Draft country engagement strategies developed for the five pilot countries</li> <li>▶ Joint initiatives undertaken among field offices, desk officers and the human rights mechanisms through the OHCHR working group on country engagement</li> <li>▶ Identification of additional pilot countries put on hold, pending evaluation of the first five pilots</li> </ul>
Lessons learned translated into the design and implementation of projects and programmes	▶ As very few evaluations were completed during 2007, it is too early to report progress against this indicator
A comprehensive approach to evaluations developed	▶ Office-wide evaluation plan for 2007 developed through a consultative process
Time required to recruit staff and deploy staff to the field in a safe and effective manner	▶ Average number of days to complete recruitment: 216 days (compared with 267 days in 2006)
Vacancy rates and staff turnover	▶ 14 per cent vacancy rate for regular budget-funded posts; 19 per cent vacancy rate for extrabudgetary-funded posts. No data available on staff turnover
Number of field presences provided with adequate logistical support and basic functions prior to the arrival of staff members	▶ All new offices have been supported from the initial stage and new heads-of-office briefed before deployment. A seminar was also held for key field staff from 17 field offices for training, orientation and sharing of best practices

# OHCHR in the Field

## Introduction

### OHCHR's Approach to Fieldwork

OHCHR's work in the field is a key component of human rights promotion and protection. By engaging with countries, OHCHR strives to help bridge the human rights gaps identified in the High Commissioner's Plan of Action, namely: knowledge, capacity, commitment, and security.

The Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division (until 31 December 2007, the Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch) spearheads implementation of OHCHR's country engagement strategy. It works in cooperation with other parts of the Office, involving UN partners, civil society, government actors, and national human rights institutions to ensure that:

- ▶ National authorities are better informed about international human rights standards and how to translate these into laws, regulations, and policies;
- ▶ Government officials and civil society have greater capacity to address human rights concerns;
- ▶ Government authorities are aware of their human rights obligations and design effective remedies to overcome obstacles in the realization of human rights;

- ▶ Rights-holders are better protected from policies that threaten their personal security; and
- ▶ OHCHR is in a better position to respond to human rights needs on the ground.

Establishing field presences is one way that OHCHR engages with countries. However, working from headquarters or regional offices and utilizing the human rights mechanisms are also essential activities in working with national partners. The key is to determine where OHCHR's comparative advantage lies in engaging with countries, taking into consideration the gravity of the human rights situation, the work of partners on the ground, the political willingness of the governments concerned, the potential for impact and results, and the commitment of national partners.

In 2007, OHCHR expanded its presence in the field, increasing the number of staff at several existing offices, establishing a new country office in Bolivia and a new regional office for Central America in Panama City, and deploying additional human rights advisers to Ecuador, Georgia, Guyana, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Maldives, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Somalia and Serbia. It also maintained its support for the human rights components in UN peace missions. By the end of the year, it was running or supporting a total of 47 field presences.





## Types of Field Presence

The decision to engage with a country by establishing an OHCHR field presence is based on an assessment that takes into account security and political considerations, available human and financial resources, administrative arrangements, and the scope of the activities to be undertaken. OHCHR field presences only operate with the consent of the countries concerned and any technical cooperation activities are planned jointly with the relevant authorities and stakeholders.

### Country Offices

To establish a country office, OHCHR negotiates a full mandate with the host government that includes both human rights protection and promotion. Activities include human rights observation, public reporting, provision of technical assistance, and the development of national human rights capacity-building initiatives. Country office mandates are negotiated directly with the concerned government on the initiative of the Office, or pursuant to a resolution of the former Commission on Human Rights or the Human Rights Council. The specific areas of focus of each country office are decided in cooperation with governments and are based on an assessment of the human rights concerns, national and international actors involved in human rights work, and the most effective means available to OHCHR for addressing gaps in the realization of human rights. Regular reports on the work of country offices and the human rights situation of host countries are presented to the Human Rights Council for further action and consideration.

By the end of 2007, OHCHR had 11 country offices in Angola, Bolivia, Cambodia, Colombia, Guatemala, Kosovo (Serbia), Mexico, Nepal, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Togo and Uganda. As foreseen in the High Commissioner's Strategic Management Plan 2006-2007, OHCHR closed its offices in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia (Belgrade) in mid-2007.

### Regional Offices

Regional offices cover countries where there is no other OHCHR field presence. Where possible, regional offices also complement the expertise of country presences by providing support on institutional and thematic issues and ad hoc support, as needed. They help to develop and implement OHCHR engagement strategies at the country and regional levels, working closely with regional and sub-regional intergovernmental organizations.

By the end of 2007, OHCHR had regional offices in East Africa (Addis Ababa), Southern Africa (Pretoria), Southeast Asia (Bangkok), the Pacific (Suva), the Middle East (Beirut), Central America (Panama City) and Latin America (Santiago de Chile), as well as a regional centre for Central Africa (Yaoundé) and a regional representative for Central Asia (Bishkek). A new regional office for West Africa opened in Dakar at the start of 2008, and it is expected that in the course of 2008 additional regional offices will become operational in Central Asia, Southwest Asia and North Africa, together with a human rights training and documentation centre for Southwest Asia and the Arab region in Qatar, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 60/153 of 16 December 2005.

### Human Rights Components of United Nations Peace Missions

OHCHR works with UN partners to strengthen the human rights work carried out by integrated peace missions, on the premise that all UN entities are responsible for ensuring the protection and promotion of human rights through their operations. OHCHR, as the "lead agency" on human rights issues, has a central role to play in providing expert advice and functional support. Human rights components of integrated peace missions have a dual reporting line: one to the head of the peace mission and one to the High Commissioner.

Human rights components of peace missions focus their work on:

- ▶ Monitoring, documenting, investigating and reporting on the human rights situation;
- ▶ Ensuring that peace processes promote justice and equity;
- ▶ Preventing and redressing violations of human rights;
- ▶ Building human rights capacities and institutions; and
- ▶ Mainstreaming human rights into all UN programmes and activities.

At the end of December 2007, there were 17 UN peace missions that incorporated human rights promotion and protection into their mandated work. Periodic internal and public human rights reporting has now been institutionalized and standardized in Iraq, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan and Timor-Leste. OHCHR provided technical assistance and, in some instances, financial support to the integrated peace missions. It also participates in the inter-departmental technical assessment mission for the design and establishment of peace operations.

## Supporting National Human Rights Institutions

Providing assistance to national human rights institutions is a central part of OHCHR's country engagement strategy. The Office works with over 100 institutions and regional networks around the world and assists and advises governments that are considering establishing or strengthening their national institutions. Initiatives in this area are undertaken by the National Institutions Unit, located within the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division.

In 2007, OHCHR provided advice to 16 countries on the establishment of new national institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles, or on strengthening the legal framework of existing institutions. In collaboration with the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, 30 existing national institutions were reviewed to assess their compliance with the Paris Principles. The procedure for accreditation was significantly strengthened, becoming more rigorous and transparent.

OHCHR supported or organized major international and regional meetings, including: the 6th Conference of African National Human Rights Institutions (Rwanda, 8-10 October 2007); the 12th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (Australia, 24-27 September 2007); a regional workshop on the establishment of new national institutions in Asia (the Philippines, 15-17 October 2007); a conference on the role of national institutions in promoting the independence of the judiciary in the Arab region (Morocco, 12-14 November 2007); and a round table on transitional justice involving representatives of national

institutions (South Africa, 23-25 November 2007).

Together with partners, OHCHR organized two training programmes on the prevention of torture for 47 members of 23 national human rights institutions in Africa and the Americas. Half of the participants in those programmes were women. Twenty-eight persons were trained from 12 national institutions in Africa on the prevention of conflict.

A permanent African Secretariat for National Human Rights Institutions was established in 2007, with the support of OHCHR, to boost the participation of national institutions from the region and coordinate their activities. Prior to 2007, Africa was the only region that did not have a functioning permanent secretariat.

In April 2007, a guide was distributed to all UN Resident Coordinators outlining practical steps that UN Country Teams can take to facilitate the establishment or strengthening of a credible national human rights institution. UN Country Teams are the ideal entry points for OHCHR efforts at the national level, particularly in countries where it has no field presence. Working with and through national institutions can also increase the level of national ownership and the long-term sustainability of UN programs for good governance and the rule of law. In December 2007, a guidance note for OHCHR staff was issued, emphasizing also the role of national institutions as a critical benchmark for the development of strong national human rights protection systems and thus successful exit strategies by the Office.

With the support of OHCHR, national institutions engaged more

actively in the work of the Human Rights Council and with the treaty bodies. OHCHR continued to advocate for national institutions to be consulted in the drafting of human rights instruments. This initiative culminated in 2007 with the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which was drafted with the very active participation of representatives of national institutions. The Network of National Institutions in the Americas, supported by OHCHR, organized a discussion panel in Mexico in October 2007 to strengthen the capacity of national institutions from the region to monitor the implementation of the newly adopted Convention, as provided for under its Article 33. The results of the discussion are being published as guidelines on monitoring, to be distributed to national institutions.

Workshops were held in Indonesia, the Philippines and Guyana to train members of national institutions, NGOs and the media on the human rights treaty body process, focusing on improving follow up action and the effective implementation of treaty body conclusions and recommendations at the national level.

To strengthen its activities with the human rights bodies, the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights decided to establish a permanent representation in Geneva. An interim representative arrived in mid-2007 and began interacting with the Human Rights Council and the treaty bodies on behalf of the International Coordinating Committee and A-status national institutions.

## Human Rights Advisers in United Nations Country Teams

Human rights advisers assist the Resident Coordinator, heads of UN agencies, and Country Teams to integrate human rights in their programme strategies and their implementation. Human rights advisers are deployed upon request by Resident Coordinators and typically perform the following functions:

- ▶ Advise the Resident Coordinator and the UN Country Team on strategies to build and strengthen national human rights capacities;
- ▶ Advise and provide training to independent national human rights institutions;
- ▶ Advise duty-bearers on how best to promote UN normative values;
- ▶ Build networks with, and provide practical support to, civil society actors at large;
- ▶ Follow and analyze the human rights situation and provide issue-based or thematic assessments to OHCHR and the Resident Coordinator; and
- ▶ Provide operational support to human rights training and/or national capacity-building activities, including activities conducted under the Action 2 Global Programme.

As of 31 December 2007, OHCHR had 13 human rights advisers deployed in Ecuador, Georgia, Guyana, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Maldives, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Rwanda, Somalia, Serbia and Sri Lanka.

## Headquarters Support to Field Operations

In 2007, 15 additional staff members were hired at headquarters in the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division to strengthen headquarters' support to the field. This growth helped OHCHR to improve support to field operations and follow human rights developments on the ground more closely, especially in areas where the Office lacks a

field presence. Internal coordination on country initiatives, including with the treaty bodies, special procedures, and the Human Rights Council, have been further strengthened. Standard Operating Procedures were developed to provide clarity and consistency between headquarters and the field.

## Cooperation with Humanitarian Agencies

OHCHR participates in the activities of the humanitarian community through its work in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs, the Global Protection Cluster Working Group, the "Humanitarian Coordinators Group", ProCap (Protection Capacity) Steering Committee, and the IASC Sub-Working Group on Preparedness and Contingency Planning. OHCHR is the convenor of the IASC Reference Group on Human Rights and Humanitarian Action. OHCHR strives to integrate human rights in the programming and policies of humanitarian activities through its membership in these inter-agency mechanisms, as well as through participation in protection cluster work in the field. In 2007, OHCHR supported the development of guidance materials, including: "The Handbook for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons"; "When Displacement Ends: A Framework for Durable Solutions"; "Handbook on Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons"; and the recently updated guidelines for HIV/AIDS interventions in emergency settings.

In the field, OHCHR staff are increasingly involved in mainstreaming human rights into the delivery of humanitarian assistance in the aftermath of natural disasters and in preparing and implementing Common Humanitarian Action Plans and the Consolidated Appeal Processes (CAP). OHCHR's participation in the Consolidated Appeal Processes has benefited from more coordinated support from headquarters and streamlining with the budgetary planning process.



## OHCHR in the Field: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
Increased number of policy, legislative, and institutional changes/developments to close human rights implementation gaps introduced at the national level with or at the initiative of UN human rights programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Human rights-related laws were drafted, improved or adopted in Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cambodia, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kosovo (Serbia), Mexico, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan</li> <li>▶ Measures to prevent torture were introduced in Cambodia, Guatemala, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, the Maldives, Thailand and Uganda</li> <li>▶ Criminal procedure law under discussion in the National People's Congress, People's Republic of China; juvenile justice law under discussion in Iran</li> <li>▶ Two new national human rights institutions established and seven strengthened</li> <li>▶ As of the end of 2007, 60 national human rights institutions were A-status accredited by the ICC as being fully compliant with the Paris Principles, the same total as 2006, however the composition of the group changed as a result of ICC Sub-Committee reviews in March and October 2007</li> <li>▶ Association of Southeast Asian States (ASEAN) charter adopted and ASEAN leaders committed to establishing an ASEAN human rights body</li> <li>▶ In Nepal, new commissioners were appointed to the National Human Rights Commission, after a 14-month lapse</li> <li>▶ In Guyana, a National Human Rights Partnership and a human rights unit within the office of the President were established</li> <li>▶ In Sri Lanka, a witness protection and assistance unit was established to support the work of the Commission on Inquiry</li> <li>▶ In Timor-Leste, a National Recovery Strategy, focusing on durable solutions for internally displaced people, was adopted</li> </ul>
Increased number of institutionalized human rights training and education programmes introduced at the national level with the support or at the initiative of UN human rights programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Training for human rights defenders and civil society, including NGOs, journalists, and teachers, carried out in more than 35 countries</li> <li>▶ Human rights training for government and judicial representatives provided in more than 30 countries</li> <li>▶ Human rights training for prison officials, police officers and members of the army carried out in more than 30 countries</li> <li>▶ Eight training workshops provided for participants from about 20 countries on treaty body reporting and follow-up to recommendations</li> <li>▶ Human rights included in school curricula in Angola, Cote d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Tajikistan and Timor-Leste</li> </ul>
Rapid response capacity to deploy human rights officers at short notice established	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Internal rapid response roster, consisting of 58 human rights officers both in Geneva and field-based, developed and activated four times</li> <li>▶ Rapid response missions fielded and/or surge capacity mobilized in support of OHCHR country offices in Nepal, Togo and Uganda, OHCHR's regional office in Bangkok (in relation to the crisis in Myanmar), UN Country Teams in Guinea, the Philippines and Somalia, and the UN peace mission in Afghanistan</li> <li>▶ OHCHR participated in six Department of Peacekeeping Operations-led Technical Assessment Missions to Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Chad/Central African Republic, Somalia, Sierra Leone and Liberia and assisted in the establishment of the secretariat of the Group of Experts on Darfur established by Human Rights Council</li> <li>▶ \$1m contingency fund maintained to cover the cost of rapid response-related activities</li> </ul>

# OHCHR in the Field

## OHCHR in Africa



Type of presence	Location
Country offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Angola</li> <li>Togo</li> <li>Uganda</li> </ul>
Regional offices and centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon)</li> <li>East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)</li> <li>Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa)</li> <li>West Africa (Dakar, Senegal)</li> </ul>
Human rights components in UN peace missions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burundi</li> <li>Central African Republic</li> <li>Côte d'Ivoire</li> <li>Democratic Republic of the Congo</li> <li>Ethiopia/Eritrea</li> <li>Guinea-Bissau</li> <li>Liberia</li> <li>Sierra Leone</li> <li>Sudan</li> </ul>
Human rights advisers to UN Country Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rwanda</li> <li>Somalia</li> </ul>

2007 saw some positive institutional developments offset by violent upheaval in a number of countries and lack of progress in tackling chronic underlying human rights problems on the ground. The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights was created and the Permanent Secretariat of African National Human Rights Institutions was established with its seat in Nairobi, Kenya. A number of States made significant efforts to address their backlog of treaty body reporting obligations and to integrate international human rights standards into domestic law. Despite progress in implementation of norms and strengthening of some human rights mechanisms, political instability and insecurity persisted in a number of countries. Continued conflict in Sudan, Somalia, and the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo contributed to high levels of gender-based violence, and caused massive displacements of the population. In Zimbabwe, the continuing deterioration in the

political and economic climate had a very negative impact on human rights, including soaring poverty, and harassment, arbitrary detention and torture of members of opposition parties, human rights defenders and journalists.

In 2007, OHCHR had country offices in Angola, Togo and Uganda; regional offices in Addis Ababa (East Africa), Pretoria (Southern Africa), and Yaoundé (Central Africa); and provided assistance to UN peace missions in Burundi, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan and the United Nations Office in West Africa. A unit of 13 professional and four administrative staff cover the continent from headquarters, monitoring areas of concern, preparing briefing materials and providing substantive and administrative support to field presences. The Office also continued to support the work of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Burundi, the Independent Expert on technical cooperation and advisory services in Liberia, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Sudan, and the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In December, OHCHR signed an agreement with the Government of Senegal establishing a regional office for West Africa in Dakar.

## Country Offices

### Angola

Date established	2003
Staff as at 31 December 2007	19
Expenditure in 2007	\$3,263,021

Following 27 years of civil war, which ended with a peace agreement in 2002, Angola has enjoyed relative peace during the past five years. For many Angolans, it is the first time they have experienced life without armed conflict, in itself a reflection of human rights progress. Several important law-reform initiatives, including the Penal Code and the Law on Preventive Detention, are under way, but the adoption and implementation of these new laws is slow. Press freedom and freedom of expression are limited and cases of politically motivated detention have been reported. Access to justice is difficult and impunity is commonplace. In spite of the country's spectacular mineral wealth and economic growth,

the vast majority of the population lives in dire poverty, and the right to health, education, land, food and adequate housing remain elusive for many.

OHCHR works with the Government of Angola to improve the national human rights and legal framework and supports the Government in complying with its international and regional human rights obligations. The Office engages in activities to raise awareness about human rights issues amongst rights-holders and duty-bearers and supports UN agencies in Angola in incorporating a human rights-based approach to development into their programmes.

## Activities

- ▶ Trained law enforcement officers in the application of human rights norms, including training for 450 policemen in ten municipalities on human rights and democracy, a five-day course for police in the province of Huambo, and a two-day training course aimed at strengthening the role of women in the police force, in which 50 women representing seven police divisions participated.
- ▶ Conducted training programmes for human rights monitors in collaboration with the Prosecutor General's Office in six provinces and eight municipalities. The programmes aimed to create a more effective monitoring and protection structure in the provinces.
- ▶ Trained traditional leaders on the basics of the rule of law and human rights principles.
- ▶ Established two legal assistance centres, one in Lunda Norte province and a second, with the support of the NGO Mãos Livres, in Cabinda.
- ▶ Organized a follow-up conference on access to justice in collaboration with the Bar Association, taking stock of progress achieved since the 2005 conference and recommending further steps.
- ▶ Supported the visits of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, and undertook activities to raise awareness of the visits and mandates amongst relevant stakeholders.
- ▶ Elaborated two teachers' manuals on human rights education, one for primary schools, and one for secondary schools.
- ▶ Provided advice and guidance to the Government in its drafting of the common core document and report pursuant to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- ▶ Continued to advocate for and provide training on a human rights-based approach to programming for heads of agencies and senior staff of the UN agencies in Angola.



## Results

- ▶ As a result of the Office's advocacy and advice, steps have been taken to establish mediation and arbitration mechanisms within the Angolan judicial system.
- ▶ The establishment of legal assistance centres has provided a venue for legal advice and conflict resolution.
- ▶ Angola increased its engagement with the UN human rights system, receiving special procedures mandate-holders and becoming a member of the Human Rights Council.
- ▶ The UN Country Team agreed that a human rights-based approach should be adopted as the basis for a new UN Development Assistance Framework and a Technical Working Group on Protection was established among the UN agencies in Angola to foster inter-agency coordination regarding human rights and protection issues.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ In a country with one of the widest resource-distribution gaps in the world, the greatest challenge is poverty and its impact on human rights. It has therefore been important to include in the Office's programme of work activities that focus on socio-economic rights and on systematizing a rights-based approach within the UN Country Team.
- ▶ Maintaining flexibility is important when developing activities in Angola in order to overcome frequent delays, cancellations and modifications that occur when working with Angolan institutions, and to take advantage of unexpected political opportunities to advance human rights.

### OHCHR in Angola: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
An increase in the number of international and regional instruments ratified, reported on, and translated into national law, regulations, and policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ No core human rights instrument was ratified; however commitment was reaffirmed and efforts were made to speed up the ratification processes. The Office continues to lobby towards ratification of the core human rights instruments at the international and regional levels</li> </ul>
Acceptance of alternative conflict-resolution mechanisms that would be available to an increasing number of people, particularly those living in areas where formal judicial processes are not available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ A law on arbitration was adopted; a law on mediation and reconciliation was being drafted</li> <li>▶ Two legal assistance centres were established: one by the Angolan Bar Association in Lunda Norte province and one by the human rights NGO Mãos Livres, in Cabinda</li> </ul>
A clear rights-based implementation of the 2005-2008 UN Development Assistance Frameworks in which OHCHR works closely with other UN agencies in Angola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The UN Country Team endorsed the implementation of a human rights-based approach to UN programming. Preparations for the new UN Development Assistance Framework (2009-2013) have started using this approach</li> <li>▶ OHCHR Angola facilitated a series of training sessions for UN programme staff in Angola</li> <li>▶ OHCHR Angola played an active role in formulating a UN Country Team proposal to the Spanish MDG Achievement Fund in the area of economic governance concerning the provision of water and sanitation</li> </ul>
An increased number of awareness-raising programmes specifically tailored to vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Human rights were included in the official curricula of primary and secondary schools through the elaboration of two teachers' manuals on human rights education</li> <li>▶ OHCHR cooperated with Angola radio station IRIN to produce popular community-oriented radio programmes with a greater human rights component</li> </ul>

### Angola: Expenditure in 2007

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	1,151,830
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	173,273
Contractual Services	-	74,796
General operating expenses	-	634,263
Supplies & Materials	-	192,631
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	662,178
Subtotal	-	2,888,972
Programme support costs	-	371,049
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>3,260,021</b>

### Togo

Date established	2006
Staff as at 31 December 2007	5
Expenditure in 2007	\$1,099,978

Legislative elections held in Togo in October 2007 included participation by the opposition party for first time in almost 20 years, and observers declared the election fair and open. In the past year, there were also improvements in the enjoyment of civil and political rights, particularly freedom of expression, and fewer incidents of arbitrary detention were reported. However, impunity persists, particularly in relation to violent acts committed in connection with the 2005 elections, the administration of justice is slow, and the country continues to suffer from a high level of poverty and social inequalities. While there have been positive developments in legislative protection for women and children, implementation remains a challenge.

Since its establishment in November 2006, the Office has sought to strengthen the capacity of national authorities and institutions to fulfill their human rights obligations, including implementation of the 22 commitments on democracy and human rights made with the European Union in April 2004 and the recommendations of OHCHR's fact-finding mission of 2005. OHCHR also works to help Togolese civil society and other rights-holders claim their rights and assists the UN Country Team in integrating a rights-based approach to programming.

### Activities

- ▶ Spearheaded a pre-election campaign against violence and impunity that was launched by the President in July 2007.
- ▶ In partnership with the National Human Rights Commission, trained 500 young people throughout the country on human rights in electoral processes.
- ▶ Trained 103 traditional chiefs and regional administrators on international human rights standards, in connection with their roles in and responsibilities for human rights protection during the elections.
- ▶ Trained 49 police officers and *gendarmes* on respect for human rights in law enforcement, in preparation for the elections.
- ▶ Conducted training for 50 local human rights representatives, the media, judiciary and political parties on advocacy activities, and on investigation and monitoring skills.
- ▶ Ran several public information and awareness campaigns, providing tools and materials on human rights education, the National Human Rights Commission, the judiciary and civil society.
- ▶ Undertook a needs assessment and evaluation of the National Human Rights Commission and conducted a skills-development programme for the Commission's staff.
- ▶ In collaboration with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, monitored the return of refugees from Benin and Ghana, including providing briefings to the refugees.
- ▶ Supported the first visit by a special procedures mandate-holder since 1999 when the Special Rapporteur on torture visited the country in April 2007.

### Results

- ▶ Advocacy and public information initiatives helped increase awareness of human rights issues amongst the general population.
- ▶ OHCHR's work in the run-up to the elections, in particular the pre-election campaign on impunity and violence, contributed to the peaceful atmosphere that prevailed throughout and after the election.
- ▶ A national human rights plan and programme of action were adopted in May 2007.
- ▶ A human rights-based approach was integrated into the 2008-2012 UN Development Assistance Framework.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Managing expectations for this small and still relatively new office has been a challenge. In spite of recent improvements, Togo continues to suffer the consequences of a history of political oppression and ingrained human rights problems that will take time and sustained efforts to address.

Togo: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	247,948
Consultants	-	56,676
Official travel	-	270,060
Contractual Services	-	45,041
General operating expenses	-	108,649
Supplies & Materials	-	51,512
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	193,600
Subtotal	-	973,487
Programme support costs	-	126,491
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>1,099,978</b>

## Uganda

Date established	2005
Staff as at 31 December 2007	45
Expenditure in 2007	\$2,733,229

An improvement in the human rights and security situation was observed in conflict-affected northern and north-eastern Uganda following peace talks between the Lord's Resistance Army and the Government in Juba. In northern Uganda, including Acholiland and Lango sub-regions, an estimated 560,000 internally displaced persons returned to their places of origin in 2007, with an estimated 843,000 remaining in camp settings. There was a slow but progressive deployment of justice, law and order institutions to northern Uganda, and a moderation in the use of military force was observed in Karamoja. Allegations of human rights violations in this area were consistently linked to the ongoing forced disarmament process. At the national level, human rights challenges relating to the lack of separation of powers amongst the executive, judiciary and the

legislature persisted. Use of torture and other forms of ill-treatment, as well as arbitrary detention in ungazetted "safe houses" and military detention facilities, continued, as did harassment of persons based on their perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.

OHCHR's country office was established in July 2005, primarily to protect and empower populations in the conflict-affected areas of northern Uganda. By the end of 2007, in addition to its headquarters in Kampala, the office had six sub-regional/district offices in Gulu, Pader, Kitgum (Acholiland), Lira (Lango), Soroti (Teso), and Moroto (Karamoja), and a liaison office in Kotido (Karamoja). The country office's activities in 2007 shifted from an emphasis on monitoring and reporting to include more advocacy and capacity-building, given the stabilizing security situation in the north of the country.

## Activities

- ▶ Maintained private dialogue on human rights issues with both national and local government representatives.
- ▶ Conducted 64 training and capacity-building activities, reaching over 3,400 police officers, soldiers, local government officials and civil society representatives.
- ▶ Organized 105 human rights awareness-raising meetings and other activities on international human rights standards. Beneficiaries included members of civil society organizations, members of the public administration at the district level and law enforcement personnel.
- ▶ Conducted 48 field monitoring visits and 96 prison visits during the year and observed 21 civil and military trials.
- ▶ Provided technical advice and policy guidance to representatives of marginalized populations, including persons with disabilities, gays, lesbians and other sexual minorities.
- ▶ Increased joint reporting, monitoring and training activities with the Uganda Human Rights Commission.
- ▶ Issued four public reports, four technical commentaries and one research study on the issues of transitional justice, access to justice, land rights and the legal response to gender-based violence.
- ▶ In cooperation with the World Health Organization, supported a visit to Uganda, in February, by the Special Rapporteur on the right to health.





Police training conducted by OHCHR in Uganda

## Results

- ▶ As a direct consequence of OHCHR's training activities, institutional awareness on human rights increased and existing processes to address human rights violations amongst the police, army and judiciary were used more consistently.
- ▶ In some communities, a decrease in torture, ill-treatment and corruption practices by the police was reported.
- ▶ Ninety-five per cent of Special Police Constables trained by OHCHR had organized follow-up meetings with the public to inform them about their role and mandate in protecting human rights.
- ▶ Through OHCHR's interventions, 11 juvenile offenders held with adult remand prisoners and convicted prisoners were transferred to the Children's and Juvenile Courts, and their cases were processed through the juvenile justice system.
- ▶ OHCHR's advocacy on prison overcrowding resulted in some petty offenders being sentenced to community services, reducing prison congestion.

- ▶ The Government drafted a plan of action against the use and recruitment of children in armed conflict.
- ▶ Changes in the military's operational engagement occurred and a corresponding decrease in human rights violations followed.
- ▶ Public awareness and capacity-building were increased in the areas of transitional justice, access to justice, land rights and the legal response to gender-based violence.
- ▶ Representatives of marginalized populations gained greater access to national decision-making policy and legislative processes.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ OHCHR's broad mandate in Uganda, reflected in a comprehensive legal agreement with the Government, has been essential to the Office's success. The agreement provides for both the protection and promotion of human rights, and has allowed the Office to issue critical public human right reports, which have resulted in on-going constructive dialogue with the Government.

## OHCHR in Uganda: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
The establishment of monitoring operations in affected areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Six OHCHR sub-offices established, fully staffed and functional</li> <li>▶ Four civil-military cooperation centres in northern Uganda established</li> <li>▶ 30 civil-military cooperation centres staff received training on human rights monitoring, reporting and investigations</li> </ul>
Conflict-related human rights information regularly available to policy-makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Thematic research on land rights and access to justice completed</li> <li>▶ Four public reports and eight press releases issued</li> <li>▶ Human rights information regularly shared in policy fora at the national level</li> </ul>
The establishment of a functioning network of human rights defenders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Case reporting and referral system for protection against human rights violations established, including for human rights defenders</li> </ul>
Local councils with dedicated and trained human rights focal points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ In collaboration with the UN Development Programme and UN Volunteers, OHCHR trained all district and local government human rights focal points and continued to provide technical support at the district level</li> <li>▶ 120 members of local councils received training in a human rights-based approach and 54 local council court members were trained on the application of human rights standards in their work</li> </ul>
Local and national human rights groups developing stronger organizational and advocacy capacities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 26 training sessions on human rights and advocacy for local NGOs were conducted, benefiting 345 individuals</li> <li>▶ Based on a series of regional meetings funded by OHCHR, civil society organizations collaborated to issue a joint advocacy paper on accountability and reconciliation</li> </ul>
Assessment of potential for transitional justice mechanisms to facilitate accountability and reconciliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Close to 1,700 victims participated in 68 focus groups and 39 interviews on transitional justice</li> <li>▶ OHCHR continued to coordinate regular discussion groups with transitional justice partners in northern Uganda</li> <li>▶ Four transitional justice advocacy papers and legal commentaries issued for the peace talks</li> <li>▶ Transitional justice study published, facilitating the dissemination of the views of victims of the conflict</li> </ul>
Development of a plan of action to help authorities implement recommendations and observations of the CRC and CAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Three regional action plans were adopted by local authorities and civil society following regional workshops in relation to the concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee against Torture, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Human Rights Committee</li> </ul>
The Government meets its treaty body reporting obligations, particularly concerning the ICESCR and the ICCPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ A national information-gathering and sensitization process for drafting the State Party report under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was initiated</li> <li>▶ Government committed itself to drafting an outstanding report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</li> </ul>
Implementation of joint programmes with the UN Country Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Joint programme on right to health with the World Health Organization, including establishment of Health and Human Rights Steering Committee</li> <li>▶ Joint programme with UNICEF on implementation of Security Council resolution 1612 on the issue of children in armed conflict</li> <li>▶ Joint UN Team on HIV/AIDS adopted “human rights and gender responsive legislative and policy environment” as one of its priority interventions</li> <li>▶ In collaboration with the UN Development Programme and UN Volunteers, support was provided to district human rights focal points</li> </ul>





Commemoration of International Day for Persons with Disabilities in Soroti, Teso, northeastern Uganda

### Uganda: Expenditure in 2007

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	1,829,908
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	57,170
Contractual Services	-	21,577
General operating expenses	-	170,132
Supplies & Materials	-	28,301
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	311,698
Subtotal	-	2,418,787
Programme support costs	-	314,442
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>2,733,229</b>

### Regional Offices

#### Sub-regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon)

Date established	2001
Staff as at 31 December 2007	6
Expenditure in 2007	\$956,806

Serious human rights and democracy challenges persist in Central Africa to varying degrees, depending on the stage of political development of each country. Vibrant civil societies exist in some parts of the region, with human rights organizations playing an active role, while in others, restrictions on civil society organizations hinder the promotion and protection of universal rights. Poverty and discrimination against indigenous peoples and minorities remain a problem, as does violence against women and vulnerable groups, such as internally displaced persons and refugees. Impunity and the lack of a functional justice system



characterize the human rights situation in most Central African countries, while violent conflict persists in some parts of the region. Although most governments have ratified the core international human rights treaties, there has been only modest progress in integrating these international obligations into domestic law. While elections have taken place in most countries, much more needs to be done to ensure greater participation by all sectors of the population and to guarantee credible outcomes.

At the request of the Economic Community of Central African States, the General Assembly established the UN Sub-regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa in 2001. The Centre, which operates under OHCHR auspices in Yaoundé, works to raise awareness of human rights, including social and cultural rights, amongst rights-holders, eliminate discrimination, particularly against women and minority groups, and strengthen the rule of law and human rights institutions.

### Activities

- ▶ Organized a workshop in Gabon, attended by over 50 representatives from government, parliament, academia, civil society and the diplomatic corps, to address issues faced by people affected by HIV/AIDS.
- ▶ Provided training for law enforcement officials from nine Central African countries, including judiciary police officers, *gendarmes* and heads of investigation teams who were to be deployed to

peacekeeping operations. The sessions focused on identifying situations in which human rights may be at risk and on international human rights obligations.

- ▶ Organized a workshop for human rights trainers, providing 16 human rights workers from eight countries with training on key transitional justice issues and concepts with the aim of creating a trained pool of experts who can be called upon to provide support for governments, NGOs and other stakeholders grappling with issues of transitional justice.
- ▶ Conducted a first workshop on treaty body reporting and report writing for participants from the Republic of Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and Cameroon.
- ▶ Together with the Economic Community of Central African States, developed recommendations on elections in Member States, including the creation of an electoral support unit and the adoption of an electoral observer's guide.
- ▶ Organized a conference in Cameroon on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

### Results

- ▶ Following an expert meeting on indigenous peoples, organized by the Centre, OHCHR was asked to work with the Government of the Republic of Congo on the draft law on the rights of indigenous peoples.



Girls participating in a traditional game in the Central African Republic

- ▶ A sub-regional network of gender specialists was established and a group of trainers and experts on gender issues in Central Africa was developed as a result of regional training sessions.
- ▶ Over 1,000 visitors used the centre's documentation facility and reference library in 2007.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The Centre needs to be flexible and innovative in its approach to programme design and implementation, given the enormous disparities in the political, security and human rights situation in the various countries of the region.

Sub-regional Office for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	347,992	91,225
Consultants	18,000	15,492
Official travel	73,220	73,594
Contractual Services	10,970	25,000
General operating expenses	61,118	49,080
Supplies & Materials	8,784	19,452
Seminars, grants & contributions	38,166	78,862
Subtotal	558,251	352,704
Programme support costs	-	45,852
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>558,251</b>	<b>398,555</b>

### Regional Office for East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

Date established	2001
Staff as at 31 December 2007	6
Expenditure in 2007	\$875,267

Human rights in East Africa continued to be affected by violent conflict, weak institutions and a volatile political environment. In 2007, the deteriorating situation in Somalia, the worsening border conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea, and the crisis in the Ogaden all contributed to human rights violations, including arbitrary detention, torture, extrajudicial killings, human trafficking and massive internal displacement. This situation is worsened by the fact

that human rights protection mechanisms and civil society organizations in the sub-region are either very weak or non-existent.

The regional office in Addis Ababa covers countries in the East and Horn of Africa, focusing primarily on Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Kenya and Tanzania, since there is no OHCHR presence in those countries. The Office works to build regional and national capacity to protect and promote human rights, raises public awareness about human rights, and engages with UN Country Teams and offices in the region to support them in integrating a human rights-based approach into their programming.

### Activities

- ▶ Organized a national conference, together with the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the status of Ethiopia's submission of reports to human rights treaty bodies. The conference was attended by 120 participants from the Government and civil society.
- ▶ Conducted two treaty-reporting training workshops in Ethiopia for 60 participants.
- ▶ Engaged with the African Union and the African Commission on Human Rights in the framework of the ten-year African Union-UN capacity-building programme, organizing a consultative meeting that identified priorities for cooperation in the field of human rights, justice and reconciliation for 2008-2009.
- ▶ Organized a workshop, together with the African Union, on the implementation of African Union human rights-related decisions.
- ▶ Developed a comprehensive five-year action plan for the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission aimed at strengthening its capacity to monitor and investigate human rights violations and to ensure its compliance with the Paris Principles.
- ▶ Co-hosted an international seminar on peace, human rights and inclusion in Sudan with Minority Rights Group International. Thirty-eight participants attended, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Sudan and representatives of the Government of Sudan.
- ▶ Worked closely with the UN Country Team in Ethiopia, ensuring that a human rights-based approach was incorporated into its activities and into the UN Development Assistance Framework for Ethiopia.
- ▶ Successfully advocated for the inclusion of a human rights component in the mission to the Ogaden region led by the UN Country Team.

## Results

- ▶ The regional office raised awareness of the UN human rights system, particularly reporting obligations under international human rights treaties. In Ethiopia, Tanzania and Djibouti, OHCHR's efforts contributed to increased government commitment and increased interest on the part of civil society in engaging more actively with human rights mechanisms.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Developing coherent country engagement strategies for countries where the Office has no physical presence has been a challenge, along with the need to re-prioritize planned activities to adapt to emerging or changing situations.

Regional Office for East Africa: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	522,774
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	38,000
Contractual Services	-	9,373
General operating expenses	-	65,278
Supplies & Materials	-	65,741
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	73,406
Subtotal	-	774,572
Programme support costs	-	100,694
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>875,267</b>

## Regional Office for Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa)

Date established	1998
Staff as at 31 December 2007	5
Expenditure in 2007	\$516,466

Most of the countries of Southern Africa are newly democratized with a free and open press, an active civil society and fledgling national institutions. Although the region has some of the strongest human rights promotion and protection mechanisms in Africa, there are still implementation gaps that require technical advice and assistance to ensure continued progress.

OHCHR's regional office in Pretoria, covers developments in Botswana, Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The office engages with governments, regional and sub-regional organizations and civil society to address institutional human rights needs, provide advice and assistance, and raise awareness of human rights principles. Throughout the region, it works closely with UN Country Teams to integrate a rights-based approach to UN development programming and to secure more support and assistance for human rights capacity-building work.

## Activities

- ▶ Co-organized a three-day seminar on human rights for parliamentarians, co-hosted with the South African Development Community Parliamentary Forum, which was attended by 19 parliamentarians from nine countries and which focused on the human rights oversight role of parliamentarians.
- ▶ In collaboration with the South African Human Rights Commission, organized a three-day international roundtable on "The Role of National Institutions in Transitional Justice." About 30 experts from national institutions participated.
- ▶ Working with the UN Country Team, conducted a workshop for parliamentarians in Lesotho on human rights and the spread and treatment of HIV/AIDS.
- ▶ Working with the UN Development Programme in Mauritius, provided human rights training for prison officials.
- ▶ Provided training to government officials and NGOs on treaty reporting and training on the role of UN human rights mechanisms to some 40 non-governmental representatives.
- ▶ Provided advice and assistance to countries that are in the process of establishing national human rights institutions and to those reviewing and updating existing national institutions.
- ▶ Facilitated missions by the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing and by the Special Rapporteur on human rights and counter-terrorism.
- ▶ Engaged regional and national institutions with a view to developing joint human rights capacity-building initiatives in the coming year.



## Results

- ▶ Activities implemented in 2007 helped raise the profile of human rights in the region and re-established national partnerships in some countries that had not been engaged with the regional office for some time, including Namibia and Malawi.
- ▶ Participants from the international roundtable on “The Role of National Institutions in Transitional Justice” adopted a comprehensive set of recommendations to guide national institutions on transitional justice.
- ▶ Participants from the South African Development Community parliamentary seminar adopted a set of recommendations to strengthen the oversight functions of parliaments in the SADC region.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ In 2007, staffing changes in the regional office caused delays in some activities. However, by the end of the year, the office had re-established several key partnerships in South Africa and the sub-region.

### Regional Office for West Africa (Dakar, Senegal)

On 3 December 2007, OHCHR signed an agreement with the Government of Senegal establishing a new regional office in Dakar that will cover Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. Its work will be complementary to that of existing OHCHR presences in the region, the country office in Togo and the human rights components of peace missions in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

In its initial phase, the new regional office will focus on increasing the capacity of the human rights components of peace missions and establishing cooperative relations with countries where OHCHR has no presence, including Benin, Burkina-Faso, Cape Verde. It will work with governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as UN partners, to formulate and implement strategies and programmes to support the promotion and protection of human rights in the region. OHCHR is in the process of recruiting staff for the office.

### Regional Office for Southern Africa: Expenditure in 2007

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	375,042
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	32,620
Contractual Services	-	318
General operating expenses	-	25,387
Supplies & Materials	-	10,866
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	12,817
Subtotal	-	457,050
Programme support costs	-	59,416
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>516,466</b>

## Support for United Nations Peace Missions

### United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi

OHCHR's former country office in Burundi, established in 1995, merged with the United Nations Integrated Office in that country in 2007. The new human rights component, known as the Human Rights and Justice Integrated Office, works with the Government of Burundi to advocate for legal reform, combat impunity and make the justice system more effective and credible. The office is composed of 22 staff.

### Activities

- ▶ Monitored the human rights situation in all 17 provinces by undertaking regular visits, usually accompanied by members of the prosecutor's office.
- ▶ Followed up on cases of detention through weekly meetings with representatives of law enforcement bodies, the Government and international and national NGOs, to ensure that investigations and prosecutions were carried out, wrongly detained prisoners released, and sick prisoners received medical treatment.
- ▶ Held over 20 sensitization and training activities for law enforcement officers and specific groups such as women, media professionals and trade union members, as well as the population at large.



Refugees in Burundi

- ▶ Trained 284 magistrates and 127 justice auxiliaries on international human rights standards.
- ▶ Provided support to the Independent Expert on the human rights situation in Burundi during his missions to the country.
- ▶ Organized a 16-day information campaign on violence against women and supported a national network of women leaders by providing training on human rights monitoring and advocacy.
- ▶ Advocated for the establishment of transitional justice mechanisms, in collaboration with the Government.

## Results

- ▶ A law was drafted in November 2007 to establish the National Human Rights Commission.
- ▶ The reform of the criminal and criminal procedures code continued during 2007 and is expected to be completed in 2008.
- ▶ Following advice and assistance from the office, a Tripartite Steering Committee was established that is responsible for organizing the 2008 national consultations prior to the establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- ▶ The office's intervention in cases of detention resulted in the immediate release of several

dozen detainees who had been illegally arrested, and facilitated, with the support of judicial officials, the transfer of sick detainees to health care centres.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The justice system still lacks independence and the most severe human rights violations were left unpunished. However, regular meetings with the authorities kept the issue of impunity high on the agenda, with the prospect that serious cases of abuse will eventually be addressed.

## United Nations Peace-building Office in the Central African Republic

The Human Rights Section of the UN Peace-building Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA), which is supported by OHCHR, monitors the human rights situation, provides legal assistance to the victims of violations, and helps to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to protect and promote human rights. In addition to its office in Bangui, the Human Rights Section has three regional offices located in Bambari, Bossangoa and Bouar. The section comprises 15 staff members.

## Activities

- ▶ Together with the UN Country Team, participated in five joint monitoring missions to areas outside the capital, including one to Sam Ouandja in north-eastern Chad, to assess the condition of 15,000 refugees from Sudan.
- ▶ Conducted 47 training sessions for 500 participants from the police, youth groups and women's organizations, on the rights of children, women, detainees and indigenous peoples, and on economic, social and cultural rights.
- ▶ Carried out weekly visits to prisons and detention centres, following up on individual cases with local and national authorities, reporting findings, advocating for the respect of national laws and international human rights norms, and recommending corrective measures to improve the situation.
- ▶ Provided assistance to the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons during his mission to the Central African Republic in February.
- ▶ Provided advice to the Government on the elaboration of a new labour law.

## Results

- ▶ The authorities enacted a new labour law and a law on the repression of gender-based violence and abuses.
- ▶ The authorities have shown a greater willingness to engage with BONUCA and with OHCHR on human rights protection issues, including in relation to specific cases of human rights violations.
- ▶ The Government invited two UN special procedures mandate-holders, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to visit the country.
- ▶ There has been increased integration of human rights activities in the work of the UN agencies, in particular through the Protection Cluster.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ In an effort to increase the impact of the Human Rights Section, OHCHR provided training to strengthen its monitoring and reporting capacity and arranged for additional logistical and communications support.

## United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

The United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) was established in 2004 with a mandate to facilitate implementation of the Linas-Marcoussis Peace Agreement (2003) and other relevant agreements signed by Ivorian parties. OHCHR supports the Human Rights Division of UNOCI with its mandate to engage in training, advocacy, awareness-raising activities and technical assistance to address key human rights challenges, including impunity and the rights of women and children. The division is composed of 22 international human rights officers and UN volunteers, and ten national officers deployed at the headquarters in Abidjan and in the nine regional offices throughout the country.

## Activities

- ▶ Held 20 capacity-building workshops on human rights monitoring, investigation and reporting for civil society activists, and on human rights in situations of conflict for military and police personnel.
- ▶ Organized a seven-week human rights training course for 30 members of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.
- ▶ Assisted the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights in launching the National Human Rights Commission.
- ▶ Supported the National Human Rights Commission's participation at the Sixth Conference of African National Human Rights Institutions in Kigali from 8 to 9 October.
- ▶ Developed a specialized training course for the Ministry of Planning and Development on applying a human rights-based approach.
- ▶ Conducted 36 human rights awareness-building seminars for teachers and students in over 50 schools in nine regions, produced 3,000 posters on four human rights themes, published training materials, reference books and leaflets, and organized two television programmes on human rights.
- ▶ Held a national workshop on human rights monitoring, investigation and reporting in Abidjan.
- ▶ Investigated a wide range of human rights violations throughout the country and published public reports on the human rights situation.



## Results

- ▶ The National Human Rights Commission was established in January 2007.
- ▶ Public information campaigns run by the Human Rights Division, together with initiatives targeting school teachers and students, helped increase general awareness of human rights. To date, more than 53 human rights clubs have been established in schools throughout the country.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Political instability and security concerns caused delays in programme implementation and exacerbated pre-existing human rights problems. Without demobilization and disarmament of militia and the military, human rights violations are likely to continue with impunity.

## United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

OHCHR's former country office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) was integrated with the Human Rights Division of the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and is now known as the United Nations Integrated Human Rights Office in the DRC. Since the merger, the Human Rights Division has focused on providing technical assistance through training and awareness-raising activities to combat impunity, especially with regard to sexual violence. The DRC office operates with a total of 30 staff, 27 of whom are national staff.

## Activities

- ▶ Conducted six workshops for over 250 parliamentarians on the role of parliament in the protection and promotion of human rights, on the establishment of a national human rights institution, and on the need for legislative protection of the rights of persons affected by HIV/AIDS.
- ▶ Held 20 training sessions for 200 traditional leaders and 70 grassroots associations to strengthen their role as intermediaries, at the village level, for victims of sexual and gender-based violence. In addition, 250 members of women's groups were trained on new legislation aimed at reducing the alarming incidence of sexual violence in the DRC.

- ▶ Conducted six workshops for school head-teachers, teachers and administrators on the integration of human rights into the education curriculum.
- ▶ Organized workshops for 50 representatives of human rights NGOs on human rights monitoring, investigation and reporting, and on the creation of a new national human rights institution.
- ▶ Helped to establish and train staff at five legal clinics to assist victims of sexual violence.
- ▶ Together with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the UN Development Programme, undertook preparatory work on a joint mapping exercise, which OHCHR will lead, to document serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo between March 1993 and June 2003. By 31 December 2007, the following donors had committed funding amounting to more than \$2 million, to be paid through the UN Development Programme: Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

## Results

- ▶ Following advocacy and advice given by the Human Rights Division, Parliament adopted two significant human rights-related bills in 2007, one concerning the status of the opposition and the other on the establishment of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary.
- ▶ Human rights have been integrated as a key component of a new civic educational programme designed for elementary and secondary schools.
- ▶ As a result of monitoring of prison conditions and regular follow-up, the situation in the Goma Central Prison has reportedly improved.
- ▶ A network of "parliamentarians for human rights" has been created, and support was generated for a draft bill to establish a national human rights institution.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ A profound lack of knowledge of basic human rights principles in the DRC has resulted in a high level of tolerance of impunity. To help raise awareness, human rights officers travelled to remote parts of the country to distribute documentation on human rights and copies of new legislation on sexual violence.

## United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

As a result of the border conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea, civilians have suffered serious violations of human rights, including the separation of families, internal displacement, abductions and disappearances. OHCHR assists the Human Rights Office of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea with its mandate to monitor the Temporary Security Zone and areas adjacent to it, investigating and reporting on allegations of cross-border incidents and human rights violations. The office focuses on vulnerable populations affected by the conflict, especially those living across the tense border areas.

### Activities

- ▶ Conducted workshops and seminars on human rights for prison officials, judicial authorities, university students and civil society organizations.
- ▶ Conducted a workshop on human rights and law enforcement for 375 police recruits in Mekelle (Ethiopia), introducing participants to basic human rights concepts and aspects of the Ethiopian penal code, criminal procedures and the constitution.
- ▶ Held two workshops for 50 members of the Ethiopian Federal and Regional Police on international human rights standards and how they affect the police's handling of human rights-related issues.
- ▶ Conducted a series of human rights lectures at Mekelle University, benefitting 200 university students and staff.
- ▶ Conducted a two-day seminar on human rights for parliamentarians from the state of Tigray.
- ▶ Engaged in human rights awareness-raising activities in schools and women's centres, together with the National Union of Eritrean Women and the National Youth Organization in Eritrea.

### Results

- ▶ A revised Tigray Family Code was adopted and came into effect in February 2007, thanks to the Tigray office's earlier advocacy efforts and training to promote human rights and gender equality.
- ▶ Skills and knowledge of targeted police recruits and police officers in the area of human rights were significantly increased.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The reduction of the UN military presence during 2006/2007 meant that the office lost some of its primary sources of field information on the human rights situation in areas vacated by the military component. This has necessitated a new operational strategy for human rights implementation.

## United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau

The United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau was established in 1999. OHCHR provides support to the human rights component, which engages in monitoring and investigation, human rights education, technical cooperation, and integrating human rights into the work of UN partners.

### Activities

- ▶ Organized four workshops on transitional justice, in the context of discussions on an amnesty law, for some 50 participants from Parliament and civil society, including on gender issues.
- ▶ Conducted eight training sessions for 240 police officers on the application of human rights in the administration of justice, specifically on the code of conduct and rules on the use of force, and gender issues. This is especially significant in a country where there is no police academy.
- ▶ Together with UN agencies, provided assistance to the Government in formulating a national strategy for eliminating the practice of female genital mutilation.
- ▶ Advised the UN Country Team on incorporating a human rights-based approach into its programming.

### Results

- ▶ Helped police officers to better understand their responsibilities regarding respect for human rights and preventing future violations.
- ▶ Exchanges between parliamentarians and civil society over the draft amnesty law, facilitated by the human rights component, culminated in the modification of the law and its subsequent adoption by Parliament.

## United Nations Mission in Liberia

The United Nations Mission in Liberia was established in September 2004. The Human Rights and Protection Section, supported by OHCHR, contributes to international efforts to protect and



Demonstrators mark International Women's Day in Monrovia, Liberia

promote human rights in Liberia. It monitors the human rights situation and issues public reports, engages in awareness-raising activities among the general population, and works to establish and strengthen national institutions. It carries out these activities in close partnership with other UN agencies, government bodies and non-governmental organizations, focusing on vulnerable groups, including refugees, returning refugees, internally displaced persons, women, children and demobilized child soldiers. The section operates with 47 international and national human rights officers.

### Activities

- ▶ Monitored the human rights situation and issued three public reports, including one thematic report on human rights in orphanages.
- ▶ Conducted training courses on human rights for police officers, magistrates, government officials, commissioners and staff of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, students and civil society, in collaboration with NGOs and UN partners.
- ▶ Distributed human rights materials to law enforcement authorities and new recruits to the Armed Forces of Liberia, judicial officials and civil society.
- ▶ Designed and launched a peace, human rights and civic education programme in schools nationwide, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and UN agencies.
- ▶ Undertook activities to advance the establishment of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and the development of a national human rights action plan.

### Results

- ▶ Increased attention given to human rights concerns in national and local media.
- ▶ Increased number of reports made to the police on sexual and gender-based violence.
- ▶ Guidelines on minimum standards for operating welfare institutions, including orphanages, were issued and endorsed by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.
- ▶ The Truth and Reconciliation Commission adopted a final formulation of its rules of procedure.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Progress towards the establishment of the Independent National Commission has been slow due to lack of political support. The Human Rights Section has increased support for the creation of a commission by working with cooperative actors in Government and civil society, thereby improving understanding of the functions of such an institution.

### United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone

The United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL) was established in January 2006 following the withdrawal of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone. It assists the Government in creating conditions for lasting peace, security and development. Human rights priorities include the establishment of a National Human Rights Commission, implementation of the recommendations



of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, strengthening the rule of law, including the independence of the judicial sector, and enhancing the capacity of the police and correctional services. The human rights component consists of 36 staff.

### Activities

- ▶ Organized, in collaboration with the Human Rights Commission and UNIOSIL, a two-day consultative conference on the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, attended by 165 representatives from the Government, civil society, international partners and victims' groups.
- ▶ Arranged for the production and distribution of a musical compact disc popularizing the findings and recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report. Over 7,000 discs were made, 5,000 of which were distributed, and some 2,500 audio cassettes were produced with the same content.
- ▶ Conducted a national assessment of prisons and issued a report.
- ▶ Conducted four training programmes for 200 senior prison officers and developed a manual on national and international prison standards and training modules.
- ▶ Conducted training sessions on a human rights-based approach to development for 218 representatives of the UN Country Team, the Government and civil society.

### Results

- ▶ Rules of procedure and operational modalities for the National Human Rights Commission were

established, and the Commission began to function.

- ▶ Three bills on discrimination against women and one on child rights were enacted. The bill on child rights brought existing laws on children into compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- ▶ Two national laws—a child's rights act and a gender bill—were amended so that they comply with international standards.
- ▶ A backlog court was established and dealt with 281 cases of persons detained for prolonged periods as they await trial.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Conflicting political priorities, a high level of illiteracy, entrenched traditional and cultural practices, and the lack of capacity in government institutions are obstacles to more substantial progress in the overall human rights situation.
- ▶ Changes in cultural and traditional practices that frustrate the enjoyment of a number of civil, political and social rights can only be realized gradually. While legislation may lay the foundation for change, concerted sensitization over a period of time is required.

### United Nations Mission in Sudan

Security Council resolution 1590 established the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) in March 2005 to support the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the People's Liberation Movement/Army. The mission is mandated to monitor implementation of



Women in a camp for internally displaced persons waiting for a delivery of water, El Fasher, Darfur

the Agreement, and investigate and report on human rights violations. The UNMIS human rights office conducts field investigations and site visits, interviews witnesses and victims, meets officials of the Government of Sudan and the Government of Southern Sudan, political and tribal leaders, representatives of UN agencies and the African Union Mission in Sudan, and other stakeholders. The office interacts with officials at the local, regional and national levels, raising human rights concerns, recommending corrective and preventive action, and implementing technical assistance activities.

## Activities

- ▶ Held ten human rights workshops in Khartoum for law enforcement officials and distributed 10,000 copies of promotional material for law enforcement agencies.
- ▶ Held a four-day workshop, attended by parliamentarians and civil society representatives, on the harmonization of national laws with international human rights treaties.
- ▶ Organized workshops on reporting under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and engaged in awareness-raising activities, distributing 70,000 copies of promotional materials on human rights treaties.
- ▶ Undertook activities to eliminate violence against women, including a “16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women” campaign, distribution of promotional materials on violence against women, and the convening of two workshops on reform of legal provisions on sexual violence against women.
- ▶ Trained NGOs in Southern Sudan on human rights monitoring and reporting and supported the establishment of civil society networks on human rights and women’s rights in Juba, Wau and Malakal.
- ▶ Worked closely with the Southern Sudan Human Rights Commission, providing training, technical advice and logistical support.
- ▶ Provided technical advice and training to the Ministry of Legal Affairs and Constitutional Development.

### Supporting Victims of Sexual Assault and Rape in Darfur

A serious challenge in the Darfur IDP camps is managing the high incidence of sexual assault and rape suffered by women. A combination of lack of information, discriminatory cultural attitudes towards women, and disempowerment, all within the context of a serious conflict, has resulted in a high incidence of gender-based violence that largely goes unreported and untreated. Supported by OHCHR, the UN Mission in Sudan has been conducting training to create a network of experts in gender-based violence in the camps. This network has had a multiplier effect, as the individuals trained have galvanized further support within their own communities. Below are the stories of some of the individuals trained in this project:

**Eizzeldin Yosef Ibrahim, Sheikh (Community Leader), El Geneina**  
Sheikh Eizzeldin is a Community Chief (Sheikh) appointed through customary law and leads a community of over 1,000 people in the El Geneina region. Highly respected by both his people and the Government, his participation in the training sent an important message to other participants. Since taking the workshop, Sheikh Eizzeldin has become a leading advocate for women’s rights: “There is no difference between people,” he says. “All people should enjoy the same rights – men and women.” As a Community Leader, people regularly seek his advice and guidance on issues such as family relationships, education and health. Based on the training, he now gives advice promoting the rights of women, advising families to send their daughters to school, and leads community discussions to stop husbands beating their wives. He provides support to victims of rape and ensures that the community respects them.

**Hawa Adam Bakhit, Paralegal, Durty IDP Camp**  
Hawa works as a paralegal for the Justice Confidence Centre, an NGO that provides legal and paralegal support. Working largely with women victims of beatings and rape, the Centre offers training to women about their rights, and provides legal advice and mediation to resolve disputes. With the new skills learned in the UNMIS training, Hawa has changed her procedure for advising and taking information from women victims of violence. With a stronger understanding of human rights and interviewing techniques, she uses a more sensitive approach that empowers victims to seek the most appropriate remedy. Hawa informs victims of their options, including lodging a complaint with the police and seeking medical care. By encouraging more women to seek medical treatment within three days of a rape, the incidence of unwanted pregnancy and transmission of STDs and HIV/AIDS can be reduced.

- ▶ Advocated with the authorities in Southern Sudan for the release or transfer of detainees in cases of arbitrary and illegal detention.
- ▶ Provided the Experts Group on Darfur, established by the UN Human Rights Council to follow up on the implementation of the Council's resolutions and recommendations on Darfur, with administrative and substantive support, and offered technical assistance to the Government of Sudan in implementation of the recommendations.
- ▶ Introduced new, improved techniques for the regular monitoring of human rights violations in Darfur and maintained close contact with the authorities in Darfur to systematically follow up on individual cases of human rights violations.
- ▶ Created, throughout Darfur's camps for internally displaced persons, a local network, of trainers, advocates and monitors who have expertise on monitoring and reporting human rights abuses, with a special emphasis on supporting victims of gender-based violence.

## Results

- ▶ Successfully advocated with authorities to secure the release or transfer of persons illegally detained.
- ▶ Increased knowledge of the rights of victims of gender-based violence in Darfur reflected in an increased number of reports of violations submitted to the United Nations and the police, and a number of new programmes initiated in the camps by grassroots organizations to promote human rights awareness.
- ▶ Provided regular and accurate reporting to the international community on the human rights situation in Southern Sudan and Darfur.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Access to areas outside the three state capitals in Darfur became increasingly difficult due to the worsening security situation, preventing staff from travelling to areas where serious human rights incidents occur.
- ▶ The deployment and programming priority given to Darfur inevitably drew resources away from the human rights presence in the south and in the transitional areas.

## Human Rights Advisers in United Nations Country Teams

### New Human Rights Adviser in Rwanda

With support from the Action 2 Global Programme, OHCHR deployed a human rights adviser to Rwanda's UN Country Team in October 2007. His primary functions are to assist the Country Team in integrating human rights principles into the UN Development Assistance Framework and the Common Operational Document, and to provide technical assistance to the Government in complying with its reporting and follow-up commitments to the treaty-monitoring bodies.

## Somalia

In 2007, an already poor human rights situation in Somalia was made worse by repeated fierce battles between the Ethiopian-backed Transitional Federal Government troops and insurgent groups. In February 2007, OHCHR deployed a human rights adviser to the Resident Coordinator/UN Country Team for Somalia, based in Nairobi.

## Activities

- ▶ Organized a 10-day training workshop for 44 journalists on human rights and related issues.
- ▶ Monitored and reported on human rights-related developments and advised OHCHR, the UN Political Office for Somalia and the Resident Coordinator's office on the human rights implications of political developments and peace-building, humanitarian and reconstruction efforts.
- ▶ Urged Somali political parties to meet their human rights obligations, especially respect for women's human rights, freedom of expression and opinion, and the rights of journalists, human rights defenders and civil society.
- ▶ Provided advice to the UN Country Team on incorporating a human rights-based approach into its programming.

## Results

- ▶ A human rights-based approach was reflected in policy and operational planning undertaken by the UN Country Team and UN partners, including in the United Nations Transition Plan.



# OHCHR in the Field

## OHCHR in Asia and the Pacific



Type of presence	Location
Country offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cambodia</li> <li>Nepal</li> </ul>
Regional offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southeast Asia (Bangkok, Thailand)</li> <li>Southwest Asia (location to be determined)*</li> <li>Pacific (Suva, Fiji)</li> </ul>
Human rights components of UN peace missions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Afghanistan</li> <li>Timor-Leste</li> </ul>
Human rights advisers to UN Country Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indonesia</li> <li>Maldives</li> <li>Pakistan</li> <li>Sri Lanka</li> </ul>

\* Planned for 2008

Asia and the Pacific, stretching from Afghanistan in the west to the vast expanse of the Pacific Ocean, is a diverse and dynamic region, home to two-thirds of the world's population. The human rights situation is uneven, and the nature and extent of the human rights challenges vary significantly from one part of the region to another. Several countries are in the process of implementing important democratic, legal and institutional reforms, but democratic advances are fragile and have suffered set-backs in some cases, notably through the reassertion of military authority. Rapid economic development has contributed to rising living standards for many, but has also created pressure on marginalized and

disadvantaged groups. Poverty, gender inequality and patterns of discrimination remain deeply entrenched. High levels of internal and external migration within and outside the region pose particular protection challenges, as well as attendant problems, such as human trafficking.

On a positive note, regional organizations have taken steps towards the creation of regional human rights frameworks and mechanisms that would fill an important gap in the one part of the world without its own regional human rights architecture. In November 2007, leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) adopted a new Charter incorporating human rights principles and committed themselves to the development of an ASEAN human rights body. The Pacific Islands Forum explored possible models for regional cooperation on human rights, including the establishment of a regional court.

While impunity remained a systemic problem in many countries, several important accountability processes continued to unfold: the UN Special Independent Commission of Inquiry into the 2006 violence in Timor-Leste led to a number of trials, some of which resulted in the conviction of government officials; trials of Khmer Rouge leaders began in a special chamber in Cambodia; and a Special Commission of Inquiry, observed by international experts, continued in Sri Lanka.

In 2007, OHCHR maintained country offices in Cambodia and Nepal and regional offices in Bangkok

(covering Southeast Asia) and Suva (covering the Pacific). Activities in Afghanistan and Timor-Leste were directly supported through UN peace missions. OHCHR retained human rights advisers in Pakistan and Sri Lanka and, in 2007, deployed new advisers to Indonesia and the Maldives. A unit of nine professional and four administrative staff cover the region from headquarters, monitoring areas of concern, preparing briefing materials and providing substantive and administrative support to field presences. The Office continued to support the work of the special procedures mandate-holders on Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of Korea and Myanmar, as well as thematic mandate-holders visiting the region. The High Commissioner travelled to Nepal, Japan, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan during the year.

## Country Offices

### Cambodia

Date established	1993
Staff as at 31 December 2007	25
Expenditure in 2007	\$1,413,588

Over the past decade, Cambodia has striven to reconstruct its legal framework and institutions after decades of destruction. It has seen the emergence of



Young Cambodians listening to speakers at a rally of human rights activists at Wat Phnom, Phnom Penh, on Human Rights Day, December 2007

a vibrant civil society, political parties and regular elections. Yet, while the country has experienced strong economic growth, the benefits of this development are yet to be distributed in an equitable way. There is growing landlessness amongst the poor, continuing forced evictions and increasing numbers of indigenous peoples are being dispossessed of their land. The judiciary remains weak, with limited opportunities for people to find legal recourse and redress, which in turn continues to erode the rule of law and hamper efforts to curb impunity.

OHCHR assists the Government in complying with its international obligations and implementing appropriate human rights legislation. In addition to assisting with individual cases of human rights abuse, the office's focus in 2007 was on promoting legal and judicial reforms and documenting the impact of land concessions on the human rights and livelihoods of affected populations. An 18-month extension of the current memorandum of understanding was signed between the Government and the High Commissioner on 1 November 2007 that provides a basis for the development of a new programme of technical cooperation in several key priority areas: land ownership, evictions, and prison reform. OHCHR also supports the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on the human rights situation in Cambodia in his monitoring and reporting activities.

## Activities

- ▶ Examined and responded to individual cases involving restrictions on freedom of expression or association, illegal arrests and other serious breaches of criminal process guarantees and forced evictions by raising concerns with the authorities, proposing responses and encouraging the Government to conduct credible investigations into reported allegations and ensure effective remedy.
- ▶ Provided expert advice to the Government on the scope of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its optional protocol and, together with the International Labour Organization and UNICEF, published the Convention in a bilingual English-Khmer edition.
- ▶ Worked closely with UNICEF to reduce custodial sentences for persons under the age of 18, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- ▶ Worked with the SRSG to publish a study on the human rights impact of economic land concessions.
- ▶ Initiated and coordinated the development of a common position, endorsed by the UN Country Team, on evictions, based on domestic and international standards on housing rights and evictions.
- ▶ Participated in the Technical Working Group on Land, one of 19 sectoral groups set up by the Government and donors to develop joint strategies and action plans on land-related issues.
- ▶ Organized, together with the International Labour Office and the NGO Forum on Cambodia, a seminar on access to land by indigenous peoples, bringing together representatives of indigenous communities, the Government, civil society and UN agencies.
- ▶ Cooperated with the Ministry of Interior to make the draft law on peaceful assembly compliant with the Constitution and international norms accepted by Cambodia.
- ▶ Supported local NGOs with grants to enable them to undertake activities in a variety of fields, including prison reforms, labour rights, land disputes and human rights awareness-raising.
- ▶ Arranged for the translation into Khmer of four key human rights documents and a CD-ROM version of the 2005 Cambodian Compilation.
- ▶ Agreed with the Ministry of Interior to develop a joint prison reform support programme to improve conditions and treatment of detainees and prisoners.

## Results

- ▶ The Government strengthened its formal commitment to international standards established in human rights treaties, ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment in March, and signing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on 1 October 2007.
- ▶ Corrective action was taken by the authorities in a number of cases submitted by OHCHR, resulting in several releases and suspension of some evictions.
- ▶ In a landmark decision, the Constitutional Council in July 2007 reaffirmed that courts should take into account the age of the perpetrator when determining sentences. This decision restored consistency in the application of the law and reinforced the constitutional protection of the rights of children under the rule of law in Cambodia. In its decision, the Council made clear that the international human rights treaties to which Cambodia is party are part of Cambodian domestic law and directly applicable by judges in the courts. The Constitutional Court's ruling was a



response to a civil society petition that, in turn, was a product of capacity-building work led by the Cambodia office.

- ▶ There was significant improvement of the draft law on peaceful assembly, a key piece of legislation regulating the constitutional right to peaceful demonstration.

- ▶ There was wider awareness amongst Government, civil society and international actors of issues related to land concessions and the dispossession of rural and indigenous communities.

## OHCHR in Cambodia: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
Authorities conduct credible investigations into cases of reported human rights violations and provide remedy	▶ OHCHR continued to draw attention to the most serious instances of human rights violations and propose recommendations for corrective/preventive action. Progress in investigating cases of human rights violations remained tentative
NGO and civil society groups are better able to function and carry out their work without intimidation or serious threat	▶ Civil society plays a key role in promoting and protecting human rights, but has faced restrictions. The Office has maintained a constructive dialogue with the Ministry of Interior regarding these restrictions and their impact on civil society organizations
Authorities adopt measures to end impunity in line with the relevant recommendations of the SRSR, Special Rapporteurs, the Human Rights Council treaty bodies, and the General Assembly	▶ Khmer Rouge trials started hearings with five senior leaders accused. Instances of impunity of the past decade remain unaddressed
Authorities adopt measures to end torture and inhumane, cruel, or degrading treatment in police detention cells and put in place human prison policies	▶ Cambodia ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture in 2007, and OHCHR is exploring with the authorities how best to implement it, via the required national preventive mechanism, and provide support to prison reform
Credible steps taken to deal with corruption and impunity, including investigation and prosecution of reported cases	▶ Cambodia signed the UN Convention against Corruption. The anti-corruption law has yet to be passed
Adoption and implementation of legislation relating to freedom of expression and association	▶ Legislation, improved through technical assistance to the Ministry of Interior, was pending by year's end
Credible steps taken to establish an independent judiciary, including through trials that meet standards for fair trials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Basic legislation for the functioning of the courts remained pending, including a fundamental law on the organization of the courts, a law on the status of judges and prosecutors, and the amendment to the law on the functioning of the Supreme Council of Magistracy.</li> <li>▶ Office is working with the Extraordinary Chambers of the Courts of Cambodia to explore good practices and models that may help support the independence and integrity of the Cambodian judiciary</li> </ul>
Basics laws consistent with Cambodia's international human rights obligations adopted and enacted	▶ Code of Civil Procedure and Code of Criminal Procedure adopted. Constitutional Council upholds application of international treaties in domestic law
Legal assistance in place to increase access to justice for the poor	▶ Most legal assistance provided by local NGOs, and the Cambodian Bar; four pilot "houses of justice" were opened, with another 20 to follow in 2008

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The Cambodia office consolidated its programme around three interlinked units focusing on monitoring and protection, the rule of law, and land and livelihoods. This thematic emphasis sharpened the focus of the programme and helped identify clearer responsibilities for staff. This approach also brings OHCHR's programme more closely in line with the priorities identified under the UN Development Assistance Framework, which, in turn, should facilitate cooperation and joint programming with other members of the UN Country Team.

Cambodia: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	871,144	77,892
Consultants	14,735	2,020
Official travel	33,985	28,217
Contractual Services	30,461	17,157
General operating expenses	98,832	4,501
Supplies & Materials	136,275	-
Seminars, grants & contributions	45,599	31,766
Subtotal	1,231,032	161,554
Programme support costs	-	21,002
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,231,032</b>	<b>182,556</b>

## Nepal

Date established	2005
Staff as at 31 December 2007	134
Expenditure in 2007	\$11,144,156

The positive political developments that occurred in 2006, including the successful negotiation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and the establishment of an Interim Parliament and Government, created high expectations, particularly in terms of ending discrimination, inequalities and impunity. As the peace process advanced in 2007, Nepal continued to face challenges in its transition. Respect for human rights, particularly the right to life, liberty and security, continued to be compromised by security problems, particularly in the Terai region, and by delays in making needed changes.

OHCHR's Nepal operation was established in May 2005, immediately following the announcement of a ceasefire between the Nepal Army and Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) insurgents. Its broad-ranging mandate encompasses monitoring, investigating and public reporting on human rights problems, and activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of Nepal's public institutions and civil society. Nepal is OHCHR's largest field office, with staff deployed in Kathmandu and in six local offices. An initial two-year agreement with the Government was renewed in 2007 for a further two-year period, ending 1 June 2009. In January 2007, the UN Security Council established the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) to monitor the management of arms and armed personnel, and to assist with the monitoring of the ceasefire and with the elections for a Constituent Assembly. While independent of UNMIN, OHCHR's presence in Nepal is complementary to UNMIN's operations.

## Activities

- ▶ Carried out more than 400 field missions to monitor the human rights situation and issued four public human rights reports.
- ▶ Carried out special investigations into the events in Gaur in March 2007, in which 27 people were killed, and in Kapilvastu in September, in which 14 people were killed.
- ▶ Intervened in relation to protests and detention in the Terai region through direct discussions with the security forces in the region or with the Home Ministry. Conducted human rights training activities with the security forces and helped prepare standing orders. Intervened in cases involving abductions by armed groups in Terai and involving the Young Communist League through public statements and demarches.
- ▶ Raised individual cases of ill-treatment in detention with the Nepal Police and sought to secure the release of abductees through discussion with the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist).
- ▶ Provided analysis, advice and formal recommendations in respect of proposed legislation, including the human rights protection provisions in the interim Constitution and the legal framework governing the National Human Rights Commission.
- ▶ Ran over 60 capacity-building workshops and training sessions on various human rights issues for civil society organizations, benefitting over 650 people.
- ▶ Organized a series of workshops in 11 districts, mainly in the Terai region, to encourage dialogue



OHCHR staff in Chitwan, Nepal

amongst stakeholders and responses to human rights problems. The workshops were attended by local authorities, including security forces, and civil society representatives.

- ▶ Provided training, workshops and briefings to some 100 members of the Nepalese Army and Nepal Police Force on human rights protection and law enforcement.
- ▶ Trained Government officials from 13 ministries on treaty body reporting
- ▶ Trained 50 judges and court officials on international human rights mechanisms.
- ▶ Provided five training sessions for National Human Rights Commission staff on several issues, including transitional justice, monitoring and documenting human rights violations, trafficking and migration issues, and indigenous persons and minority rights.
- ▶ Provided advice and support to the Ministry of Peace and Reconciliation regarding transitional justice, sharing best practices from other countries and providing comments on draft legislation on a Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- ▶ Disseminated public information materials on human rights and issued 64 press releases and a number of public statements to increase public awareness of human rights issues.

## Results

- ▶ In the aftermath of the conflict, the office continues to play an important stabilizing role, creating space in which human rights grievances can be aired and addressed. OHCHR's presence has helped enable human rights defenders to carry out their work with greater security, for victims to come forward to report violations and abuse, and for public dialogue on human rights issues to continue.
- ▶ The office's presence has been widely credited by national partners, local communities and victims with deterring violence in many parts of the country.
- ▶ OHCHR's interventions in the Terai region had a positive effect on the human rights situation locally, although this was mitigated by the lack of effective action by the authorities to ensure public security and tackle deep-seated political problems.
- ▶ Conditions in police custody improved in some instances following OHCHR's intervention.
- ▶ New commissioners were finally appointed to the National Human Rights Commission in 2007, after a 14-month lapse, clearing the way for OHCHR to step up its capacity-building efforts with the institution.



## OHCHR in Nepal: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
National Human Rights Commission capacity to engage in the protection of human rights is supported through regular advice from international human rights advisers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Trained National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) staff on human rights investigation, documentation, election monitoring, economic, social and cultural rights, transitional justice, and other issues</li> <li>▶ Began work with the newly appointed Commissioners of NHRC and the UN Country Team, on identifying key areas of collaboration and support</li> </ul>
Capacity-building initiatives in the area of human rights undertaken to provide training, advocacy and other support to national partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ More than 60 workshops held for a wide variety of civil society actors</li> <li>▶ Working groups established amongst human rights NGOs on human rights indicators and a common vocabulary, to improve their reporting work</li> <li>▶ Advice provided on the “Nepal Police Human Rights Standing Orders,” 60,000 copies of which are being published</li> <li>▶ Training provided on human rights issues and protection to Nepal Police trainers</li> <li>▶ Specialized training for 100 Nepal Police officials on human rights protection through law enforcement.</li> <li>▶ Trained officers from 13 ministries on human rights and reporting to treaty bodies</li> <li>▶ Training provided on human rights mechanisms for 50 members of the judiciary</li> <li>▶ Briefings provided for the UN Country Team and UN Mission in Nepal on human rights issues</li> </ul>
International and national monitoring presences are established and functioning in all regions of Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ OHCHR monitoring presences continued in all regions of Nepal: Kathmandu, Nepalganj, Dhanghadi, Pokhara, and Biratnagar</li> <li>▶ The NHRC and national human rights NGOs continued to monitor human rights throughout the country, with some constraints in the Terai plains due to activities of armed groups and the resulting insecurity</li> </ul>
A methodology for case review is established with the judiciary at the national and local levels, and with the national bar association and human rights cells of the Nepal Army and National Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Supported UN Development Programme pilot projects in the judicial system, aimed at improving case management</li> <li>▶ Monitored progress on key human rights-related cases in the courts</li> <li>▶ Maintained contact with the human rights cells of the Army, Nepal Police and Armed Police Force</li> </ul>
Senior staff appointed and dedicated to ensuring effective protection of the human rights of internally displaced persons and coordinating the response to displacement with UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Collaborated with UNHCR and OCHA in advocating for appropriate policies for the return of internally displaced persons</li> <li>▶ A senior adviser from OCHA assisted the Government in developing directives for implementing policy on internally displaced persons</li> </ul>
Prosecution of human rights violations committed by the army against civilians reviewed by civilian judicial authorities and not by court martial proceedings or internal army investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Regulations for the Army Act 2006 (giving jurisdiction over murder and rape offences committed by the Nepalese army to civilian authorities) being finalized</li> <li>▶ Civilian police investigation and judicial oversight of investigation into an emblematic case (the ‘Maina Sunuwar case’), although progress was slow and other cases of human rights violations remain uninvestigated by civilian authorities</li> </ul>
Effective follow-up, by both parties to the conflict, to recommendations made by OHCHR and the various UN human rights mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Both parties responded in part to some of the recommendations made by OHCHR and by treaty bodies, but overall implementation rate not satisfactory</li> </ul>

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ As Nepal's transition proceeds, OHCHR will need to remain responsive and flexible to unfolding developments, continuing its monitoring and reporting role but focusing more on reinforcing the capacity of national partners. It will be important to build and retain confidence with Government and other national partners to lay the foundation for long-term and sustained country engagement.

Nepal: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	7,362,517
Consultants	-	114,499
Official travel	-	657,153
Contractual Services	-	209,248
General operating expenses	-	850,657
Supplies & Materials	-	533,906
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	134,106
Subtotal	-	9,862,085
Programme support costs	-	1,282,071
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>11,144,156</b>

## Regional Office for Southeast Asia (Bangkok, Thailand)

Date established	2002
Staff as at 31 December 2007	7
Expenditure in 2007	\$494,522

Human rights challenges in Southeast Asia include impunity, the sexual exploitation of children, human trafficking and migration. Poverty, gender inequality and patterns of discrimination also remain entrenched. In several countries, internal violent conflicts have created new, urgent human rights problems. National human rights institutions have been established in several countries and the Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN) has begun work on establishing its own regional human rights body.

OHCHR's regional office in Bangkok covers Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam. In the case of Cambodia, Indonesia and Timor-Leste, the office complements the work of other OHCHR field presences. Priorities include creating structures for the protection and promotion of human rights at national and regional levels and improving coordination of human rights activities both at the national and regional levels.



Monks marching in a demonstration in Myanmar

## Activities

- ▶ Advocated with ASEAN Member States and stakeholders for the establishment of an ASEAN human rights mechanism, providing expert advice and support. OHCHR organized a workshop for senior ASEAN government officials on experiences with regional systems in Africa, Europe and Latin America.
- ▶ Advocated with governments and civil society for the ratification of international human rights treaties.
- ▶ Trained 35 members of the Thai Government, the police, the National Human Rights Commission and the Asian Institute for Human Rights, on the preparation of the first and second periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
- ▶ Engaged with counterparts in the region, including the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, UN agencies, the donor community, ASEAN Member States and civil society organizations on activities related to migrant workers.
- ▶ Worked with the four existing national human rights commissions in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand to strengthen their capacities to promote and protect human rights.
- ▶ Ran a two-day training session for national and international NGOs to develop their monitoring and reporting capacities.
- ▶ Advised UN agencies and programmes on the inclusion of a human rights-based approach in their programming and activities.
- ▶ Engaged with UN agencies on regional issues of mutual concern and participated in the Inter-agency Standing Committee Humanitarian Network for Asia-Pacific, focusing on emergency preparedness and response networks.

## Results

- ▶ Following long-running efforts by OHCHR to press for increased ratification of international human rights treaties, the People's Democratic Republic of Lao acceded to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Thailand acceded to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Cambodia ratified the Optional Protocol to that Convention; and Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia and Viet Nam all signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- ▶ At the November 2007 summit, and following OHCHR advocacy, ASEAN leaders included

human rights principles in the new ASEAN Charter and committed themselves to the establishment of an ASEAN human rights body.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Despite a general resistance on the part of some Member States in the region to discuss their human rights problems, the regional office was able to establish a constructive dialogue based on a tailored approach that recognizes the socio-economic, cultural and political particularities of individual ASEAN Member States.

### Regional Office for Southeast Asia: Expenditure in 2007

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	356,324
Consultants	-	2,599
Official travel	-	6,084
Contractual Services	-	22,632
General operating expenses	-	11,864
Supplies & Materials	-	10,021
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	28,106
Subtotal	-	437,630
Programme support costs	-	56,892
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>494,522</b>

### Regional Office for the Pacific (Suva, Fiji)

Date established	2005
Staff as at 31 December 2007	5
Expenditure in 2007	\$724,385

The Pacific region includes a large number of small island communities that are extremely isolated, both geographically and politically, and face widespread social and economic problems and ethnic tensions that have, at times, resulted in instability and civil unrest. In most instances, national capacity to address these problems is limited. Pressing human rights issues in the region include poverty, violence against women and children, racial discrimination, lack of judicial independence and ill-treatment in detention. These problems are compounded by political and social instability and weak justice systems.



OHCHR's regional office for the Pacific is located in Suva, Fiji, and covers the 16 Pacific Island Forum countries of Australia, the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. A sub-office was opened in Honiara, Solomon Islands, in 2006 but closed at the end of 2007. Priorities in 2007 included raising awareness and encouraging greater use of UN human rights mechanisms and working with the UN Country Teams in the Pacific to integrate a human rights-based approach into their development programming.

### Activities

- ▶ Provided technical advice and support to Pacific countries in respect of their reporting obligations under human rights treaties. Organized workshops on the reporting processes for governments, lawyers, civil society and stakeholders in the region.
- ▶ Published, with other UN agencies, a compilation of concluding comments and observations on international human rights instruments to which Pacific island countries are party. The book has been widely distributed in the Pacific.
- ▶ Organized, in partnership with UN agencies, a sub-regional workshop in Vanuatu on implementation of concluding comments on the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women attended by representatives of government and civil society, including women from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu and Samoa.
- ▶ Engaged in activities to raise awareness of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UN Convention against Enforced Disappearances. Participated as an active member of the Fiji network of organizations working in the field of disability and promoting the new treaty.
- ▶ Provided technical support to the National Coordinating Committee on Children in Fiji and the National Committee on the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in the Solomon Islands.
- ▶ Co-organized, with the UN Development Programme, a regional workshop for UN staff on incorporating human rights into disaster management, with the aim of reducing the vulnerability of affected populations and special groups in situations of disaster.
- ▶ Documented complaints from citizens alleging violations of their rights, and transmitted complaints to relevant special procedures mandate-holders.
- ▶ Supported regional initiatives aimed at reinforcing national protection systems, including through the Pacific Islands Forum and the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Initiations. Provided support to governments and civil society in the region on the establishment of national human rights institutions.
- ▶ Organized human rights workshops for prison officials in Kiribati, Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.
- ▶ Organized a "16 Days against Gender Violence and Human Rights" campaign in the Solomon Islands, which included various awareness-raising activities and dissemination of human rights information.
- ▶ Provided advice and support to UN Country Teams on integrating human rights into their development activities, and provided technical support for the finalization of the Regional Pacific and Papua New Guinea UN Development Assistance Frameworks.

### Results

- ▶ OHCHR's activities raised awareness of international human rights norms, standards and mechanisms, including the special procedures mandates and human rights treaty bodies. Increased interest and awareness is reflected, in part, in the growing number of inquiries regarding human rights issues received by the regional office, and in the number of human rights complaints from the region processed by the special procedures mechanisms.
- ▶ Through its workshops and awareness-raising activities, the office has been instrumental in incorporating human rights-based approaches into the work of UN Country Teams, including those in Fiji, Samoa and Papua New Guinea, and within the UN Development Assistance Framework process.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ While OHCHR's presence is generally known and felt in Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Australia and New Zealand, it is important that the office engages in further outreach to other countries of the region so that they are made more aware of OHCHR's work. OHCHR also seeks to work more closely with key regional organizations.

### Regional Office for the Pacific: Expenditure in 2007

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	259,018
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	44,406
Contractual Services	-	2,893
General operating expenses	-	77,725
Supplies & Materials	-	57,928
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	199,079
Subtotal	-	641,049
Programme support costs	-	83,336
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>724,385</b>

## Human Rights Components of United Nations Peace Missions

### United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

Conflict-related violence due to insurgency and counterinsurgency operations, insecurity and common criminality intensified in 2007 and expanded into areas that were previously considered peaceful, costing hundreds of civilian lives, limiting humanitarian access and creating new groups of displaced persons. Persistent poverty and a lack of access to food, medical care and education, particularly for women, children and the disabled, adversely affected respect for human rights. Reform of the justice sector is slow; impunity remains entrenched and there has been little progress in advancing the transitional justice agenda. Cases of arbitrary detention and torture continued to be reported, with very few avenues for redress available to victims.

In mid-2007, OHCHR deployed two human rights officers to the Human Rights Unit of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). The head of the Human Rights Unit is a full member of the UN Country Team, representing OHCHR. In addition to monitoring the human rights situation, the Unit provides technical assistance to the Government. Its core programme covers transitional justice and the protection of civilians. It works closely with the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and the UN Country Team. OHCHR and other UN

partners support the Government in meeting its treaty-reporting obligations. The High Commissioner visited Afghanistan in November 2007.

### Activities

- ▶ Conducted monitoring and investigative missions in coordination with the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission.
- ▶ Observed and gave advice on the work of police officers responsible for human rights and dealing with family violence.
- ▶ Conducted a national workshop, together with other UN agencies and the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. The workshop attracted members of the Government, national security forces, members of the International Security Assistance Force and NGOs, and strengthened liaison with international military forces.
- ▶ Monitored and intervened as appropriate in individual cases, particularly in relation to media freedoms, women's rights, fair trial and due process.
- ▶ Provided information on individual cases of violence against women to a consolidated database maintained by the UN Development Fund for Women.
- ▶ Provided advice and developed linkages to support human rights mainstreaming in the Afghanistan National Development Strategy.



Photographer at work on the streets of Gihanga, Afghanistan

- ▶ Contributed to public debates on the death penalty, impunity, freedom of expression and religion.
- ▶ Organized a training course on human rights, with a focus on due process and the rights of arrested persons, for 40 officers from the National Directorate of Security, representing 29 out of 34 provinces across the country.
- ▶ Organized a two-day workshop for 25 officials from the Ministry of the Interior, police officers and seven international police advisers to discuss the work of human rights officers in the national police.
- ▶ Supported a Physicians for Human Rights follow-up mission focusing on mass graves and capacity-building for forensic investigation.
- ▶ Worked with local human rights organizations to build their capacity to promote and protect human rights.
- ▶ Provided advice and assistance to the Government in respect of its international human rights treaty-reporting obligations.
- ▶ Published an illustrated booklet and poster on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in local languages, and distributed them throughout the provinces, to raise awareness about human rights.
- ▶ Organized various activities for the “16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence” campaign, including roundtables, workshops and radio broadcasts involving women, local elders and religious leaders.
- ▶ Advised the Ministry of Interior and worked with the international military forces, international police missions and diplomatic missions to improve the human rights performance of the police through workshops and other activities.

## Results

- ▶ Afghanistan’s Common Core Document has been finalized and the report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights should be completed and submitted in 2008.
- ▶ Participants at the workshop on protection of civilians agreed a set of recommendations, a number of which have been taken up by relevant authorities. As one consequence, a human rights officer has been tasked to follow up with the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission on the establishment of a Special Investigations Team to look into incidents involving civilian casualties.
- ▶ UNAMA’s analysis of more than 450 cases of violence against women, and its recommendations, were published jointly with the Ministry of Women’s Affairs and the UN Development Fund for Women.

- ▶ Advice provided on important legislation resulted in positive changes, particularly draft media law and amendments that had the potential to undermine the independence of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Concrete efforts to strengthen the public constituency for human rights are critical. To advance the human rights agenda in the years ahead, sustained commitment by the international community to provide technical and financial assistance for the development of civil society organizations, and to identify and nurture broader support within the ranks of Government, will be key.

## United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste

OHCHR has been active in Timor-Leste since 2001, providing technical advice and training for Government officials and NGOs on human rights-related issues, supporting efforts to establish and strengthen national institutions, and promoting transitional justice and reconciliation. The mandate of the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT), based on recommendations arising from a UN assessment mission in 2006 in which OHCHR participated, focuses on capacity-building, monitoring and reporting, and transitional justice.



Homeless family in Timor-Leste after the August 2007 civil unrest in the area



The Chief of the Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section represents OHCHR in Timor-Leste and is a member of the UN Country Team.

## Activities

- ▶ Carried out missions to monitor the human rights situation throughout the country, identifying concerns and raising them with the authorities for action. A summary of developments and issues was also contained in UNMIT's first public report on the human rights situation, covering the period 2006-2007.
- ▶ Monitored the 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections.
- ▶ Coordinated interventions by UN agencies and other partners on issues concerning internally displaced persons.
- ▶ Regularly visited police cells and prisons to observe conditions of detention, conducted interviews with detainees and brought human rights concerns to the attention of the authorities.
- ▶ Monitored and encouraged follow-up to the recommendations made by the UN Independent Special Commission of Inquiry, which investigated serious human rights violations committed during the 2006 crisis.
- ▶ Provided training in human rights for 65 members of the army, including senior commanders, and senior members of the police. Together with the Ombudsman's office, Prosecutor's Office and NGOs, trained 80 police officers on human rights and law enforcement.
- ▶ Developed and disseminated promotional material in the local language, Tetum, including a human rights pocketbook and card for the police and a booklet on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- ▶ Advised the authorities on the human rights implications of several draft laws, including the Law on Truth and Clemency Measures and the Criminal Code. Particular concerns were communicated regarding the amnesty provisions in the draft Law on Truth and Clemency.
- ▶ Conducted six workshops for the Ombudsman's office to build its human rights monitoring and reporting capacity.
- ▶ Initiated training courses on human rights education for primary school teachers.
- ▶ Co-chaired, with the Government, the bi-weekly Inter-agency Protection Working Group for Internally Displaced Persons.
- ▶ Organized 12 training sessions for civil society organizations on human rights issues, and ran 48 induction sessions on human rights for newly arrived UN staff.

- ▶ Provided advice to the Government on complying with its reporting obligations under international human rights treaties.
- ▶ Launched a manual, in Tetum, on monitoring Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the country.

## Results

- ▶ As a result of the substantial advice and support provided by OHCHR, the Provedor for Justice and Human Rights (Ombudsman) was admitted to full membership of the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions on 25 September 2007.
- ▶ The Law on Truth and Clemency, which OHCHR had spoken out against, was not promulgated by the President, and investigations and prosecutions continued.
- ▶ As recommended by the UN Independent Special Commission of Inquiry, a number of trials were held, in conformity with human rights standards, relating to serious crimes committed in 2006. Several officers, including the former Minister of Interior, were convicted.
- ▶ The capacity of local NGOs to monitor and promote human rights was strengthened through training sessions and the expanded use of a human rights case database. By the end of 2007, 325 cases had been entered into the database.
- ▶ Following a review by UNMIT's Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section of over 3,000 registered national police officers as part of the vetting process, 4.5 per cent were identified as possible perpetrators of human rights violations. An evaluation of individual cases is ongoing.
- ▶ Partly as a result of the efforts of the Protection Working Group, the National Recovery Strategy, focusing on durable solutions for internally displaced persons, was adopted by the Government at the end of 2007.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Even given an under-resourced judicial system and a precarious political and security environment, it was possible to establish accountability for serious crimes. Nevertheless, the backlog of "lesser" crimes is increasing. That has a negative effect on both victims, whose right to an effective remedy is being compromised, and on law enforcement efforts.
- ▶ The reconstitution of the National Police, following its partial disintegration in May 2006, provided an opportunity to review and strengthen internal disciplinary mechanisms. Vetting of police officers, while important,

cannot, in itself, ensure respect for human rights. Structural changes, accountability for misconduct and attitudinal change are essential.

#### Helping Victims Obtain Justice

UNMIT's Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section participated in a programme established by the Aloia Foundation, a national women's rights NGO, to support 28 widows of the 2006 crisis. The Section regularly provided the widows with updates on the status of their loved ones' cases in the courts, and with general information on the judicial process. In a collaborative effort with the Ombudsman's office, the Section identified lawyers to assist the widows with the aim of speeding up the legal process. The widows of eight police officers killed by the military in one single incident in May 2006 testified confidently in court and were awarded compensation.

## Human Rights Advisers in United Nations Country Teams

### Indonesia

**NEW in 2007**

In the framework of the Action 2 Global Programme, OHCHR deployed a human rights adviser on 1 August 2007 to the UN Country Team in Indonesia. His role includes advising the Team on the integration of human rights into its work and engagement with state institutions and civil society on human rights issues.

#### Activities

- ▶ Established contacts with the Government, civil society and national institutions.
- ▶ Provided an initial briefing to UN Country Team staff on a human rights-based approach to development and ensured widespread dissemination of key human rights materials within the Team.

#### Results

- ▶ The human rights adviser worked with the UN Development Programme in putting together a needs-assessment mission for the National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia.
- ▶ Initial contacts established in 2007 have led to the development of a number of projects in 2008, particularly capacity-building projects on child rights and violence against women.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Finding appropriate entry points has been critical for the work of a single human rights adviser. System-wide commitment and partnership with other UN agencies will be vital. The provision of a national UN volunteer as legal assistant in 2008 will enhance the adviser's capacity.

### The Maldives

**NEW in 2007**

OHCHR deployed a human rights adviser to the UN Country Team in the Maldives in July 2007, with the support of the Action 2 Global Programme. The adviser's priorities include helping the Team to integrate human rights principles into UN programming, providing advice to the Government on drafting legislation that complies with international human rights standards and on complying with its international human rights obligations, and helping to build the capacity of the national institution and civil society on human rights issues.

#### Activities

- ▶ Provided training to the Government to assist it in meeting its reporting obligations under UN human rights treaties.
- ▶ Co-organized, with Handicap International and the UN Country Team, a public sensitization campaign on human rights and disabilities.
- ▶ Provided support for the December 2007 visit of the Sub-committee on the Prevention of Torture under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.
- ▶ Provided support and advice to UN agencies and the UN Country Team on integrating human rights into development programmes.
- ▶ Conducted six training courses for NGOs on international human rights law, treaty bodies and special procedures, and methodologies for investigating and documenting human rights violations.

#### Results

- ▶ The Government submitted its reports under the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and completed a first draft of the Common Core Document.
- ▶ Following the visit of the Sub-committee on the Prevention of Torture, the Government requested the human rights adviser to assist in following up on the preliminary recommendations of the Sub-committee in relation to national preventive mechanisms.

- ▶ Human rights have been integrated into the country programmes of all UN agencies operating in the Maldives for 2008-2010.

### Challenges and Lessons Learned

- ▶ The lack of local language capacity created significant obstacles, effectively preventing the adviser from playing a more active role in legislative and constitutional contexts and in following court proceedings and judgments more systematically. As of January 2008, a national human rights officer will assist the international human rights adviser, in part to overcome this problem.

## Pakistan

OHCHR has been present in Pakistan since 2005, when a human rights adviser was deployed to support UN relief efforts following the October earthquake. In 2006, the UN Resident Coordinator requested that OHCHR maintain an adviser in Pakistan to provide continuing support to the broader work of the UN Country Team. The human rights adviser completed her current project activities in early 2008.

### Activities

- ▶ Chaired regular meetings of a protection forum composed of Government officials, UN agencies and civil society organizations to respond to human rights and protection issues in earthquake-affected areas, and assisted the Government in identifying resources and solutions to address protection concerns.
- ▶ Managed the programme of work and staff of the inter-agency joint monitoring system set up by the Government and the United Nations to support the return and reintegration of those made homeless by the earthquake, and to ensure that the Government and the UN Country Team were in a position to anticipate and respond to major obstacles.
- ▶ Worked with the UN Country Team to mainstream human rights into the Team's work in the context of the One UN pilot programme.

### Results

- ▶ The Government approved a number of proposals made by the protection forum to address the long-term needs of vulnerable groups, including identifying those most vulnerable amongst displaced persons, agreeing a policy for land owners who had lost land as a result of the earthquake, and creating sub-groups

at the provincial level, composed of the Government, the United Nations and NGOs, to address the long-term needs of vulnerable persons.

- ▶ The joint monitoring system was successful in identifying serious protection concerns relating to the return of internally displaced persons and in serving as a catalyst for agreement between the Government and the humanitarian community on specific policy responses.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The joint monitoring system could be a useful model for the United Nations to replicate when engaging in similar post-disaster situations.

## Sri Lanka

OHCHR has maintained a human rights adviser in the UN Country Team in Sri Lanka since June 2004. The adviser's main role is to assist the UN Resident Coordinator and UN agencies in their activities to protect human rights and strengthen the human rights capacity of Government partners, national institutions and civil society.

### Activities

- ▶ Provided technical support to the Ministry for Disaster Management and Human Rights on establishing the International Independent Group of Eminent Persons and Commission of Inquiry, charged with investigating serious human rights violations.
- ▶ Assisted the Commission on Inquiry and Eminent Persons' Group in establishing a Witness Protection and Assistance Unit, through training and policy development.
- ▶ Provided training in human rights-based approaches and international mechanisms for the Ministry for Disaster Management and Human Rights.
- ▶ Provided expert advice and support to the Government on the drafting of a bill on Victim and Witness Assistance and Protection.
- ▶ Provided advice on the human rights of internally displaced persons to the inter-agency Internally Displaced Persons Protection Group, and participated in the drafting of a report to the Inter-agency Standing Committee on the same issue.
- ▶ Worked with UN agencies to include human rights work as part of the Sri Lanka UN Development Assistance Framework 2008-2012.
- ▶ Worked with UN colleagues and national institutions on the Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting, helping to draft a report on Sri Lanka for



the Security Council Working Group on Children in Armed Conflict; organized a training session for members of the Task Force on investigating and reporting on human rights violations.

- ▶ Facilitated missions by the High Commissioner and the Special Rapporteur on torture.

## Results

- ▶ The impact of OHCHR's efforts can be identified in the field of witness and victim protection legislation and programmes, including the development of a draft law to protect victims and witnesses, and the establishment of a Witness Protection and Assistance Unit to support the work of the Commission on Inquiry.
- ▶ The UN Development Assistance Framework 2008-2012, which was agreed by all UN agencies

and partners present in Sri Lanka, includes a joint human rights programme that involves working with the Government and other stakeholders on treaty body reporting and follow-up, and engaging with the special procedures and Universal Periodic Review mechanism.

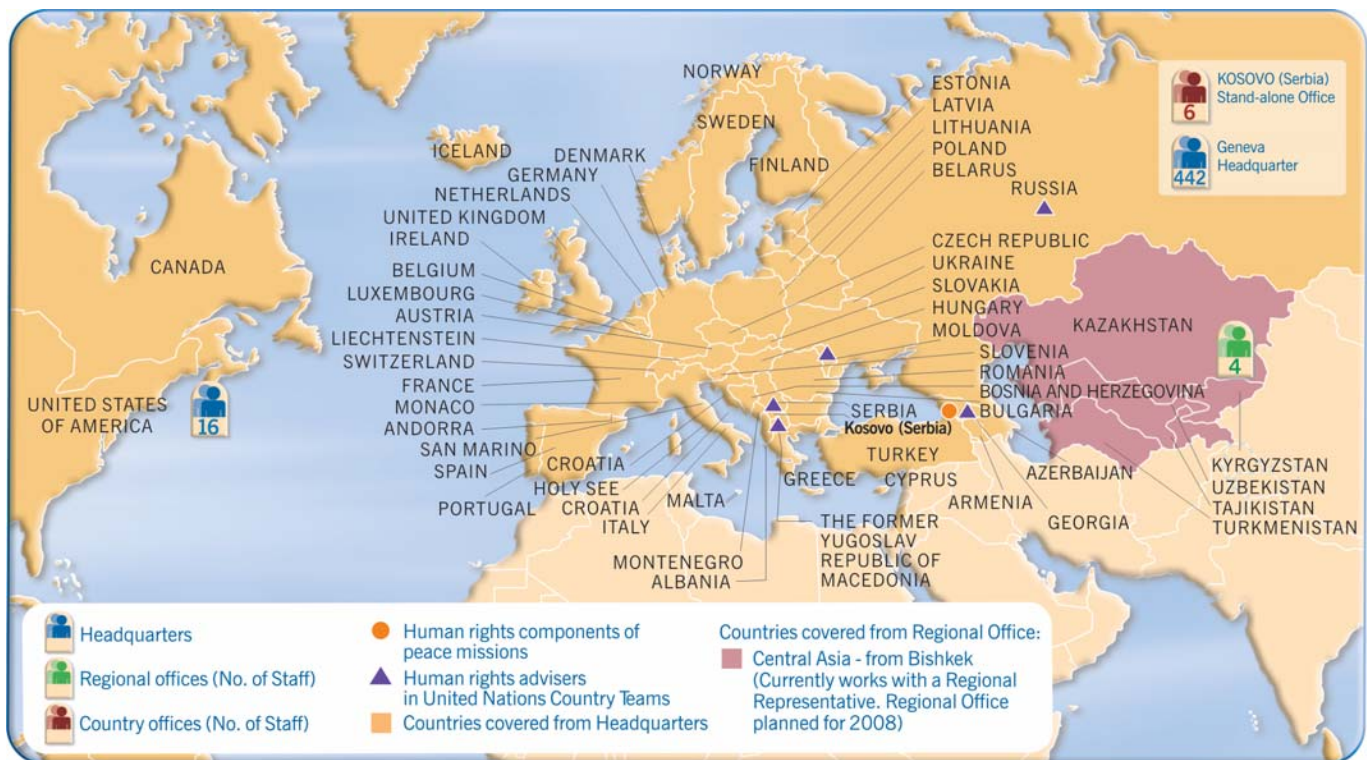
## Challenges and lessons learned

In response to the deteriorating human rights situation in Sri Lanka since December 2005, OHCHR has explored various ways to reinforce its presence in the country. The Government has so far not been in favour of an independent OHCHR presence. The creation of a new Ministry for Human Rights and Disaster in 2006 presents new opportunities for the promotion and protection of human rights.



# OHCHR in the Field

## OHCHR in Europe, North America and Central Asia



Type of presence	Location
Stand-alone office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kosovo (Serbia)</li> </ul>
Regional representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central Asia (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan)</li> </ul>
Human rights components in UN peace missions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Georgia (United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia)</li> <li>Tajikistan (United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peace-building) – until July 2007</li> </ul>
Human rights advisers to UN Country Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Georgia (South Caucasus)</li> <li>Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>Russian Federation*</li> <li>The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</li> <li>Serbia</li> </ul>

\* From 2008

Among the 56 countries that make up the Europe, North America and Central Asia region, the human rights challenges and priorities are many and varied. The issue of impunity for violations of a broad range of human rights remained an overriding concern in 2007. Work with Member States was needed to

address effectively instances of torture, violence against women and violations of a number of social and economic rights, as well as democratic deficits. OHCHR sought to continue to support efforts to strengthen institutions protective of human rights, in particular independent and impartial judiciaries and legislatures. It continued where possible to assist States in countering growing problems of discriminatory and intolerant treatment, disregard for human rights in the fight against terrorism and what might be described as the narrowing democratic space in some countries, which had a particular impact on human rights defenders and on freedom of association.

OHCHR's field activities were focused mainly, in 2007, in Kosovo, the Southern Caucasus and Central Asia, and preparatory work was done and broad consultations held to prepare the ground for a programme of cooperation with the Russian Federation. A dedicated unit of nine professional staff and two administrative staff covered the wider



region from Geneva, coordinating and supporting work carried out by colleagues in the field, monitoring areas of concern, preparing briefing materials for the High Commissioner and other senior staff, and supporting the work of relevant special procedures mandate-holders. The Office also supported the work of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, whose mandate was discontinued by the Human Rights Council in June 2007.

The clear limit on how much OHCHR can hope to achieve, given limited resources, in such an extended and diverse region makes interaction with existing strong regional human rights machinery essential. The Office therefore sought to strengthen its cooperation with the strong regional mechanisms of the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the European Union in its efforts to ensure maximize effectiveness in the protection of human rights.

## Stand-alone Office

### Kosovo (Serbia)

Date established	1998
Staff as at 31 December 2007	6
Expenditure in 2007	\$464,755

Improving the human rights situation in Kosovo remains central to wider efforts to secure lasting peace and stability in this part of the Balkans. Key human rights concerns continue to include impunity for past human rights violations, ensuring the safe return of internally displaced persons, non-discrimination and the protection of minority rights, and building the necessary local capacities to address these issues. OHCHR has maintained a presence in Kosovo since 1998. In addition to monitoring and periodic public reporting, the local office conducts a range of activities designed to strengthen the capacity of Kosovo's local institutions and civil society to protect and promote human rights. OHCHR also works closely with the UN Kosovo Team, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and Kosovo's Provisional Institutions of Self-government to ensure that human rights are fully integrated into their respective programmes of work.

### Activities

- ▶ Facilitated the human rights strategy of Kosovo's Provisional Institutions of Self-government, provided advice on the Ombudsperson localization process, supported UNMIK as it sought to fulfil its human rights obligations, and collaborated with the UN Kosovo Team to encourage a human rights-based approach in the work of the UN agencies.
- ▶ Advised on various UNMIK draft regulations, such as on the vetting of judges and prosecutors,





with the aim of ensuring that regulations conform with international human rights standards.

- ▶ Trained 25 officials of the Provisional Institutions of Self-government and 27 UN staff in human rights principles and integrating a human rights-based approach.
- ▶ Held five briefing sessions, in conjunction with the OSCE, on treaty body reporting obligations to government staff with human rights responsibilities.
- ▶ Conducted two workshops on a human rights-based approach for UN agencies working in Kosovo and for local officials, and contributed expertise to a number of training events for government staff on the UN treaty body system.
- ▶ Facilitated regular human rights-related meetings involving actors from civil society, local authorities, UN agencies and other international organizations, including a conference bringing together senior staff members of Ombudsperson institutions from the region and related local and regional actors.
- ▶ Facilitated a September visit by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders.

## Results

- ▶ Training workshops and regular meetings on human rights helped improve sensitivity to, and understanding of, human rights issues among representatives of local authorities, civil society, and international organizations.
- ▶ OHCHR worked with the UN Kosovo Team on a number of advocacy initiatives that resulted in policy changes, such as the relocation of a number of internally displaced persons affected by lead poisoning.
- ▶ OHCHR's advice helped improve legislation on both the judiciary and the Ombudsperson's office, resulting in better protection of each institution's independence.
- ▶ OHCHR's advocacy and advice contributed to the establishment of the Human Rights Advisory Panel, a quasi-judicial body tasked to investigate allegations of human rights violations by UNMIK and make recommendations for actions to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Kosovo.
- ▶ In order to meet the increased challenges in the area of human rights, OHCHR, in cooperation with UNMIK, established the post of human rights adviser within UNMIK.



## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Uncertainty over Kosovo's status and the absence of a new Security Council resolution created challenges for the work of all international actors in Kosovo, including the United Nations. These tensions have at times made it difficult for OHCHR to adequately address the human rights situation. Whatever events unfold, OHCHR is committed to ensuring that human rights are protected, both through its work with its UN partners and through its work with other relevant actors.

### Kosovo: Expenditure in 2007

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	275,191
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	38,253
Contractual Services	-	20,394
General operating expenses	-	35,214
Supplies & Materials	-	20,236
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	22,000
Subtotal	-	411,288
Programme support costs	-	53,467
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>464,755</b>

## Regional Representative

### Regional Representative for Central Asia (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan)

Date established	2006
Staff as at 31 December 2007	4
Expenditure in 2007	\$654,485

OHCHR's regional presence in Central Asia, headed by a Regional Representative, covers Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Based in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, since mid-2006, the representative is supported by two national programme officers and, since late 2007, an administrative assistant and one UN volunteer, all of whom assist the representative in following developments and conducting capacity-building activities in the region. OHCHR is negotiating a legal agreement with the Government of Kyrgyzstan concerning the status of the presence and its staff with the aim of establishing a full-fledged regional office. The Office hopes to finalize these negotiations in 2008.

#### Activities

- ▶ Developed a human rights textbook and manual and provided training for teachers in Tajikistan.
- ▶ Provided training on international human rights standards for prosecutors in Tajikistan.
- ▶ Arranged for the translation, printing and distribution of basic human rights information in Kyrgyz, Turkmen and Tajik.
- ▶ Supported the Human Rights Information and Documentation Centre in Tajikistan and its human rights newspaper for teachers.
- ▶ Organized two roundtables for government officials and NGO representatives in Kyrgyzstan to promote ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.
- ▶ Provided advice to the Turkmen authorities and the Institute of Democracy and Human Rights on the establishment and operation of an inter-ministerial commission to examine compliance with international human rights obligations to treaty bodies.
- ▶ Provided expert assistance to a governmental working group to elaborate a draft law for the establishment of a national human rights institution in Tajikistan, and, together with NGOs, organized a consultative discussion of the draft law.
- ▶ Received individual complaints and provided information on available international complaints procedures to UN Country Teams, NGOs and individuals.

- ▶ Held regular coordination meetings in Bishkek for UN and other international partners, including NGOs.
- ▶ Supervised the work of a human rights adviser in Kyrgyzstan funded by the Action 2 Global Programme (see separate section on activities of the human rights adviser in Kyrgyzstan).

#### Results

- ▶ Human rights education was institutionalized in Tajik schools, with human rights courses included in the national curriculum for years ten and 11.
- ▶ In Turkmenistan, the establishment of an inter-ministerial commission on treaty body reporting marked a significant step forward. The new body has adopted a timetable for the preparation and submission of reports due to UN treaty bodies. The Government submitted follow-up information as requested by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
- ▶ Kazakhstan signed the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- ▶ Kyrgyzstan established a government working group to develop policies to prevent torture.
- ▶ Tajikistan developed legislation to establish a national human rights institution.
- ▶ Coordination and cooperation among UN entities and within the broader international community improved in a number of areas, including individual complaints, promoting ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other measures intended to prevent torture, and the 16-Day Campaign on Violence against Women.
- ▶ OHCHR's presence in the region prompted increased interaction with national authorities and civil society—a first step towards more substantive cooperation in the future.

#### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Prolonged negotiations over the status of OHCHR's presence and the resulting understaffing limited the capacity of the regional presence to engage fully with the countries of the region. It is expected that as soon as agreement is reached this difficulty will be overcome.
- ▶ OHCHR did not undertake fieldwork in Uzbekistan in 2007 and is pursuing its efforts to engage with the Government of Uzbekistan with the aim of strengthening human rights protection in the country.

- ▶ OHCHR's work with other UN bodies in the region, particularly the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy, will provide important opportunities and challenges.
- ▶ The mid-2007 closure of the United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peace-building created challenges in providing human rights support to that country.

Regional Representative for Central Asia: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	239,138
Consultants	-	23,260
Official travel	-	31,385
Contractual Services	-	18,109
General operating expenses	-	49,972
Supplies & Materials	-	36,576
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	180,750
Subtotal	-	579,190
Programme support costs	-	75,295
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>654,485</b>

## Support to United Nations Peace Missions

### United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

OHCHR continued to support the human rights office of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG), which monitors and reports on the human rights situation in Abkhazia, Georgia, records individual cases of human rights violations, and supports the safe return of refugees and internally displaced persons. The office consists of five international staff members based in Sukhumi and Gali, including one OSCE-seconded officer, and support staff.

#### Activities

- ▶ Conducted some 50 visits to detention facilities to interview detainees, and monitor registration logs and detention conditions.
- ▶ Interviewed, at its offices in Sukhumi, more than 500 individuals complaining of human rights violations.

- ▶ Monitored court trials in which human rights violations were alleged, in Sukhumi, Gali and Gagra.
- ▶ Contributed to a human rights training programme for local *de facto* law enforcement agencies.
- ▶ Supported human rights education and training implemented by local NGOs in the framework of the OHCHR-funded Fifth Phase of the "Assisting Communities Together" (ACT) Project.
- ▶ Supported implementation of a human rights programme funded under the UNOMIG Trust Fund. Projects included a telephone line for detainees, free legal and psychological aid for vulnerable groups, awareness-raising on human rights issues, and the dissemination of information on domestic violence.
- ▶ Prepared and delivered jointly with UNOMIG colleagues a training seminar on the theme of "Protection of women and minors against domestic violence" for local NGO representatives and stakeholders of relevant structures across Abkhazia, Georgia, including representatives from the *de facto* law enforcement and judicial bodies.
- ▶ Worked with the OSCE to support the establishment of an NGO Human Rights Centre in Gali.

## Results

- ▶ The monitoring, documenting and reporting of human rights problems provided both rights-holders in the region and international observers with a credible source of information on the human rights situation, and a basis for engaging with the *de facto* authorities on how best to address urgent issues.
- ▶ Training and public information efforts contributed to increased awareness of human rights principles both amongst the population at large and amongst target groups, such as *de facto* law enforcement officers.
- ▶ The Gali Human Rights Centre opened in December 2007, creating a source of support and advice for the NGOs and the local population.

### United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peace-building

Ten years after the end of the civil war in Tajikistan, the Government announced a new set of priorities with greater emphasis on socio-economic development. In line with the Government's decision, the UN peace mission in the country, the United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peace-building (UNTOP), withdrew in mid-2007. Prior to UNTOP's withdrawal, two international human rights officers, supported by



four national staff, had worked closely with OHCHR's regional representative in Bishkek, providing human rights assistance to UNTOP and the Government. A number of activities were undertaken in cooperation with other partners, including the UN Development Programme and the (OSCE).

### Activities

- ▶ Provided training to teachers and teacher-trainers on integrating human rights education into the curriculum.
- ▶ Conducted activities aimed at raising awareness of human rights principles, including a children's drawing competition and events to mark Human Rights Day.
- ▶ Assisted the authorities in treaty body reporting and follow-up.
- ▶ Provided support for the visit of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief.

### Results

- ▶ Human rights education was integrated into the Tajik curriculum for ten- and 11-year-olds, and a human rights education textbook in Tajik was finalized.
- ▶ The Government submitted all outstanding reports to human rights treaty bodies.
- ▶ The Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief completed her visit and submitted a detailed report to the Human Rights Council that included a number of practical recommendations.

## Human Rights Advisers in United Nations Country Teams

### Georgia (covering the South Caucasus)

An international human rights adviser, based within the UN Country Team in Georgia, also provides advice to the UN Country Teams in Azerbaijan and Armenia. The human rights adviser is supported by two national human rights officers and two administrative staff located in the UN Country Teams in Georgia and Azerbaijan. Their primary role is to help implement human rights capacity-building projects in Georgia and Azerbaijan and provide advice to UN colleagues, national authorities, parliaments, and civil society. They also assist the UN Country Teams in Georgia and Azerbaijan, ensuring that a human rights dimension is fully incorporated into the work of UN partners. Priorities in 2007 included treaty body reporting, national human rights action planning, and a human rights publications programme.

### Activities

- ▶ Provided training in international human rights standards to 125 judicial assistants from the Supreme and Appeals Courts, representatives of regional public defenders' offices and defence lawyers at five training workshops held in Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Batumi.
- ▶ Held four local-level workshops in Gandja, Sheki, Lenkoran and Guba in Azerbaijan on the role of national human rights institutions and other UN human rights mechanisms. The workshops were attended by 120 participants, among them staff from the Ombudsperson's regional offices and local authorities, and representatives of civil society.
- ▶ Presented concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee on Georgia's third periodic report to 40 representatives of the Government of Georgia, international organizations, the diplomatic community and civil society.
- ▶ Trained 26 representatives of relevant ministries and the Public Defender's Office and 24 representatives of civil society organizations in drafting treaty body reports at OHCHR workshops facilitated by members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- ▶ Conducted a series of workshops in Baku, attended by representatives of Azeri civil society, on individual human rights complaint mechanisms, including the "1503 procedure."
- ▶ Conducted a workshop in Baku for 25 Azerbaijani government officials, judges, prosecutors and lawyers on the administration of justice.
- ▶ In conjunction with UNICEF, implemented a juvenile justice reform project, including four roundtables on child-friendly courts.
- ▶ Published and distributed five translations of important human rights materials in Georgian and eight in the Azeri language.
- ▶ Conducted a study of the legal implications of ratification of the International Convention of the Rights of Disabled Persons.
- ▶ Provided technical advice to the Government of Georgia concerning the 2008-2009 National Action Plan against Torture and the draft National Action Plan for the integration of internally displaced persons.
- ▶ Provided training and ongoing support to members of UN Country Teams, particularly on such issues as internally displaced persons, conflict, gender and communications.

## Results

- ▶ Training on treaty body reporting helped Georgian officials and representatives of civil society in preparing the country's third periodic report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- ▶ OHCHR's advice to the Government of Georgia on the treatment in custody of vulnerable individuals and the application of the principle of *non-refoulement* to countries where there is a threat of torture was reflected in the 2008-09 National Action Plan against Torture.
- ▶ Improvements in the capacity of UN Country Teams in the region to apply a human rights-based approach to programme design and delivery were reflected in relevant programme documentation, including the 2007 reviews of the UN Development Assistance Frameworks for Georgia and Azerbaijan, both of which included coverage of human rights work and highlighted human rights as a cross-cutting issue.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ OHCHR's efforts aimed at building sustainable civil service capacities, at the expert level, for human rights promotion and protection were challenged by frequent turnover of government staff, changes in government priorities and political instability.

## Kyrgyzstan

A human rights adviser was deployed to the UN Country Team in Kyrgyzstan in March 2007, with a financial contribution made through the Action 2 Global Programme, complementing funds of the UN Country Team. Activities initially focused on training members of the Country Team and developing materials and guidance on applying a human rights-based approach to the team's work in Kyrgyzstan. The adviser assisted in the design of programmes and projects, and elaborated a strategy for UN support to national human rights institutions.

## Activities

- ▶ Facilitated three introductory training sessions on a human rights-based approach to development programming with 46 participants from the UN agencies present in Kyrgyzstan, one executive training workshop for heads and deputy heads of UN missions, and one training session on human rights and results-based management methods for 15 representatives of various UN entities.

- ▶ Prepared two training booklets (200 copies distributed) and a CD-ROM containing information and guidance materials on a human rights-based approach (250 copies distributed).
- ▶ Offered advice on the design of several UN Country Team programmes, such as the joint UN programme "Voice and Accountability" and the UN Development Programme's project on assistance to Kyrgyzstan in writing treaty body reports.
- ▶ Drafted analytical reports on the constitutional referendum and parliamentary elections and resource material on human rights and HIV/AIDS for UNAIDS.
- ▶ Contributed to the establishment of a Human Rights Coordination Group involving all international organizations and NGOs active in Kyrgyzstan, and to a human rights assistance-activities database.
- ▶ Taught a three-month human rights course at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek to post-graduate students from across Central Asia.

## Results

- ▶ Understanding of human rights and of applying a human rights-based approach to programme design and delivery increased amongst programme officers and heads of UN offices in Kyrgyzstan, nearly all of whom received training from the human rights adviser during 2007.
- ▶ Materials on how to apply a human rights-based approach have been adapted to the Kyrgyz context and have been made accessible to UN staff in the country.

## Russian Federation

Pending deployment of a human rights adviser within the UN Country Team in Moscow, the OHCHR desk in Geneva, supported by a consultant and a locally-based national human rights officer, focused on establishing a substantive dialogue on human rights with the authorities, national institutions, NGOs and universities. Following several months of discussions, a Framework for Cooperation was developed and finalized with the Foreign Ministry in August 2007. The Framework provides for OHCHR-led activities in three main areas: rule of law, equality and tolerance, and education and dissemination of information on human rights.

## Activities

- ▶ Provided training, in Moscow and Geneva, on UN and national human rights systems for representatives of indigenous communities in the

Russian Federation, under the auspices of OHCHR's Russian-speaking Fellowship Programme.

- ▶ Organized a roundtable in Moscow on the establishment of a Human Rights Masters Programme, with participation of the General Secretary of the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratization (Venice) and representatives of leading Russian universities.
- ▶ Held consultations with relevant Russian stakeholders to plan future OHCHR activities, under the newly agreed Framework for Cooperation with the Russian Federation, concerning promoting ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and support for the rule of law.

## Results

- ▶ Consultations with the authorities, national institutions, legislators and civil society produced agreement on a Framework for Cooperation between OHCHR and the Russian Federation and on priority areas of work for 2008.
- ▶ Good progress was made on establishing a human rights master's degree programme, with representatives of Russian universities expressing strong interest and follow-up action agreed.
- ▶ A human rights adviser was recruited for deployment to Moscow in March 2008.

## Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

OHCHR supports a national human rights adviser deployed to the UN Country Team in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The post was established in April 2007 following the closure of OHCHR's field presence in the country at the end of 2006. The adviser works with UN and national partners on a range of activities, including providing support for interaction with the UN human rights system, strengthening the capacity of the national human rights institution, and integrating human rights education in schools.

## Activities

- ▶ Provided advice to the Government, civil society and international partners on the National Action Plan on Gender Equality, the creation of a "National Coordination Body on the Development of Anti-discrimination Framework," and ways to strengthen the Ombudsman's Office, among other issues.
- ▶ Promoted ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Disabled Persons and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.
- ▶ Worked with NGOs to assist them in participating in treaty reporting processes.
- ▶ Helped disseminate treaty body recommendations, particularly those of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- ▶ Drafted monthly summaries of the human rights situation for the UN Country Team, and chaired the Country Team's Human Rights and Gender Group, where human rights concerns and strategies for mainstreaming were discussed.

## Results

- ▶ The adviser's main contribution was to help ensure the inclusion of a human rights perspective in the work of the UN Country Team.
- ▶ The adviser also contributed to dialogue on strengthening the Ombudsman's Office, establishing a comprehensive anti-discrimination framework and external law enforcement oversight, and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.



# OHCHR in the Field

## OHCHR in Latin America and the Caribbean



Type of presence	Location
Country offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bolivia</li> <li>Colombia</li> <li>Guatemala</li> <li>Mexico</li> </ul>
Regional offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Latin America (Santiago, Chile)</li> <li>Central America (Panama City, Panama)</li> </ul>
Human rights components in UN peace missions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Haiti</li> </ul>
Human rights advisers in UN Country Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ecuador</li> <li>Guyana</li> <li>Nicaragua</li> </ul>

The legal framework for human rights protection in Latin American and the Caribbean is relatively strong, with long-established and effective protection

mechanisms, such as the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Most countries have well developed legal systems and national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, and civil society organizations are active throughout the region. Democratic elections for head of government were held in four countries during 2007, and five more elections are planned for 2008. Two countries, Bolivia and Ecuador are engaged in constitutional reform processes, providing an opportunity to strengthen human rights protection systems. Women have continued to make considerable gains in their efforts to achieve greater equality in education, the labour market and in political participation. The region now boasts two female presidents in office, and women are increasingly better represented in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government. The

rate of ratification of human rights treaties is relatively high in Latin America, although not in the Caribbean.

While internal conflict is absent from most of the region, on-going civil strife in Colombia and Haiti continued to be a source of human rights violations during 2007. Other pressing concerns in Latin America and the Caribbean include impunity, shortcomings in the administration of justice, weak institutions, soaring levels of common and organized crime, violence against women, poverty, inequality and corruption.

In 2007, OHCHR had country offices in Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico and opened a new office in Bolivia. In addition to the Regional Office in Santiago de Chile, it opened a new Regional Office in Panama for Central America. OHCHR deployed human rights advisers to Ecuador, Guyana and Nicaragua, and continued supporting the human rights section of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti. By the end of the year, OHCHR had ten presences in the region. In addition, a unit of nine professional and two administrative staff cover the region from Geneva, monitoring areas of concern, preparing briefing materials and providing substantive and administrative support to field presences. During 2007, the High Commissioner visited Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Panama.

OHCHR also supported the work of the Independent Expert on the human rights situation in Haiti, whose mandate was renewed by the Human Rights Council in June 2007, and the Personal Representative of the High Commissioner for Cuba, whose mandate was discontinued during the same Human Rights Council session in June. OHCHR also provided support, through the UN Development Programme, to the Government of Paraguay as it established a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to document human rights violations that occurred between 1954 and 1989.

## Country Offices

<b>Bolivia</b> 	
Date established	July 2007
Staff as at 31 December 2007	5
Expenditure in 2007	\$345,678

Bolivia is the setting for OHCHR's newest country office, opened in July 2007 following the successful negotiation of a Memorandum of Understanding

with the Government. The country has serious, deeply engrained human rights problems, foremost amongst them impunity, poverty, inequality, discrimination, and domestic violence against women and children. In 2007, the situation was further complicated by social and political polarization linked to the Government's efforts to introduce significant constitutional changes. OHCHR's role includes monitoring the general human rights situation while working closely with the authorities to help them design and implement laws that comply with international human rights standards. The Office assists Government institutions, such as the Attorney General's office, in their efforts to combat impunity by improving the criminal prosecution system so that violations are investigated and victims have access to redress. The Office also provides support to civil society organizations to ensure that they are aware of and can claim their rights.

## Activities

- ▶ Completed administrative and logistical steps involved in opening the country office, established working relationships with national and international partners and identified priority areas of cooperation.
- ▶ Provided information to Government officials on the submission of States Parties' reports to treaty bodies.
- ▶ Conducted a workshop for 60 indigenous representatives and leaders in preparation for the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedom of indigenous peoples.
- ▶ Published promotional materials, including posters, a CD and a booklet on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, together with the Defensor del Pueblo.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The complex political and security situation, particularly in the departments of Chuquisaca, Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, Pando and Tarija, made it difficult for the Office to monitor and follow-up on human rights violations. It may be necessary in the future to strengthen the office's monitoring capacities in these departments.

**Bolivia: Expenditure in 2007**

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	102,528
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	14,986
Contractual Services	-	11,650
General operating expenses	-	37,900
Supplies & Materials	-	115,946
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	22,900
Subtotal	-	305,910
Programme support costs	-	39,768
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>345,678</b>

**Colombia**

Date established	1996
Staff as at 31 December 2007	77
Expenditure in 2007	\$7,678,187

Despite improvements in the security situation in large areas of the country, the multiplying effects of the internal armed conflict, coupled with the emergence of new illegal armed groups, drug trafficking and organized crime, continue to be amongst the main factors affecting the lives of Colombians, disrupting democratic institutions and hindering socio-economic development. Some of these new armed groups appear to be led by former middle-ranking members of now-demobilized paramilitary organizations and pose a major threat to both security and justice. The persistence of extrajudicial executions attributed to members of the security forces, especially members of the Army, remains a concern. Other human rights and humanitarian challenges include threats, enforced disappearances, hostage-taking, arbitrary detentions, situations that affect the right to freedom of opinion and expression, use of anti-personnel landmines, sexual violence, child recruitment, and the plight of the internally displaced. There have been important steps forward in the fight against impunity, such as investigations by the Supreme Court on links between high-level officials and paramilitary groups, and information revealed on crimes committed by demobilized paramilitaries. However, improvement of the justice system is required to solve the structural problems that lead to impunity. Poverty and inequality continue to afflict many Colombians. Those most

affected include members of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, social and political leaders, human rights defenders, peasants, women, children, union members, journalists and displaced persons.

Through its offices in Bogota, Medellin, Bucaramanga and Cali, OHCHR observes and reports on the human rights and international humanitarian law situation throughout the country, provides advice and technical assistance to the Government, and works with civil society organizations and the authorities to promote human rights. In September, OHCHR's mandate was renewed for three years.

**Activities**

- ▶ Carried out 234 fact-finding missions to regions where worsening human rights-related conditions were identified. Registered 1,871 individual complaints, with 1,563 meriting follow-up action.
- ▶ Trained 98 military judges and magistrates on human rights and international humanitarian law, and, together with the UN Office of Drug Control, trained 186 military personnel, police officers and prosecutors on human security and human rights.
- ▶ Conducted two workshops, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for over 100 public servants from 12 State institutions on torture prevention; conducted over 70 training sessions for local and regional authorities and civil society on a human rights-based approach to development; and trained 159 journalists on human rights.
- ▶ Provided advice and technical assistance to Government institutions, including the Procurator General's Office, the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office, the Prosecutor General's Office, the Lawyer and Judges' Board of Antioquia, and the Ministry of the Interior and Justice, and to civil society organizations, including indigenous and Afro-Colombian organizations.
- ▶ Supported the Government and civil society in formulating a national plan of action on human rights and international humanitarian law; provided advice on the National Plan for Education in Human Rights, and helped form five regional technical teams and develop pilot plans for each of them.
- ▶ Conducted 12 seminars for 338 UN officials on integrating a human rights-based approach to development.
- ▶ Supported a visit to Colombia, in September, by the Special Rapporteur on the right to health.





## Results

- ▶ Field missions, often to remote areas, helped raise awareness and protect the rights of local people and human rights defenders through OHCHR's presence, public reporting and by encouraging local authorities to take preventive actions and investigate human rights violations.
- ▶ As a result of the numerous training courses provided to Government and local authorities, networks were established of local experts who can sustain these efforts.
- ▶ Technical cooperation projects focusing on the rights of detainees and on strengthening knowledge of human rights within the Attorney General's Office had a significant impact on institutional polices and helped build confidence.
- ▶ Working with the Government, the examination of cases of extrajudicial executions led to the adoption of internal decisions to prevent extrajudicial executions and to additional measures by the Attorney General's Office to improve the effectiveness of criminal investigations into those cases.
- ▶ Advice provided to Government institutions helped shape new legislation, most notably the Military Criminal Code.

- ▶ Following the training of military judges, a number of cases were transferred from military jurisdiction to the civilian courts, allowing prosecution of human rights violators.
- ▶ The training of 159 journalists on human rights issues, and public statements by the office highlighting human rights violations and breaches of humanitarian law, resulted in greater coverage in the media and public debate on human rights issues.
- ▶ The new UN Development Assistance Framework 2008-2012 incorporates a human rights approach to development.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The expansion of OHCHR's observation and monitoring activities throughout the country has been essential in ensuring access to accurate information, particularly in those regions where the effects of the internal armed conflict are most serious. It has also contributed to increasing demands for the Office to expand its protection role in remote areas, which will be difficult to achieve in the absence of significant additional resources.

## OHCHR in Colombia: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
A greater amount of information available on human rights abuses and breaches of international human rights law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The number of claims of human rights violations recorded by the office increased by more than four per cent in 2007. There was also a small increase in the number of admitted cases of breaches of human rights or international humanitarian law</li> </ul>
A greater presence of OHCHR in the field (i.e. outside Bogota, Medellin, Cali and Bucaramanga)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 234 fact-finding missions conducted, with an emphasis on remote and rural areas, an increase of approximately six per cent on the previous year</li> </ul>
A greater understanding of human rights, public policy and Government programmes among vulnerable groups and the general public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 71,062 publications distributed among different beneficiaries.</li> <li>▶ Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed to print 30,000 copies of "Human Rights ABC" for distribution to teachers</li> <li>▶ The Vice President made a public statement during the High Commissioner's visit committing the Government to protect human rights defenders</li> <li>▶ Declaration on the Right of Indigenous Peoples was distributed in indigenous regions</li> <li>▶ Human rights handbook for parliamentarians was distributed to Afro-Colombian and indigenous Members of Congress</li> </ul>
More and better-informed coverage of human rights issues in the media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 159 journalists trained in human rights principles</li> </ul>
An increase in the number of officials who know and understand international human rights obligations and are able to implement them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Nearly 1,500 State civil servants and military personnel received training in international human rights standards</li> </ul>
A strengthened human rights unit in the Prosecutor General's Office and the establishment of an effective witness-protection programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Members of the Prosecutor General's Human Rights Unit were trained in investigating extrajudicial killings, torture and enforced disappearance</li> <li>▶ New sub-units were created within the Prosecutor General's Human Rights Unit to investigate specific human rights violations</li> <li>▶ An effective witness-protection programme is not yet in operation because of the need for improved inter-institutional coordination and agreement of legal arrangements</li> </ul>
Greater use of OHCHR's advice by the Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ New request from the Government for advisory and technical assistance</li> </ul>
Greater incorporation of human rights into programmes and policies of the UN Country Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ UN Development Assistance Framework 2008-2012 integrates a human rights-based approach</li> </ul>

### Colombia: Expenditure in 2007

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	5,362,959
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	235,367
Contractual Services	-	145,780
General operating expenses	-	609,519
Supplies & Materials	-	463,139
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	7,359
Subtotal	-	6,824,123
Programme support costs	-	854,065
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>7,678,187</b>

### Guatemala

Date established	2005
Staff as at 31 December 2007	23
Expenditure in 2007	\$3,396,920

Social violence, public insecurity and impunity characterize the human rights situation in Guatemala. Despite a strong economy, Guatemala has one of the most unequal distributions of wealth in the world. 2007 was marked by a long and bloody election campaign (56 politicians and activists were killed during the 12 months leading up to polling day) and a crisis of confidence in the police force after it emerged that police officers had been involved in a series of extrajudicial executions.

In addition to monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation in Guatemala, OHCHR assists the Government in complying with its international obligations and in implementing human rights legislation. It also conducts a range of activities designed to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to promote and protect human rights, and works closely with UN agencies in the country to ensure that human rights are fully integrated into development programming.

### Activities

- ▶ Provided training on treaty reporting to staff members of the Presidential Commission for Human Rights; together with the Presidential Commission, analyzed Guatemala's compliance with 348 concluding observations to identify those pending implementation; provided advice

to the Presidential Commission on the preparation of three periodic treaty body reports (International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on Migrant Workers); and provided advice to the Presidential Secretariat for Women on the preparation of a periodic treaty body report (Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women).

- ▶ Conducted three workshops on the Universal Periodic Review mechanism for Government institutions and civil society organizations, in preparation for the Human Rights Council's consideration of the report on Guatemala under the Universal Periodic Review in May 2008.
- ▶ Provided training and technical assistance to civil society organizations and vulnerable groups, particularly women's organizations and indigenous groups, to increase their understanding of human rights and the functioning of international mechanisms.
- ▶ Provided expert advice to Government officials, including on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, on the design of a witness-protection programme, on the incorporation of human rights into various public-policy initiatives, including for the protection of women's rights, on the prohibition of forced disappearances, on criminal investigations, and on the protection of human rights defenders.
- ▶ Undertook awareness-raising activities to increase public knowledge of human rights and how to submit claims of violations to national and international human rights protection mechanisms.
- ▶ Prepared four studies and one evaluation on efforts to protect and promote the rights of indigenous persons.
- ▶ Organized workshops on a human rights-based approach to programme design and delivery for 35 programme officers of UN agencies.

### Results

- ▶ By providing advisory services, OHCHR influenced Congress's decision to sign the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Guatemala's recognition of the competence of the Migrant Workers Committee to receive and examine communications.
- ▶ Three laws adopted by the Government, relating to the penitentiary system, the establishment of the National Institute of Forensic Science, and on organized crime, incorporated OHCHR recommendations.
- ▶ UN agencies in Guatemala agreed an Action Plan to incorporate a human rights-based approach to programming.



## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ High levels of public insecurity and impunity are a serious cause of concern. In these circumstances, close coordination with the UN-sponsored International Commission against Impunity will be essential in 2008.
- ▶ Strengthening knowledge amongst OHCHR field-based staff in economic and social rights issues is required to ensure better promotion of these rights in Guatemala.

### OHCHR in Guatemala: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
More analytical information available for national human rights institutions and NGOs on the human rights situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 70 field visits were conducted and 68 individual cases were selected to follow up</li> <li>▶ 35 thematic reports were produced, including reports on human rights defenders, the right to food, and the right to adequate housing</li> </ul>
Increased use of OHCHR advice by the Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Advice provided on the elaboration of three periodic reports and two extra-ordinary reports to treaty bodies, follow-up to treaty body recommendations, the Universal Periodic review and the Disabilities Convention</li> <li>▶ Advice on the establishment of a National Reparations Programme, human rights education and national laws related to human rights</li> <li>▶ Advice on the design of a witness-protection programme and a public policy to protect human rights defenders</li> <li>▶ Advice to strengthen the capacities of the Presidential Commission on Racism and Discrimination against Indigenous Peoples, the Office for the Defence of Indigenous Women, and the Presidential Secretary on Women</li> </ul>
An increase in the number of officials who know and understand international human rights obligations and are able to fulfil them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Approximately 80 officials received training on international standards for the protection of women's rights, the Universal Periodic Review, the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and on the protection of human rights defenders</li> <li>▶ Training was also provided to prosecutors and lawyers on the prohibition of forced disappearances</li> </ul>
Greater understanding of their rights among the general public, civil society organizations, and vulnerable groups, and better knowledge of public policies, constitutional mechanisms and international instruments available to defend them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 33 public awareness activities (public speeches, exhibitions etc.)</li> <li>▶ 15 training courses for civil society organizations on the functioning of international human rights mechanisms</li> <li>▶ One regional seminar on violence against indigenous women</li> <li>▶ Two studies developed on "access to justice for indigenous peoples from a human rights perspective" and "violence against indigenous women"</li> <li>▶ 31 press releases and fact-sheets on human rights issued, 18 publications distributed to 40,000 specified targets and three press conferences held</li> <li>▶ 400 external visitors requested human rights information; 100,000 visits to the website</li> </ul>
More journalists and opinion-makers aware of human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 40 interviews given to national and international press; 15 briefings for journalists</li> <li>▶ 50 'op-eds' and news stories published</li> </ul>
A human rights-based approach integrated into all UN programmes and projects in Guatemala.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 35 programme officials of the UN Country Team trained on the application of a human rights-based approach</li> <li>▶ Contributed to an inter-agency project to incorporate a human rights-based approach to programming</li> </ul>

### Alona's Story

Alona, a citizen of Uzbekistan, was a victim of sexual exploitation and human trafficking. She was brought to Guatemala in 2003 at the age of 16 and forced into prostitution. She was subsequently detained by the authorities for violating immigration rules and placed in a shelter. Uzbekistan has no diplomatic representation in Guatemala, and the Guatemalan authorities refused to legalize her status, fearing she would return to prostitution. OHCHR followed her case and ensured that she received proper medical attention. Following OHCHR's intervention, the management at the shelter where Alona had been placed took steps to improve conditions, separating women from men and working with women who suffered sexual harassment. OHCHR made representations to the migration authorities and the Ministry of the Interior on the importance of building a new facility that met the minimum conditions for detention. The new shelter was inaugurated on 19 December 2007. Alona was finally released and was sent back to Uzbekistan.

### Guatemala: Expenditure in 2007

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	1,870,458
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	48,353
Contractual Services	-	24,000
General operating expenses	-	352,048
Supplies & Materials	-	103,049
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	2,000
Subtotal	-	2,399,907
Programme support costs	-	311,988
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>2,711,895</b>

## Mexico

Date established	2002
Staff as at 31 December 2007	20
Expenditure in 2007	\$2,093,784

Poverty, social inequality, discrimination and impunity remain the most pressing human rights challenges in Mexico, with women, children, indigenous peoples and migrants among those

groups most vulnerable to human rights violations. Concern has also been expressed about the use of the military to engage in law enforcement activities rather than reinforcing civilian institutions.

OHCHR provides advice to the Government, the judiciary, the legislature, national and state human rights institutions and civil society. During 2007, the office worked closely with the Federal Congress to promote constitutional reform concerning human rights and to bring national legislation into harmonization with international human rights standards. The office also advised the Supreme Court.

### Activities

- ▶ Organized training courses on international human rights law for judges at the federal and state levels, and an eight-month diploma for federal judges, to enable them to incorporate international human rights standards into jurisprudence.
- ▶ Organized workshops on human rights law for journalists at the federal and state levels to build their expertise in human rights.
- ▶ In the state of Morelos, organized an eight-month diploma to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to defend human rights.
- ▶ Held workshops for the Government and civil society participants in Guerrero and Mexico City, facilitating the elaboration of assessments of the human rights situation (*diagnosticos*) and action plans.
- ▶ Provided expert advice to the Supreme Court on key human rights issues and systematized its human rights jurisprudence.
- ▶ Advised the Congress and civil society on constitutional reform needed to bring national legislation into line with international human rights standards.
- ▶ Supported a visit, in May, by the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and followed up on the Government's implementation of the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.
- ▶ Worked closely with state institutions and women's organizations to update the chapter on women's rights in the 2003 National Human Rights Assessment (*Diagnostico sobre la Situación de los Derechos Humanos en México*).
- ▶ Produced nine publications on human rights issues, including on torture, indigenous peoples, women's rights and international human rights law.

## Results

- ▶ The office replicated the successful experience of the 2003 National Human Rights Assessment at state and local levels where knowledge and implementation of international human rights standards is weak. The assessments of the human rights situation in Mexico City and the state of Guerrero are in their final phase.
- ▶ Progress was made in harmonizing national legislation with international human rights standards with the approval of two national laws regarding women's rights and the trafficking of persons, and the inclusion of human rights in the National Development Plan for 2007-2012.
- ▶ The office increased its impact in the media and became a key reference for journalists, civil society and academics.
- ▶ Following advocacy by OHCHR and many other concerned organizations, Mexico signed and ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and signed the Convention for the Protection of All People against Enforced Disappearances.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ To consolidate advances in human rights, it is essential to increase dialogue and cooperation amongst civil society and between civil society and the authorities at both the federal and state levels.

Mexico: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	888,960
Consultants	-	613,505
Official travel	-	26,214
Contractual Services	-	88,281
General operating expenses	-	99,668
Supplies & Materials	-	33,374
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	102,905
Subtotal	-	1,852,906
Programme support costs	-	240,878
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>2,093,784</b>

## OHCHR in Mexico: Performance in 2007

Key Indicators: (SMP 2006-2007)	Progress in 2007
Increased number of policy, legislative, and institutional changes/developments to close human rights implementation gaps introduced at the national level with the support or at the initiative of the UN human rights programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Proposal for a constitutional reform to strengthen protection of human rights formulated and discussed in Congress</li> <li>▶ Cooperation agreement signed with Congress</li> <li>▶ Advice provided to the Supreme Court of Justice on key human rights issues</li> <li>▶ Advisory services and technical assistance provided during the elaboration of a new human rights programme</li> <li>▶ Legislation to protect women from violence and to sanction the trafficking of persons approved</li> <li>▶ Supreme Court took steps to systematize its human rights jurisprudence</li> <li>▶ State diagnostics of the human rights situation in their final phase in Guerrero and Mexico City, and state human rights action plans to be formulated</li> </ul>
Increased number of human rights training and education programmes developed at the national level with the support or at the initiative of the UN human rights programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Four workshops held on international human rights law for judges in the states of Guerrero, Chihuahua, Mexico City and Queretaro</li> <li>▶ Six workshops with Coordinating Committees in Mexico City and Guerrero on international human rights law conducted</li> <li>▶ 15 workshops with journalists on international human rights and the right to information and freedom of expression conducted</li> <li>▶ Training course for representatives of indigenous peoples developed</li> <li>▶ Eight-month diploma on international human rights law established for federal judges, and one established for journalists and civil society organizations</li> </ul>





## Regional Offices

### Changes in OHCHR's Regional Offices in Latin America and the Caribbean

In 2007, OHCHR re-organized its regional presences to reduce costs while maintaining the necessary breadth of coverage. With effect from January 2008, operations have been consolidated in a single regional office in Panama City. A small liaison office has been retained in Santiago, staffed by one international and one national staff member. These new arrangements, which reflect an effort to cover a large and diverse region on a cost-effective basis, will be kept under review, and any necessary adjustments in staffing levels will be considered during 2008. For the purposes of this report, however, which covers the period prior to this re-organization, the activities and results of each office are presented separately.

### Regional Office for Latin America (Santiago, Chile)

Date established	2001
Staff as at 31 December 2007	5
Expenditure in 2007	\$837,708

Pressing human rights concerns in Latin America include poverty and social inequality, impunity, inefficient administration of justice, prolonged pre-trial detention, violence against women, corruption and weak institutions. In addition, one of the outstanding characteristics of this region is the presence of indigenous peoples and afro-descendants, whose individual and collective rights are often violated. The region is also affected by public insecurity and violence, including violence related to organized crime rings linked to drug trafficking and juvenile gangs.

OHCHR's regional office for Latin America, based during 2007 in Santiago de Chile, works with countries in the region to strengthen the capacity of national governments and civil society organizations to promote and protect human rights. It provides support to UN Country Teams in incorporating a human rights-based approach to programming.

## Activities

- ▶ Conducted workshops for public officials in Uruguay and Chile on reporting to treaty bodies and on the development of a strategy for implementing treaty body recommendations.
- ▶ Held one workshop in Chile on follow-up to the concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- ▶ Together with the International Organization for Migration, organized a regional seminar for public officials on Migration Governance and Human Rights.
- ▶ Conducted a regional workshop in Cartagena, Colombia, in collaboration with the Ibero American Federation of Ombudsman (FIO) and Univesidad Alcala de Henares, for members of national human rights institutions on treaty body reporting and follow-up to recommendations.
- ▶ Organized a colloquium on the protection of victims of human rights abuses in Argentina, together with the National Human Rights Secretariat of the Ministry of Justice and the Committee for the Defence of Health, Professional Ethics and Human Rights.
- ▶ Organized capacity-building workshops in Chile and the region for representatives of the media, indigenous organizations, NGOs and academic and education centres on various human rights topics, including poverty reduction, and in Argentina, on the protection of victims of torture. The office also engaged in a variety of awareness-raising activities in the region.
- ▶ Organized four courses on a human rights-based approach to programming for the UN Country Teams in Chile, Trinidad and Tobago, and Ecuador and conducted basic training in human rights for UN staff in Chile.
- ▶ Organized, with UN agencies, a regional workshop on the elaboration of human rights-based national Millennium Development Goal reports.
- ▶ Organized, with the Economic Commission for Latin America, a regional seminar on economic, social and cultural rights in which some 90 representatives from the judiciary, civil society organizations, UN agencies and regional organizations participated.
- ▶ With the support of the Action 2 Global Programme, organized, jointly with the UN Country Team in Chile, a seminar on “National Human Rights Institutions: Relevance and Practice in Latin America,” attended by government officials, parliamentarians and civil society organizations.

## Results

- ▶ Increased visibility and knowledge of OHCHR, its mandate and activities in the region and disseminated a human rights message to a broad range of actors, including UN agencies, governments, human rights defenders, NGOs and the general public.
- ▶ Strengthened interaction with national actors, including academic institutions (the office signed two cooperation agreements, one in Chile and one in Peru), and with national human rights institutions.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Strengthening knowledge among OHCHR field-based staff in a number of specific thematic human rights issues, particularly regarding economic, social and cultural rights, is important to enable greater promotion of these rights.

Regional Office for Latin America: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	490,375
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	21,650
Contractual Services	-	21,100
General operating expenses	-	89,450
Supplies & Materials	-	47,870
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	70,890
Subtotal	-	741,335
Programme support costs	-	96,373
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>837,708</b>





Staff of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) with local children

**NEW in 2007**

## Regional Office for Central America (Panama City, Panama)

Date established	August 2007
Staff as at 31 December 2007	2
Expenditure in 2007	\$439,250

Opened in August 2007, OHCHR's regional office in Panama focused on monitoring the human rights situation and establishing relationships with key regional partners. Identified priorities included social violence, particularly violence against women and juveniles, inequality and discrimination. While the internal armed conflicts that affected several Central American countries in past decades have ended, the root causes of conflict, such as weak state institutions, poverty, income inequality, discrimination and corruption, remain. The region is plagued by social violence, including violence related to organized crime rings and juvenile gangs. Impunity for past and current human rights violations is widespread, as is discrimination against indigenous peoples and women. Weak judicial systems, resulting in prolonged pre-trial detention and prison overcrowding, are also amongst the most pressing human rights challenges in the region. Extreme poverty and inequalities seriously

undermine fundamental human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights.

### Activities

- ▶ With the UNICEF regional office, co-sponsored and participated in a regional workshop on the prevention of juvenile violence, hosted by the Government of Costa Rica. The workshop was attended by Ministers of Justice and Security from throughout the sub-region, representatives of UN agencies and UN Country Teams, NGOs, and media representatives.
- ▶ Organized a two-day workshop for UN Country Team programme officers in Panama on integrating a human rights-based approach to development.
- ▶ Provided technical advice to the Government of Panama to assist it in its reporting obligations; and provided technical assistance to the Haitian Government in resuming its reporting obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- ▶ Contributed to a regional workshop organized by the Government of Panama on indigenous peoples, and advised NGOs advocating for indigenous peoples rights on relevant UN mechanisms.



## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Due to financial constraints, it was decided that the regional office in Panama, initially intended to cover only Central American countries, would also serve as the regional office for Latin America, with effect from January 2008. The office would also host OHCHR's Regional Representative for Latin America who, until then, was based in Chile.

Regional Office for Central America: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	204,682	-
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	9,308	-
Contractual Services	1,900	-
General operating expenses	128,485	-
Supplies & Materials	84,875	-
Seminars, grants & contributions	10,000	-
Subtotal	439,250	-
Programme support costs	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>439,250</b>	<b>-</b>

## Support for United Nations Peace Missions

### United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

Three years after the deployment of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, the human rights situation remains of great concern. Significant improvements are needed in respect to the right to life, physical integrity, and particularly the right of recognition as a person before the law, the right to judicial guarantees and non-discrimination.

The Human Rights Section of the Mission is deployed in eight departments throughout the country and engages in monitoring, public reporting and training activities. OHCHR supports the work of the Section by assisting with recruitment, and providing advice and substantive support on human rights-related issues.

## Activities

- ▶ Conducted regular monitoring of police commissariats, prosecutors' offices, justices of the peace, courts and prisons; and transmitted 21 individual cases and thematic issues directly to the attention of the Haitian National Police General Inspectorate, the Ministry of Justice and other relevant authorities for follow-up.
- ▶ Undertook fact-finding missions to previously inaccessible locations, such as Cité Soleil and Martissant, and held a weekly "surgery," at which staff from the Mission's Human Rights Section receive complaints from individuals.
- ▶ Established a format, as part of a broader system, to track the status of those arrested and detained, registering data such as identity, legality of arrest, place of detention, identity of UN or Haitian National Police officer and/or judicial authorities involved in the arrest, and initial status of the judicial file.
- ▶ Organized 26 workshops throughout the country for members of the national police and prison authorities on human rights standards in accordance with Haitian law.
- ▶ Organized two seminars on judicial guarantees for 90 magistrates and police in Port-au-Prince and Cap Haitian, and one on the preparation of periodic treaty body reports for Government authorities from seven different ministries.
- ▶ Organized ten seminars on human rights for justices of the peace and first instance judges throughout the country.
- ▶ Provided a five-day training course to 32 national police investigators on criminal investigation techniques.
- ▶ Organized a five-day training course for 40 members of NGOs on international and Haitian systems for promoting and protecting human rights.
- ▶ Engaged in human rights awareness-raising activities through the celebration of international days, visits to schools through out the country, and the organization of human rights contests in schools in the Port-au-Prince and Cap Haitian areas.

## Results

- ▶ A system for collecting data on persons arrested by the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti or during joint operations with the Haitian National Police was established, increasing the ability of the Mission to collect information on the status and legality of arrests and the authorities involved.

- ▶ Advocacy about and regular monitoring of detention centres by the Human Rights Section had a positive impact on respect for legal limits on the period for which an individual may be held in police custody. The number of persons held in unlawful detention at the commissariat level decreased from an average of 235 people held every week between January and June to an average of 89 people from June onwards. Improvements were also noted in the cleanliness of police cells and the use of police registers.
- ▶ Many cases transmitted by the Section to the Haitian National Police have been resolved or are under active investigation.
- ▶ The training course provided to human rights NGOs has fostered stronger coordination among them, reflected in the creation of a formal network of NGOs.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Given the recurrent political instability in Haiti, the impact of the Human Rights Section's institutional reform efforts depend on the political will at all levels of the Government and firm commitment and follow-up from the executive, parliament and local authorities.

## Human Rights Advisers in United Nations Country Teams

### New Human Rights Adviser in Nicaragua

At the end of 2007, with the support of the Action 2 Global Programme, OHCHR deployed a human rights adviser to the UN Country Team in Nicaragua. The adviser's priorities include improving the integration of human rights standards and principles into the UN Country Team's programmes and policies, providing assistance to the Government on complying with its international human rights obligations, and advising civil society organizations on how to avail themselves of the human rights mechanisms, such as the special procedures. The ultimate goal is to enable the UN Country Team to provide better support to the Nicaraguan authorities and civil society to promote and protect human rights.

### Ecuador

**NEW in 2007**

OHCHR deployed a human rights adviser to Ecuador in 2007 to provide advice to the UN Country Team on incorporating a human rights-based approach into programming activities, particularly the UN

Development Assistance Framework process, and to support judicial reform in Ecuador. Ecuador is, for the first time, formulating a long-term development strategy, and the adviser will work with the Government in incorporating human rights principles into this plan.

### Activities

- ▶ Organized workshops on human rights for 40 members of the military police from Amazonian provinces, 50 public servants from the province of Orellana, and planning personnel in several Government institutions.
- ▶ Organized two workshops on a human rights-based approach to programming and one on Human Rights and Justice for the UN Country Team.
- ▶ Provided technical assistance, together with other UN agencies, to create a human rights section within the armed forces, and provided training on human rights to the military police.
- ▶ Provided advice on combating human trafficking to the Government.
- ▶ Provided technical assistance to several Government institutions, including the Plan Ecuador Secretariat and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, on the incorporation of human rights and international standards into the Twenty-year National Development Plan and judicial reform.

### Results

- ▶ There is greater awareness of human rights issues amongst UN agencies, which increasingly seek the support of the adviser on human rights issues.
- ▶ Agreement was reached to develop the next UN Development Assistance Framework 2010-2014 with a human rights-based approach.

### Guyana

**NEW in 2007**

OHCHR deployed a human rights adviser to Guyana in 2007 to continue the work begun by a previous human rights adviser in 2004-2005. The adviser provides support to the UN Country Team to incorporate a human rights-based approach into the 2006-2010 UN Development Assistance Framework, and works with the Government and civil society, providing advice and support on human rights issues.

### Activities

- ▶ Provided training on strengthening national human rights protection mechanisms to the Presidential Adviser on Governance and to non-State stakeholders.



- ▶ Conducted, with OHCHR Geneva, a workshop for 30 participants from Government, civil society, the media, and trade unions on the role of treaty bodies and how to respond to treaty body recommendations. Ten participants from the non-State sector participated in a follow-up workshop at OHCHR in Geneva. Training was also provided to Government officials on report writing.
- ▶ Conducted a seminar for judges on incorporating international human rights norms and standards into national judicial practices.
- ▶ Provided training to the UN Country Team on incorporating a human rights-based approach into the implementation of the 2006-2010 UN Development Assistance Framework.

## Results

- ▶ As a result of training on strengthening national human rights protection systems provided to the Presidential Adviser on Governance and civil society organizations, a multi-stakeholder National Human Rights Partnership was launched

and a human rights unit is being established within the office of the President.

- ▶ Following training on treaty body reporting, the Government has taken a more active approach towards responding to requests from treaty bodies, has submitted its response to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on outstanding questions, and has replied to a number of pending issues raised in the recommendations to the 2006 report. The Government is preparing an updated Core Document and its report on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Other reports are being prepared in collaboration with other Ministries.

## Challenges and lessons learned

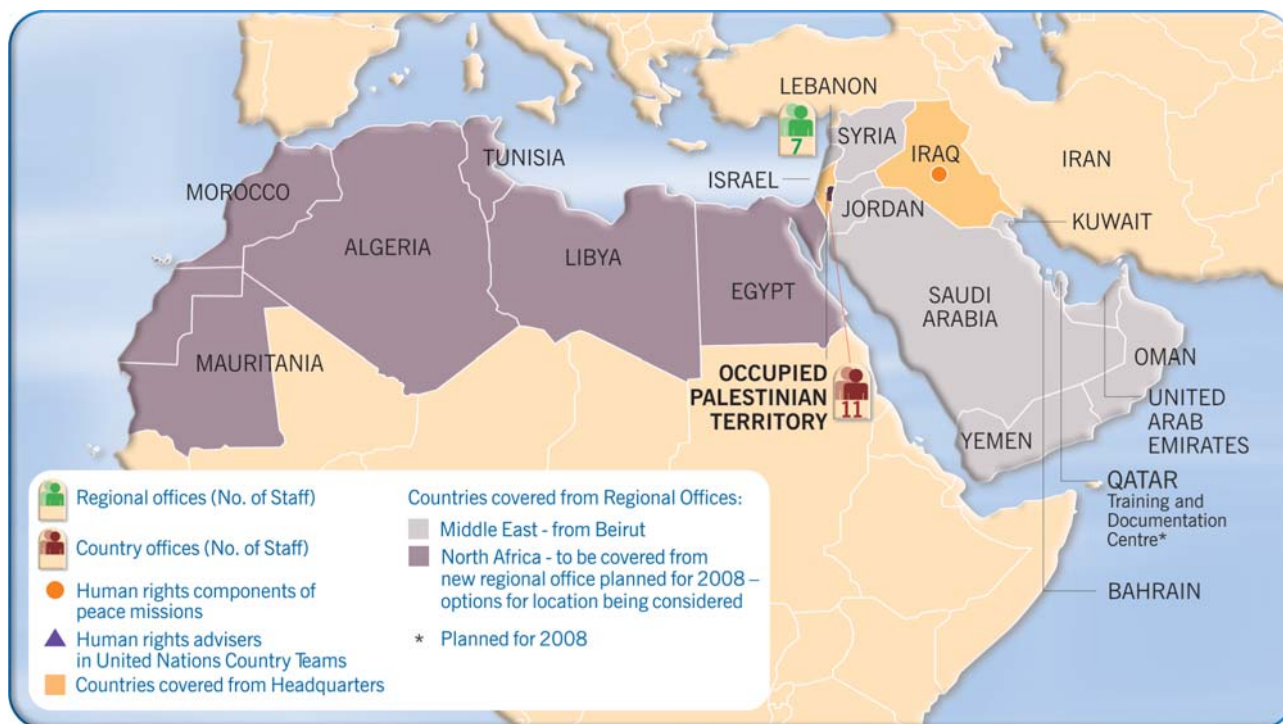
- ▶ More effort must be invested in explaining the interdependence between human rights and development, both amongst UN partners and national interlocutors, if human rights is to be genuinely integrated into policies and programmes.





# OHCHR in the Field

## OHCHR in the Middle East and North Africa



Type of presence	Location
Country offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occupied Palestinian territory</li> </ul>
Regional offices and centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Middle East (Beirut, Lebanon)</li> <li>North Africa (location to be determined)*</li> <li>Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for Southwest Asia and the Arab Region (Qatar)*</li> </ul>
Human rights components in UN peace missions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iraq</li> </ul>

\* Planned for 2008

Despite some improvements, long-standing obstacles to the full enjoyment of human rights, including discrimination against women, minorities and migrants, and denial of the right to self-determination, continued to hamper progress in the region in 2007. Needed institutional reforms in the area of governance progressed slowly, if at all, while popular participation in the political process remained minimal. Impunity remains a challenge, with many countries holding tens of thousands of detainees without charge or trial.

Throughout the year, three major crises continued to dominate the agenda. The situation in the occupied Palestinian territory deteriorated, with heightened internal violence, the takeover of Gaza by Hamas and the resulting withdrawal of international aid that precipitated a serious decline in the humanitarian

situation there. In Lebanon, the political crisis intensified, with more political assassinations, stalemate over the choice of a new Head of State, and fears that the country may yet slide back into civil war. In Iraq, while levels of violence ended the year significantly lower, the situation remained highly precarious. Such conflicts had a serious impact on the human rights of local populations and resulted in the displacement of millions of people.

On a positive note, some States took steps to improve governance, bring laws into line with international standards and improve the human rights of their citizens. Qatar passed a new labour law and instituted a specialized labour court, and Bahrain passed a law criminalizing trafficking in persons. Twelve women were elected or appointed to various decision-making posts, including judicial and ministerial posts, in Bahrain, Jordan, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, and women's organizations in these countries were effective in raising their concerns publicly. The United Arab Emirates ratified the Convention on Organized Crime, and the Parliament of Yemen ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

A dedicated unit of nine professional and two administrative staff cover the region from headquarters, monitoring areas of concern, preparing briefing

materials and providing substantive and administrative support to field presences. OHCHR has a stand-alone office in the occupied Palestinian territory and a regional office for the Middle East in Beirut. It has also been engaged in discussions with the Government of Qatar on the establishment of a UN Human Rights Documentation and Training Centre, which it hopes to open in 2008, and the Office plans to establish a new regional office for North Africa in 2008. In addition to its monitoring and capacity-building work in the region, the Office provided support to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the occupied Palestinian territory and the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territory.

## Country Office

### Occupied Palestinian Territory

Date established	Gaza: 1996; Ramallah: 2000
Staff as at 31 December 2007	11
Expenditure in 2007	\$1,048,672

In addition to the threats to human rights resulting from the Israeli forces' military control of the occupied Palestinian territory, Palestinians were exposed to new abuses and suffering resulting from an internal power struggle. Fierce internal violence took place in the territory, escalating sharply in

January 2007, fluctuating over the following months and culminating with Hamas securing control over the entire Gaza Strip in June. Hamas' violent takeover prompted the Palestinian Authority President to dissolve the national unity Government and establish a caretaker Government in the West Bank. The international community resumed distributing financial aid to the caretaker Government in the West Bank but not to Gaza, where humanitarian conditions deteriorated in the aftermath of the Hamas takeover and a blockade of the territory imposed by Israel.

OHCHR's priorities in the territory included strengthening the human rights protection capacity of Palestinian institutions and civil society, and working with the UN Country Team to ensure that a human rights dimension is included in the work of UN partners. In view of the situation on the ground, the Office focused much of its efforts on assisting civil society and on protection activities.

### Activities

- ▶ In partnership with local human rights organizations, conducted six training courses, three in the Gaza Strip and three in the West Bank, on UN human rights mechanisms for 145 human rights defenders, lawyers, and women's rights activists. In follow-up, two train-the-trainer courses were organized in Gaza and in the West Bank, providing training for 40 participants on UN mechanisms, gender mainstreaming and women rights, and on basic skills, designed to develop a core group of experts.



Image of Gaza, occupied Palestinian territory

- ▶ Organized a study tour for 14 representatives from Palestinian NGOs from the West Bank to OHCHR headquarters in Geneva to familiarize them with the work of the Office, enhance their knowledge of the functioning of the special procedures and treaty bodies, and assist them in designing a strategy to combat violence against women, including domestic violence.
- ▶ Provided training to 30 Palestinian police officers in Gaza on UN human rights standards and law enforcement, organized by the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights, and contributed to a workshop on the "Prohibition of Torture in the Palestinian Authority's prisons," coordinated by the same organization.
- ▶ Organized, with the Palestinian Commission on Human Rights, two workshops, one in the West Bank, one in Gaza, on the rights of persons with disabilities attended by human rights organizations, women's organizations and those working in the field of disability.
- ▶ Organized two training courses, one in the West Bank, one in Gaza, on poverty, human rights and development in partnership with the Palestinian National Coalition against Poverty.
- ▶ Provided training on issues related to women's rights for 20 women from grassroots organizations, organized a workshop for 70 human rights defenders representing women's organizations, and conducted a three-day campaign in the West Bank celebrating the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.
- ▶ Contributed to 18 training courses and workshops organized by national human rights organizations and Palestinian NGOs on various human rights issues, including on how to use the special procedures mechanisms and treaty body procedures.
- ▶ Conducted training on the UN human rights system and on a human rights-based approach to programming for the UN Country Team.
- ▶ Led the inter-agency Protection Sector Working Group, comprised of UN humanitarian, human rights and development agencies, and non-governmental and other international organizations.
- ▶ Provided support to visits by special procedures mandate-holders and the Secretary-General's Special Representatives.

## Results

- ▶ The focus on training a nucleus of skilled human rights defenders and creating professional trainers helped build the capacity of local human rights organizations and enabled many to access the UN human rights system.

- ▶ Following the study visit to OHCHR headquarters by Palestinian NGOs, participants initiated a dialogue on strategies for confronting violence against women in Palestine.
- ▶ Training undertaken by the Office, together with awareness-raising activities, helped sensitize the public about human rights in general, and the rights of women and persons with disabilities, in particular.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ The volatility of the political situation and the changing operating environment made it difficult to carry out activities foreseen in the original workplan, requiring flexibility in programming and an ability to adapt to the unstable situation. In addition, work was also affected by restrictions on freedom of movement for national staff.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	591,447
Consultants	-	23,005
Official travel	-	48,300
Contractual Services	-	46,300
General operating expenses	-	84,328
Supplies & Materials	-	78,950
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	55,700
Subtotal	-	928,028
Programme support costs	-	120,644
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>1,048,672</b>

## Regional Offices

### Regional Office for the Middle East (Beirut)

Date established	2002
Staff as at 31 December 2007	7
Expenditure in 2007	\$857,058

In 2007, armed conflicts in Iraq, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, Lebanon and Yemen continued to delay progress in advancing human rights. Despite the formal constitutional and parliamentary structures in place in most countries, the principles and structures of the rule of law, including clear separation



of powers, accountability and transparency in governance remain weak in practice. While civil society organizations are strong in Palestine, Lebanon and Jordan, and growing in Iraq, Syria and several countries in the Gulf, they often come under threat of arrest and harassment. The struggle for women's rights and equality continues. Of particular concern are the human rights of groups that became vulnerable due to lack of protection, including refugees, stateless persons and migrant workers.

OHCHR's regional office in Beirut covers Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. In light of the developments in Lebanon during 2007, most of the office's activities were concentrated in that country.

### Activities

- ▶ Continued to cooperate with the Government of Lebanon and the UN Development Programme in the preparation of a National Plan of Action for Human Rights for Lebanon, providing technical advice on human rights standards and support to the process.
- ▶ Collaborated with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on its project on women in situations of armed conflict and assisted the Commission in preparing the Arab Millennium Development Goals report for 2007, focusing on youth.
- ▶ Conducted 18 training programmes on human rights issues for 500 participants from civil society organizations throughout the region.
- ▶ Collaborated with the UN Development Programme in the context of its Programme of Governance in the Arab Region, and with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees-led Detention Working Group on monitoring conditions of detention.
- ▶ Led the UN Country Team's effort to participate in treaty body reporting by providing information for the consideration of Lebanon's report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in January 2008.
- ▶ Co-chaired, with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, a Protection Working Group in southern Lebanon that was established as a follow-up to the Human Rights Council's Commission of Inquiry recommendations (A/HRC/3/2); and created and chaired the Protection Working Group in northern Lebanon, established to respond to the human rights concerns that emerged during and after the four-month armed conflict (May–August 2007) between armed members of the radical group Fatah Al Islam and the Lebanese Armed Forces, in Nahr El Bared refugee camp, which hosts over 30,000 Palestinian refugees.
- ▶ Worked closely with the Government of Lebanon, the International Labour Organization and civil society, providing advice on legislation to regulate the status and protect the rights of migrant domestic workers in Lebanon, and provided training on labour rights to Government officials.
- ▶ Provided advice to the newly-created Office of the Special Coordinator for Lebanon to ensure integration of human rights into the Office's work.



## Results

- ▶ Human rights considerations were fully incorporated into Lebanon's draft UN Common Country Assessment, and human rights considerations have played a key role in the discussion of priorities for the UN's work in Lebanon. In addition, the UN Development Assistance Framework under preparation includes a specific outcome on human rights.
- ▶ OHCHR's leadership role on the Protection Working Group on the Nahr El Bared crisis facilitated intervention in a number of specific cases and led to the inclusion of activities in the UN Relief and Works Agency Return Plan for Nahr el Bared.
- ▶ OHCHR's initiative with partners to provide protection for migrant workers in Lebanon resulted in a proposal for a new law, and a draft unified contract. A booklet on the rights of migrant workers was also prepared.

## Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Given limited resources and the complexity of the human rights problems in the region, a considerable degree of flexibility was essential, within agreed strategic priorities, in order to adapt to changes and respond to new opportunities.

Regional Office for Middle East: Expenditure in 2007		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel and related cost	-	491,346
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	53,812
Contractual Services	-	-
General operating expenses	-	161,328
Supplies & Materials	-	37,707
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	14,266
Subtotal	-	758,458
Programme support costs	-	98,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>857,058</b>

## Support for United Nations Peace Missions

### United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

OHCHR supports the work of the Human Rights Component of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) by assisting in the implementation



of activities and providing guidance and expert advice on specific human rights questions. UNAMI human rights officers, based in Baghdad, Erbil, and Amman, Jordan, monitored and investigated human rights violations committed by all parties to the conflict in Iraq, and undertook capacity-building activities with Iraqi institutions and civil society. While the first half of 2007 was characterized by serious incidents of violence, the number and severity of high-profile attacks with mass casualties decreased markedly during the fourth quarter of the year.

## Activities

- ▶ Conducted workshops for Government representatives, parliamentarians and civil society on the international human rights system, including a train-the-trainer course for Government officials to enable them to return to their ministries and train colleagues in human rights principles.
- ▶ Organized workshops in Baghdad and Erbil to develop a coherent strategy for transitional justice. Recommendations were made concerning de-Ba'athification, truth telling and reparations.
- ▶ Conducted visits to prisons in Iraq and the Kurdistan region under the administration of the Iraqi Government to assess conditions of detention, treatment during arrest and investigation, and compliance with the provisions for the handling of detainees arrested under the Baghdad Security Plan. Issues of concern were raised with the relevant authorities.
- ▶ Provided training on human rights for personnel in correction facilities in Erbil, and for Iraqi and Kurdish authorities on monitoring detention facilities and prisons.
- ▶ Monitored trial proceedings at the Central Criminal Court of Iraq to observe the application of due process and fair trial standards in criminal cases referred to the Court by the Iraqi and Multi-national Force authorities. Issues of concern were raised with the judicial authorities.



- ▶ In collaboration with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, organized a seminar in Erbil on the protection of human rights in countering terrorism for Government and judicial authorities.
  - ▶ Provided training on psychological and legal counselling for representatives of Iraqi civil society organizations dealing with female victims of violence.
  - ▶ Participated in research projects on the situation of women in minority communities in Iraq and a study on violence against women.
  - ▶ Provided technical advice to the human rights component of the International Compact for Iraq.
  - ▶ Continued to provide legal advice to the Government on the revision of a draft law to establish a national human rights commission.
  - ▶ Issued bi-monthly reports on the human rights situation in Iraq and two quarterly reports, detailing serious and widespread human rights violations, and recommended appropriate actions.
- ▶ The Iraqi authorities agreed to establish a Documentation Centre for the Kurdistan Region in order to preserve significant archives relating to past crimes and human rights violations.
  - ▶ The Government decided to move toward ratifying the UN Convention against Torture.
  - ▶ As a result of specialized training for Government officials and parliamentarians, a core group of experts was formed to provide further training and advice on human rights issues.

### Challenges and lessons learned

### Results

- ▶ Despite the difficult security situation, the human rights officers in UNAMI played a useful role in monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation. The mission's periodic reports received significant media attention, providing the international community with a rare glimpse of the human rights situation inside Iraq.
- ▶ UNAMI human rights officers continued to face enormous challenges in protecting human rights and revitalizing a national reconciliation process amid sectarian violence, criminal attacks and political instability. Security conditions severely restricted the freedom of movement of UN staff members in all regions except governorates under the authority of the Kurdistan Regional Government.
  - ▶ Political tensions undermined attempts to develop a more comprehensive national human rights strategy and delayed implementation of agreed programmes.
  - ▶ Collaboration between UNAMI human rights officers and national human rights actors was extremely difficult to achieve because of the ongoing violence and lack of direct contact with victims and witnesses of human rights violations.



Iraqi refugees in Syria



# Rapid Response and Support for Peace Missions

The High Commissioner's Strategic Management Plan 2006-2007 included a commitment to improve OHCHR's capacity to react promptly in the face of human rights crises by establishing a dedicated new rapid response unit at headquarters. The unit, established in 2006 and operating for the first time at full capacity in 2007, works to facilitate the deployment at short notice of trained personnel, adequately equipped and logistically supported, to conduct fact-finding or investigative missions, whether at the direction of the High Commissioner, in support of mandates given to OHCHR by the Human Rights Council or special procedures, or in response to requests made by UN Country Teams or peace missions. The unit also serves as the focal point for OHCHR's engagement with the human rights components of peace missions, which the Office supports in a variety of ways, including providing assistance with recruitment, induction and training, as well as substantive policy and programmatic advice. The unit comprises ten professional and four administrative staff members.

## Activities

- ▶ Fielded rapid response missions or mobilized surge capacity in support of OHCHR country offices in Nepal, Togo and Uganda, OHCHR's regional office in Bangkok (in relation to the crisis in Myanmar), UN Country Teams in Guinea, the Philippines and Somalia, and the UN peace mission in Afghanistan.
- ▶ Organized OHCHR participation in six Department of Peacekeeping Operations-led Technical Assessment Missions to Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Chad/Central African Republic, Somalia, Sierra Leone and Liberia.
- ▶ Provided preparatory support to the planned High-level Fact-finding Mission to Beit Hanoun established by the Human Rights Council.
- ▶ Assisted in the establishment of the secretariat of the Group of Experts on Darfur established by the Human Rights Council.
- ▶ Developed an internal rapid response roster of 58 human rights officers based in Geneva and the field. The roster was activated on four occasions.
- ▶ Provided substantive guidance to the heads of human rights components of peace missions on human rights issues, and participated in mission planning and design to ensure that human rights are duly integrated in overall mission objectives and structures.
- ▶ Recruited heads of human rights components and advised on the suitability of candidates applying to human rights officer posts within human rights components.
- ▶ Developed draft guidelines on public reporting by human rights components of peace missions, which will be discussed with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Political Affairs before being finalized. The guidelines will set out the schedule, format and procedures to be followed in order to ensure that public reporting on human rights becomes routine in all peace missions.
- ▶ Organized a "lessons learned" meeting of experts with direct experience in international human rights commissions of inquiry, in order to inform the development of guidance materials on the establishment and running of such commissions.
- ▶ Intensified OHCHR's participation in humanitarian coordination activities, including the Inter-agency Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies and humanitarian reforms initiated by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, including the Cluster Approach to field coordination and efforts to strengthen the role of Humanitarian Coordinators. OHCHR also formed part of the drafting team of the inter-agency "Handbook for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons."

## Results

- ▶ The deployment of two OHCHR technical missions to Guinea in 2007 helped a national coalition of NGOs to conduct investigations into the killing, wounding, arrest and alleged mistreatment of protesters in strike-related unrest in January and February 2007. OHCHR provided training to NGO representatives, and helped them develop an operational plan, collect, store and process information, and draft a final report.

- ▶ OHCHR's new country office in Togo was strengthened by the addition of four staff, deployed under rapid response arrangements during a critical period leading up to elections in October 2007. OHCHR's increased presence during this period helped the office respond quickly to the threat of election-related violence.
- ▶ OHCHR's participation in Department of Peacekeeping Operations-led technical assessment missions ensured that human rights components will be part of the new joint UN/African Union mission in Darfur and part of a new mission to be established at the border with Darfur in Chad and the Central African Republic.
- ▶ OHCHR's cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in relation to mission-planning also ensured that the work of the human rights components of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire and the UN Integrated Office in Sierra Leone will be redefined to adjust to the changing situation on the ground. The Office also helped to revise the mandates of the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations Political Office for Somalia, and the United Nations Mission in Liberia.
- ▶ Continuous technical clearance and selection work for recruitment ensured that qualified candidates were chosen for human rights posts in the field.
- ▶ OHCHR was involved in the transformation of the Inter-agency Standing Committee Task Force on Human Rights and Humanitarian Action into the Reference Group, which is expected to facilitate the integration of a human rights-based approach in humanitarian activities, add a human rights perspective to the advocacy initiatives of the Inter-agency Standing Committee, and increase the level of awareness and information-sharing about human rights initiatives relevant to humanitarian action.
- ▶ Through its participation in the Steering Committee of the Protection Capacity (ProCap) programme, OHCHR helped ensure that human rights were included as an integral element of the programme.

### Challenges and lessons learned

- ▶ Human rights fact-finding and investigative missions require the authorization of the country concerned. The withholding of that authorization, or excessive delays in negotiating access, can create insurmountable obstacles.
- ▶ Ensuring consistent OHCHR participation in the planning of new integrated peace missions continues to be a challenge, in spite of improved



cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs in New York. A joint OHCHR/Department of Political Affairs review will be undertaken in 2008 to clarify and agree on the specific role and value of human rights components in peace missions led by the Department of Political Affairs.

- ▶ The recent reform in the humanitarian sector assigned OHCHR the co-leadership role in the protection cluster and also assumed that OHCHR would play a mainstreaming role in other clusters. Rising to this challenge will require the involvement and coordination of many different parts of the Office, including staff based at headquarters and in the field.

#### Financing Rapid Response Activities

With the aim of creating a readily available funding pool for rapid response activities, OHCHR established a Contingency Fund in 2006. The Fund operates on a "revolving" basis, that is, it may be used at short notice to pay for deployment of personnel and other expenses associated with rapid response activities, and replenished as and when donors willing to cover the cost are identified. Following contributions from The Netherlands and the MacArthur Foundation, the fund stands at \$1 million.







# Humanitarian Funds



# Humanitarian Funds

OHCHR acts as the secretariat to three humanitarian trust funds: the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, and the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. Each fund was established by a resolution of the General Assembly with the purpose of making funds available to support individuals, organizations and activities to advance specific human rights issues. Each fund is governed by a Board of Trustees which distributes the funds through grants, in accordance with the fund mandate. In 2007, 44 Member States, one private institution and a handful of individuals made contributions to these three funds totalling \$11.6 million, an increase of 6 per cent on 2006.

## United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

The Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, established in 1981 by General Assembly resolution 36/151, helps to ease the physical and psychological effects of torture on victims and their families. The Fund gives grants to organizations that offer psychological, medical and social assistance and legal aid and financial support. It also finances training programmes, seminars and conferences, allowing health professionals, social workers and lawyers to exchange experiences and develop new strategies to address the needs of torture victims. The Fund's Board of Trustees is composed of five persons and its mandate is to advise the Secretary-General on the use of funds. The Board meets twice a year to determine priorities, review workings of the Fund and make decisions on grants. In 2007, the Fund received approximately US\$ 10.8 million in contributions from 39 donors.

### Activities

- ▶ Launched a special call for applications for projects in priority regions, including Africa, Asia, Central Asia and Eastern Europe.
- ▶ Examined and evaluated more than 250 grant applications seeking approximately \$12 million in support.
- ▶ Pre-screened new applications to verify the background, mission and track record of

applicant organizations and gauge the admissibility of projects, including soliciting recommendations from OHCHR colleagues based in the field and representatives of UN partners and undertaking visits to new applicants.

- ▶ Approved 204 grants totalling \$8,981,700 to projects providing assistance to victims of torture and members of their families.
- ▶ Monitored funded projects, including undertaking field visits to assess implementation in Argentina, Chile, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, France, Greece, Germany, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, New Zealand, occupied Palestinian territory, Philippines, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Uganda, United States of America, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

### Results

- ▶ Grants awarded by the Board in 2007 directly assisted victims of torture in more than 75 countries in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe.
- ▶ A larger number of projects supported in Africa, Asia, Central Asia and Eastern Europe. Grants worth US\$ 399,000 were recommended for approval in support of 13 projects in 11 countries from priority regions, including in Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Indonesia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Liberia, Philippines, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone and Uganda.
- ▶ Approved projects provided a wide range of psychological, medical and legal assistance to torture victims, as well as social services to reduce the sense of marginalization that many victims experience, including help with housing, health care, education, language classes and employment training. The Fund also supported a number of projects assisting torture victims seeking asylum, including helping with the preparation and follow-up of asylum applications.
- ▶ Methods of work were improved through the implementation of 13 out of the 16 recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in its 2004 evaluation of the Fund.

## Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery was established in 1991 by General Assembly resolution 46/122. The Fund supports the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and also provides financial assistance to NGOs working to address problems associated with contemporary forms of slavery, and victims of contemporary forms of slavery. Forms of slavery frequently targeted are serfdom and bonded labour, trafficking of women and children, child labour and forced marriage. The distinctive value of the fund is its ability to provide concrete assistance to the victims of contemporary forms of slavery, including housing, psycho-social support, food, and medical care and sustainable sources of income. The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General, acting on the advice of a five-member Board of Trustees. In 2007, the Fund received approximately \$260,000 from 15 donors.

### Activities

- ▶ Solicited grant requests from new applicants in regions that had previously received little support from the Fund.
- ▶ Received and pre-screened 129 applications for grants amounting to approximately \$1,689,000.
- ▶ Recommended approval of 33 project grants totalling \$269,200.
- ▶ Liaised with OHCHR and UN Development Programme field presences to ensure effective project implementation.

### Results

- ▶ Grants awarded by the Board directly assisted victims of contemporary forms of slavery in 22 countries in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe. The fund received a 38 per cent increase in the number of grant requests in 2007 as compared to 2006, and those projects supported were spread more widely around the world than before.
- ▶ The Fund supported projects that address the root causes of slavery and focused on activities that helped rehabilitate victims and provide them with the necessary skills to sustain a living.
- ▶ New methods of work and guidelines were developed to improve the pre-screening of grantees and the monitoring of projects, pursuant to recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in 2006.



Indigenous representative attending the sixth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York

## United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

The Fund for Indigenous Populations was established in 1985 by General Assembly resolution 40/131 with the purpose of providing indigenous peoples the opportunity to raise issues faced by their communities at the international level and to contribute to the development of international standards and national legislation for the protection of their rights. The fund is formally administered by the UN Secretary-General acting on the advice of the five-member Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees meets annually to determine priorities, review the work of the Fund, and approve grants in the form of travel grants for representatives of indigenous peoples around the world. In 2007, the Fund received approximately \$540,000 from 18 donors.





Group of Myanmar migrant workers rescued from a cramped container; 54 others suffocated as they were smuggled into Thailand

## Activities

- ▶ Solicited grant requests from new applicants in regions that had previously received little support from the Fund.
- ▶ Received and pre-screened 464 applications from 59 countries.
- ▶ Awarded 68 travel grants, amounting to \$308,792, to allow representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to attend the sixth session of the Permanent Forum.
- ▶ Developed additional monitoring procedures for the attendance of grantees and implemented follow-up mechanisms to ensure that their participation benefited their communities.
- ▶ Recommended expanding the mandate of the Fund to include financial support for human rights projects and travel grants to support indigenous peoples' participation in meetings of human rights treaty bodies.

## Results

- ▶ Following efforts to increase the geographic diversity of applicants, a greater number of applications was received from regions that had previously received proportionately little support from the Fund.
- ▶ Following their participation in the sixth session of the Permanent Forum, indigenous peoples reported positive change in their communities, including increased dialogue with government representatives, greater confidence to speak out on behalf of their communities, more visibility and recognition of their concerns, strength through partnerships with other indigenous peoples, and contact with and support from donor representatives.
- ▶ Organized a wide range of follow-up activities, including human rights training and awareness-raising campaigns, to ensure that the wider community shares in the benefits of the participation of indigenous representatives in the Permanent Forum.

### Examples of Support Provided by the Humanitarian Funds

In 2007, the three humanitarian funds that OHCHR supports—the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, and the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations—approved a combined total of \$9.56 million in grants to NGOs and individuals around the world. Examples of specific projects and individuals supported in 2007 include:

- A project providing reconstructive surgery to dozens of Iraqi victims of punitive ear amputation—a brutal method of torture that was systematically practiced by the Ba'athist regime of former President Saddam Hussein. (Project funded by the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture)
- A shelter in Islamabad, Pakistan, that provides accommodation, food, counseling and protection for victims of torture. Among those to benefit was a young girl who had been raped by police officers at the age of nine. (Project funded by the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture).
- A rehabilitation centre for torture victims in Bosnia that provides medical care, psychological counseling, physiotherapy and legal and administrative assistance to thousands of people tortured during the Bosnian war of 1992-1995. (Project funded by the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture)
- A Nigerian NGO that helped to rehabilitate 30 victims of human trafficking in 2007, including by providing victims with training in tailoring, bead-making or hat-making to enable them to earn a sustainable livelihood. Those trained in tailoring were given sewing machines to help them start their business. (Project funded by the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery)
- An Indian organization that helped 88 victims of child labour gain admittance to elementary and primary school and provided them with study materials. Follow-up evaluations are conducted every four months to trace the progress of the children. (Project funded by the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery)
- An NGO in Niger worked with 34 female survivors of slavery to help reintegrate them into society. The organization provided immediate medical, food and clothing assistance, several livestock and training in small business development. (Project funded by the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery)
- A representative of the Yawalapiti, an indigenous people from Brazil, living in the Amazonian forest, received support to attend the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Pirakuman Yawalapiti was able to present a statement expressing the concerns of his community regarding a plan to build eight dams on their lands. (Travel and associated costs funded by the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations)







# Financial Statements

for year ending 31 December 2007



## 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 2007, inclusive of new contributions carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2007 and total balance as at 31 December 2007

	Extrabudgetary:	Regular Budget:	Total:
<b>SUMMARY *</b>			
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	69,476,542	10,304,584	79,781,126
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	1,012,978	-	1,012,978
Income from contributions / Allotments <sup>3</sup>	95,740,986	38,558,500	134,299,486
Other funds available <sup>4</sup>	4,519,467	-	4,519,467
Total funds available <sup>5</sup>	170,749,974	48,863,084	219,613,058
Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	89,689,824	45,096,268	134,786,092
Closing balance <sup>7</sup>	81,060,150	3,766,816	84,826,965

**Notes:**

- 1) The amount corresponds to the closing balance reported for the activity in the Annual Report 2006.
  - 2) Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings, transfers and refunds and other miscellaneous income.
  - 3) For extrabudgetary, includes all contributions received at UNOG for 2007. For Regular Budget, corresponds to the amount allotted to OHCHR for 2007.
  - 4) Includes interest income.
  - 5) = (1) + (2) + (3) + (4).
  - 6) Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2007.
  - 7) The extrabudgetary amount corresponds to all funds held by UNOG as at 31 December 2007 including operating cash reserves of US\$ 12 million and reserves for allocations of US\$ 316,000 which were not available for activities in 2007.
- \* All figures are subject to audit.

## Statement of extrabudgetary income and expenditure in 2007

### Activities of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights by trust fund

This statement indicates total funds available for activities in 2007, inclusive of new contributions carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2007 and total balance as at 31 December 2007

	VF for victims of torture	TF for contemporary forms of slavery	VF for indigenous populations	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 (VFTC)	TF for human rights education in Cambodia	TF for support activities of OHCHR	Total OHCHR trust funds
<b>SUMMARY *</b>									
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	11,119,521	603,165	1,090,365	0	720,027	10,462,039	2,166,340	43,315,085	69,476,542
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	145,981	4,558	19,434	0	6,992	92,355	25,002	718,658	1,012,978
Income from contributions <sup>3</sup>	10,825,007	259,491	542,036	0	0	6,260,558	0	77,853,894	95,740,986
Other funds available <sup>4</sup>	534,614	24,591	67,311	0	39,597	651,586	122,943	3,078,825	4,519,467
Total funds available <sup>5</sup>	22,625,123	891,805	1,719,147	0	766,615	17,466,538	2,314,285	124,966,462	170,749,975
Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	6,765,958	357,799	311,253	0	7,548	8,737,331	182,556	73,327,379	89,689,824
Closing balance <sup>7</sup>	15,859,165	534,006	1,407,894	0	759,067	8,729,207	2,131,729	51,639,083	81,060,151

**Notes:**

- 1) Corresponds to the closing balance reported for the activity in the Annual Report 2006.
  - 2) Includes adjustments to prior period expenditure, savings, transfers and refunds and other miscellaneous income.
  - 3) Includes all contributions received in UNOG accounts during 2007.
  - 4) Includes interest income.
  - 5) = (1) + (2) + (3) + (4).
  - 6) Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2007.
  - 7) Corresponds to all funds held by UNOG as at 31 December 2007 including operating cash reserves of US\$ 12 million and reserves for allocations of US\$ 316,000 which were not available for activities in 2007.
- \* All figures are subject to audit.

## OHCHR regular budget expenditure in 2006-2007 by programme

		Allotment 2006-2007* in US\$	Expenditure 2006-2007 in US\$
Executive Direction and Management	Total Staffing	9,203,200	9,041,974
	Total Non-post	1,101,100	1,037,625
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,304,300</b>	<b>10,079,599</b>
Supporting Human Rights Bodies and Organs *	Total Staffing	11,585,200	11,317,009
	Total Non-post	6,811,800	6,442,535
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,397,000</b>	<b>17,759,544</b>
Support for Human Rights Fact-findings Procedures	Total Staffing	5,461,100	5,262,184
	Total Non-post	4,025,900	3,669,320
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,487,000</b>	<b>8,931,504</b>
Right to Development, Research and Analysis	Total Staffing	11,742,200	10,738,045
	Total Non-post	2,578,600	2,322,453
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,320,800</b>	<b>13,060,498</b>
Advisory Services, Technical Cooperation and Field Activities (Headquarters) **	Total Staffing	11,382,200	11,236,899
	Total Non-post	4,221,000	3,972,507
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,603,200</b>	<b>15,209,406</b>
Advisory Services, Technical Cooperation and Field Activities (Field) ***	Total Staffing	2,138,800	2,103,408
	Total Non-post	4,165,400	4,130,081
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,304,200</b>	<b>6,233,489</b>
Supporting the Programmes	Total Staffing	6,759,000	6,241,866
	Total Non-post	2,181,500	2,074,279
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,940,500</b>	<b>8,316,145</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>83,357,000</b>	<b>79,590,184</b>

\* Includes Policy making organs except the Special Committee on Israeli Practices.

\*\* Includes Commissions of Inquiry of Timor-Leste, Lebanon and Darfur.

\*\*\* Includes Cambodia, Cameroon, Panama and Regular Budget technical cooperation



## Extrabudgetary income and expenditure in 2006-2007 Overall summary (in US\$)

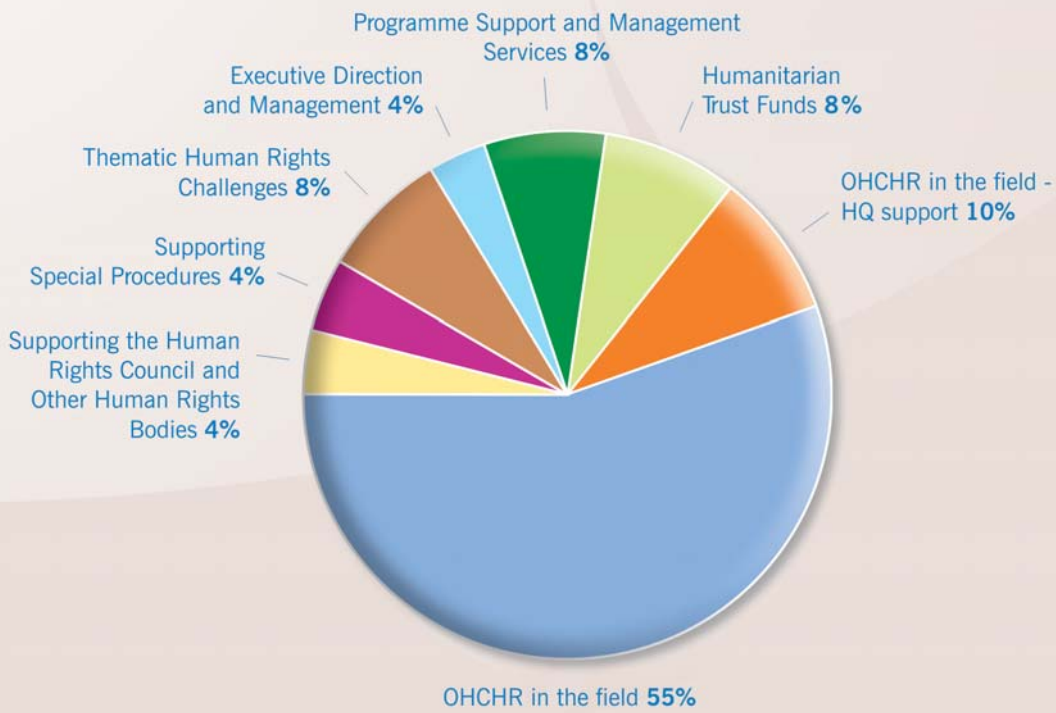
OHCHR's Programmes	Income 2006	Income 2007	Total income 2006-2007	Projected 2006-2007 expenditure*	Expenditure 2006	Expenditure 2007	Total expenditure 2006-2007
<b>Supporting the Human Rights Council and Other Human Rights Bodies</b>							
Treaties and Council Branch	4,412,460	4,413,614	8,826,074	8,999,661	3,992,529	3,463,101	7,455,630
Sub-total	4,412,460	4,413,614	8,826,074	8,999,661	3,992,529	3,463,101	7,455,630
<b>Supporting Special Procedures</b>							
Special Procedures	4,103,480	4,840,922	8,944,402	7,705,966	3,260,667	3,914,603	7,175,270
Sub-total	4,103,480	4,840,922	8,944,402	7,705,966	3,260,667	3,914,603	7,175,270
<b>Thematic Human Rights Challenges</b>							
Equality, Anti-discrimination	853,529	2,624,944	3,478,473	3,929,052	1,718,843	1,781,996	3,500,839
Development, Economic, Social and Cultural Issues	527,892	1,921,375	2,449,267	2,766,851	1,559,140	603,673	2,162,813
Rule of Law and Democracy	1,006,641	1,247,958	2,254,599	2,922,056	1,535,039	1,321,805	2,856,844
Methodology, Education and Training	0	648,167	648,167	5,304,639	2,516,073	2,498,790	5,014,863
Coordination and Management	5,253,553	4,066,613	9,320,166	684,287	306,817	607,712	914,529
Sub-total	7,641,615	10,509,058	18,150,673	15,606,885	7,635,912	6,813,976	14,449,888
<b>Executive Direction and Management</b>							
Executive Direction and Management	1,748,862	6,729,003	8,477,865	6,882,897	3,224,833	3,314,549	6,539,382
Sub-total	1,748,862	6,729,003	8,477,865	6,882,897	3,224,833	3,314,549	6,539,382
<b>Programme Support and Management Services</b>							
Programme Support and Management Services	2,318,696	11,490,911	13,809,607	12,756,011	5,623,022	6,695,763	12,318,785
Sub-total	2,318,696	11,490,911	13,809,607	12,756,011	5,623,022	6,695,763	12,318,785
<b>OHCHR IN THE FIELD</b>							
<b>Headquarters Support</b>							
National Institutions	1,492,664	2,958,953	4,451,617	3,243,474	1,992,084	1,045,424	3,037,508
Peace Missions Support	0	549,021	549,021	1,150,179	165,366	383,655	549,021
Rapid Response	248,515	2,359,629	2,608,144	1,203,685	288,157	862,337	1,150,494
Africa	0	3,209,457	3,209,457	2,734,013	1,404,007	1,410,456	2,814,463
Asia and the Pacific	97,000	3,008,771	3,105,771	2,628,324	1,147,298	1,263,165	2,410,463
Middle East and North Africa	25,507	2,135,453	2,160,960	2,002,151	1,202,159	831,938	2,034,097
Europe, North America and Central Asia	178,700	1,879,442	2,058,142	1,774,639	679,889	1,025,003	1,704,892
Latin America and the Caribbean	0	1,170,783	1,170,783	1,138,508	473,215	548,868	1,022,083
Coordination and Management	4,534,810	-2,780,054	1,754,756	1,124,049	541,949	595,920	1,137,869
Sub-total Headquarters Support	6,577,196	14,491,455	21,068,651	16,999,022	7,894,124	7,966,767	15,860,891
<b>Field Presences</b>							
<b>AFRICA</b>							
Angola - Country Office	1,565,401	4,108,766	5,674,167	3,935,220	1,473,552	3,263,021	4,736,573
Togo - Country Office	251,000	1,329,685	1,580,685	1,098,503	244,003	1,099,978	1,343,981
Uganda - Country Office	2,024,167	6,009,637	8,033,804	6,401,570	3,186,154	2,733,229	5,919,383
East Africa Regional Office - Addis Ababa	164,975	1,324,745	1,489,720	1,311,272	396,981	875,267	1,272,248
West Africa Regional Office - Dakar	0	62,200	62,200	318,606	0	0	0
Central Africa Centre - Yaoundé	108,700	776,838	885,538	486,636	261,217	398,555	659,772
Southern Africa Regional Office - Pretoria	328,322	1,020,635	1,348,957	1,287,904	589,229	516,466	1,105,695
Burundi - Peace Mission Support	1,103,799	2,595,233	3,699,032	3,145,493	1,694,652	1,545,736	3,240,388
Côte d'Ivoire - Peace Mission Support	0	192,778	192,778	288,109	104,073	88,705	192,778
Democratic Republic of the Congo - Peace Mission Support	1,990,038	3,187,406	5,177,444	3,379,909	2,058,118	2,544,379	4,602,497
Eritrea /Ethiopia - Peace Mission Support	0	217,103	217,103	175,465	77,996	139,107	217,103
Liberia - Peace Mission Support	0	94,766	94,766	134,794	67,966	26,801	94,767
Sierra Leone - Peace Mission Support	203,702	376,892	580,594	700,990	397,196	118,994	516,190
Somalia - Peace Mission Support	0	67,204	67,204	77,211	0	38,253	38,253
Sudan - Peace Mission Support	3,118,331	2,268,172	5,386,503	897,123	455,623	2,472,086	2,927,709
Great Lakes	118,622	516,502	635,124	88,367	0	59,857	59,857
Zimbabwe - Human Rights Adviser	60,599	112,529	173,128	275,468	0	112,529	112,529
Sub-total Africa	11,037,656	24,261,091	35,298,747	24,002,640	11,006,760	16,032,964	27,039,724

OHCHR's Programmes	Income 2006	Income 2007	Total income 2006-2007	Projected 2006-2007 expenditure*	Expenditure 2006	Expenditure 2007	Total expenditure 2006-2007
<b>ASIA AND THE PACIFIC</b>							
Cambodia - Country Office	473,743	289,057	762,800	854,418	434,789	182,556	617,345
Nepal - Country Office	10,540,665	13,820,870	24,361,535	19,540,879	9,231,959	11,144,156	20,376,115
South East Asia Regional Office - Bangkok	358,881	974,543	1,333,424	996,388	528,022	494,522	1,022,544
Pacific Regional Office - Suva	457,145	927,649	1,384,794	1,091,091	373,985	724,384	1,098,369
Afghanistan - Peace Mission Support	271,620	565,504	837,124	760,320	139,638	633,584	773,222
Timor-Leste - Peace Mission Support	0	286,686	286,686	658,331	0	286,686	286,686
Indonesia - Human Rights Adviser	0	125,813	125,813	93,894	0	118,119	118,119
Pakistan - Human Rights Adviser	86,600	317,698	404,298	324,184	180,761	135,303	316,064
Sri Lanka - Human Rights Adviser	644,793	219,350	864,143	617,641	182,202	595,702	777,904
Timor-Leste - Commission of Inquiry	0	206,345	206,345	206,191	206,191	-206,191	0
Sub-total Asia and the Pacific	12,833,447	17,733,516	30,566,963	25,143,337	11,277,547	14,108,822	25,386,369
<b>MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA</b>							
OPT - Country Office	513,497	1,711,882	2,225,379	2,204,266	1,152,779	1,048,672	2,201,451
Arab Region and South West Asia Regional Office - Doha	43,200	147,883	191,083	0	0	0	0
Middle East and Gulf Regional Office - Beirut	602,913	1,228,692	1,831,605	1,361,692	634,209	857,058	1,491,267
North Africa Regional Office - Cairo	254,453	0	254,453	0	0	0	0
Iraq - Peace Mission Support	63,613	0	63,613	130,747	12,653	-12,653	0
Lebanon - Commission of Inquiry	588,235	0	588,235	340,546	340,546	-340,546	0
Sub-total Middle East and North Africa	2,065,911	3,088,458	5,154,369	4,037,251	2,140,187	1,552,531	3,692,718
<b>EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA AND CENTRAL ASIA</b>							
Bosnia and Herzegovina - Country Office	672,165	268,187	940,352	655,404	438,025	345,711	783,736
Serbia - Country Office	608,165	320,497	928,662	532,400	373,700	417,280	790,980
Kosovo - Stand-alone Office	203,377	558,914	762,291	813,488	219,185	464,755	683,940
Georgia/Abkhazia - Peace Mission Support	22,475	846,745	869,220	673,105	235,014	601,829	836,843
Central Asia - Human Rights Adviser	514,831	949,890	1,464,721	1,289,188	584,330	654,485	1,238,815
Russia - Human Rights Adviser	43,505	527,009	570,514	604,806	173,428	272,939	446,367
Sub-total Europe, North America and Central Asia	2,064,519	3,471,241	5,535,759	4,568,391	2,023,682	2,756,998	4,780,680
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>							
Bolivia - Country Office	186,558	308,444	495,002	525,992	0	345,678	345,678
Colombia - Country Office	8,436,444	6,297,349	14,733,793	13,226,867	6,838,092	7,678,188	14,516,280
Guatemala - Country Office	2,399,736	5,595,440	7,995,176	6,527,637	2,910,745	3,396,920	6,307,665
Mexico - Country Office	1,341,458	2,749,276	4,090,734	3,648,907	1,992,209	2,093,784	4,085,993
Latin America Regional Office - Santiago	923,078	794,048	1,717,126	1,552,686	807,083	837,708	1,644,791
Haiti - Peace Mission Support	0	482,790	482,790	404,909	127,960	341,541	469,501
Ecuador - Human Rights Adviser	160,599	323,225	483,824	180,498	0	323,225	323,225
Guyana - Human Rights Adviser	0	202,027	202,027	119,192	0	202,027	202,027
Sub-total Latin America and the Caribbean	13,447,873	16,752,599	30,200,472	26,186,688	12,676,089	15,219,069	27,895,158
Sub-total Field Presences	41,449,405	65,306,905	106,756,311	83,938,307	39,124,265	49,670,384	88,794,649
<b>Humanitarian Funds</b>							
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	10,374,453	12,140,821	22,515,274	14,363,603	6,916,338	6,765,958	13,682,296
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	465,637	757,269	1,222,906	1,089,940	442,337	311,253	753,590
Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	256,233	321,125	577,358	1,101,791	690,471	357,799	1,048,270
Sub-total	11,096,323	13,219,216	24,315,539	16,555,334	8,049,146	7,435,010	15,484,156
<b>GRAND TOTAL**</b>	<b>89,611,581</b>	<b>102,052,510</b>	<b>191,664,091</b>	<b>169,444,083</b>	<b>78,804,498</b>	<b>89,689,824</b>	<b>168,494,322</b>

\* As reported in the 2006 Annual Report.

\*\* Includes interest income, gain on exchange, undistributed funds, miscellaneous income and accounting adjustments as of 31 December 2007.

### Extrabudgetary expenditure by main activity in 2007

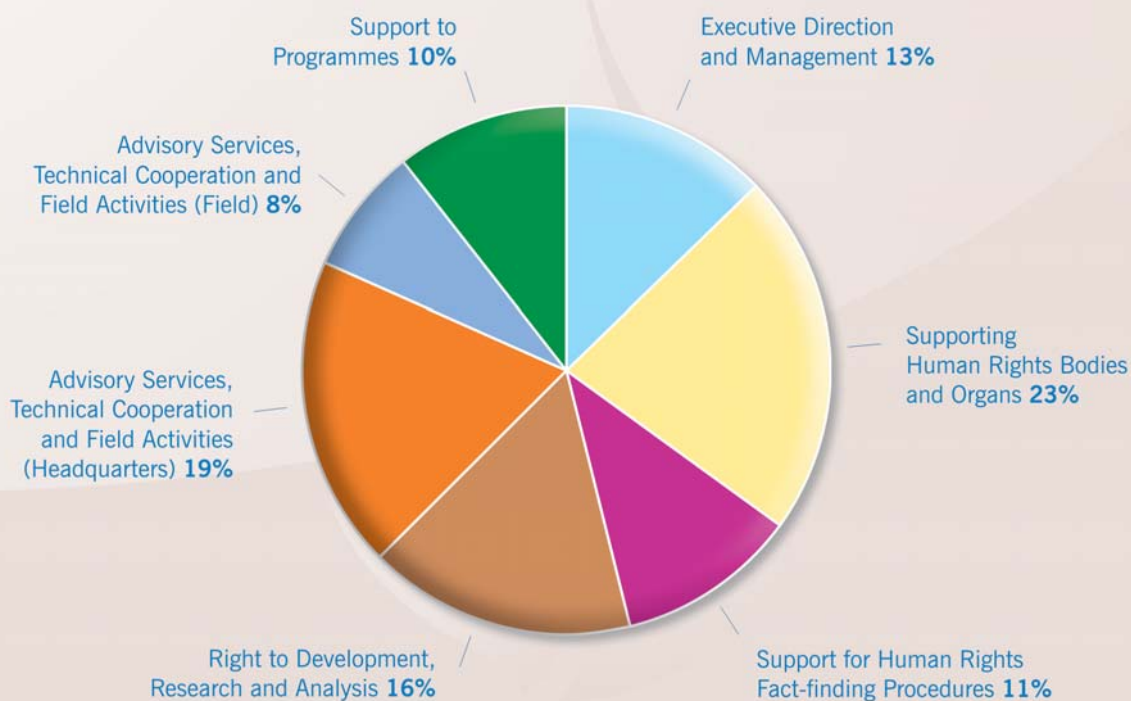


### Extrabudgetary income versus expenditure 2000-2007

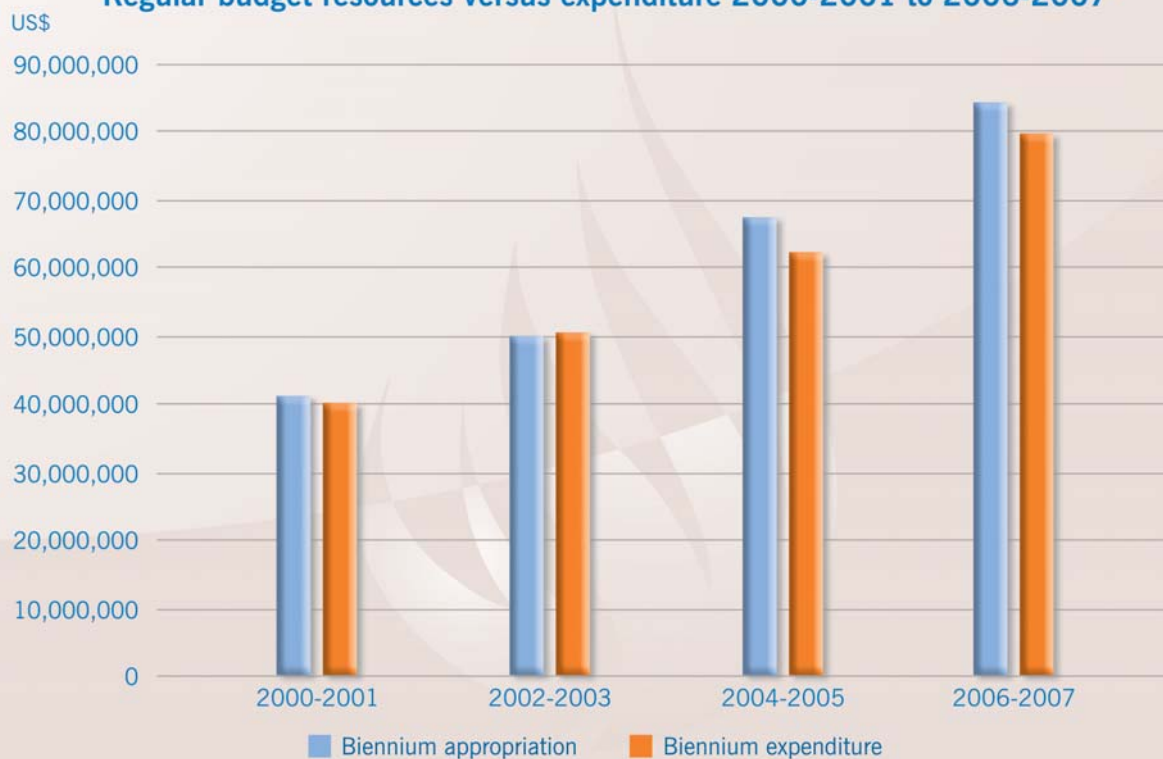




### Regular budget expenditure by main activity in 2006-2007



### Regular budget resources versus expenditure 2000-2001 to 2006-2007









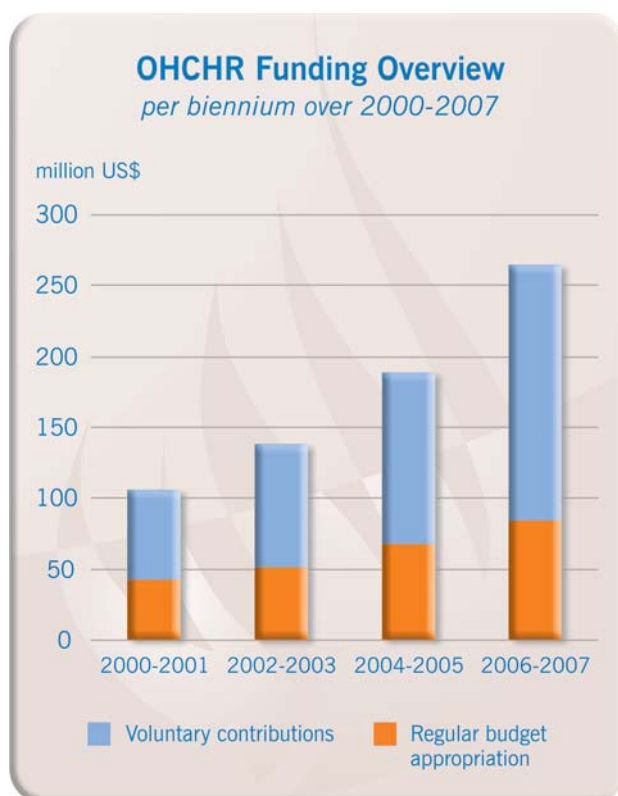
# Funding and Donor Profiles





# Funding

OHCHR is funded from the United Nations regular budget and from voluntary contributions from Member States, intergovernmental organizations, foundations and individuals. Regular budget funding for the biennium 2006-2007 was set at \$83.4 million, or 2.2 per cent of the United Nations' global budget of \$3.8 billion. This represented an increase of \$15.8 million, or 23.4 per cent, over the previous biennium, in keeping with the commitment given by leaders at the 2005 World Summit to double, over five years, funding for OHCHR under the regular budget. During the same period, voluntary contributions rose by \$60 million to \$181 million, an increase of 49.8 per cent over the previous biennium.



2007 was a successful year in fundraising for OHCHR, with total contributions rising from \$85.3 million to \$95.7 million, and a significant increase in both the amount and proportion of unearmarked funding (that is, funding not restricted for specific purposes). The total number of institutional donors also increased, from 65 to 72. In December 2007, the High Commissioner launched a new fundraising appeal, tied to the upcoming 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in

2008, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, encouraging all Member States to show their support for the Universal Declaration and the work being carried out by OHCHR to give effect to its provisions by becoming donors to the Office in 2008.

Lead responsibility for fundraising lies within OHCHR with the Donor and External Relations Section, located at the Office's Geneva headquarters. In addition to mobilizing sufficient resources to meet the Office's immediate needs, the section focuses on maximizing the amount of unearmarked funding, while also broadening the donor base by appealing for support from beyond the ranks of current donors.

## Who Funds OHCHR?

The table overleaf lists all donors that contributed in 2007. As in previous years, the vast majority of voluntary contributions came from Member States, who provided \$87.4 million, or 91.2 per cent of all contributions in 2007. International organizations, including the European Commission, contributed \$7.3 million, or 7.7 per cent of the total. Private donors have traditionally provided very little, although in 2007 the amount contributed by such donors increased substantially from just under \$180,000 to almost \$1,050,000—chiefly due to an increase in the level of support from one existing donor, Rights and Democracy, and two significant new contributions from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

The total number of institutional donors edged up in 2007 from 65 to 72, with 64 Member States (three more than in 2006), four international organizations (two more than in 2006), and four private donors (two more than in 2006) making contributions. Three donors, Uruguay, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie and Swatch made contributions for the first time in 2007, while seven others—Andorra, Argentina, Bulgaria, Guatemala, Iceland, Sri Lanka and the MacArthur Foundation—rejoined the list of donors, having not made contributions in 2006. Three donors that made contributions in 2006 dropped off the donor list in 2007: Azerbaijan, Bhutan and Malaysia.

## Voluntary contributions to OHCHR in 2007

This table refers to the total amount of voluntary contributions for 2007  
(including contributions to the Humanitarian Funds)

Donor	US\$	Donor	US\$
1 United States of America	10,472,037	37 Andorra	55,175
2 Norway	10,359,781	38 India	50,000
3 Canada	9,027,785	39 Saudi Arabia	50,000
4 Netherlands	7,698,918	40 Slovenia	50,000
5 United Kingdom	6,988,119	41 Uruguay	50,000
6 Sweden	5,931,726	42 OIF <sup>3</sup>	49,732
7 Spain	5,846,774	43 Hungary	42,602
8 Ireland	5,191,257	44 Chile	34,982
9 European Commission	5,178,137	45 Latvia	30,738
10 Denmark	4,734,312	46 Monaco	30,000
11 Switzerland	3,231,546	47 Swatch AG	29,437
12 Finland	2,828,585	48 Philippines	28,272
13 France	2,473,746	49 Estonia	26,229
14 Italy	2,180,267	50 Croatia	25,000
15 Russian Federation	2,000,000	51 Thailand	22,376
16 Germany	1,635,946	52 Colombia	22,023
17 Belgium	1,569,932	53 Argentina	20,000
18 New Zealand	1,408,451	54 Cyprus	17,420
19 UNFPA <sup>1</sup>	1,242,647	55 Czech Republic	17,042
20 UNDP <sup>2</sup>	862,299	56 Lithuania	16,106
21 Australia	650,034	57 Costa Rica	14,744
22 MacArthur Foundation	650,000	58 Algeria	10,000
23 Austria	570,880	59 Bahrain	10,000
24 Rights & Democracy	360,891	60 Israel	10,000
25 Korea, Rep. of	310,000	61 Kuwait	10,000
26 Japan	306,965	62 Venezuela	10,000
27 Romania	294,985	63 Sri Lanka	9,982
28 Greece	170,998	64 Bulgaria	5,500
29 Luxembourg	155,643	65 Guatemala	5,000
30 Turkey	126,000	66 Pakistan	4,910
31 Mexico	120,000	67 Morocco	3,000
32 Poland	100,240	68 Nicaragua	2,800
33 Liechtenstein	85,586	69 Holy See	2,500
34 Portugal	80,000	70 Panama	1,500
35 South Africa	62,281	71 Armenia	1,096
36 Iceland	57,399	72 ITCS "Oscar Romero"	595
Other individual donors			7,912
<b>Total</b>			<b>95,740,986</b>

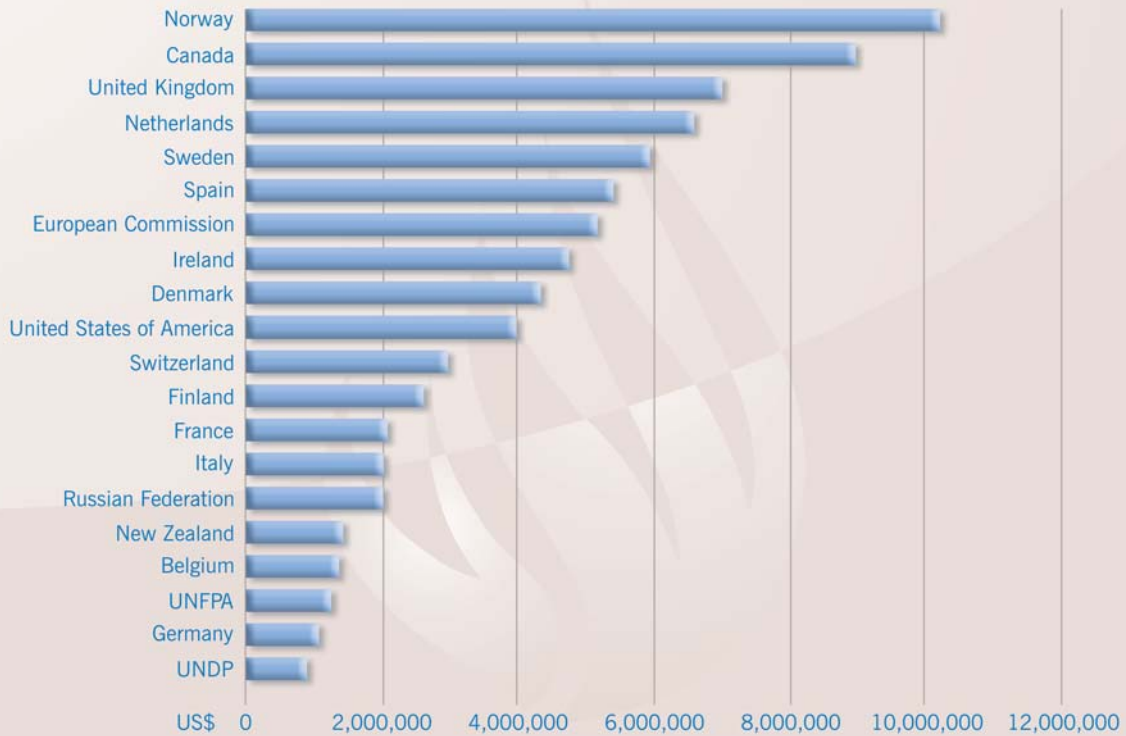
<sup>1</sup> UN Population Fund.

<sup>2</sup> UN Development Programme.

<sup>3</sup> Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie.

Source: Integrated Management Information System (IMIS).

### Voluntary contributions from top 20 donors to OHCHR's work in 2007 (excluding contributions to the Humanitarian Funds)



### Voluntary contributions from top 20 donors to OHCHR in 2007 (including contributions to the Humanitarian Funds)



### Voluntary contributions from top 20 donors to OHCHR per capita in 2007\* (including contributions to the Humanitarian Funds)



\*Sources: based on 2007 voluntary contributions from OHCHR's donors (Member States) and 2006 population figures from the World Bank Data Profiles.



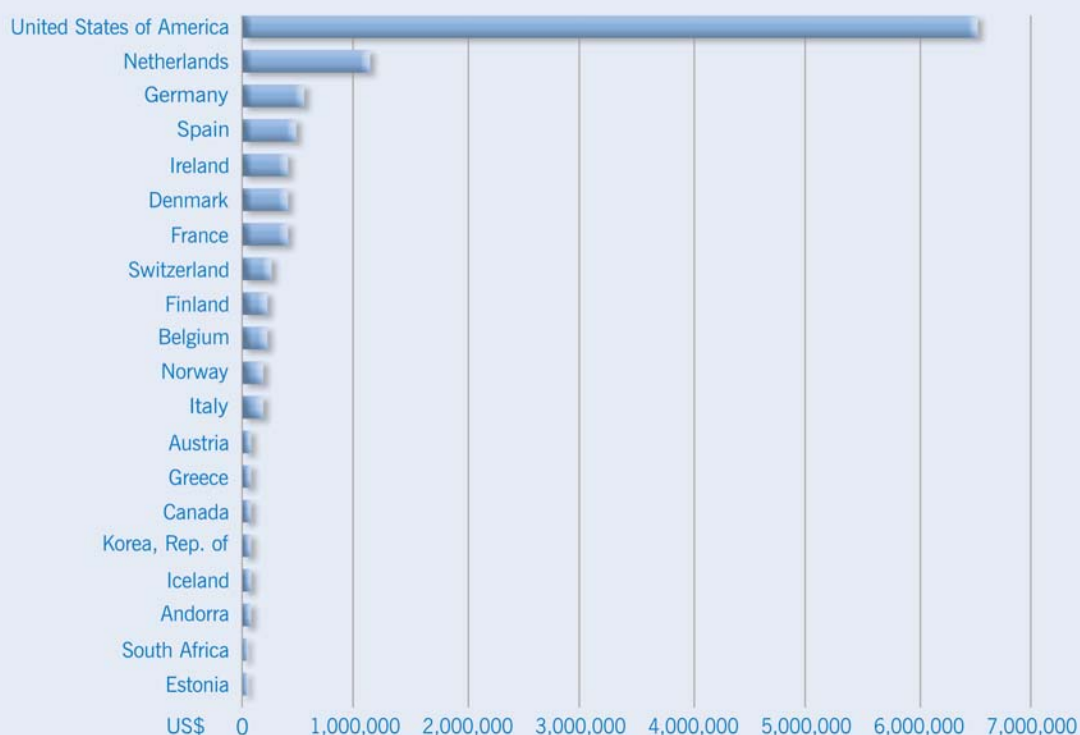
## Contributions to the Humanitarian Funds

In 2007, donors provided \$11.6 million to the three Humanitarian Funds that OHCHR administers: the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, and the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. These three funds collect and distribute funding in the form of grants to individuals and NGOs. Contributions to the funds are not used to support OHCHR's wider work.

Of the three funds, the largest, in terms of contributions and expenditure, was the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, which received contributions of \$10.8 million and recorded expenditure of \$6.8 million. The Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery received contributions of \$260,000 and recorded expenditures of \$360,000. The Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations received contributions of \$540,000 and recorded expenditures of \$310,000.

Altogether, 44 Member States and a handful of private donors made contributions to the three funds in 2007 (compared with 37 Member States and a handful of private donors in 2006). The top five donors were the United States (which provided contributions of \$6.5 million), the Netherlands (\$1.1 million), Germany (\$540,000), Spain (\$470,000), and Ireland (\$410,000).

### Voluntary contributions from top 20 donors to the Humanitarian Funds in 2007



## Funding Trends

### Level of Contributions

Contributions rose by \$10.4 million to \$95.7 million in 2007, an increase of just over 12 per cent compared with 2006. This latest rise marks the sixth year of continuous growth in funding, starting in 2002. During that period, the level of contributions has risen by more than 130 per cent as donors have responded positively to appeals by the High Commissioner for increased resources to be made available to fund an expansion of the UN human rights programme.

The increase in the level of contributions has been helped, too, by exchange rate changes, particularly the decline in the value of the US dollar. Since the bulk of the contributions OHCHR receives are in currencies other than US dollars, and the value of most of these currencies has risen in recent years, the dollar value of such contributions has risen year on year. Indeed, had the US dollar held its value as of 1 January 2002, rather than falling almost continuously since that date as, in fact, occurred, the value of contributions received by OHCHR in 2007 would have been approximately \$70 million, rather than the \$95.7 million actually recorded.



### Predictability

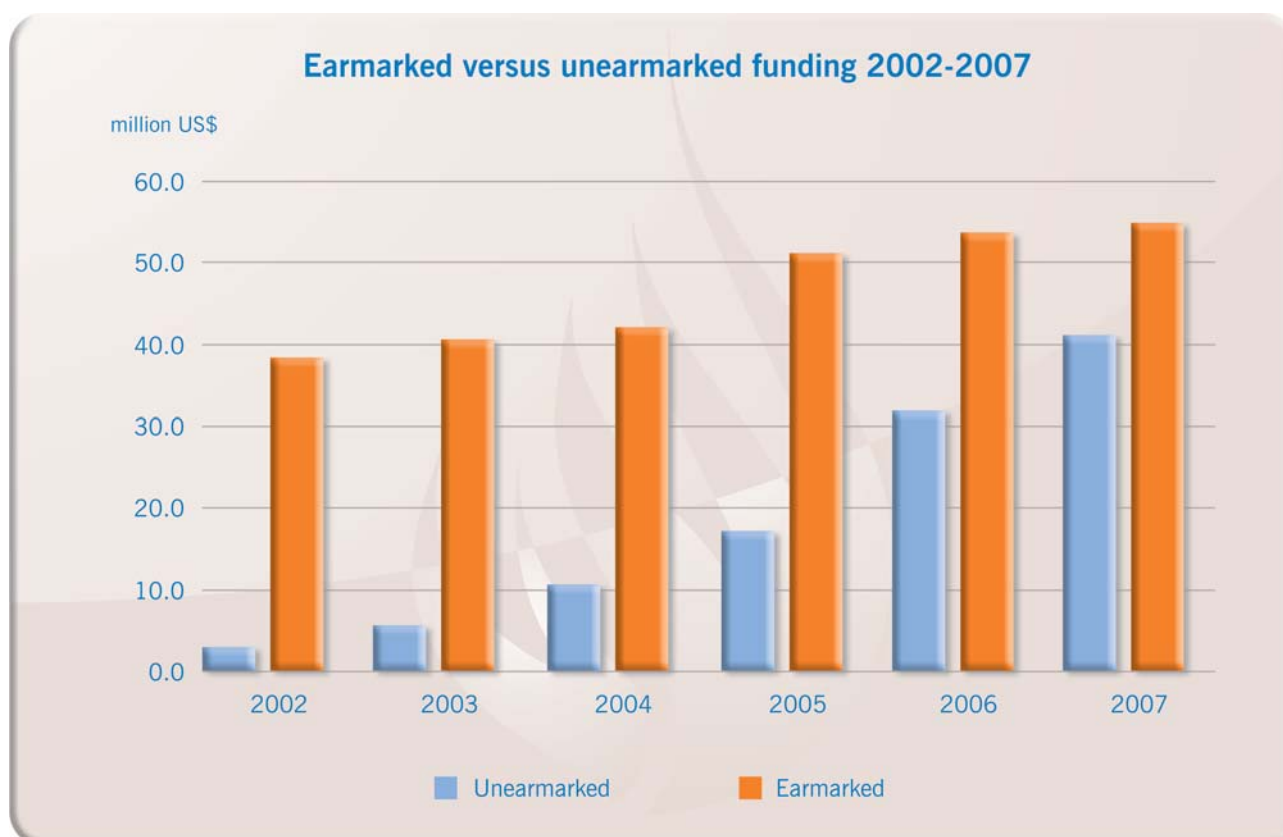
In order to increase the predictability of funding flows, the High Commissioner has encouraged all donors in a position to do so to enter into multi-year funding commitments. In 2007, ten donors, one

more than in 2006, had multi-year funding agreements with OHCHR: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, the MacArthur Foundation, the Netherlands, Norway, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

### Earmarking

The trend towards donors providing a larger proportion of funding free of earmarking continued in 2007, with \$40.9 million in unearmarked contributions recorded (compared with \$31.8 million in 2006). As a share of all contributions, unearmarked funding has risen steadily in recent years—from 12 per cent in 2003, to 20 per cent in 2004, 26 per cent in 2005, 37 per cent in 2006 and 43 per cent in 2007.

The further rise in the amount and proportion of unearmarked contributions in 2007 was a positive development and followed numerous appeals by the High Commissioner encouraging donors to lift or lighten earmarks on their contributions. Many donors indicated that the introduction of the High Commissioner's first biennial Strategic Management Plan in 2006, together with recent improvements in OHCHR's management and planning capabilities, were instrumental in persuading them to make available more unearmarked funding.



## Unearmarked voluntary contributions to OHCHR in 2007

Donor	unearmarked funds in US\$	percentage of donor's contribution
1 Canada	6,802,486	75.4%
2 Netherlands	6,578,947	85.5%
3 United Kingdom	5,888,384	84.3%
4 Spain	3,360,215	57.5%
5 Sweden	3,179,191	53.6%
6 Norway	2,676,300	25.8%
7 Denmark	2,309,057	48.8%
8 France	2,084,641	84.3%
9 Ireland	1,571,038	30.3%
10 New Zealand	1,408,451	100.0%
11 Russian Federation	1,000,000	50.0%
12 Belgium	986,842	62.9%
13 Finland	820,792	29.0%
14 Italy	672,042	30.8%
15 Australia	393,650	60.6%
16 Austria	268,817	47.1%
17 Luxembourg	129,703	83.3%
18 Poland	100,240	100.0%
19 Turkey	100,000	79.4%
20 Mexico	100,000	83.3%
21 Greece	68,399	40.0%
22 Portugal	65,000	81.3%
23 Saudi Arabia	50,000	100.0%
24 Uruguay	50,000	100.0%
25 Hungary	36,023	84.6%
26 Latvia	30,738	100.0%
27 Swatch AG	29,437	100.0%
28 Liechtenstein	25,862	30.2%
29 South Africa	22,528	36.2%
30 Chile	20,000	57.2%
31 Monaco	20,000	66.7%
32 Croatia	20,000	80.0%
33 Thailand	20,000	89.4%
34 Lithuania	16,106	100.0%
35 Costa Rica	14,744	100.0%
36 Bahrain	10,000	100.0%
37 Pakistan	4,910	100.0%
38 Bulgaria	3,500	63.6%
39 Nicaragua	2,800	100.0%
40 Armenia	1,096	100.0%
Other individual donors	359	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,942,299</b>	<b>43%</b>










Source: Integrated Management Information System (IMIS).





## Voluntary contributions to OHCHR from donors in excess of \$100,000 in 2007












The Distribution of funds in this table reflects earmarking by donors (as per major headings of the SMP)

	United States of America 	Norway 	Canada 	Netherlands 	United Kingdom 	Sweden 	Spain 	Ireland 	European Commission 	Denmark 	
Unearmarked	0	2,676,300	6,802,486	6,578,948	5,888,384	3,179,191	3,360,215	1,571,038	0	2,309,057	
OHCHR in the field - Headquarters Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	273,224	328,863	0	
OHCHR in the field	3,954,867	6,708,662	1,920,786	0	982,318	2,745,665	1,411,290	1,297,814	1,840,113	2,017,105	
<i>All regions</i>	1,485,000	0	0	0	0	0		1,297,814	0	0	
<i>Africa</i>	150,000	3,673,127	419,100	0	0	722,543	134,409	0	863,718	0	
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>	2,319,867	1,557,824	866,551	0	982,318	0	134,409	0	0	2,017,105	
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	268,817	0	0	0	
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>	0	492,570	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Latin America and the Caribbean</i>	0	985,141	635,134	0	0	2,023,121	873,656	0	976,395	0	
Supporting the Human Rights Council and Human Rights Bodies	0	443,313	0	0	0	0	168,011	478,142	1,440,226	0	
Supporting Special Procedures	0	164,190	0	0	0	0	168,011	409,836	740,039	0	
Thematic Human Rights Challenges	0	203,125	243,351	0	117,417	0	268,817	546,448	828,896	0	
Executive Direction and Management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102,459	0	0	
Programme Support and Management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102,459	0	0	
Humanitarian Funds	6,517,170	164,190	61,162	1,119,970	0	6,871	470,430	409,836	0	408,150	
<b>Total contributions</b>	<b>10,472,037</b>	<b>10,359,781</b>	<b>9,027,785</b>	<b>7,698,918</b>	<b>6,988,119</b>	<b>5,931,726</b>	<b>5,846,774</b>	<b>5,191,257</b>	<b>5,178,137</b>	<b>4,734,312</b>	

	Switzerland 	Finland 	France 	Italy 	Russian Federation 	Germany 	Belgium 	New Zealand 	UNFPA 	UNDP 	Australia 
	0	820,792	2,084,641	672,042	1,000,000	0	986,842	1,408,451	0	0	393,650
	0	0	0	201,613	100,000	0	0	0	0	0	78,730
	2,802,975	1,019,296	0	672,043	0	613,055	0	0	1,242,647	862,299	157,460
	1,229,508	229,822	0	0	0	613,055	0	0	0	452,200	0
	642,780	0	0	67,204	0	0	0	0	1,242,647	380,099	0
	764,020	789,474	0	268,817	0	0	0	0	0	0	157,460
	0	0	0	336,022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	166,667	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30,000	0
	166,667	170,999	0	201,613	200,000	136,799	0	0	0	0	0
	0	170,999	0	268,817	100,000	136,799	364,431	0	0	0	0
	0	409,838	0	0	600,000	204,335	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	261,905	236,662	389,105	164,139	0	544,958	218,659	0	0	0	20,194
	3,231,546	2,828,585	2,473,746	2,180,267	2,000,000	1,635,946	1,569,932	1,408,451	1,242,647	862,299	650,034

## Voluntary contributions to OHCHR from donors in excess of \$100,000 in 2007

The Distribution of funds in this table reflects earmarking by donors (as per major headings of the SMP)

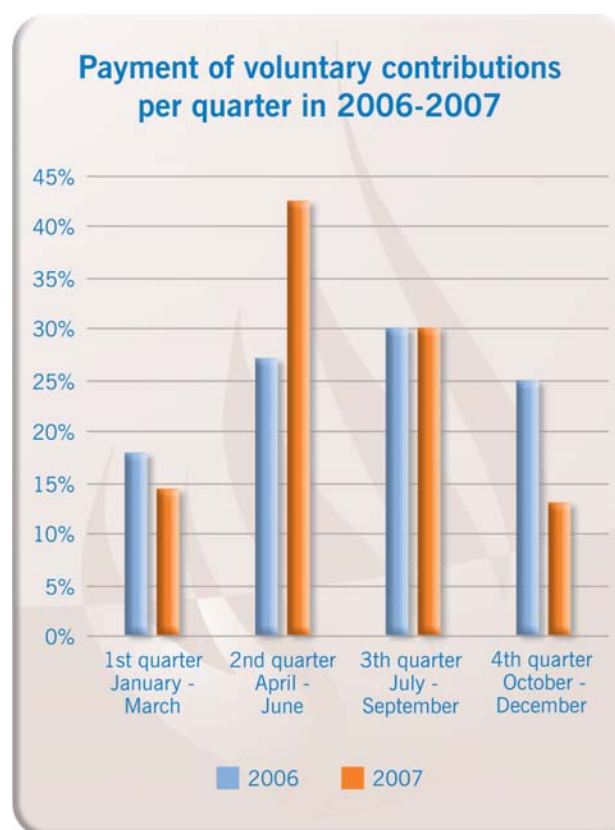
	MacArthur Foundation 	Austria 	Rights and Democracy 	Korea, Rep. of 	Japan 	Romania 	Greece 	Luxembourg 	Turkey 	Mexico 	Poland 
Unearmarked	0	268,817	0	0	0	0	68,398	129,703	100,000	100,000	100,240
OHCHR in the field - Headquarters Support	500,000	0	264,051	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OHCHR in the field	150,000	67,204	20,387	250,000	150,000	0	20,520	0	0	0	0
All regions	0	67,204	0	250,000	0	0	20,520	0	0	0	0
Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asia and the Pacific	0	0	0	0	150,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Middle East and North Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Europe and Central Asia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latin America and the Caribbean	150,000	0	20,387	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Supporting the Human Rights Council and Human Rights Bodies	0	0	0	0	0	147,493	0	0	0	20,000	0
Supporting Special Procedures	0	73,746	0	0	100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thematic Human Rights Challenges	0	73,746	0	0	31,965	147,493	0	0	0	0	0
Executive Direction and Management	0	0	35,678	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Programme Support and Management	0	0	40,775	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Humanitarian Funds	0	87,366	0	60,000	25,000	0	82,079	25,940	26,000	0	0
<b>Total contributions</b>	<b>650,000</b>	<b>570,880</b>	<b>360,891</b>	<b>310,000</b>	<b>306,965</b>	<b>294,985</b>	<b>170,998</b>	<b>155,643</b>	<b>126,000</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>100,240</b>



## Early payment

Like many agencies in the UN system, OHCHR enters each new year with limited cash on hand to pay for programme and operating costs. In the past, most contributions were received in the second and third quarters of the year, with relatively little received during the first quarter. This can create debilitating financial constraints at the start of the year, forcing postponement of implementation of certain activities until later in the year when funds become available.

In 2007, donors appeared to respond positively to an appeal by the High Commissioner for earlier confirmation and payment of contributions. Altogether, 57 per cent of contributions were paid in the first half of the year (compared with 45 per cent in 2006), helping to remove cash flow constraints during the early months. To encourage this trend, efforts were made in 2008 to publish the new Strategic Management Plan as close as possible to the start of the new biennium (the document was distributed in the first week of January) and annual consultations with major donors were brought forward to allow time for funding decisions to be made as early in the new year as possible.



## Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation

The Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights was established by the Secretary-General in 1987 in response to the former Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/83. The Fund provides resources to support national efforts at building a strong human rights framework in the context of one broad UN human rights programme. Support is provided to promote and establish strong legal frameworks, effective national human rights institutions, an independent judiciary, a vibrant civil society, and societies that seek to promote rights and responsibilities. Since 1993, a Board of Trustees has been providing administrative and operational advice to the Fund. The Board meets twice a year to review the programmes it supports, discuss thematic issues, methodologies and

procedures, examine financial, administrative and fundraising matters, and brief Member States on progress and achievements. The Board met for its 26th session from 7 to 10 May 2007 and 27th session from 6 to 9 November 2007.

In 2007, the fund received \$6,230,558 in fresh contributions (including \$5,586,165 from Member States and US\$175,367 from private donors). Funding was used to implement OHCHR technical cooperation activities, including many of the activities listed in the preceding sections on OHCHR's work region by region, in 25 countries: Mexico, Guatemala, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guyana, Haiti, occupied Palestine territory, Russia, Province of Kosovo, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Indonesia, Sri Lanka,

Timor-Leste, Uganda, Togo, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan. Activities implemented using the resources of the Fund have resulted in steps being taken at the country level to incorporate international human rights standards into national laws, policies and practices; the establishment of more sustainable national capacities to adhere to these standards; strengthening of the administration of justice; greater emphasis on the development of human rights education programmes; the establishment of responsive national human rights institutions; the deployment of human rights advisers to UN Country Teams; and the development of national plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights.

### Regular budget versus voluntary contributions

Compared to 2006, the proportion of expenditure funded from the UN regular budget increased slightly, from 30.5 per cent in 2006 to 33.5 per cent in 2007, while the proportion funded from voluntary contributions fell from 69.5 per cent to 66.5 per cent. The proportion of expenditure funded from the regular budget is expected to rise again in 2008, as the next tranche of OHCHR's increase in regular budget funding takes effect. The objective remains to reduce, over time, the share of spending paid for by voluntary contributions from the current two thirds to something closer to three fifths. Assuming further increases in regular budget funding are approved, OHCHR remains on course to achieve this objective by the end of the period of the High Commissioner's Plan of Action, that is by 2010-11.

Sponsor	Number of associate experts	Number of non-nationals
Austria	2	
Denmark	2	
Finland	3	
France	4	
Germany	3	
Italy	5	
Netherlands	1	2
Norway	1	
Spain	6	
Sweden	2	
Switzerland	6	
	<b>35</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>37</b>

### How to Help

OHCHR accepts contributions from Member States, intergovernmental organizations, foundations, voluntary associations, NGOs, and individuals. If you or the institution you represent would like to make a contribution, please contact Charles Radcliffe, Chief of OHCHR's Donor and External Relations Section in Geneva. Tel: +41 22 917 94 38. Fax: +41 22 917 96 44. Email: [dexrel@ohchr.org](mailto:dexrel@ohchr.org).

### Junior Professional Officers

In 2007, OHCHR had 37 associate experts who were supported by the following Governments: Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Of the total number of associate experts, two were non-nationals supported by the Netherlands. The table below indicates the distribution of associate experts by Government sponsor.

# Donor Profiles

The following section provides individual profiles, organized alphabetically, of all 72 institutional donors that made a contribution to OHCHR in 2007. Information includes, for each donor, the amount contributed in 2007 in U.S. dollars and, where relevant, local currency; the amount and proportion of the contribution that was unearmarked; and the donor's ranking in OHCHR's table of donors (both in absolute terms and, in the case of Member States, per capita). Each profile also includes a bar chart showing variations in the level of support and in the proportion of earmarked versus unearmarked funding in each of the past six years.

This is the first time OHCHR has sought to present information on contributions in this way or in such detail. Figures included in each profile have been drawn directly from the United Nations Integrated Management Information System (IMIS), a UN Secretariat-wide database in which all contributions are recorded upon receipt of a written pledge or upon payment, in cases where no prior written pledge is submitted. The recording of contributions is done on an accrual basis—that is, the entire amount of a contribution for a given year is recorded, regardless of whether or not it is fully paid by the end of the year. This method of reporting contributions was first introduced in the OHCHR Annual Report 2006,

published in May 2007 (and explained in more detail on page 157 of that report).

In a few isolated cases, readers may notice a discrepancy between the amount a particular donor is credited with contributing in a given year, as presented in these profiles, and the equivalent amount reported in past OHCHR annual reports. Such variations are due to differences in the method used to calculate and report on contributions. Unlike this report and last year's annual report, both of which present contributions as described above, earlier annual reports presented pledges and income separately. New pledges were listed in one column, converted, where relevant, into U.S. dollars using the exchange rate prevailing at the time of the pledge; income, i.e. payments received, were listed in another. The figures for pledges and income often varied considerably as, for example, when a donor pledged in one year but paid the next, or where exchange rate fluctuations affected the U.S. dollar value of the contribution.

The current method of reporting contributions is clearer, simpler and more reliable, and ensures that what is presented in this and future OHCHR public reporting documents is consistent with information that will later be subject to external audit. It is also in conformity with UN Financial Regulations and Rules, and with generally accepted accounting principles.



## Governments



### Algeria

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 10,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

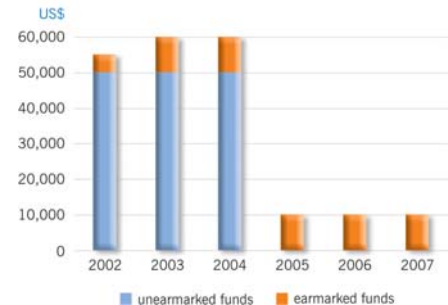
**Donor ranking:** 58/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 60/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



### Andorra

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 55,175

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

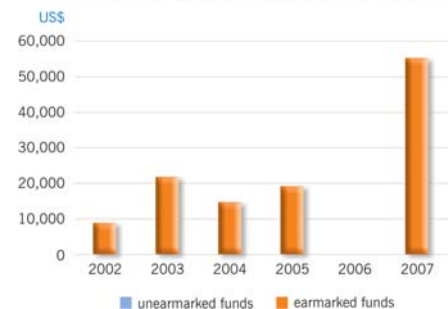
**Donor ranking:** 37/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 6/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



### Argentina

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 20,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

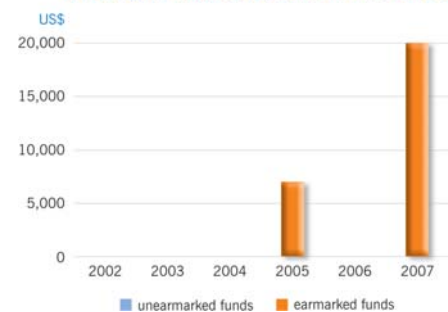
**Donor ranking:** 53/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 52/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



### Armenia

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 1,096

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 1,096

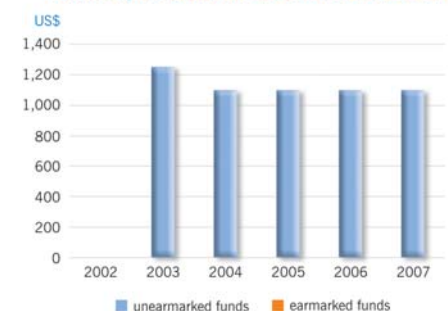
**Donor ranking:** 71/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 57/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Australia

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 650,034

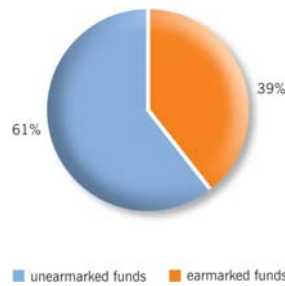
**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 825,000 (AUD)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 393,650

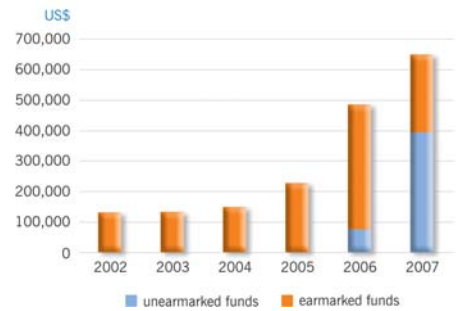
**Donor ranking:** 21/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 22/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Austria

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 570,880

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 415,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 268,817

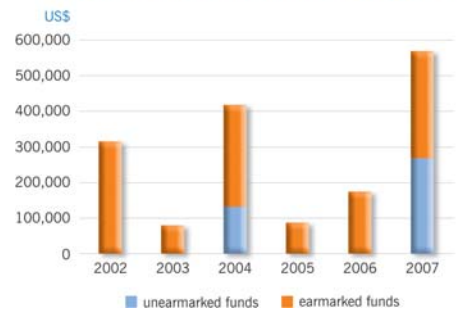
**Donor ranking:** 23/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 18/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Bahrain

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 10,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 10,000

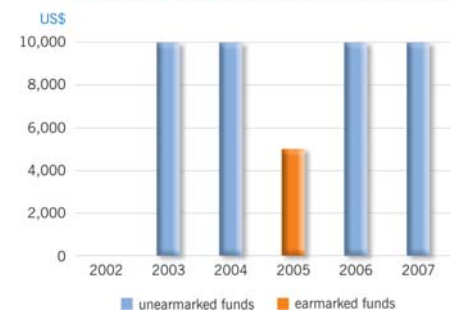
**Donor ranking:** 59/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 31/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Belgium

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 1,569,932

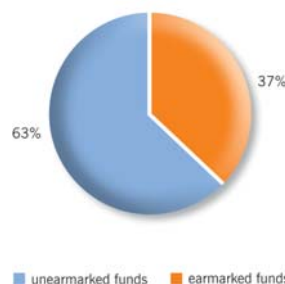
**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 1,150,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 986,842

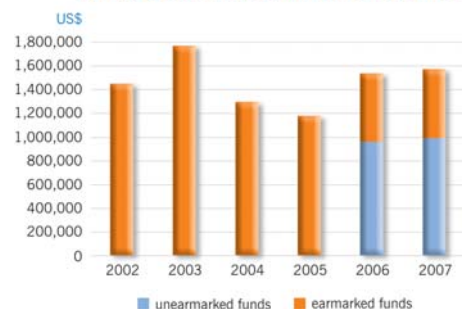
**Donor ranking:** 17/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 15/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Bulgaria

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 5,500

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 3,500

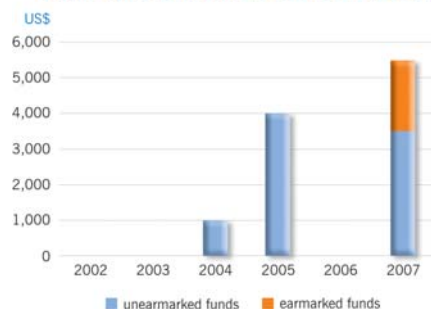
**Donor ranking:** 64/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 50/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Canada

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 9,027,785

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 10,560,000 (CAD)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 6,802,486

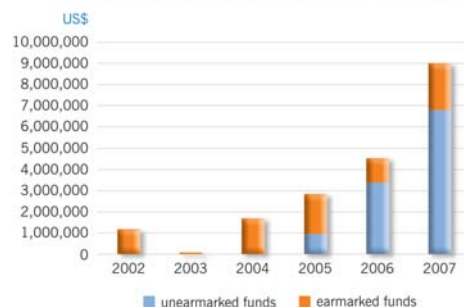
**Donor ranking:** 3/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 13/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Chile

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 34,982

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 20,000

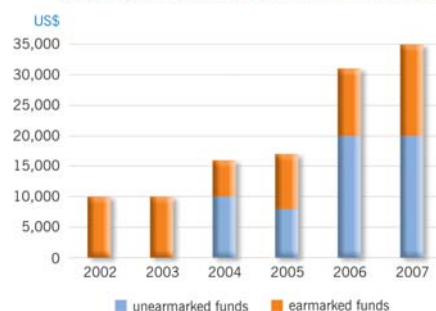
**Donor ranking:** 44/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 43/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Colombia

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 22,023

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

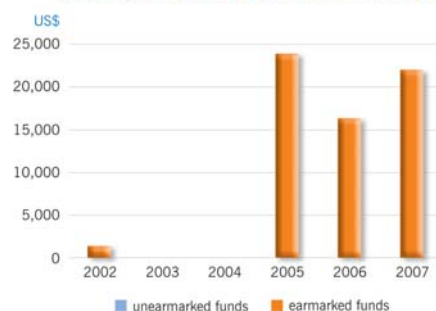
**Donor ranking:** 52/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 54/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007







## Costa Rica

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 14,744

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 14,744

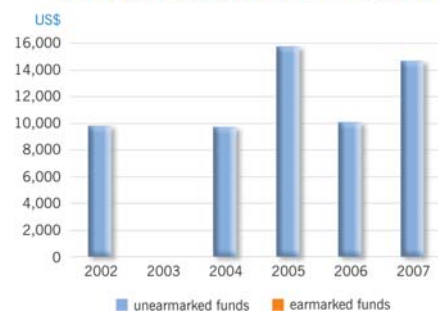
**Donor ranking:** 57/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 40/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Croatia

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 25,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 20,000

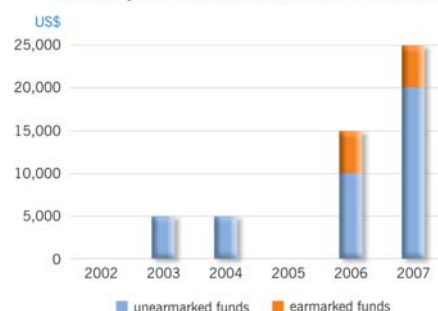
**Donor ranking:** 50/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 35/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Cyprus

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 17,420

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 21,252 (CHF)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

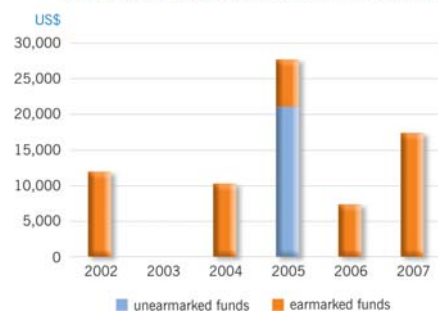
**Donor ranking:** 54/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 24/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Czech Republic

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 17,042

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 300,000 (CZK)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

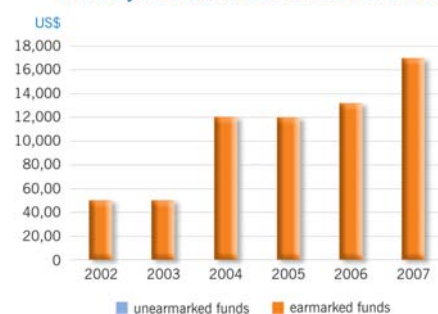
**Donor ranking:** 55/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 46/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Denmark

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 4,734,314

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 26,200,000 (DKK)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 2,309,057

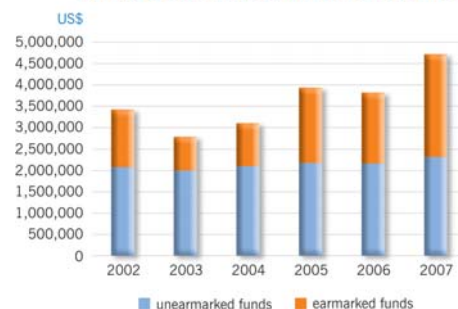
**Donor ranking:** 10/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 5/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007




## Estonia

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 26,229

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 200,000 (EEK)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

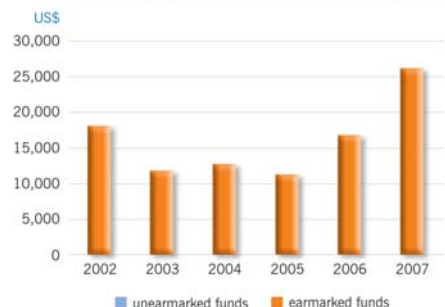
**Donor ranking:** 49/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 25/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007




## Finland

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 2,828,586

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 2,091,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 820,792

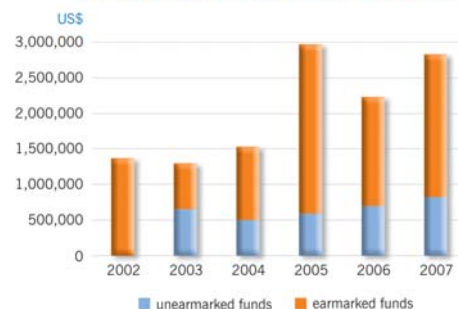
**Donor ranking:** 12/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 8/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007




## France

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 2,473,746

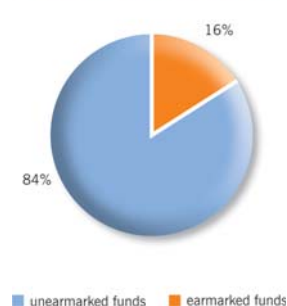
**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 1,900,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 2,084,641

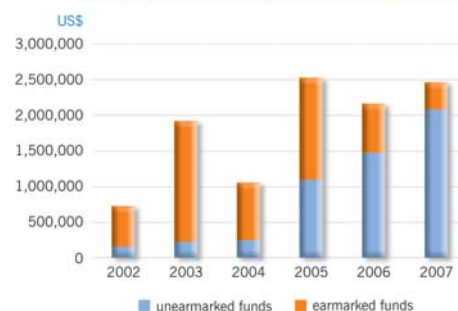
**Donor ranking:** 13/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 19/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Germany

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 1,635,946

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 1,200,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

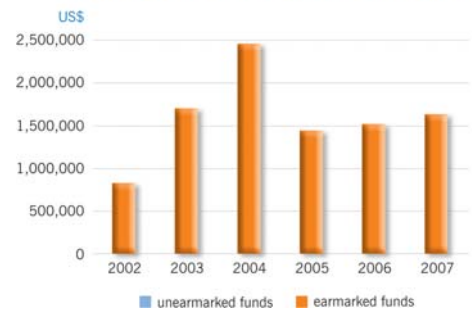
**Donor ranking:** 16/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 26/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Greece

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 170,998

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 125,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 68,399

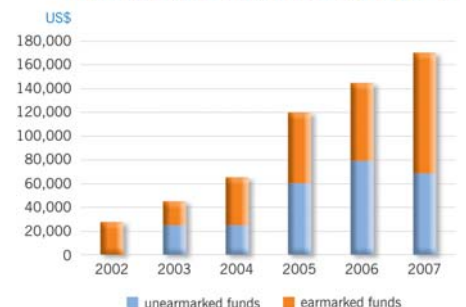
**Donor ranking:** 28/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 27/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Guatemala

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 5,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

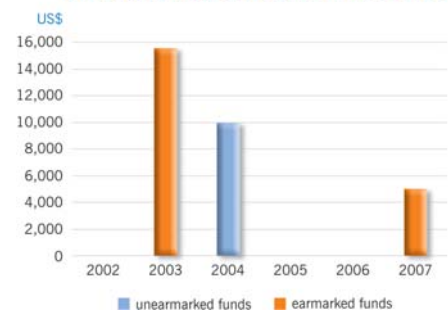
**Donor ranking:** 65/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 56/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Holy See

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 2,500

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

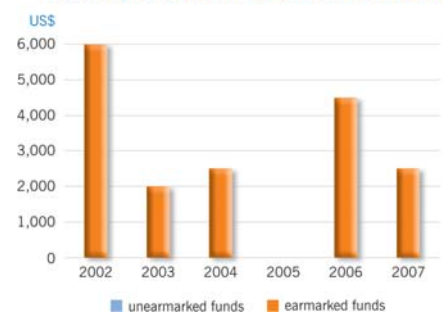
**Donor ranking:** 69/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007







## Hungary

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 42,602

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:**

30,000 (EUR)

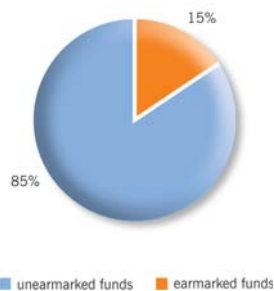
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

36,023

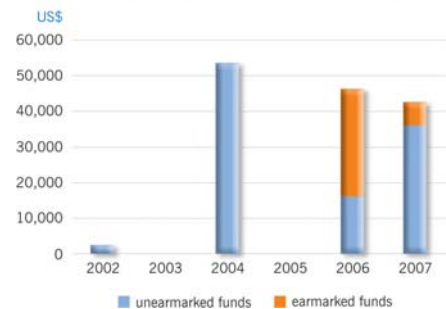
**Donor ranking:** 43/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 37/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Iceland

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 57,399

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

0

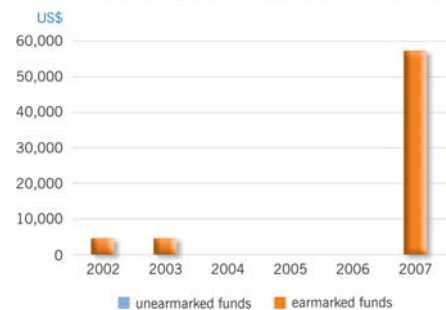
**Donor ranking:** 36/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 14/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## India

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 50,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

0

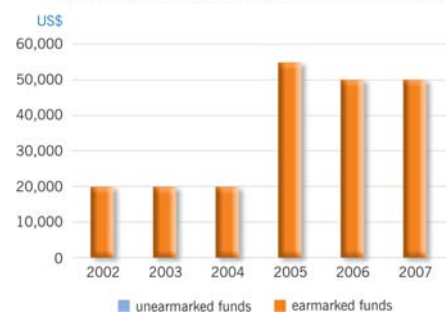
**Donor ranking:** 38/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 62/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Ireland

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 5,191,257

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 3,800,000 (EUR)

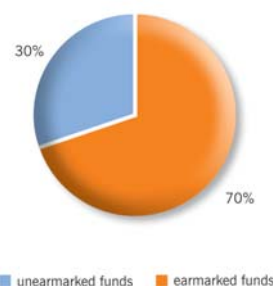
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

1,571,038

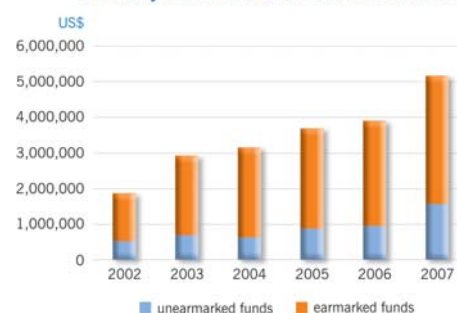
**Donor ranking:** 8/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 3/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Israel

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 10,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

0

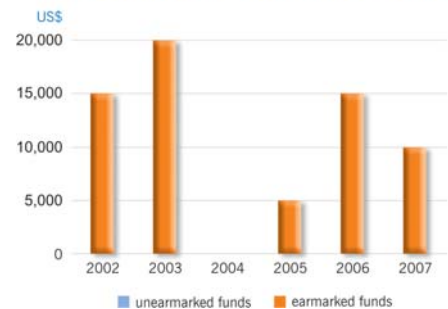
**Donor ranking:** 60/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 47/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Italy

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 2,180,268

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 1,620,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

672,042

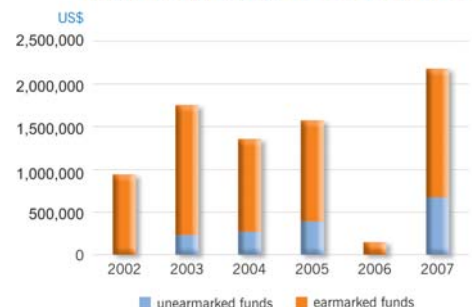
**Donor ranking:** 14/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 20/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Japan

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 306,965

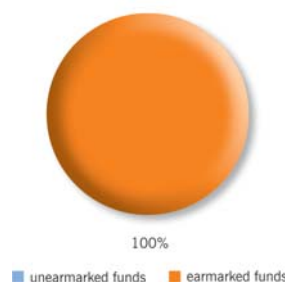
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

0

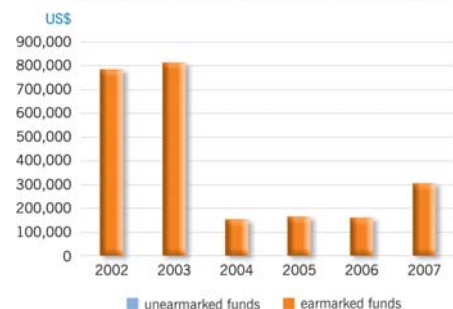
**Donor ranking:** 26/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 42/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Republic of Korea

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 310,000

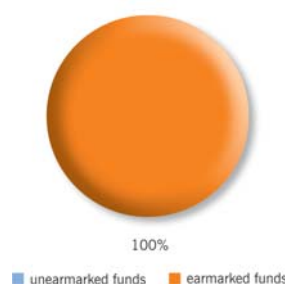
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

0

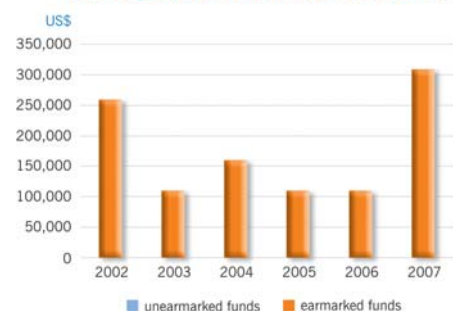
**Donor ranking:** 25/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 34/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Kuwait

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 10,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

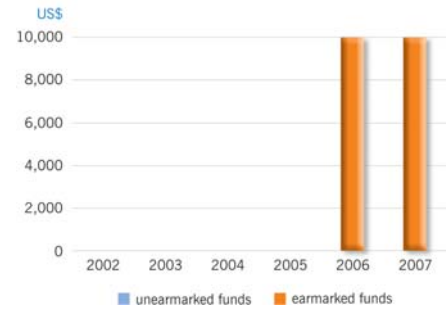
**Donor ranking:** 61/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 38/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Latvia

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 30,738

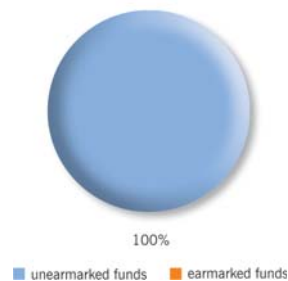
**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 15,000 (LVL)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 30,738

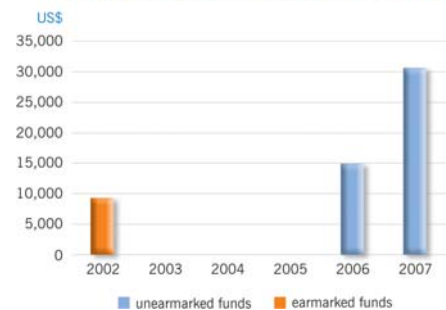
**Donor ranking:** 45/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 32/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Liechtenstein

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 85,586

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 90,000 (CHF) + 8,000 (USD)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 25,862

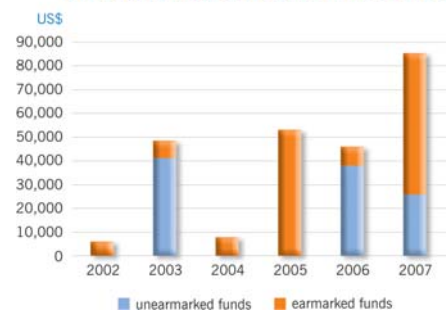
**Donor ranking:** 33/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 1/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Lithuania

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 16,106

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 10,920 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 16,106

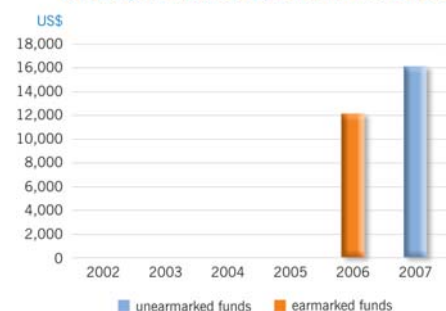
**Donor ranking:** 56/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 36/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007







## Luxembourg

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 155,643

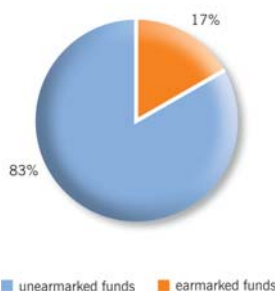
**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 120,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 129,703

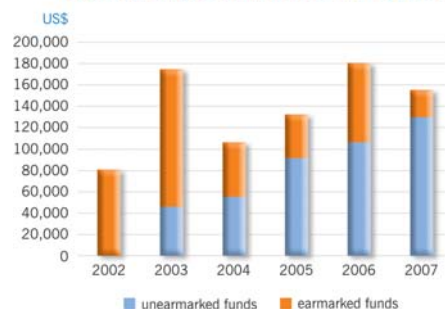
**Donor ranking:** 29/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 12/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Mexico

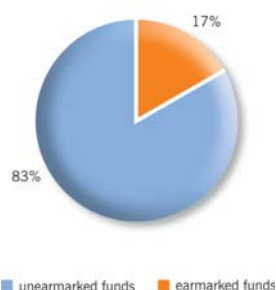
**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 120,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 100,000

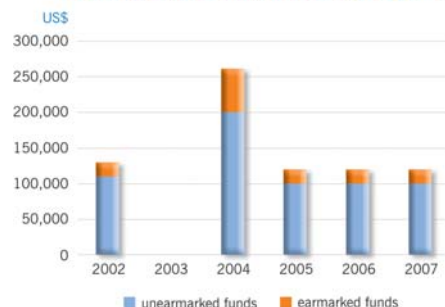
**Donor ranking:** 31/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 49/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Monaco

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 30,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 20,000

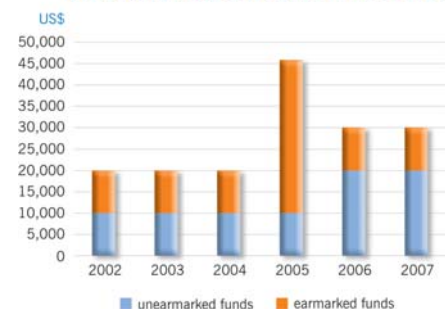
**Donor ranking:** 46/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 4/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Morocco

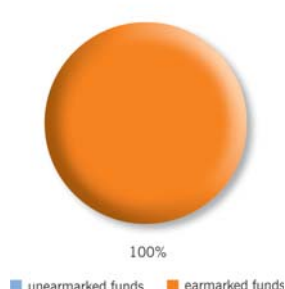
**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 3,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

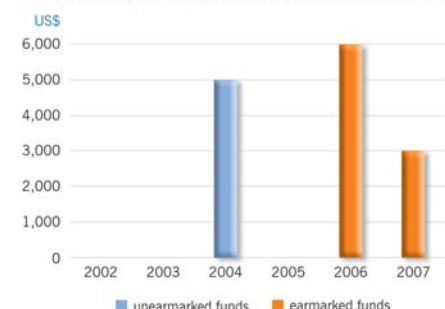
**Donor ranking:** 67/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 61/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Netherlands

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 7,698,917

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:**

5,000,000 (EUR) + 1,119,970 (USD)

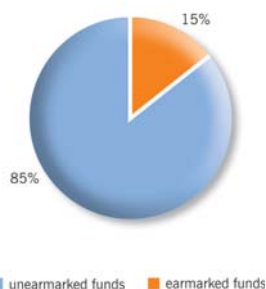
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

6,578,948

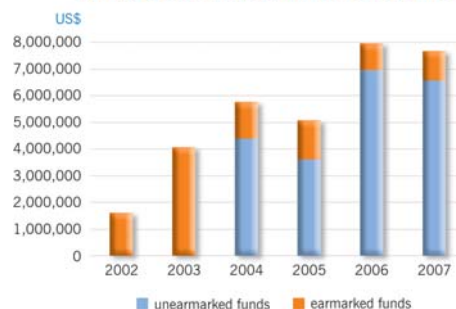
**Donor ranking:** 4/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 9/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## New Zealand

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 1,408,451

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 2,000,000 (NZD)

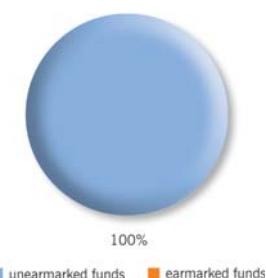
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

1,408,451

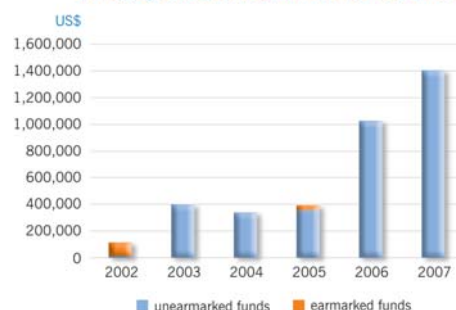
**Donor ranking:** 18/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 11/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Nicaragua

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 2,800

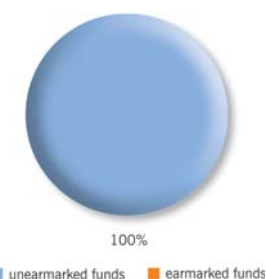
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

2,800

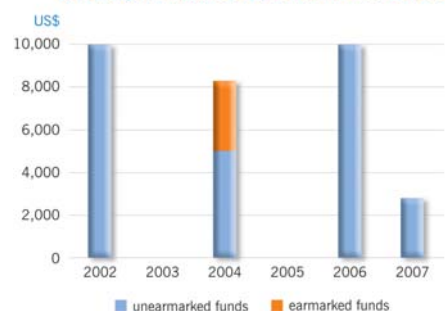
**Donor ranking:** 68/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 51/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Norway

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 10,359,780

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 62,135,000 (NOK)

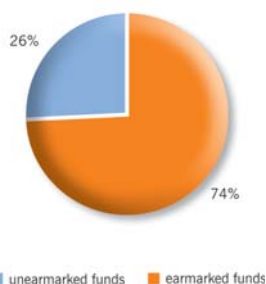
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

2,676,300

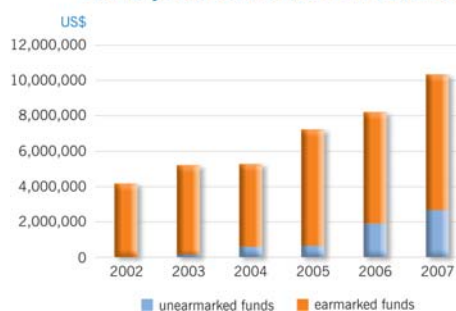
**Donor ranking:** 2/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 2/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Pakistan

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 4,910

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 4,910

**Donor ranking:** 66/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 63/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Panama

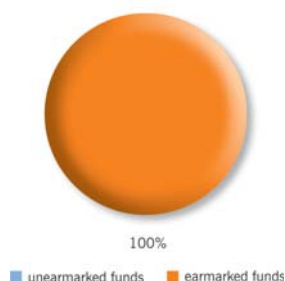
**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 1,500

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

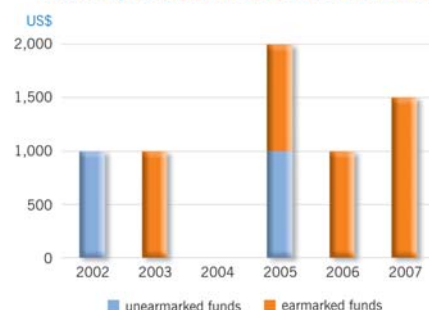
**Donor ranking:** 70/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 55/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Philippines

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 28,272

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

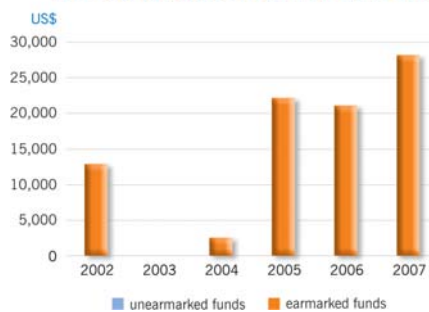
**Donor ranking:** 48/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 59/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Poland

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 100,240

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 120,288 (CHF)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 100,240

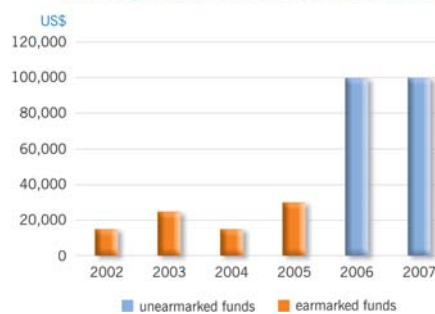
**Donor ranking:** 32/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 41/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007







## Portugal

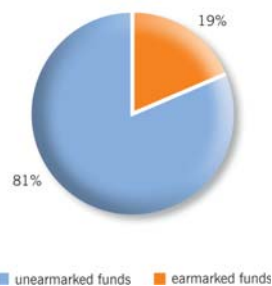
**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 80,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 65,000

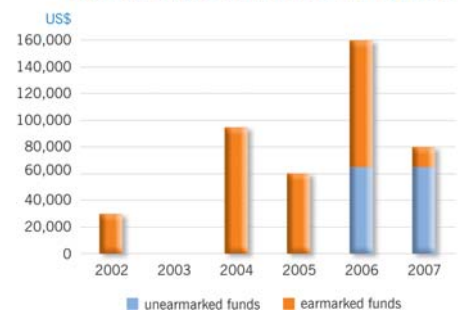
**Donor ranking:** 34/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 33/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Romania

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 294,985

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 200,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

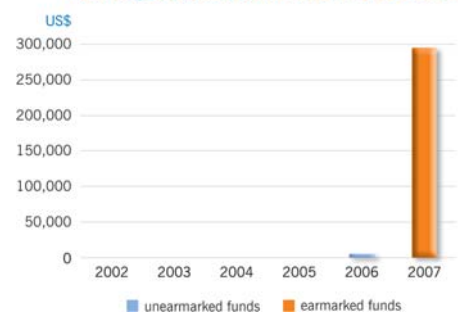
**Donor ranking:** 27/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 30/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Russian Federation

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 2,000,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 1,000,000

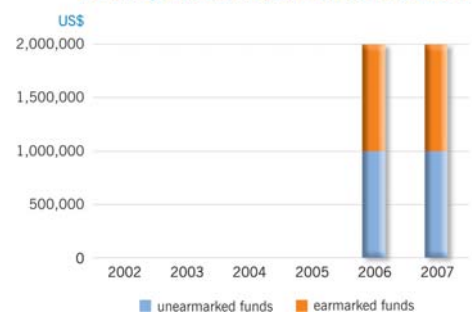
**Donor ranking:** 15/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 29/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Saudi Arabia

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 50,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 50,000

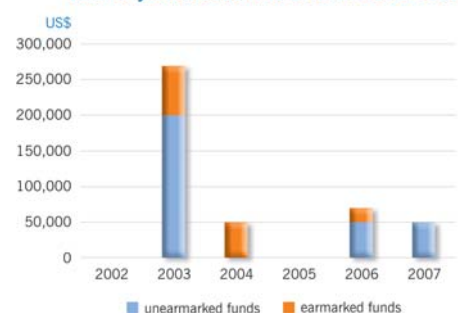
**Donor ranking:** 39/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 44/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Slovenia

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 50,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

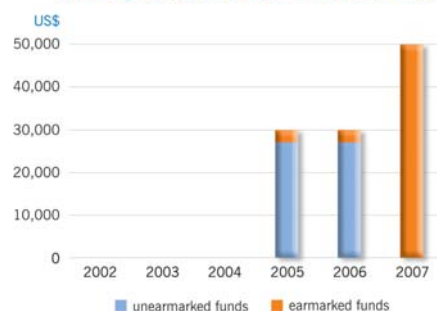
**Donor ranking:** 40/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 23/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## South Africa

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 62,281

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 76,140 (CHF)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 22,528

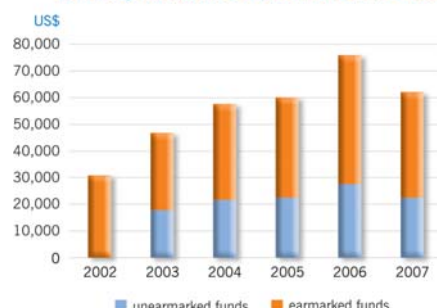
**Donor ranking:** 35/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 48/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Spain

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 5,846,774

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 4,350,000 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 3,360,215

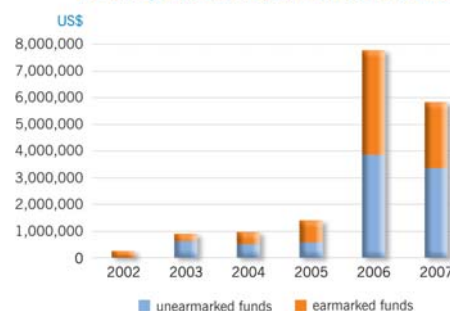
**Donor ranking:** 7/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 16/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Sri Lanka

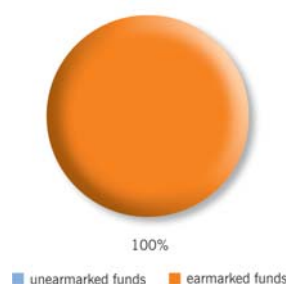
**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 9,982

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

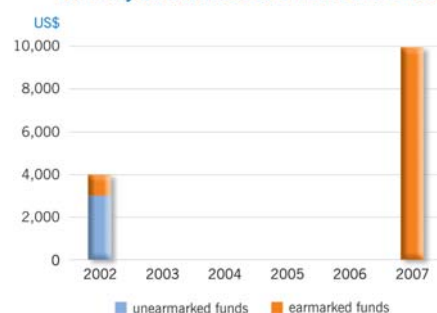
**Donor ranking:** 63/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 53/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007





## Sweden

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 5,931,726

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:**

41,000,000 (SEK) + 8,519.50 (CHF)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

3,179,191

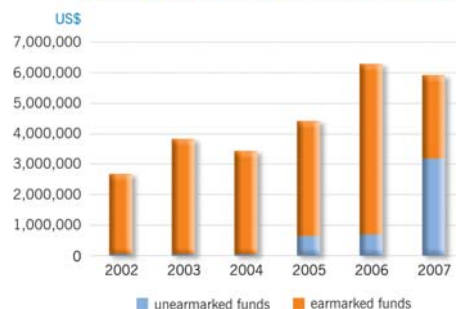
**Donor ranking:** 6/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 7/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Switzerland

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 3,231,546

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:**

3,050,000 (CHF) + 642,780 (USD)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

0

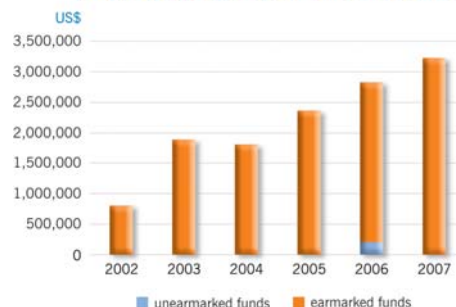
**Donor ranking:** 11/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 10/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Thailand

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 22,376

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:**

2,970 (CHF) + 20,000 (USD)

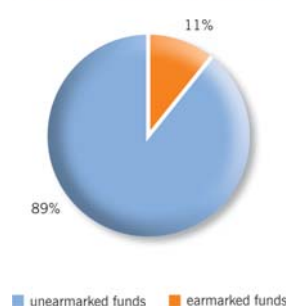
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

20,000

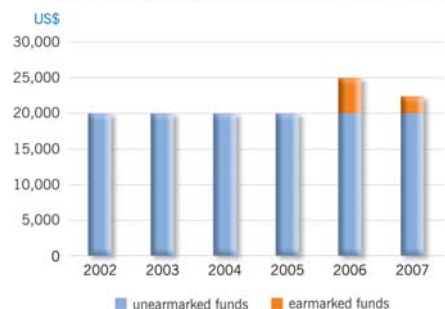
**Donor ranking:** 51/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 58/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Turkey

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 126,000

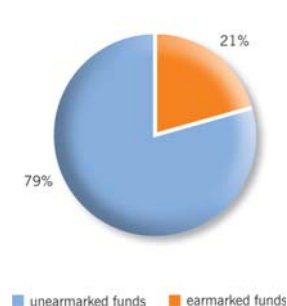
**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**

100,000

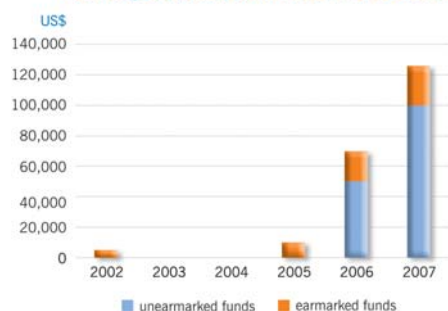
**Donor ranking:** 30/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 45/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007







## United Kingdom

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 6,988,119

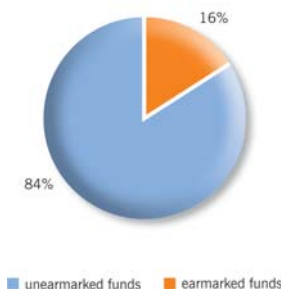
**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 3,060,000 (GBP)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 5,888,384

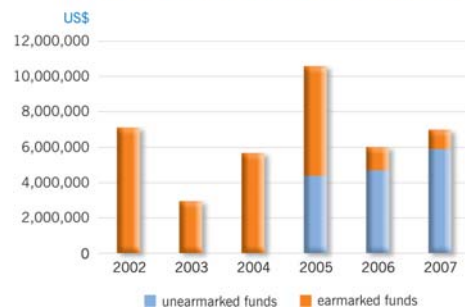
**Donor ranking:** 5/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 17/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## United States of America

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 10,472,037

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

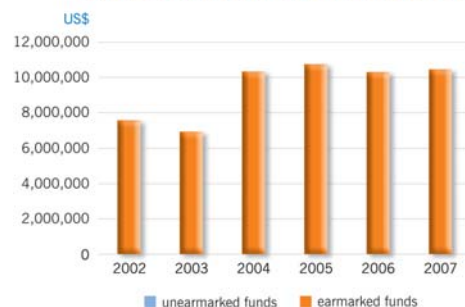
**Donor ranking:** 1/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 21/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Uruguay

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 50,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 50,000

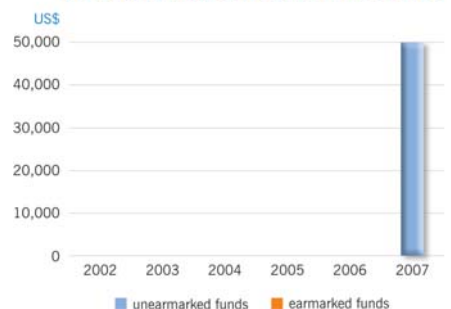
**Donor ranking:** 41/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 28/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Venezuela

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 10,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

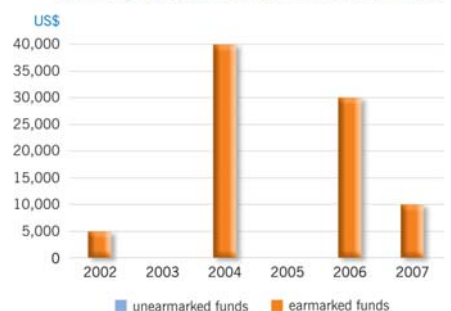
**Donor ranking:** 62/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** 39/63

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



## Intergovernmental Organizations



### European Commission

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 5,178,137

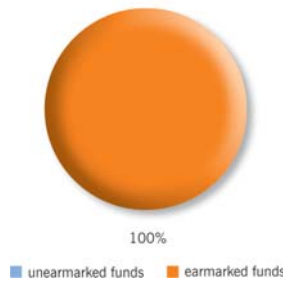
**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:**  
3,740,714.20 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**  
0

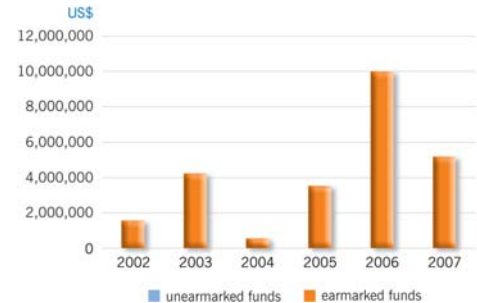
**Donor ranking:** 9/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



### Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 49,732

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 34,115.92 (EUR)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**  
0

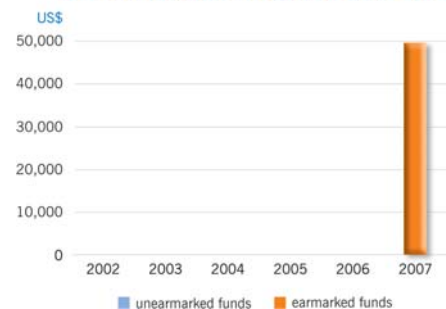
**Donor ranking:** 42/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



### United Nations Development Programme

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 862,299

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**  
0

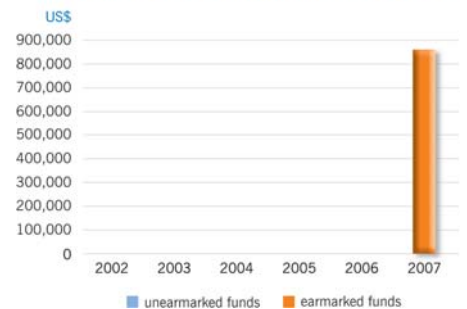
**Donor ranking:** 20/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



### United Nations Populations Fund

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 1,242,647

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:**  
0

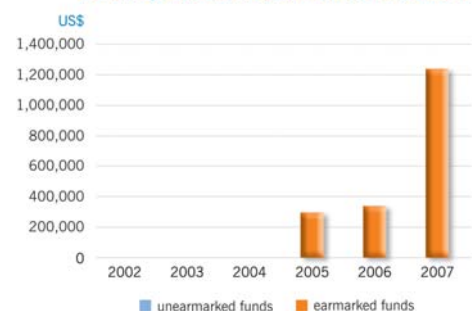
**Donor ranking:** 19/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



# Private Donors

**Oscar Romero** Istituto Tecnico Commerciale 'Oscar Romero'

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 595

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

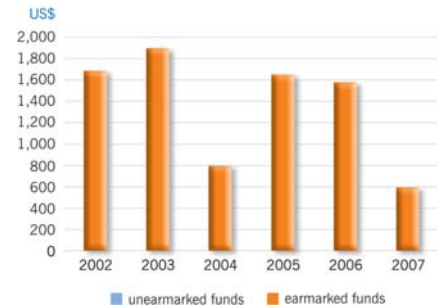
**Donor ranking:** 72/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



**MACARTHUR** MacArthur Foundation

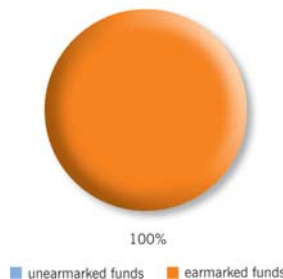
**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 650,000

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

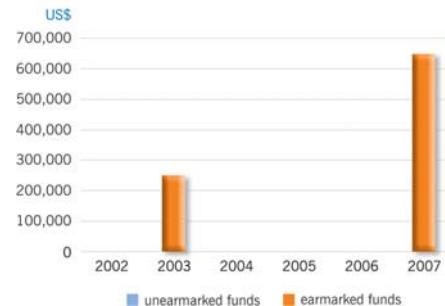
**Donor ranking:** 22/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



**Droits et Démocratie** Rights and Democracy

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 360,891

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 385,000 (CAD)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 0

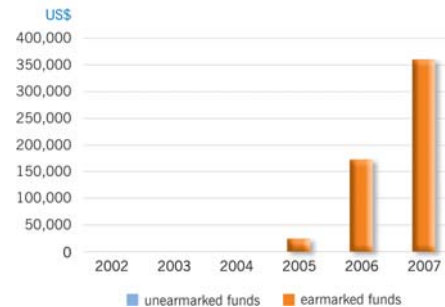
**Donor ranking:** 24/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007



**swatch** SWATCH AG

**Total voluntary contribution in 2007, in USD:** 29,437

**Total voluntary contribution in currency of donation:** 35,697.25 (CHF)

**Unearmarked contribution in USD:** 29,437

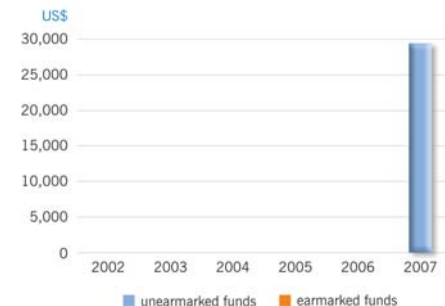
**Donor ranking:** 47/72

**Donor ranking per capita:** n/a

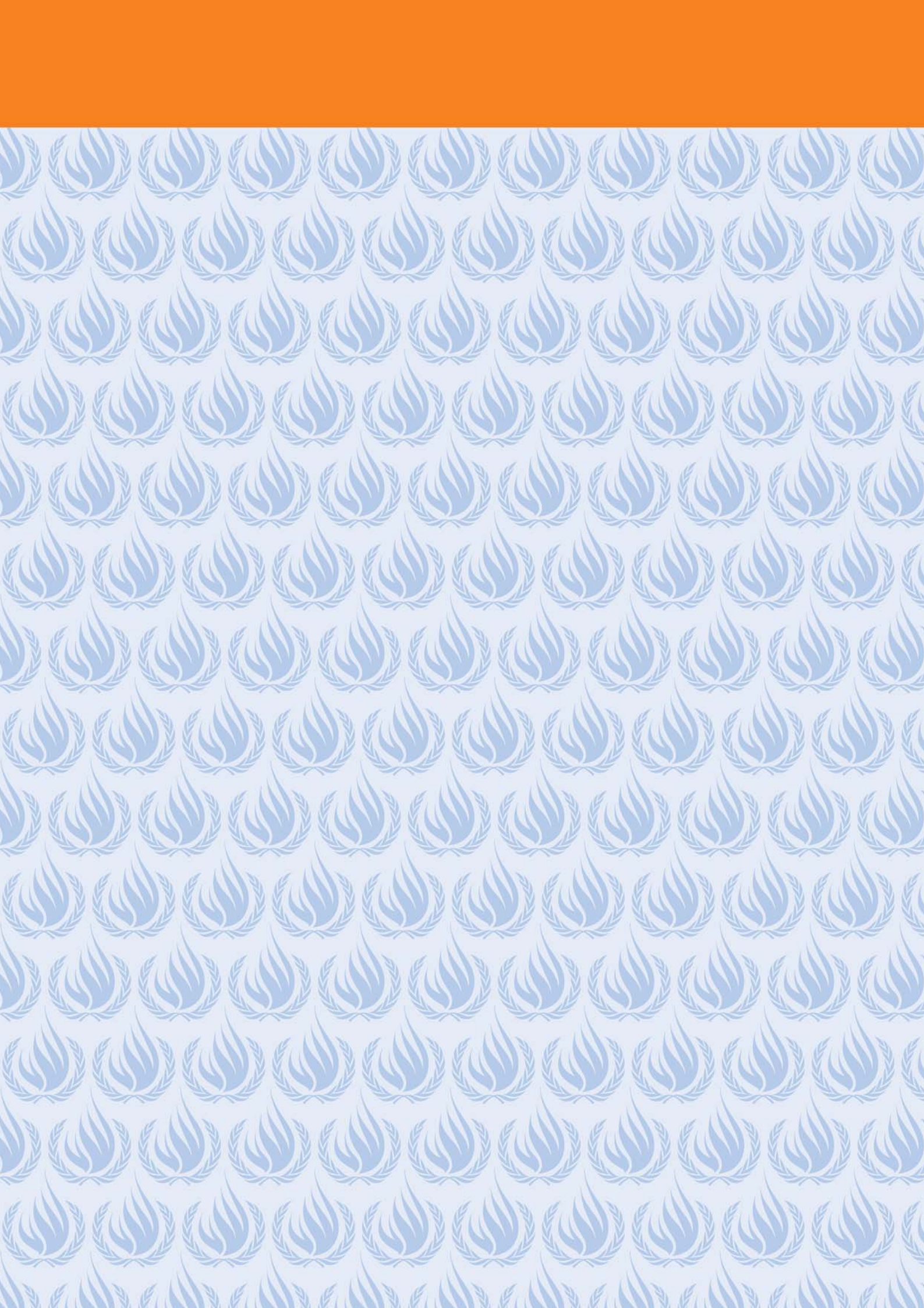
Level of earmarking in 2007



Voluntary contributions to OHCHR 2002-2007









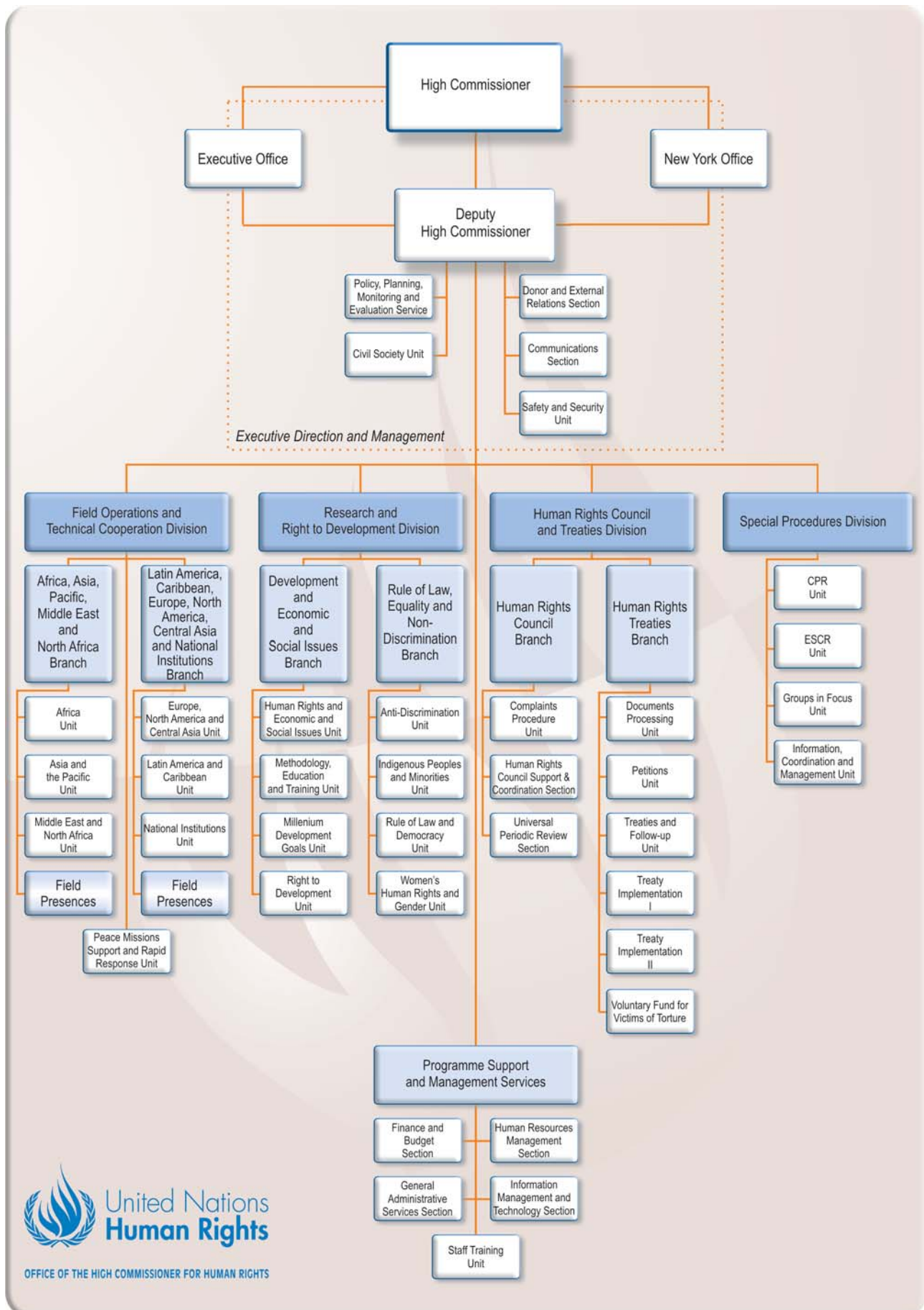
# Annexes







# Organization Chart



## MAJOR OUTPUTS AND PERFORMANCE AGAINST KEY INDICATORS IN 2007\*

### Major outputs in 2007

#### i) COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT

Expected accomplishment: Strengthen OHCHR's engagement with countries to close implementation gaps

- **Common country assessment tools developed and in use:** draft guidelines developed for country assessments; assessments and draft engagement strategies developed for five pilot countries; identification of additional pilot countries put on hold, pending evaluation of the first five pilots
- **Geographic desks strengthened:** five new desk officers recruited in 2007 (in addition to eight recruited in 2006); geographic coordinator posts upgraded to senior (P5) level
- **Field deployment strengthened and rationalized:** one new country office (Bolivia) and one new regional office (for Central America) established; staffing levels increased at six existing country offices and five existing regional offices; two offices (in Belgrade and Sarajevo) phased out after ten years of operation; 11 additional human rights advisers deployed to UN Country Teams; efforts to rationalize support to peace missions
- **Capacity to support fact-finding missions/missions of inquiry strengthened:** new Rapid Response and Peace Mission Support Unit, established in 2006, became fully operational in 2007. Unit developed a roster of 58 human rights officers; the roster was activated on four occasions in 2007
- **Methodological guidelines/tools developed:** human rights case database developed to facilitate consistent recording of violations; consolidated guidelines produced on commissions of enquiry/fact-finding missions; more systematic approach developed to identify lessons learned and best practices; indicators developed on four additional human rights; nine new publications and 31 translations of human rights reference materials issued

#### ii) LEADERSHIP

Expected accomplishment: Enhanced human rights leadership role for the High Commissioner to identify and analyze human rights problems and propose solutions to close implementation gaps

- **Communications capacity enhanced:** Communications Section, established in 2006, became fully operational in 2007; first phase of website upgrade completed; campaign launched to encourage partners in and outside the UN system to mark the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 2008
- **New York Office strengthened:** five staff members added, bringing the number of New York-based staff to 16
- **Increased work on economic, social and cultural rights:** including assistance to the Working Group on the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights; development of training module on economic, social and cultural rights (for completion and use in 2008); preparation and submission to the Human Rights Council of a study on the right to water and sanitation; elaboration of the linkages between human rights and climate change; publication of a handbook on housing and property restitution for refugees and finalization of a fact sheet on the right to health
- **Thematic expertise strengthened:** including through publication of handbooks and manuals on international commissions of inquiry, transitional justice, indigenous and minority rights, poverty reduction, housing and property restitution, and national human rights institutions. A human rights case database was developed and trialed, and further work was undertaken to elaborate human rights indicators

\* This table is based on the framework of planned outputs, strategies and indicators presented in the High Commissioner's Strategic Management Plan 2006-2007 (ref. page 17). Using the same headings and sub-headings as the original framework, the table summarizes outputs produced and progress made in 2007, drawing on information presented in more detail elsewhere in this report.

Key indicators 2006-2007	Progress against indicators in 2007
<b>Increased number of policy, legislative, and institutional changes/developments to close human rights implementation gaps introduced at the national level with the support, or at the initiative, of the United Nations human rights programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Human rights-related laws were drafted, improved or adopted in Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cambodia, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kosovo (Serbia), Mexico, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan</li> <li>● Measures to prevent torture were introduced in Cambodia, Guatemala, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, the Maldives, Thailand and Uganda</li> <li>● Criminal procedure law under discussion in the National People's Congress, People's Republic of China; juvenile justice law under discussion in Iran</li> <li>● Two new national human rights institutions established and seven strengthened</li> <li>● Association of Southeast Asian States (ASEAN) charter adopted and ASEAN leaders committed to establishing an ASEAN human rights body</li> </ul>
<b>Increased number of institutionalized human rights training and education programmes introduced at the national level with the support or at the initiative of the United Nations human rights programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Training for human rights defenders and civil society, including NGOs, journalists, and teachers, carried out in more than 35 countries</li> <li>● Human rights training for government and judicial representatives provided in more than 30 countries</li> <li>● Human rights training for prison officials, police officers and members of the army, including military police, provided in more than 30 countries</li> <li>● Eight training workshops provided for participants from about 20 countries on treaty body reporting and follow-up to recommendations</li> <li>● Human rights included in school curricula in Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Tajikistan and Timor-Leste</li> </ul>
<b>Rapid response capacity to deploy human rights officers at short notice established</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Rapid Response and Peace Mission Support Unit fielded rapid response missions to eight countries and participated in six Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)-led technical assessment missions</li> <li>● \$1m contingency fund maintained to cover the cost of rapid response-related activities</li> </ul>
<b>Increased reference to OHCHR policy positions and commentaries by concerned United Nations organs and bodies in policy and planning documents, in civil society campaigns, and in major human rights reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Two new human rights policy guidelines developed by OHCHR and adopted by UN partners, bringing to 11 the total for the biennium (compared with three during 2004-2005)</li> <li>● OHCHR position on human rights in integrated missions incorporated in the "UN Peacekeeping Operations Guidelines and Principles-Capstone Doctrine" developed by DPKO, setting out policy guidance for UN peace missions</li> <li>● Human rights perspective included in key guidelines, policies and tools developed by the UN Development Group for country teams</li> <li>● OHCHR's rule-of-law and transitional justice policy tools increasingly used by UN partners in New York and reflected in UN system-wide policies in relation to rule of law</li> <li>● OHCHR's position on gender issues and women's human rights reflected in guidance issued to peace missions on improved reporting on sexual violence</li> <li>● OHCHR activities, statements and policy positions referred to in reports published by, inter alia, Amnesty International, Article 19, Caritas Internationalis, Freedom House, Human Rights First, Human Rights Watch, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Crisis Group, International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, Refugees International, World Organization against Torture</li> </ul>
<b>Increased and more accurate reporting on human rights issues and the work of the Office by the media</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● More than 3,800 mentions of the High Commissioner in print and electronic media, compared to 3,300 in 2006 and 2,100 in 2005</li> <li>● Opinion articles by the High Commissioner appeared in more than 75 different publications in 60 countries</li> </ul>
<b>Increased public interest in the United Nations human rights programme and support for the work of the Office</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 31 per cent increase in the number of unique visits to OHCHR's website from 1.9 million visits in 2006 to 2.5 million in 2007</li> <li>● Human Rights Day marked by events, broadcasts and publications in numerous countries</li> </ul>





## Major outputs in 2007

### iii) PARTNERSHIPS

Expected accomplishment: Strengthen partnerships with United Nations agencies and programme and with civil society to close gaps in implementation

- **Awareness of human rights issues enhanced among Resident & Humanitarian Coordinators, Representatives of the Secretary-General and other senior officials:** including through training provided to 24 Resident Coordinators and 17 UN Country Teams (altogether, 40 Resident Coordinators received training from OHCHR in 2006-2007, compared to ten in 2004-2005); advice provided by human rights advisers to Resident Coordinators on policy & strategic issues; two 'Training of Trainer' workshops on human rights conducted for 55 inter-agency participants
- **Human rights capacity of UN Country Teams strengthened:** through training provided to UN Country Teams, including ten of the 12 Country Teams undergoing the CCA/UNDAF process; dissemination of an inter-agency Common Learning Package on a human rights-based approach; and seed funding for human rights-related training and other activities provided through the Action 2 Global Programme
- **Senior civil society function within OHCHR established:** Civil Society Unit, established in 2006, strengthened in 2007 with recruitment of unit chief
- **Partnership with DPKO, Department of Political Affairs and humanitarian agencies strengthened:** including through quarterly consultations introduced in 2007; increased participation in inter-agency bodies; deployment of 11 additional human rights advisers to UN Country Teams (five part-funded under the Action 2 Global Programme); OHCHR's role in support of human rights components in integrated missions reflected in UN Peacekeeping Operations Guidelines and Principles
- **Partnership with World Bank strengthened:** collaboration with the World Bank and IMF was strengthened, in particular in relation to activities undertaken under the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development and consultations on developing a conceptual and operational framework to integrate human rights within strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, as well as in the case of the World Bank, the work programme of the Human Rights Task Team of the OECD/DAC's Governance Network in areas including aid effectiveness and human rights. Institutionalizing a closer institutional relationship with the World Bank and IMF remains subject, in part, to ongoing deliberations within their respective governing boards

### iv) UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES

Expected accomplishment: Enhanced synergy in the relationship between OHCHR and the various United Nations human rights bodies to close implementation gaps

- **Working methods and reporting requirements of treaty bodies increasingly harmonized:** guidelines adopted for the Common Core Document; increased number of Common Core Documents and treaty specific reports submitted according to the new guidelines
- **More strategic & effective support for treaty bodies, & their integration into OHCHR's work at the country level:** including through training for national human rights institutions on implementation of treaty body recommendations; and training for government officials from nine countries on preparation of reports to treaty bodies
- **More strategic & effective support for special procedures and their integration into OHCHR's work at the country level:** reflected in more active involvement of country and regional offices and human rights advisers in the work of special procedures mandate-holders, including supporting field missions; 36 per cent increase in the number of country visits by mandate holders; increased efforts by OHCHR to follow-up recommendations of mandate holders with governments
- **Transition to Human Rights Council supported:** through substantive assistance, legal and technical advice to the Council to facilitate institution building, including for the modalities of the Universal Periodic Review
- **Proposals made for the rationalization of existing special procedures mandates:** OHCHR provided support to the ongoing review and rationalization of mandates by the Human Rights Council, including providing information to the inter-governmental Working Group on the Review of Mandates, individual mandate-holders, the Coordination Committee, and the Council Presidency. The process has resulted in the renewal of all thematic mandates reviewed so far, and the creation of two new thematic mandates on contemporary forms of slavery and access to safe drinking water and sanitation. Of the country mandates reviewed to date, one, on the Democratic Republic of Congo, was discontinued; two others on Belarus and Cuba were discontinued by the Council in June 2007, prior to the start of the review of individual mandates.
- **Links made with UN Executive Committees, Inter-Agency Standing Committee, Security Council, Peacebuilding Commission and Democracy Fund:** New York Office strengthened its engagement with the Executive Committees, Security Council and Peacebuilding Commission and contributed to the work of the Democracy Fund

### v) MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING

Expected accomplishment: Strengthen OHCHR management and planning capacity to close implementation gaps

- **Delegation of authority received:** in respect of the management of extrabudgetary resources and property, effective 1 January 2008
- **Thirteen Standard Operating Procedures approved:** ten relating to field operations, two to administrative matters, one to visitor briefings
- **Human resources policies strengthened:** including through new procedures designed to ensure greater geographic diversity for professional-level posts; and training provided to OHCHR staff on results-based management, administrative and substantive human rights issues

Key indicators 2006-2007	Progress against indicators in 2007
<b>Increased number of United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) integrating a human rights-based approach to development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● OHCHR contributed to the preparation of 11 UNDAFs and PRSPs, integrating a rights-based approach to development (compared to 18 in 2006)</li> <li>● Training and advice provided to UN Country Teams by human rights advisers and field presences, on the integration of a human rights-based approach to development</li> </ul>
<b>Increased integration of human rights into United Nations peace and security and humanitarian activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● OHCHR's messages reflected in discussions in the Policy Committee and the Executive Committees on Peace and Security and on Humanitarian Affairs</li> <li>● OHCHR participated actively in the work and periodic meetings of the Policy Committee, the Interagency Steering Committee, the UN's four executive committees and 31 interagency groups on country-specific and thematic issues</li> <li>● OHCHR contributed to the work of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission</li> </ul>
<b>Increased awareness, understanding and use of various human rights mechanisms and programmes by civil society actors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 179 NGOs participated in the fourth session of the Human Rights Council, 110 participated in the fifth, 151 in the first half of the sixth and 91 in the resumed sixth session</li> <li>● 62 NGOs regularly provided information to special procedures mandate holders' communications and, in the course of the 53 country missions carried out by thematic mandate holders in 2007, 530 NGOs met with &amp; provided information to special procedures mandate-holders</li> <li>● More than 350 civil society representatives trained on UN human rights mechanisms, treaty implementation, reporting and follow-up processes</li> </ul>
<b>Increased joint initiatives among the components of the human rights programme (briefings, cross references, statements, missions, implementation of recommendations)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Three joint country visits conducted by special procedures mandate holders compared to one in 2006</li> <li>● 49 per cent of special procedures communications issued jointly; 20 per cent of press releases issued jointly, including the first ever press release on behalf of all mandate holders</li> <li>● At least ten concluding observations of treaty bodies made references to recommendations, conclusions or other activities of the work of special procedures mandate-holders</li> </ul>
<b>Increased attention to human rights dimensions of issues discussed in United Nations bodies and agencies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Two new human rights policy guidelines developed by OHCHR and adopted by UN partners, bringing to 11 the total for the biennium (compared to three during 2004-2005)</li> <li>● Through the Action 2 Global Programme, assistance was provided to 47 UN country teams, including through dissemination of a common learning package on a human rights-based approach to programming, deployment of five human rights advisers and seed funding for joint programming/capacity development</li> </ul>
<b>Established priorities and policies guide the allocation of resources and work plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Allocation of both regular and extra-budgetary resources guided by the SMP (2006-2007) and mandates given by inter-governmental bodies.</li> <li>● Mid-year and end-of-year reviews, conducted by senior management, provided opportunities for priorities to be reassessed and revised as necessary</li> <li>● New Programme and Budget Review Board, chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner, established to review, approve and consider adjustments to strategic plans and costplans</li> <li>● New Financial Monitoring Committee, chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner, established to oversee implementation of costplans, recruitment and cashflow</li> </ul>
<b>Reduced timeframe in recruiting staff and deploying staff to the field in a safe and efficient manner</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Average timescale for recruitment shortened by 51 days (compared to 2006)</li> </ul>
<b>Reduced vacancy rate and turnover</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 143 recruitments completed, including new and existing posts, producing a net increase of 91 staff members</li> <li>● 14 per cent vacancy rate for regular budget-funded posts; 19 per cent vacancy rate for extrabudgetary-funded posts. No data available on staff turnover</li> </ul>

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2007 REPORT ON ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS  
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