



**Submission by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' Compilation Report  
(Excerpts of Treaty Body Concluding Observations and Special Procedure  
Reports) - Universal Periodic Review:**

**GUINEA**

We would like to bring your attention to the following excerpts of Treaty Body Concluding Observations and Special Procedure reports relating to issues of interest and concern to UNHCR with regard to Guinea.

**Treaty Body Concluding Observations**

**CEDAW/C/GIN/CO/6, 39<sup>th</sup> session, Concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women: Guinea  
10 August 2007**

26. The Committee remains concerned about the prevalence of violence against women and girls. The Committee is particularly concerned about occurrences of domestic violence, rape, including marital rape, and all forms of sexual abuse of women, and about the persistence of patriarchal attitudes whereby the physical chastisement of family members, including women, is considered acceptable. It is further concerned about the lack of information and data in the report on the prevalence of different forms of violence against women, the lack of legislation to address domestic violence comprehensively, the apparent lack of public awareness of this violation of women's human rights and the insufficient support for victims of violence.

27. **The Committee urges the State party to place the highest priority on implementing a comprehensive approach to address all forms of violence against women. It encourages the State party to make full use of the Committee's general recommendation 19 in such efforts and of the United Nations Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women (A/61/122/Add.1 and Corr.1). It urges the State party to raise public awareness through the media and education programmes that all forms of violence against women are unacceptable. The Committee calls upon the State party to train the judiciary, law enforcement officials, legal professionals, social workers and health providers so as to ensure that the perpetrators of violence against women are effectively prosecuted and punished with the required seriousness and speed and that effective and gender-sensitive support is provided to victims. It calls on the State party to enhance victims' access to legal redress and to establish support measures for victims of violence against women, including shelters and legal, medical and psychological support. The Committee urges the State party to enact without delay legislation on domestic violence, including marital rape, and all forms of sexual abuse, as requested in**

**the Committee's previous concluding comments (see A/56/38, part two, chap. IV, para. 135). The Committee requests the State party to provide information in its next report on the laws, policies and programmes in place to deal with all forms of violence against women and on the impact of such measures, as well as statistical data and trends over time concerning the prevalence of various forms of such violence.**

28. While appreciating the State party's efforts to combat the trafficking of women and girls, the Committee remains concerned about the absence of adequate measures to combat this phenomenon, including its causes and extent, in particular from the State party's position as a country of origin, transit and destination. Moreover, the Committee is concerned about the lack of data and statistical information about the extent of trafficking in women and girls, in particular internal trafficking from rural to urban areas.

**29. The Committee urges the State party to undertake efforts to determine the causes and extent of trafficking of women and girls from its perspective as a country of origin, transit and destination and to determine the incidence of internal trafficking. It recommends that the State party strengthen measures to combat and prevent trafficking in women and girls and to improve the economic situation of women so as to eliminate their vulnerability to exploitation and traffickers. The Committee requests the State party to provide, in its next report, comprehensive information and data on trafficking in women and girls.**

**CERD/C/304/Add.86, 55<sup>th</sup> session  
12 April 2001**

#### B. Factors and difficulties impeding the implementation of the Convention

3. While noting that Guinea is a developing country, the Committee notes that the structural adjustment programme and the influx of large numbers of refugees from Sierra Leone, Liberia and, more recently, Guinea-Bissau, has had an adverse impact on socio-economic, cultural and environmental development and has impeded the full implementation of the Convention.

#### C. Positive aspects

4. The Committee is encouraged by the fact that Guinea has acceded to the six main international instruments of the United Nations for the protection of human rights and that its Constitution as well as its domestic legislation gives prominence to respect for human dignity and provides for the principle of equality as well as for the prohibition of racial discrimination.

7. While noting the impact of the influx of refugees, the Committee welcomes the willingness and acceptance of the State party to receive over 1 million refugees and asylum-seekers from neighbouring countries. In this regard, the Committee also notes with appreciation that the State party's domestic legislation provides for the protection of and asylum of refugees who have fled their countries because of racial or ethnic discrimination.

#### D. Principal subjects of concern

10. While the Committee recognizes the importance of national unity and the need to avoid regionalism within the State party, concern is expressed that any measures taken to this end should not lead to racial discrimination.

11. Concern is expressed about the lack of information regarding the practical implementation of article 5 of the Convention. In this connection, the Committee is concerned about the destruction by the State of more than 10,000 homes in the Conakry Ratoma neighbourhood, belonging mainly to members of the Puhlar ethnic group; the resulting riots which led to the death of eight persons; and the inter-ethnic tension which remains in that area. The Committee is also concerned about the lack of compensation for those persons whose property was expropriated.

12. The Committee is particularly concerned that the recent developments in both the public and private sectors may have had a more adverse effect on some ethnic groups.

#### E. Suggestions and recommendations

16. The Committee recommends that the State party include in its next report the text of the Law on Citizenship for the Committee to evaluate the limitations on foreigners and stateless persons on the enjoyment of the rights enshrined in article 5 of the Convention. In addition, the State party is invited to provide further information on the effective enjoyment of the political, economic and social rights enumerated in article 5 of the Convention, in particular by persons belonging to ethnic groups.

#### **CRC/C/15/Add.100, 20<sup>th</sup> session 10 May 1999**

#### C. Factors and difficulties impeding further progress in the implementation of the Convention

6. The Committee notes that the State party is among the least developed countries of the world. The Committee also notes that the implementation of structural adjustment programmes and the current presence within the territory of the State party of a large number of refugees from neighbouring countries affect the full implementation of the Convention.

7. The Committee notes that certain traditional practices and customs, prevailing particularly in rural areas, hamper the effective implementation of the Convention, especially with regard to the girl child.

#### D. Principal subject of concern and the Committee's recommendations

10. Concern is expressed at the lack of a systematic, comprehensive and disaggregated quantitative and qualitative data-collection mechanism for all areas covered by the Convention, especially the most hidden, such as child abuse or ill-treatment, but also in relation to all vulnerable groups of children, including girls, children with disabilities, children living in rural areas, children living in poverty, children born out of wedlock, children victims of sale, trafficking and prostitution and refugee children. The Committee recommends that the State party develop a comprehensive system of collecting disaggregated data, in order to gather all

necessary information on the situation of all children under 18 years of age in the various areas covered by the Convention, including children belonging to vulnerable groups. Technical cooperation in this area from, inter alia, UNICEF is encouraged.

17. With regard to the implementation of article 2, insufficient measures have been adopted to ensure the full enjoyment by all children of the rights recognized in the Convention, in particular in relation to matters of inheritance, as well as access to education and health services. The Committee is particularly concerned at the situation of vulnerable groups of children, such as girl children, children with disabilities, children living in rural areas, children living in poverty, refugee children and children born out of wedlock. The Committee recommends that a more active approach be taken to eliminate discrimination against vulnerable groups of children.

35. The Committee is concerned at the increasing phenomenon of trafficking and sale of children into neighbouring countries for work or prostitution. The insufficient measures to prevent and combat this phenomenon are also a matter of concern. In the light of article 35 and other related articles of the Convention, the Committee recommends that the State party review its legal framework and reinforce law enforcement, and strengthen its efforts to raise awareness in communities, in particular in rural areas. Cooperation with neighbouring countries through bilateral agreements to prevent cross-border trafficking is strongly encouraged.

**Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section  
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