

# Annual Appeal 2 0 0 2

*Overview of activities and financial requirements*

# Human Rights



OFFICE OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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## Foreword by the High Commissioner

**T**his is the third annual funding appeal of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. It has the same objective as the previous appeals: to seek support from the international community for its mission to promote and protect human rights for all.

The response to the earlier appeals has been most generous. It is not only the significant financial commitments of our donors that are deeply appreciated, it is also the signal such support gives that OHCHR is on the right road and making progress.

Our role as a small Office in the United Nations is to be catalytic, to strive to be a centre of excellence, to add value to the knowledge base about international human rights and to coordinate efforts worldwide in the protection and promotion of human rights.

In the coming year there will be increasing demands and expectations of performance from OHCHR, as the strategic overview outlines. The cumulative effect of the welcome increase in ratifications of treaties and protocols, the adoption of new mandates, and new areas of focus pressing for attention, added to existing programme commitments, represents a substantial increase in the workload of the Office. That workload is impossible to support by the regular budget alone.

The overall target for this year's appeal is US\$ 55,778,746. We are trying to be realistic, recognizing that the performance of the Office still requires significant improvements to ensure that planning, management and administration develop in a coherent way, pooling resources from the regular budget and extra-budgetary resources in a common system. Steady progress in strengthening financial, human resource and operational functions is being made. We are implementing our



Change Management Programme and have established a new Policy Planning and Methodology Team. All of these steps are directed at ensuring that OHCHR carries out its mandate in an effective and transparent manner.

It is now a truism that the world has changed in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the United States on 11 September. The full implications will take time to emerge. But it is clear that the mission to promote and protect universal human rights is as vital as ever. To prevent hatred and violence, we must continue to affirm the values of human rights and democracy, the imperative of human development, the equal rights of every individual, the duty to eliminate all forms of discrimination, and the need to unceasingly promote dialogue across cultures.

Many of these issues were raised at the World Conference against Racism. The Conference was not an easy one but we do have as a result significant international documents. The Durban texts offer new possibilities for the promotion of equality and the prevention of conflict as well as the deepening of global understanding. The important task of implementing the anti-discrimination programme of the World Conference is highlighted in this Appeal.

I again wish to express gratitude to all our donors for past support and to urge similar generosity in your response to this Appeal. We need your help to continue the vital work to build a world in which the human rights of all are enjoyed in peace and security.



Mary Robinson  
High Commissioner for Human Rights

# Mission statement

The mission of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is to protect and promote all human rights for all.

OHCHR is guided in its work by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent human rights instruments, and the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. The promotion of universal ratification and implementation of human rights treaties is at the forefront of OHCHR activities.

OHCHR aims to ensure the practical implementation of universally recognized human rights norms. It is committed to strengthening the United Nations human rights programme and providing the United Nations treaty monitoring bodies and special mechanisms established by the Commission on Human Rights with the highest quality support.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights is the official with principal responsibility for the United Nations human rights activities. OHCHR is committed to working with other parts of the United Nations to integrate human rights standards throughout the work of the Organization.

OHCHR bases itself on the principle that human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated. All rights – civil, cultural, economic, political and social – should be given equal emphasis, and promoted and protected without any discrimination. The realization and enjoyment of all rights for women and men must be ensured on a basis of equality.

OHCHR is committed to promoting the realization of the right to development and to strengthening a rights-based approach to development.

OHCHR engages in dialogue with governments on human rights issues with a view to enhancing national capacities in the field of human rights and towards improved respect for human rights; it provides advisory services and technical assistance when requested, and encourages governments to pursue the development of effective national institutions and procedures for the protection for human rights.

A number of OHCHR field presences have been established with a view to ensuring that international human rights standards are progressively implemented and realized at country level, both in law and practice. This is to be accomplished through the setting up or strengthening of national human rights capacities and national human rights institutions; the follow-up to the recommendations of human rights treaty bodies and the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the creation of a culture of human rights.

An essential condition for the success of field presences is that governments, national institutions, non-governmental organizations, as well as the United Nations Country Teams, are increasingly empowered to take on human rights related activities on their own, within the context of regional or sub-regional strategies.

OHCHR seeks to play an active role in removing obstacles and meeting challenges to the full realization of all human rights and in preventing the occurrence or continuation of human rights abuses throughout the world, and to achieve this will work closely with governments, United Nations bodies, regional organizations, international and non-governmental organizations and civil society.

# Executive summary

Activities of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights will require US\$ 78,233,896 in 2002. It is expected that an allocation of US\$ 22,455,150 from the UN regular budget will be approved. An additional US\$ 55,778,746 from voluntary contributions will be required in the following areas:

The Human Rights Trust Funds established by the United Nations General Assembly require US\$ 11,000,000 to assist victims of torture, to support work on contemporary forms of slavery and activities related to indigenous populations.

The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance took place in South Africa in 2001. OHCHR will play a crucial role in ensuring follow-up to the Conference and is expected to be the lead UN body responsible for integrating the Durban Programme of Action into the mandates and activities of the United Nations. US\$ 1,494,854 will be needed in 2002.

OHCHR's technical cooperation programme assists countries in their efforts to incorporate international human rights standards in national laws, policies and practices, and build sustainable national human rights capacities and infrastructures. Activities at regional, sub-regional and national levels require US\$ 10,576,705 in addition to US\$ 1,425,000 from the UN regular budget. Support to national institutions requires US\$ 1,706,300.

OHCHR has been given a mandate to integrate human rights in UN development work. In 2002, OHCHR will undertake initiatives to develop concepts, policies, and training materials to translate human rights principles into practical tools for rights-based development. Requirements amount to US\$ 803,091.

OHCHR has offices with protection and promotion mandates in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. US\$ 16,707,371 is needed for OHCHR's work to contribute to peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building efforts.

OHCHR is responsible for supporting the human rights organs and treaty bodies. An allocation of some US\$ 2,166,900 from the UN regular budget is expected in 2002. An additional US\$ 3,094,210 is required from voluntary contributions.

Special procedures mechanisms have been created by the United Nations to examine specific country situations or themes from a human rights perspective. There are currently 37 such mandates, all of which are serviced by OHCHR. An allocation of US\$ 1,289,000 is expected to be made from the UN regular budget with an additional US\$ 2,607,080 required from voluntary funds.

OHCHR's work to advance the rights of women, minorities, indigenous peoples and the disabled continues along with the need to address new phenomena that present challenges to human rights such as the HIV/AIDS pandemic, advances in biotechnology, and the globalized economic and trade systems. Requirements to address these issues amount to US\$ 1,799,638.

To be an effective global Office, solid support functions such as advice and support to the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner, policy planning and methodology, public information, information management, programme and finance systems and resource mobilization are required. US\$ 5,989,497 is needed in 2002 to build capacities in these areas.

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## trategic overview

This third Annual Appeal builds on the experience of implementing strategies for action set out in the two previous Appeals, while seeking to sharpen and strengthen those strategies.

As with earlier appeals, the process of drafting projects and costing them has been a good discipline and a useful management tool for the Office. The reporting involved in the publication of OHCHR's first Annual Report in July 2001 also helped to generate greater cohesion, common purpose and more transparency in OHCHR activities. A second Annual Report on the use of funds and activities undertaken in 2001 will be published in Spring 2002. The management of change process instituted in 2000 has been systematically pursued with the goal of strengthening all aspects of administration, financial information and communication management.

An important new initiative has been the creation of a Policy Planning and Methodology Team with the brief to develop stable and coherent policies based on lessons learned from the Office's work, including its field presences, its development and human rights activities and its training programmes. OHCHR understands that much remains to be done to build the organisational and management culture that its mandate requires. The Office remains committed to meeting that challenge.

OHCHR's task is to provide worldwide leadership for its broad mandate, and to work within the United Nations to achieve the integration of human rights into all activities. The Office strategy for 2002 has been developed within the General Assembly's road map for the implementation of the Millennium Declaration.

All strategies must aim to improve actual enjoyment of rights among individuals and communities around the world. In 2002, the Office will continue to contribute its own policies and programmes designed to complement national efforts. These include: advice and assistance on the incorporation of international human rights norms in

constitutions and legislation; national human rights plans of action as well as the development of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights; and human rights education and training for key groups such as law enforcement officials, lawyers and judicial personnel.

A large part of the activities of OHCHR's work is concentrated on these technical assistance activities. To date some 10 national plans in developing and developed countries have been adopted. In addition, the Office is working with some 50 national human rights institutions and providing advice to over a dozen countries seeking to establish them.

The Office plans to continue to build a regional and sub-regional programme throughout 2002. Regional advisors, some of whom are located at the headquarters of United Nations regional economic and social commissions, have been or are being appointed in different regions of the world. This outreach will help promote a culture of human rights based on universal norms and ensure that the services of the Office are readily accessible in all regions. The advisors will also enable the Office to maintain a more strategic approach at the national level in the regions. Two advisors have been appointed in 2001 and six more are expected to be appointed in 2002.

At the same time, the Office will continue to seek to integrate a human rights perspective into all activities of the United Nations system. In the coming year the focus will be on enhancing the Office's work with development agencies on rights-based approaches to development with and through the UN Country Teams; the HURIST project with UNDP is a mainstay of this work.

Another priority is to initiate a practical dialogue with international financing institutions and promote the role of human rights in poverty reduction strategies. An increasingly important part of the Office's field work is participation in the UN peacekeeping and conflict-prevention operations. Thus the Office is involved in a number of

human rights components in the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. As a follow-up to the Brahimi report, the Office aims to strengthen the human rights elements in these operations.

The Office will continue to serve and facilitate the human rights treaty system. The growing number of accessions to human rights treaties including complaint mechanisms reflect the success of the Millennium Summit strategy of pressing for universal ratification. Through its promotion work and field presences, OHCHR can play an important role in the development of the international petition system. However, that will require an increase in human resources to ensure that the human rights machinery can respond effectively.

Follow-up to the comprehensive programme of action of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance will be a major element of OHCHR work programme in 2002. The International Day against Racial Discrimination (21 March 2002) is planned as an occasion for all actors to review and report on follow-up to their commitments. A new anti-discrimination unit in OHCHR will act as the Office's focal point for implementing the programme of action and will oversee the commitment of all branches to integrate equality and non-discrimination concerns into all aspects of activities. Maintaining momentum in the campaign to eliminate racism and all other forms of discrimination will require considerable investment. OHCHR regards fighting racism and building global acceptance of diversity and equality as essential parts of the international community's fresh commitment to the combating of terrorism.

While maintaining its ongoing programmes and special projects including work on trafficking in people, HIV/AIDS, minority and gender issues, the Office must respond to other concerns of the international community. These are reflected in the programme chapters of the Appeal, but they include:

- The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues established by the Economic and Social Council will hold its first session in May 2002. The Forum, which will serve as an advisory body to the Council, has a number of original features. For example, it is planned to bring together in an inter-agency process issues of concern to indigenous communities, including human rights, development, the environment, cultural and social issues, health, and education. The Secretary-General

has designated the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights as the lead agency to prepare for the first session of the Forum.

- Disability issues require greater attention if a human rights approach is to make a difference on the lives of people living with disability. A major mapping study to be published by OHCHR at the end of 2001 will provide the basis for projects to be implemented in partnership with the Commission on Social Development. These projects will include an OHCHR website section on human rights and disability and a training workshop on how advocates on disabilities can use UN human rights procedures more effectively. The Office will explore what steps can be taken to achieve better representation of persons with disabilities as members of UN human rights bodies.
- OHCHR is a lead agency in the Secretary-General's Global Compact to encourage the private sector to play a constructive role in improving respect for human rights and for labour and environmental standards. During 2002, OHCHR will work with the ILO and UNEP to develop guidance and information tools for business leaders seeking to integrate the Global Compact principles into corporate policies and practices. The Office will also expand the network of participating organisations, including companies, trade unions and NGOs, follow up commitments made at the World Conference against Racism to foster diversity and combat discrimination in the workplace and community, and develop cooperation with business schools interested in integrating human rights into management curricula.
- The Commission on Human Rights has asked the High Commissioner to focus on the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights. The OHCHR is pursuing initial research and consultation with experts on the complex area of human rights and bioethics. Immediate attention is being given to the subject of genetic testing and its potential human rights implications including privacy rights and non-discrimination principles.

OHCHR needs flexibility to respond to new challenges, such as the one posed by terrorist attacks on the United States on 11 September. The Office has advised UN bodies on how to protect human rights while combating terrorism; it must now build capacity to respond to the human rights element of the emergency in Afghanistan.

# The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

## Mandate

OHCHR's priorities are set by the General Assembly and are contained in the Medium-term Plan for 1998-2001. The new Medium-Term Plan for 2002-2005 will soon be adopted by the General Assembly. These Plans follow the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (created after the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights) and the Charter of the United Nations. They contain a broad mandate, which includes promoting the right to development, increasing recognition of economic, social, and cultural rights, improving the treaty monitoring and special procedures systems, helping states implement human rights plans of action at the national level, designing preventive strategies, integrating the rights of women and children into the UN system, developing effective measures to combat racism, and conducting an education and public information programme.

## Structure

The post of High Commissioner for Human Rights was established by a General Assembly resolution in December 1993 following a recommendation contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

The Office, a full department of the UN Secretariat with enhanced authority to play a leading role in promoting the universal enjoyment of all human rights, is headed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, who has the rank of Under Secretary-General. The current High Commissioner is former President of Ireland, Mary Robinson. As High Commissioner, she is the United Nations official who holds the principal responsibility for United Nations human rights activities. A Deputy High Commissioner assists her in her work.

In addition to its mandated responsibilities, the Office is now leading efforts to integrate human rights throughout the entire UN system, in accordance with Secretary-General Kofi Annan's 1997 UN reform programme.

OHCHR headquarters is located in Palais Wilson in Geneva and has a liaison office in New York. The Office is divided into three management units, known as branches:

### Research and Right to Development Branch

This branch has primary responsibility for promoting the right to development. It does so by conducting research, providing support for the Working Group on the Right to Development, mainstreaming human rights in development, specifically through the Country Common Assessment/United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, and identifying rights-based development strategies to eradicate poverty and realize all rights. It provides substantive support to experts mandated by the Commission on Human Rights to report, inter alia, on the right to development and extreme poverty, on social and economic rights, including food, education, and housing, and on the impact of structural adjustment policies on human rights. The branch has responsibility for mandated work on indigenous peoples and minorities, and for strategic initiatives on gender issues, women's rights, reproductive rights, HIV/AIDS, disability and trafficking. It manages the Office's web site, information services and database.

### Activities and Programmes Branch

This branch prepares, plans, and evaluates technical cooperation activities and other field activities and missions. It also supports the activities of special rapporteurs, experts and working groups, known collectively as the 'special procedures', which track and investigate specific types of systematic human rights violations, and provides the Commission on Human Rights with information on these violations. Activities are usually related either to thematic mandates, in which violations are tracked and responded to by type, or to the geographic desks, which gather and analyze country information and support in-country initiatives, including the estab-

lishment of national human rights institutions, the work of the country special rapporteurs, and the Office's own field presences.

### **Support Services Branch**

This branch services the human rights treaty bodies, the Commission on Human Rights and related working groups, the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and various human rights funds. It prepares and submits the documents that inform the various treaty bodies, processes communications submitted to treaty bodies, and follows-up on decisions taken at treaty body meetings. It also provides support to the Board of Trustees of the Human Rights Trust Funds established by the General Assembly.

### **Presence in the field**

OHCHR has offices with protection mandates in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Other offices have been established and staff deployed with other UN agencies, programmes and missions to conduct technical cooperation activities at regional, sub-regional and national levels. During 2002 OHCHR plans to deploy regional advisors in Bangkok, Santiago de Chile, Addis Ababa and Beirut. OHCHR also works to develop the human rights component of complex UN missions, both peacekeeping and peace-making, in cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs.

# Funding and budget

## Introduction

At the time of publication of this Annual Appeal, the UN General Assembly will have approved a new regular budget for the biennium 2002-2003. OHCHR has requested a total of US\$ 44,760,300 in appropriations for the new biennium. This would provide a slight increase in the number of posts funded from the regular budget. Under the Brahimi submission OHCHR has requested a total of US\$ 2,839,300. Of this amount, US\$ 1,890,300 is requested under the regular budget and US\$ 949,000 is sought under the support account. This includes the funding for the establishment of fifteen posts. However, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended approval of three professionals and one general service post for the Activities and Programmes Branch, to be financed from the regular budget and also recommended approval of an amount of US\$ 500,000 for non-post requirements. In light of the increasing number of mandates and scope of activities, the Office's funding requirements from voluntary contributions continue to rise. An additional US\$ 55,778,746 is therefore requested from extra-budgetary sources.

### United Nations regular budget

The regular budget pays for staff and basic infrastructure. The Charter, which is an international treaty, obligates all States that are Members of the United Nations to pay a portion of the budget. Each State's contribution is calculated on the basis of its share of the world economy. The regular budget is determined through a rigorous process involving all Member States. The Secretary-General proposes the budget to the General Assembly after carefully scrutinizing requests from individual UN departments. The budget is then analyzed by the 16-member Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and by the 34-member Committee for Programme and Coordination. The Committees'

recommendations go to the General Assembly's Administrative and Budgetary Committee, made up of all Member States, which also reviews the budget. Finally, the budget is sent to the General Assembly for final review and approval.

For the biennium 2002-2003, OHCHR has requested a total of US\$ 44,760,300. Of this, US\$ 21,030,150 is likely to be appropriated for 2002. Under Section 21, which includes the technical cooperation projects for the United Nations, OHCHR has requested a total of US\$ 2,700,000. Of this, US\$ 1,425,000 is likely to be appropriated for 2002.

### Voluntary contributions

OHCHR receives contributions from governments, NGOs, foundations and other private donors. Many Governments – 87 since 1994 – make large and small contributions to fund the work of the Office. The value of small contributions is far greater than the amount of money given: these contributions demonstrate support for the work of the Office. Still, a small number of donors provide most of the funding for OHCHR. In 2000 and 2001, OHCHR expanded its donor base and reduced its dependency on the major donors.

### Voluntary contributions in US\$:

1995	15,043,117
1996	24,971,066
1997	24,590,363
1998	37,441,516
1999	26,870,647
2000	41,791,550
2001 (as of 1 November)	23,638,960

## Providing contributions

Contributions provided in a predictable and timely manner help the Office plan activities and use its financial resources effectively and efficiently. It is therefore desirable for the Office to receive funding or indications of funding as early in the year as possible and under arrangements that provide maximum stability in the funding. Unlike some other UN offices and agencies, OHCHR can only spend money that has already been deposited. It is therefore important that contributions are paid as soon as possible after a pledge so the Office can begin implementing its activities.

A contribution can be pledged in a letter addressed to the High Commissioner, the Deputy High Commissioner, or the Senior Fundraising Officer. A reply indicating details of payment will be returned to the donor. The pledge should indicate clearly for which activity the contribution is intended. It is appreciated if contact is made with the resource mobilization team before making a pledge to discuss the Office's current priorities and conditions attached to the contributions. Most contributions to OHCHR are earmarked; however less rigid earmarking would give the Office more flexibility in the use of funds. It is thus appreciated if donors earmark to the main headings of the Annual Appeal, rather than to specific activities, and give at least a portion of the annual contributions with no earmarking at all.

## Financial reporting and control

The Annual Report on activities in 2000 was published in July 2001 and showed that a total of US\$ 41.5 million remained unspent at the end of that year. This carry-over should be seen both as a reflection of the need to keep a certain percentage of funds as cash operating reserves and of the fact that the carry-over represented balances of several trust funds, comprised of earmarked contributions, which cannot be reallocated for other activities of the Office. According to UN financial rules, a cash operating reserve has to be kept for each trust fund, of which there are currently 11, for unforeseen emergencies. In 2000, it was decided that this amount should represent 15 per cent of the previous year's expenditure for the trust fund, i.e., a total of US\$ 3,033,232. These funds were therefore not available for implementation. An additional cash reserve of US\$ 1,681,189 was held against funds transferred to some of OHCHR's implementing agents and was also not available for implementation. Hence, the carry-over of funds available for implementation was US\$ 36.8 million.

The level of unspent funds also has to be seen in light of the existing programming cycle for the Office's various trust funds. For example, the human rights trust funds operate according to specific programming cycles, which do not coincide with the fiscal year. Funds received up to the date of the meeting of each board of trustees are allocated; however, funds received after the meetings are kept for the following year's session, thus adding to the carry-over. These four trust funds accounted for US\$ 5.2 million of the total carry-over in 2002.

The trust fund for technical cooperation operates on the basis of a system of allotments (reserved funds) against which commitments can be made at a later date. However, such allotments are not part of the amounts reported as expenditure. While most allotments are eventually converted into commitments, periodic review of project implementation is required to ensure that the necessary cancellations of unused allotments are made. This is part of the tighter financial monitoring mechanisms that have been introduced in the Office during 2001.

The Office has since conducted a stringent review of its implementation capacity with quarterly financial reviews of performance in all areas. This has led to a substantial increase in the rate of implementation, particularly for the voluntary fund for technical cooperation where, as of July 2001, the average monthly rate of disbursement has been approximately US\$ 600,000. This is to be compared to approximately US\$ 250,000 in 2000.

To improve financial monitoring and control, OHCHR undertook an analysis of the optimal level of carry-over to ensure uninterrupted project implementation, including the continuation of work contracts, for the first quarter. It was concluded that a minimum of US\$ 15 million would be required to cover salaries and other expenses for three months. However, this low level of carry-over would require that OHCHR receive payments of up to 60 per cent of all contributions during the first and second quarters of the year in order to ensure sufficient cash flow to continue activities in the second and third quarters. Early and predictable contributions, and payments, are therefore of utmost importance. Given that the rate of implementation of activities has increased during 2001, the Office estimates the total carry-over of funds into 2002 to be considerably lower than the amount presented in the 2000 Annual Report (including the reserves and other miscellaneous provisions).

## Programme planning and management

The Office is working to capitalize and expand on achievements to date in this area. The current budget review process, in the form of the Project Review Committee, ensures that projects are thoroughly analyzed, both substantively and financially, prior to implementation. Improved monitoring and interim reports allow the Office to review progress to date and make adjustments as necessary. More rigorous follow-up of conclusions resulting from final evaluation reports contribute to the formulation of new projects.

As of 2001, the Office has introduced an annual programming cycle and related procedures. This is part of an Office-wide initiative to improve planning and programming at all levels. The new programming cycle is closely linked to the development of a core management system, which will cover systems and procedural needs related to project, contribution and financial management (see page 109 for further details). A mid-year progress review, which advises senior managers about progress to date and provides indicative planning figures for the future, has also been introduced. It is expected that the planning process will begin at a much earlier stage as of 2002 and be followed by a formal budget revision that will take place halfway through the year.

## Programme support costs

All funds are charged for programme support costs (formerly referred to as overhead) on the part of the United Nations. The rate charged, established at 13 per cent of the annual final expenditure, has been approved by the General Assembly. Programme support costs are credited to a special account and should be used in areas where a demonstrable relationship exists between the supporting activity and the activities that generated the programme support revenue. As such, programme support resources are normally used for functions within project management, programme management and central administration, including finance, budget and personnel support. Programme support resources may also be used to backstop projects in technical cooperation programmes. Procedures for approving and managing the programme support accounts are well established in the administrative instruction ST/AI/286 of 3 March 1982, which remains operational.

## Standardized budgets

OHCHR's programme management is in transition. New techniques and standards are gradually being discussed

and introduced, including results-based programming, standardization of activities, and annual project planning and budgeting; yet the limitations of the Office's current tools and systems make transparent and systematic reporting difficult. Consequently, this year's Annual Appeal budgets are presented according to the standard breakdown by item, or object classes, as defined in the UN financial system. The associated activities are described in the narrative part of each section. Not only does this provide for more coherence between the Annual Appeal and actual project budgets, but it will also allow for easier comparison between the Annual Appeal and the Annual Report.

## Budget headings

In light of the above, the following object classes have been included in the budget tables:

- **Staff costs:** salaries and associated benefits of personnel holding UN contracts, administered either through UNOG or UNOPS;
- **Experts/consultants fees and travel:** salaries, associated benefits and travel expenses of external experts and consultants recruited for a specific time-limited mandate or purpose;
- **Travel:** subdivided into OHCHR staff, Commission members and Representatives and other participants, i.e., all travel and related expenses incurred by OHCHR staff, members of the Commission on Human Rights, Special Rapporteurs and other representatives of the High Commissioner, etc.;
- **Contractual services:** payments for services purchased from external suppliers, for example conference services, printing services, vehicle maintenance, translation, security services, etc.;
- **General operating expenses:** payments for office rent, communications, fuel, etc.;
- **Supplies and acquisitions:** payments for office supplies and equipment, including computers, printers, fax machines, etc.;
- **Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars:** payments in the form of grants to external entities, organizations, institutes and universities, including NGOs;
- **Programme support costs:** 13 per cent of total project costs. This amount is generally shared at a varying ratio among OHCHR and its implementing agents – UNOG, UNOPS, UNDP and UNICEF.

## OHCHR's partners

As one of the major organizational units of the United Nations Secretariat, OHCHR enjoys the common services provided by the United Nations in New York and the United Nations Office in Geneva (UNOG). Both UN offices provide support and advice in the areas of finance, budget and human resources management. The processing of all administration requirements in the areas of finance, budgetary allotments and personnel administration goes through UNOG. OHCHR also uses the common services of conference facilities, including interpretation, for all formal meetings of the Commission on Human Rights, Sub-Commission, etc.

In 2002, OHCHR will continue its implementing arrangement with the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), who will provide administrative support services, particularly in field activities. Based on the experience of working together during the past three years, the current memorandum of understanding has been revised to ensure improved financial monitoring, control and reporting.

## Budget in US\$

(Required from voluntary contributions)	
<b>Human rights trust funds</b>	<b>11,000,000</b>
<b>Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism</b>	<b>1,494,854</b>
<b>Technical cooperation</b>	
Global projects	2,298,129
Africa	1,921,857
Latin America and the Caribbean	1,457,759
Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus	1,441,228
Asia and the Pacific	1,940,074
Arab region	1,517,658
<b>Sub-total technical cooperation:</b>	<b>10,576,705</b>
<b>Support to national institutions</b>	<b>1,706,300</b>
<b>Human rights in development</b>	<b>803,091</b>
<b>Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities</b>	<b>16,707,371</b>
<b>Support to human rights organs and treaty bodies</b>	<b>3,094,210</b>
<b>Response to allegations of human rights violations – support to the special procedures</b>	<b>2,607,080</b>
<b>Issues in focus</b>	<b>1,799,638</b>
<b>Building the capacity of OHCHR</b>	<b>5,989,497</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,778,746</b>

## Regular budget in US\$

### (Section 22 of the regular budget for the biennium 2002 – 2003)

#### Policy-making organs

Commission on Human Rights	207,800
Sub-Commission	773,600
Human Rights Committee	1,441,700
Special Committee to Investigate Israeli practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories	231,000
Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1,103,400
Committee on the Rights of the Child	850,300
Committee against Torture	345,500
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	671 900
Meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies	53,500
Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	214,000

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**Sub-total** **5,892,700**

#### Executive direction & management

Posts	4,890,400
Other expenditures	788,700

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**Sub-total** **5,679,100**

#### Programme of work

Research and Right to Development Branch	
Posts	6,568,700
Other expenditures	1,556,900
Support Services Branch	
Posts	6,427,000
Other expenditures	158,300
Activities and Programmes Branch	
Posts	8,475,600
Other expenditures	4,262,000

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**Sub-total** **27,448,500**

#### Programme support

Posts	1,367,000
Other expenditures	1,167,500

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**Sub-total** **2,534,500**

Committee on missing persons in Cyprus 505,500

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**Total Section 22** **42,060,300**

### (Section 21 of the regular budget for the biennium 2002 – 2003)

Regular programme of technical cooperation	2,700,000
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**Total regular budget (2002–2003)** **44,760,300**

**Total requirements (2002)** **78,233,896**

(The regular budget allocation for 2002 amounts to US\$ 22,455,150; and requirements from voluntary contributions for 2002 amounts to US\$ 55,778,746).

# Human rights trust funds established by the United Nations General Assembly

## *Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture*

### Background

The physical and psychological after-effects of torture can be irreversible and endure for years, thus affecting not only the victims, but also members of their families. Programmes designed by organizations that assist victims of torture often help victims and their families recover from their devastating traumas. In December 1981, the General Assembly established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture to provide humanitarian aid to torture victims and their families.

The Fund receives voluntary contributions from 40 regular donor governments that are then distributed through NGOs that provide medical, psychological, legal, social, financial, humanitarian or other assistance to victims of torture and their relatives through established channels of assistance. Grants are also provided for a limited number of projects to train health-care, social or legal workers and other professionals on how to assist victims of torture. Assistance to victims of torture could be jeopardized if the increasing needs of the Fund are not met on an annual basis.

### Beneficiaries

Each year, more than 60,000 victims around the world benefit from the Fund. Grants allocated are used to finance projects in the field or to assist asylum-seekers and refugees who have been subjected to torture in their countries of origin. In May 2001, upon recommendations made by the Board of Trustees of the Fund and on behalf of the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner for Human Rights approved grants totaling US\$ 8 million to partially fund some 200 programmes in 70 countries. Additional information on the activities of the Fund is available in the report by the Secretary-General to the Commission on Human Rights (E.CN.4/2001/59, Corr.1 and Add.1) and in its report to the General Assembly at its 56th session (A/56/181).

### Funding

The Commission on Human Rights appealed to governments, organizations and individuals to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably by 1 March, before the annual session of the Board in May 2002. In accordance with the Board's estimates, approved by the High Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary-General, the Fund requires additional funds to be able to finance projects that meet the selection criteria. New voluntary contributions amounting to **US\$ 9,730,000** are, therefore, needed before the next session of the Board of Trustees.

**Contributions to this Fund should be paid preferably before 1 March 2002. Donors are invited to mention "for account CH" when making their contribution.**

## Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

### Background

The United Nations Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery was established by General Assembly resolution 46/122 of 17 December 1991. The Fund aims to:

- Allow NGO representatives from different regions who work on issues of contemporary forms of slavery to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery by providing them with financial assistance; and
- Extend, through established channels of assistance, humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery.

### Board of Trustees

The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General in accordance with the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations, and with the advice of a Board of Trustees. The Board is composed of five persons who have experience in the field of human rights and contemporary forms of slavery and who serve in their personal capacity. Members of the Board are appointed for three-year renewable terms by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the current Chairman of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. Due regard is given to equitable geographical composition of the Board. The Board meets annually in January/February to adopt recommendations.

### Beneficiaries

According to the criteria established by the General Assembly, the beneficiaries from the Fund shall be:

- Representatives from NGOs dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery who: (a) are considered as such by the Board of Trustees of the Fund; (b) would not, in the opinion of the Board, be able to attend the sessions of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery without the assistance provided by the Fund; and (c) would be able to contribute to a deeper knowledge on the part of the Working Group of the problems relating to contemporary forms of slavery; and

- Individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery and who are considered to be such by the Board.

At its sixth session in 2001, the Board of Trustees recommended 18 project grants to NGOs that provide humanitarian, legal or financial assistance to victims of child and bonded labour, domestic workers and trafficking. Thirteen travel grants were also recommended for representatives of NGOs from all over the world to participate in the 26th session of the Working Group. Since the main theme of the 2001 session of the Working Group was trafficking in persons, most of the travel grants recommended were for NGOs who work in this field.

Additional information on the activities of the Fund and its Board can be found in the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2001/82 and E/CN.4/2001/82/Add.1) and in his report to the General Assembly at its 56th session (A/56/205).

### Funding

The Fund welcomes contributions from governments, NGOs and other private or public entities. In accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Trustees, approved by the High Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary-General, and considering the increasing demand, additional funds would be needed for the next session in January 2002. New voluntary contributions amounting to **US\$ 261,000** are needed before the next session of the Board of Trustees.

**Contributions to this Fund should be paid before 30 November 2001. Donors are invited to mention "for account SH" when making their contribution.**

## Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

### Background

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations was established by the General Assembly to provide financial assistance to representatives of indigenous communities and organizations who wish to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights on the draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

### Board of Trustees

The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General in accordance with the financial rules and regulations of the United Nations, and assisted by a Board of Trustees. The Board, composed of five United Nations indigenous experts who serve in their personal capacity, meets annually to adopt recommendations on travel grants and provides advice to the Secretary-General on the administration of the Fund through OHCHR. Members of the Board are appointed by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Sub-Commission, for a three-year renewable term.

### Beneficiaries

According to the criteria established by the General Assembly, beneficiaries of the Fund are representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations and communities who (a) are so considered by the Board of Trustees of the Fund; (b) would not, in the opinion of the Board, be able to attend the sessions of the working groups without the Fund's assistance; (c) would contribute to a deeper knowledge of the problems affecting indigenous populations; and (d) would secure broad geographical representation. The High Commissioner for Human Rights approved additional criteria, such as gender balance, that had been recommended by the Board.

Contributions received for the 14th session of the Board of Trustees in March 2001 have been used to fund 79 travel grants to attend the Working Group on Indigenous Populations in July 2001, and 32 travel grants to attend the Working Group on the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples.

Additional information on the activities of the Fund is contained in the annual report of the secretariat on the Fund to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/4), in the report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2001/84), and in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its 56th session.

### Funding

The Fund welcomes contributions from governments, NGOs and other private or public entities. The Commission on Human Rights (resolution 2001/59) and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (resolutions 2000/10 and 2000/12) appealed to all donors to contribute to the Fund. In accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Trustees, approved by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on behalf of the Secretary-General, and considering the increasing demand, additional funds would be needed before the Board's next session in March 2002 to allow the Board to recommend grants for approval. New voluntary contributions amounting to **US\$ 309,000** are needed before the next session of the Board of Trustees.

**Contributions to this Fund should be paid before 1 March 2002. Donors are invited to mention "for the account IH" when making their contribution.**

## Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

### Background

The Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People was established by the General Assembly in 1993 to support projects and programmes that aim to advance the agenda of the International Decade. These are activities that foster international cooperation in solving problems related to human rights, the environment, development, education, culture and health that confront indigenous peoples. The Fund is the principal source of assistance for activities under the Decade.

### Objectives

The Fund aims to:

- Strengthen indigenous organizational structures and procedures through education;
- Support training and institutional capacity-building while respecting traditions;
- Develop education and training schemes in human and indigenous rights;
- Provide information about indigenous peoples and the International Decade;
- Develop communication and exchanges between the United Nations system and indigenous peoples and among indigenous peoples; and
- Develop fund-raising initiatives that promote the objectives of the Decade.

### Beneficiaries

The Fund benefits indigenous peoples, communities, organizations, NGOs, academia and other institutions that seek small grants for projects and activities related to the Decade. Projects aimed at developing and strengthening indigenous structures and procedures through education, human rights training, and institutional capacity-building are of particular interest. The organizations should be non-profit-making and should be able to raise additional funds from other sources. Direct beneficiaries of the project should be indigenous peoples in all parts of the world. Projects should be prepared by, in full support of, or in consultation with indigenous peoples. Particular consideration will be given to projects from underdeveloped areas in different regions of the world and to those that incorporate a gender perspective.

### Advisory Group

The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General, the Coordinator of the International Decade and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the financial rules and regulations of the United Nations. An Advisory Group composed of seven persons with relevant experience on indigenous issues also helps administer the Fund. Five members of the Advisory Group are also members of the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. The remaining two members are the Chairperson of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and a United Nations specialist with expertise in project and programme management. All are appointed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the capacity of Coordinator of the Decade.

At its sixth session (2-5 April 2001), the Advisory Group examined 82 applications for project grants and recommended some 30 project grants for approval, amounting to approximately US\$ 252,000. The grants were allocated to organizations across Africa, Asia, North America and South America. Almost all of these grants have been paid.

Upon recommendation by the Advisory Group, approximately US\$ 150,000 was allocated to the following programmes implemented by OHCHR:

- A round-table on indigenous peoples, racism and the media, which was held as a parallel activity during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (as indicated in resolution 2000/14 of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights);
- A human rights training seminar for indigenous peoples, which was organized in Oaxaca in August 2001 as part of a wider programme to promote human rights in Mexico;
- A workshop on indigenous peoples, the private sector, natural resources, energy and mining companies, and human rights, which will take place in December 2001; and
- A pilot human rights training course for indigenous communities in one country.

## Activities in 2002

The Advisory Group will adopt recommendations for approval by the Secretary-General at its seventh session in April 2002. Activities planned for 2002 include convening the 7th session of the Advisory Group as well as:

- Direct support for indigenous projects. Large numbers of indigenous organizations request support for modest one-off projects in human rights, often for capacity-building, human rights training materials, community workshops or human rights-related research and action. The Office will continue to support these important community-based projects through grants that generally do not exceed US\$ 10,000. In 2002, the requested budget for these grants is US\$ 440,000.
- Workshops and seminars. In cooperation with local partners, including governments and NGOs, the Office proposes to organize workshops and seminars on themes related to the Decade. Two thematic seminars are proposed for 2002: one, on indigenous women, was requested as a result of a parallel event organized during the World Conference against Racism; the second will deal with the environment and development as a contribution to the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The Office will also organize two regional meetings: a sub-regional meeting in Africa, as part of its cycle of workshops on multiculturalism, and a workshop in the Asia region. Both regional meetings will provide opportunities to raise concerns of indigenous populations and awareness of the Permanent Forum. The budget for these proposed activities in 2002 is US\$ 200,000.
- Media projects. After the successful workshops on indigenous media in Madrid, New York and Durban, the Office proposes to follow-up on recommendations to facilitate an indigenous media network, an indigenous media database, and association with international journalists' organizations, and to review guidelines on media reporting on indigenous issues. The cost is estimated to be US\$ 20,000.
- Human rights training. The Office proposes a second phase of the successful 2001 human rights training

workshop for indigenous peoples in Oaxaca, Mexico. The second phase will consist of three local training workshops to be held in the north, centre and south of the country. The cost is estimated to be US\$ 65,000.

- Training for indigenous communities. Three other training programmes, to be organized by local NGOs in cooperation with a resource person provided by the Office, are proposed for indigenous communities in different regions. The cost of these activities is estimated to be US\$ 45,000.
- Communications. The Advisory Group recommended that efforts be made to develop a database on indigenous peoples and improve the web page providing public information on UN work on indigenous peoples. Expert advice and support will be necessary to upgrade this component of OHCHR's communications. The cost is estimated to be US\$ 30,000.

Additional information on the activities of the Fund and its Advisory Group can be found in the annual report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples (A/55/268), in the annual report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Commission on Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples (E/CN.4/2001/84), and in the note by the secretariat to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/5).

## Funding

New voluntary contributions amounting to approximately **US\$ 700,000** are needed before the next session of the Advisory Group. Funds will be used to finance project grants developed primarily by indigenous communities and organizations, as well as seminars and workshops on indigenous issues.

**Contributions to this Fund should be paid before 1 March 2002. Donors are invited to mention "for the account IV".**

# Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

## Background

The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance was held from 31 August to 8 September 2001 in Durban, South Africa. It adopted a Declaration and a Programme of Action (hereafter referred to as the “Durban Declaration” and “Durban Programme of Action”). The World Conference secretariat, established within OHCHR, was assigned the responsibility of preparing for and servicing the Conference; the High Commissioner for Human Rights was the Secretary-General of the World Conference.

Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action must begin immediately. In the words of South African Foreign Minister, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, the President of the World Conference, the “the newly born child needs to be nourished”. OHCHR will play a crucial role in ensuring follow-up to the Conference at national, regional and international levels, in collaboration with different actors, and is expected to be the lead UN agency responsible for integrating the Durban Programme of Action into the mandates, programmes and projects of the United Nations. As the High Commissioner for Human Rights has said, “Durban must be a beginning and not an end”.

## Objectives

Some themes raised in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action deserve special attention. They will be addressed in a project which aims to:

- Promote and support implementation of national plans of action by the 168 States who were present in Durban;
- Achieve universal ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) by 2005;
- Achieve broadest ratification of other human rights instruments;

- Work towards the adoption of better national legislation in conformity with ICERD, in particular;
- Assist victims of racial discrimination in achieving equality;
- Promote human rights education at the national level to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; and
- Strengthen the capacity of national human rights institutions to deal with themes and issues covered during the Durban Conference.

## Activities in 2002

One specific follow-up activity will be the establishment of an interim anti-discrimination unit within OHCHR; in its Programme of Action, the World Conference specifically welcomed the High Commissioner’s intent to set up such a unit. The Conference also suggested that the anti-discrimination unit compile information on racial discrimination and on legal and administrative support and advice to victims of racial discrimination, and collect background material provided by States, international, regional and non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions under the follow-up mechanism of the World Conference.

Within the framework of the mandate outlined in the Durban Programme of Action, and bearing in mind several other recommendations, the anti-discrimination unit will have the following responsibilities:

- Compile and prepare an annual progress report on actions taken by treaty bodies, governments, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and the international community towards implementing the Durban Programme of Action. The report will be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly.

- Compile and produce other reports on Durban follow-up, briefing notes, speeches, progress reports, documents related to coordination and administrative aspects, fundraising documents for donor organizations, and project documents for the Office, as and when needed.
- Provide backstopping to the group of five independent eminent experts to follow the implementation of the provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, if the proposal is endorsed by the General Assembly.
- Explore the possibility of establishing and maintaining a database of good practices in addressing racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.
- Increase awareness of the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and other treaty bodies.
- Maintain and strengthen links that were developed around the world during 2000 and 2001 in preparation for the World Conference. Hundreds of NGOs attended the Conference; they, especially the newly emerging groups among them, should be encouraged to become involved in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Continue and strengthen regular liaison with parliamentarians, religious leaders, business and trade unions and promote their involvement in the follow-up.
- Continue and strengthen active liaison with UN agencies and other inter-governmental bodies on Durban follow-up, organize regular consultations with these bodies, and develop and implement joint activities with them.
- The unit will support some 10 selected awareness-building projects with national institutions, youth and women's groups in the five regions, and with other interested entities on specific themes and topics related to the Durban Programme of Action.
- All branches within OHCHR are expected to be involved in these activities, especially in technical cooperation projects where support will be provided to States and civil society organizations to ensure appropriate follow-up.

### Expected impact

The anticipated results will be that:

- The momentum of Durban continues, and the Declaration and Programme of Action remains high on the agendas of those who were asked to implement its provisions: States, UN bodies and specialized agencies, regional organizations, parliamentarians, national human rights institutions, NGOs, civil society, the private sector and youth;
- Networks established in Durban continue to enhance their members' activities in combating racism and racial discrimination;
- Broader ratification of human rights instruments is achieved;
- Better human rights education on how to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance is provided;
- National human rights institutions are strengthened; and
- National plans of action and better national legislation are adopted.

### Beneficiaries

Immediate beneficiaries will include States, national human rights institutions, NGOs and other technical cooperation projects. Longer term, the beneficiaries will be potential victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. As the High Commissioner said at the close of the World Conference: "I do not claim that this Conference has solved the problems of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. The issues have been addressed, not answered. But we have a framework. We have made a start and that is what counts. The true measure of our work will be whether it makes a real difference in the lives of the victims of racism and discrimination."

The terms of reference outlined above may be clarified further following action taken by the 56th session of the General Assembly on the outcome of the World Conference. Meanwhile, the unit and various branches of OHCHR plan to undertake the following specific activities:

- The unit will produce and disseminate an annual publication on the progress, difficulties and problems encountered in implementing the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. This publication will be based on the report to be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly.
- The unit will share assessments of progress made towards the implementation of the Durban Programme of Action at governmental and expert meetings to be convened by OHCHR at the regional or sub-regional levels.

## Coordination

Follow-up activities will be closely coordinated with other UN bodies and specialized agencies, national human rights institutions and international organizations.

## Management arrangements

The anti-discrimination unit will consist of five professional staff: one coordinator, one reports officer, one NGO liaison officer and two research officers, as well as two support staff. Two associate experts will also be part of the unit and will be supported by their respective governments.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	726,480
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	173,400
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	103,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	141,000
Contractual services	50,000
General operating expenses	5,000
Supplies and acquisitions	14,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	110,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,322,880</b>
Programme support costs	171,974
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,494,854</b>

# T echnical cooperation

## *Introduction*

OHCHR's technical cooperation programme assists countries in their efforts to build capacity for promoting and protecting human rights at the national, sub-regional and regional levels. Such efforts include incorporating international human rights standards in national laws, policies and practices, and building sustainable national human rights capacities and infrastructures to implement these standards and ensure respect for human rights. National projects are carried out at the request of the concerned government. They are formulated and implemented with the broadest possible participation of national societies, including civil society and national institutions, as well as the judicial, legislative and executive branches of the government. Among the activities included in the programme are: establishing and/or building national plans of action for human rights; assisting with legislative reform and with elections; supporting national human rights institutions established in accordance with the Paris Principles; advising the judiciary, the military, police and parliaments on international standards related to their work; advising on treaty-reporting, human rights education, information and documentation; supporting NGOs; and promoting economic, social and cultural rights, and the rights of women. This assistance is delivered upon the completion of an assessment of domestic human rights needs and through expert advice, training courses, workshops, seminars, fellowships, grants, information and documentation.

OHCHR is developing regional strategies and deploying regional advisors to improve the coordination of its technical cooperation activities with national, sub-regional and regional organizations including NGO's. OHCHR plans to deploy regional advisors to work in collaboration with the United Nations regional Economic Commissions in Bangkok, Santiago de Chile, Beirut and Addis Ababa. At the sub-regional level, OHCHR has a regional advisor in Pretoria to cover the Southern African region and plans to deploy additional regional advisors to Abuja to cover the West

African region; to the Yaoundé Centre for Human Rights in Cameroon for the Central African region; to Addis Ababa for the East African region; and to Fiji to cover the Pacific sub-region. At the national level, OHCHR has national and international staff in Azerbaijan, Brazil, Cameroon, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Madagascar, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Palestine, Solomon Islands, Somalia and Yemen to ensure implementation of technical cooperation activities. In addition, OHCHR has field offices in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for which activities and requirements are described in the chapter entitled "Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities". These field offices have protection mandates, but also carry out technical assistance activities. The Office is also pursuing greater collaboration with UN actors, especially with UNDP and UN Country Teams, as a way of mainstreaming and integrating human rights throughout the UN system and ensuring efficient use of resources and maximum impact of the proposed projects.

### **Funding**

Technical cooperation activities are mainly funded through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights. The Fund's Board of Trustees meets twice a year to discuss the performance of the Fund and act as an external advisory body of the Technical Cooperation Programme. An amount of US\$ 1,425,000 has been approved to support technical cooperation activities under the UN regular budget for 2002; an additional US\$ 10,576,705 is needed from voluntary contributions. OHCHR prefers that contributions to technical cooperation are made to the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation rather than earmarked to specific regional and national activities.

## Budget summary in US\$

### Global Activities

UN Decade for human rights education	742,410
Internally displaced persons	56,500
Human rights training for peacekeepers	48,590
Trafficking in persons	491,776
Support to UN Country Teams <sup>1</sup>	525,450
Poverty alleviation-strategies <sup>1</sup>	263,403
Board of trustees <sup>2</sup>	70,000
Project development, formulation, evaluation <sup>2</sup>	100,000

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**Sub-total<sup>3</sup>** **2,298,129**

### Africa

Regional and sub-regional activities	1,055,307
Rwanda	105,649
Sierra Leone	500,262
Somalia	173,794
Sudan	86,845

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**Sub-total** **1,921,857**

### Latin America and the Caribbean

Regional and sub-regional activities	496,070
El Salvador	214,700
Guatemala	174,192
Mexico	572,797

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**Sub-total** **1,457,759**

### Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus

Regional and sub-regional activities	515,306
Azerbaijan	129,272
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	150,290
Russian Federation	646,360

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**Sub-total** **1,441,228**

### Asia and the Pacific

Regional and sub-regional activities	500,002
China	479,685
East Timor	606,810
Mongolia	158,200
Solomon Islands	195,377

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**Sub-total** **1,940,074**

### Arab Region

Regional and sub-regional activities	432,338
Morocco	155,330
Palestine	639,015
Yemen	290,975

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**Sub-total** **1,517,658**

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**TOTAL** **10,576,705**

<sup>1</sup> These projects are described in the chapter "Human Rights in Development" on page 70.

<sup>2</sup> These activities are described in the introduction to this chapter on page 25.

<sup>3</sup> The project to support national institutions is implemented by UNOPS, although activities fall under the umbrella of technical cooperation. The detailed budget amounting to US\$ 1,706,300 is presented on page 29.

# GLOBAL PROJECTS

## Support to national institutions

### Background

Independent national institutions that promote and protect human rights help foster a culture of human rights. In light of this, OHCHR has supported national institutions as important implementing agents in preventing conflict and in rebuilding society during the post-conflict period. Following the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, national institutions will implement many of the recommendations set out in the Programme of Action and in the consensus Declaration, which national institutions presented to the Conference.

During 2001 the Special Advisor to the High Commissioner on National Institutions and the National Institutions Team have:

- Provided information, advice and/or assistance to governments or administrations on establishing national institutions;
- Continued to support a number of established national human rights institutions or similar bodies;
- Conducted several missions related to meetings, seminars and workshops through which advice and assistance was provided to governments; undertaken technical cooperation needs-assessment and project-formulation missions; trained staff of national human rights institutions and senior staff of other UN agencies and programmes; and
- Responded to numerous requests from governments and NGOs seeking general information concerning national human rights institutions.

### Objectives

Activities aim to assist established national human rights institutions and governments that are in the process of, or committed to, establishing such institutions in accordance with the relevant international standards (i.e., the

“Paris Principles”, adopted in 1993 by the General Assembly). OHCHR’s work in this area will provide practical advice to the growing number of countries that request such assistance and address the existing backlog of requests. OHCHR will also help improve UN system-wide coordination in providing assistance to national institutions, particularly in cooperation with UNDP, and will increase the participation of national institutions in appropriate UN human rights and other international forums.

### Activities in 2002

Emphasis will be placed on the following four areas:

#### **Building national and regional capacity to promote and protect human rights**

- Advise governments on appropriate constitutional or legislative frameworks for any new national institution, and on the nature, functions, powers and responsibilities of such institutions.
- Participate in high-level meetings, seminars and workshops, particularly through regional arrangements, to provide advice or assistance to governments, and conduct consultations with government officials, parliamentarians and NGOs concerning the establishment of new national institutions.
- Conduct technical cooperation needs-assessment and/or project-formulation missions to develop appropriate technical cooperation projects, and attend steering committee meetings of on-going technical cooperation projects on national institutions.
- Support new and/or established national institutions to develop complaint-handling systems and databases, design effective management structures, implement human rights education and training programmes, including on economic, social and cultural rights issues, racism, gender issues, and women’s and children’s rights.

- Support the establishment and strengthening of regional networks of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.
- Facilitate international and regional meetings of national institutions to encourage the sharing of experiences and development of best practices.

### **Increasing UN system-wide coordination and implementation of human rights**

- Facilitate the training of UN staff in the work of national institutions.
- Promote appropriately coordinated technical cooperation projects to strengthen established national institutions.

### **Enhancing the effectiveness of the UN human rights machinery and national institutions**

- Provide training and/or training materials on the UN human rights mechanisms to staff of national institutions.
- Facilitate the participation of national institutions in, and provide information on the work of national institutions to, meetings of UN human rights bodies, including the Commission on Human Rights, meetings of the treaty monitoring bodies, and meetings of thematic and country rapporteurs, representatives and others.
- Facilitate the participation of UN human rights experts in, and provide information on the work of the UN human rights mechanisms to, meetings of national institutions.
- Prepare annual and bi-annual reports on the work of national institutions to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly.

### **Processing, analyzing and disseminating information effectively**

- Provide human rights information and documentation to national institutions, including on the Decade on Human Rights Education, the Decade on Indigenous People, the Decade to Combat Racism and other human rights issues.
- Keep current a compilation of legislation related to national institutions.
- Produce a compilation of national institutions profiles and prepare guidelines for establishing new institutions.
- Maintain a roster of experts/practitioners on national institutions and capacity-building.
- Develop training modules and information materials.
- Identify and disseminate effective strategies concern-

ing specific human rights issues, such as the role of national institutions in promoting the rights of children and the rights of women.

### **Following up the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance**

- Prior to the World Conference, 50 national institutions met in Johannesburg and agreed on a plan for follow-up to the Conference. The main elements of the plan include:
  - developing programmes to prevent racism;
  - using the statutory powers of national institutions to deal with complaints of racist behaviour;
  - where possible and necessary, conducting national inquiries to ensure governments have effective strategies in place to prevent and address racism;
  - developing national human rights plans and implementing associated strategies that focus on preventing racism and racist behaviour;
  - working more closely with OHCHR at both the regional and international levels; and
  - exchanging information on best practices and effective strategies.

These strategies will be reflected in project proposals that will be submitted to the National Institutions Team for consideration.

- In consultation with OHCHR's anti-discrimination unit to be established, the project will identify particular activities that national institutions may undertake as concrete follow-up to the World Conference.

### **Expected impact**

Once complete, the project should have achieved the following:

- At the request of member States, new independent national institutions will have been established, in accordance with relevant UN standards.
- At the request of established national institutions, advice and support to strengthen their capacity and compliance with UN standards will have been provided.
- The main UN human rights machinery, including treaty-monitoring bodies and thematic/country rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights, will have a better knowledge and understanding of the role and work of national institutions specifically charged with promoting and protecting human rights, and vice versa.

- UN agencies and programmes and other multilateral and regional organizations will have improved their understanding of the role and work of national institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights.
- More effective linkages will have been made between national institutions and NGOs.
- Specific activities to implement the recommendations emanating from the World Conference against Racism will have been undertaken.
- Established national institutions will have improved their coordination and effectiveness through the International Coordinating Committee and their own regional networks.

### Coordination

The National Institutions Team undertakes its work in close cooperation with several other United Nations agencies and programmes, multilateral bodies, regional organizations and NGOs. These include UNDP, UNICEF, United Nations Volunteers, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Organization of African Unity, the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Institutions, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Andean Commission of Jurists, Human Rights Watch, and several national institutes, such as the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Sweden and the Friedrich Naumann Stiftung of Germany. All technical assistance provided will continue to be coordinated at the national level.

### Management arrangements

In previous years, the small National Institutions Team was headed by the High Commissioner’s Special Advisor on National Institutions and included two professionals with expertise in relevant technical cooperation and project management, one assistant to the Special Advisor, and experienced practitioners as consultants. In 2002 and 2003, the size of the Team will grow to help meet the demands placed upon OHCHR in this area. One additional Team member and a secretary for the Team will be recruited. Adequate provision will be made for experienced national institution practitioners to assist the Special Advisor. The Team will continue to work with the assistance/support of OHCHR’s geographic desk officers, field offices and other relevant OHCHR units, including the Research and Right to Development Branch, Support Services Branch, Gender Team, Methodology Team, Trafficking and Thematic Teams, to guarantee monitoring and follow-up.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	664,000
Experts/consultants’ fees and travel	120,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	90,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	50,000
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	10,000
Supplies and acquisitions	30,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	546,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,510,000</b>
Programme support costs	196,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,706,300</b>

## United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004)

### Background

The United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004) was proclaimed by the General Assembly in December 1994. The General Assembly asked the High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate the implementation of a related Plan of Action, prepared by the Secretariat (A/51/506/Add.1), whose objective is to strengthen human rights education programmes at the international, regional, national and local levels.

OHCHR's work in this area has focused on: fulfilling the Decade's Plan of Action; relevant periodic General Assembly and Commission on Human Rights resolutions; lessons learned from OHCHR's work in this area between 1996 and 2000 and from the recommendations of the internal evaluation of such work (November 1999); and the recommendations of the international mid-term evaluation of the Decade (2000).

### Objectives and strategy

In 2002, OHCHR will continue to provide support to the international community in the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of human rights education and training initiatives at all levels. This will be accomplished by:

- Facilitating networking and information-sharing among Decade actors;
- Developing and disseminating a select number of human rights training and education materials;
- Supporting grassroots human rights education initiatives;
- Disseminating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) around the world; and
- Ensuring basic worldwide coordination of the Decade.

The ultimate goal of this work and of any human rights education initiative is to promote respect for human rights and achieve its full realization.

### Activities in 2002

During 2002, OHCHR will:

- Maintain and expand resources that have already been developed within the context of the Decade. This includes the database on human rights education (materials, programmes and organizations); the resource collection on human rights education (materials); the UDHR

database (language versions of the UDHR); and the collection of UDHR-related material.

- Continue and finalize activities related to human rights training materials that began during 2001 and are ongoing. These include a trainer's guide for the police; a manual for judges, prosecutors and lawyers; a training package for prison officials; training materials for the Civilian Police (CIVPOL); and a handbook for parliamentarians.
- Develop human rights methodological tools by determining and studying how to evaluate human rights education activities, including a related expert meeting, and by creating a handbook on how to establish human rights documentation centres.
- Compile a set of human rights education good practices that will contain five regional perspectives (from Asia and the Pacific, Arab countries, Africa, the Americas and Europe) on good practices developed during the Decade in human rights education, training and public information.
- Conduct activities that fall under the third phase of the Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project initiated in 1997. These activities will assist organizations and individuals in carrying out human rights activities in local communities in cooperation with UNDP.
- Continue to ensure the coordination of all other tasks related to the Decade, such as responding to general inquiries and preparing the High Commissioner's report to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, etc.

### Beneficiaries

OHCHR has a mailing list of approximately 2,000 organizations and individuals and receives more than 600 requests every month for human rights publications, educational materials and other related information. Interested individuals and organizations visit OHCHR headquarters and field offices daily to obtain related information. OHCHR's website attracts more than 3.5 million hits each month. OHCHR also conducts technical cooperation projects, which, in most cases, include an education and training component, in about 55 countries. The Office also carries out various regional and international training and education programmes. Within the framework of the ACT project, OHCHR reaches out directly to organizations and individuals at the community level.

Through work undertaken under the umbrella of the Decade, all institutions, organizations and individuals carrying out educational activities will have increased

their ability to elaborate, deliver and evaluate human rights education programmes. In addition, the ACT project will enable several grassroots and community organizations to implement their own human rights education initiatives.

### Lessons learned

The ACT project experienced several delays during 2000 and 2001, often due to changing political climates in some countries; in some instances, there were significant delays in disbursing grants. To improve this process, the administrative management of the project changed from UNOPS to UNOG administration for the third phase of the project.

### Coordination

All the above-mentioned activities are undertaken in partnership with other UN agencies or with other appropriate actors. These include: UNESCO for a number of initiatives; UNDP for the ACT project; regional human rights education centres or institutes for the preparation of regional compilations; the International Bar Association for the development of the human rights training manual for judges, prosecutors and lawyers; and the Inter-Parliamentary Union for the development of the handbook for parliamentarians.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	330,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	35,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	10,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	275,000
General operating expenses	2,000
Supplies and acquisitions	5,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>657,000</b>
Programme support costs	85,410
<b>Total</b>	<b>742,410</b>

## Internally displaced persons

### Background

In recent years, the incidence of forced displacement by conflict, persecution and gross violations of human rights has increased dramatically. It has also changed significantly in nature: while the global population of refugees has remained more or less stable, many millions more – some 30 million in over 40 nations – are displaced within the borders of their own countries.

The responsibility for protecting internally displaced persons rests with the State. But when the State is unable or unwilling to fulfill this obligation, the international community must help. In his 1997 Programme for Reform, the Secretary-General stressed the importance of strengthening the international response to the global crisis of internal displacement. Since that time, the international community, through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), has taken a number of steps towards ensuring a more effective collaborative response. The IASC adopted a policy paper on protecting internally displaced persons (the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement) and reviewed the *Handbook on Applying the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* and the *Manual on Field Practice in Internal Displacement*. During the period 2000/2001, the IASC reaffirmed the collaborative approach and recognized the need to develop country plans that reflect the role and mandate of organizations with particular expertise in the area of protection.

Consequently, OHCHR, as a member of the IASC and the agency responsible for servicing the mandate of the Representative of the Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons, is expected to play a key role in this collaborative framework. Important measures aimed at enhancing the international response are underway. A Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement has been established to assess and strengthen response to internal displacement, at the field level, through a series of inter-agency country assessments. During an expert meeting held in Vienna in September 2000, participants discussed strategies for further promoting the Guiding Principles, including by engaging the human rights treaty bodies and the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights in protecting the rights of internally displaced persons.

## Objectives

OHCHR aims to enhance promotion and protection of the rights of internally displaced persons worldwide by building upon existing mechanisms and capacities for response. To do so, OHCHR will continue to participate in inter-agency frameworks on internal displacement, especially in the Senior Inter-Agency Network, and help integrate the issue in the work of the Office, including through human rights field presences, technical cooperation programmes and advisory services, treaty bodies and special procedures. After implementing these activities in a limited number of countries (specifically, those on which the Network will focus), OHCHR will, in a second phase, develop a strategy for a more systematic and comprehensive involvement in the protection of internally displaced persons.

## Activities in 2002

The activities proposed are the same as in 2001, as inadequate staffing meant that OHCHR was unable to implement the activities during 2001. For 2002, the project will consist of the following activities:

- Participating in the Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement, ensuring that the review process addresses protection concerns; and, upon request, participating in some Network assessment missions and ensuring follow-up on relevant recommendations;
- Mobilizing OHCHR field offices and/or geographic desks to implement the recommendations of the Network country missions through technical cooperation activities and advisory services;
- Translating and publishing, where not already available, the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and other related material into local languages of countries with problems of internal displacement in which OHCHR has either a field presence or a technical cooperation programme that can disseminate the publication;
- Promoting and supporting integration of the issue of internal displacement into the work of the treaty bodies and the special procedures, taking into account the recommendations of the September 2000 Vienna expert meeting; and convening a half-day workshop/briefing for independent experts and their staff in conjunction with the annual meetings of the treaty bodies and special procedures; and
- Developing a strategy for OHCHR to implement a more systematic and comprehensive approach as the second phase of the project.

## Beneficiaries

Ultimately, the project aims to benefit internally displaced persons and those at risk of becoming displaced. Governments and civil society in countries with problems of internal displacement will benefit from greater awareness of the rights of internally displaced persons through the work of the inter-agency partners, OHCHR staff in the field and at headquarters, and independent experts of the human rights treaty bodies and special procedures mandates.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	10,000
- Commission members	10,000
- Representatives and other participants	4,000
Contractual services	25,000
General operating expenses	1,000
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>50,000</b>
Programme support costs	6,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,500</b>

## *Human rights training for peacekeepers*

### Background

An integrated approach to peacekeeping and human rights recognizes the link between two of the fundamental aims of the United Nations: maintaining peace and respecting human rights for all. The importance of this link is reflected in the evolution of the mandates of the United Nations peacekeeping operations, which today almost always include a human rights component. The functions assigned to both military and civilian police elements of peacekeeping operations have evolved so that promoting respect for human rights has become a necessary tool for the modern peacekeeper. The monitoring, advisory and training role, as well as the law enforcement functions, of the Civilian Police (CIVPOL), and the monitoring, support and observation role of military peacekeepers both require a thorough knowledge of international human rights norms and the practical means to apply them.

This is the rationale behind the annual United Nations training programme for civilian police and military trainers on peacekeeping, human rights and humanitarian assistance. The programme is a joint initiative by the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Staff College (UNSC), which hosts training courses in Turin, Italy. The Programme was first established in 1996; to date, nine courses have been organized.

In 2000, the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations, convened by the United Nations Secretary-General, issued its Brahimi report (A/55/305), which emphasized the role of OHCHR in enhancing the effectiveness of peace operations. To do so, the report suggested that human rights training for peacekeeping personnel should be organized. This training programme represents the first recommendation of the Brahimi report to be implemented; other related initiatives are still under consideration.

### Objective

This project aims to improve the capacity of Member States to train military and police personnel to be deployed to peacekeeping operations and undertake human rights aspects of peacekeeping.

### Activities

During 2002, DPKO, OHCHR, UNHCR and the UN Staff College will jointly organize a training programme for approximately 30 national military and police trainers and training planners responsible for pre-deployment training of military and CIVPOL contingents that will be deployed to undertake peacekeeping operations. OHCHR will be responsible for conducting the segment of the course focusing on human rights standards applicable to the work of military and police peacekeepers. All participants will receive specific training materials.

### Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the project will be approximately 15 military trainers and 15 police trainers (plus observers, if applicable) who will participate in the course and who will help develop a training capacity in human rights during peacekeeping operations within the police and the armed forces of their countries of origin. The indirect beneficiaries will be the military and police officers in the participating countries who will, in turn, receive training from the participants who will have attended the training programme. The United Nations will benefit from having better-trained military observers and civilian police deployed in UN missions around the world. The ultimate beneficiaries of the project will be the citizens of the countries to which the military and police officers trained through this project will be assigned.

### Constraints

This training programme is the only comprehensive programme undertaken within the UN system that offers training to the military and CIVPOL peacekeepers. Since this is an annual event, the number of places for participants is limited. In addition, even if national authorities participate in the training programme, they are often unable to provide systematic pre-deployment or on-the-job training to military personnel and CIVPOL assigned to peacekeeping operations.

### Coordination

Common programme costs are shared among the organizers (DPKO, OHCHR, UNHCR and the UN Staff College), while each bears the costs related to the participation of its own staff and experts.

### Lessons learned

The annual training programme is one of the first joint OHCHR, DPKO and UNHCR activities and has provided a

solid foundation for similar initiatives that have since been developed at the regional and national level. Experience gained in the various UN peacekeeping and peace-building operations conducted over recent years, particularly in the former Yugoslavia, East Timor and Africa, have demonstrated the central role of human rights in implementing a mission's mandate. At the same time, knowledge and awareness of human rights standards and their implication for peacekeeping work remains relatively low. While training national trainers is important, it would also be beneficial to train all peacekeepers deployed to UN mission areas, both before deployment and during the mission.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	43,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>43,000</b>
Programme support costs	5,590
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,590</b>

## Trafficking in persons

### Background

The problem of trafficking and the many human rights violations it represents involve some of the most complex and pressing issues on the international human rights agenda. Tackling this problem requires overcoming numerous difficulties and obstacles, including the different political and geographic contexts involved; ideological and conceptual differences in approach; the mobility and adaptability of traffickers; the diverse situations and needs of trafficked persons; the inadequate legal framework to protect against traffickers; and insufficient research and coordination of the actors involved at the national, regional and international levels.

### Objectives and strategy

The goal of OHCHR's work in this area is to integrate human rights into international, regional and national anti-trafficking initiatives through legal and policy development. The project has four basic objectives:

- To enhance and ensure the capacity of the High Commissioner to provide policy guidance and leadership on the issue of trafficking;
- To strengthen the capacity of OHCHR and the UN human rights system to deal with the human rights dimensions of trafficking;
- To ensure the integration of a human rights perspective into the anti-trafficking work of other UN agencies and programmes and to raise awareness and knowledge of trafficking as a human rights issue throughout the UN system; and
- To encourage external organizations (inter-governmental organizations, international NGOs, national NGOs, and national human rights institutions) to take up the issue of trafficking and to adopt a human rights perspective to trafficking in their policies and activities.

The project will use OHCHR's comparative advantage in this area by focusing on legal and policy issues. This strategy permits OHCHR to exercise considerable influence over the direction and substance of the trafficking debate, particularly at the international level. In view of its low implementing capacity, OHCHR does not undertake multiple or complex technical cooperation or assistance activities. Instead, as far as possible, OHCHR attempts to act as a catalyst for the work of others.

## Activities in 2002

OHCHR will seek to consolidate and extend previous achievements throughout 2002. The current practice of developing joint position papers and publications on trafficking-related issues (with, for example, UNHCR, ILO and IOM) is expected to continue. Of particular importance will be efforts to disseminate and implement the Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking, which are under development and will be released in the first quarter of 2002. The Guidelines are expected to have a major impact on international, regional and national anti-trafficking initiatives; proper follow-up will be critical to this. OHCHR's role as Coordinator of the Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGO) Contact Group on Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling is expected to continue throughout 2002 and will be an important vehicle for promoting and implementing a rights-based approach to these issues within key agencies, including UNHCR, IOM and ILO.

Efforts to integrate trafficking into the work of national human rights institutions will intensify during 2002 in cooperation with OHCHR's National Institutions Team. Particular attention will be given to strengthening relations between national institutions as a nexus of enhancing cross-border cooperation on this issue. A joint project between the national human rights institutions of India and Nepal will be established to address the trafficking concerns in both countries; this will serve as an important project pilot.

Throughout 2002, efforts will be made to strengthen the capacity of OHCHR field offices to deal with trafficking and to provide support to local partners in promoting a rights-based approach to this issue. The Advisor on Trafficking will continue to act as a conduit of information to field offices. OHCHR will also continue to address the issue of trafficking and related exploitation in the context of UN field operations. Through its system of grants to anti-trafficking initiatives, both within and outside the United Nations, OHCHR will seek to support innovative interventions while also laying the groundwork for the International Conference on Best Practices in Implementing a Human Rights Approach to Trafficking, scheduled to take place in 2003.

## Beneficiaries

The ultimate beneficiaries of the trafficking programme must always be the individual victims of trafficking. Through its work at headquarters and in the field, OHCHR seeks to assist individual victims of trafficking by taking steps to ensure that their rights are respected

and protected. More generally, OHCHR's legal and policy advocacy seeks to benefit trafficked persons by highlighting the need for the international community to be aware of their rights and interests. OHCHR will also continue to provide a high-quality service to the international organizations, individuals and governments that seek its advice on issues related to trafficking. The Office receives an average of fifty requests for advice and/or information each month.

## Coordination

The Advisor on Trafficking, based in Geneva, will be responsible for carrying out activities related to this project. Activities will be coordinated closely with other branches in OHCHR, entities within the UN system, inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) and NGOs. The principal vehicle of such coordination will continue to be the IGO Contact Group on Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling, which is led by OHCHR and which regularly gathers representatives of the major Geneva-based IGOs and NGOs working on trafficking.

## Lessons learned

The issue of trafficking is inextricably linked with other politically sensitive issues, including irregular migration, transnational organized crime and public sector corruption. To retain its credibility and effectiveness, the programme now includes consideration of these issues. OHCHR believes this broader focus has made the programme more relevant and useful.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	111,200
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	70,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	64,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	20,000
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	170,000

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<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>435,200</b>
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Programme support costs	56,576
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<b>Total</b>	<b>491,776</b>
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## AFRICA

### Regional and sub-regional activities

#### Introduction

The framework of OHCHR's strategy for Africa is predicated on the need for a holistic development process throughout the continent, with emphasis on the integration of human rights in all programming and the realization of the right to development. The framework, which was inspired by the Grand Bay Declaration of 1999 adopted at the end of the First OAU Ministerial Conference on Human Rights, envisages close working relationships with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Organization of African Unity (OAU)/African Union (AU) at the regional level, and with the existing economic-community groupings, such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) at the sub-regional level.

OHCHR established sub-regional offices in Southern Africa (Pretoria) and Central Africa (Yaoundé) in 1998 and 2001, respectively, and is now intensifying efforts to establish a similar presence in other parts of the continent. OHCHR signed a memorandum of understanding with the ECA in July 2001 and is working on similar arrangements with the OAU/AU and the sub-regional communities mentioned above.

Since regional human rights mechanisms supported by dynamic civil societies can be useful tools, OHCHR has provided some assistance to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) to enhance its capacity to promote new human rights standards, such as the Protocol on the Rights of Women. OHCHR will also support efforts to establish the African Court. Despite its limited resources, African civil society has been active in supporting and strengthening human rights mechanisms;

and OHCHR has provided assistance to some initiatives launched by NGOs. OHCHR will thus work both to formulate concrete activities and to harmonize those activities across the continent so as to develop an effective strategy to promote and protect human rights in Africa.

#### Objectives and strategy

The Africa regional and sub-regional strategy seeks to:

- Facilitate regional and sub-regional consultations to identify needs and priorities and develop effective strategies for implementing the mandate of the High Commissioner;
- Enhance the capacity of African governments, national institutions and civil society to promote and protect human rights (e.g., through national human rights action plans and activities in the area of human rights education);
- Support the establishment of new independent human rights institutions and build institutional capacity through development and training; and
- Support the integration of human rights in all activities of the regional economic communities, UN bodies and other sub-regional entities.

To enhance the capacity of identified institutions and actors in the region, OHCHR will:

- Initiate evaluation activities that will help OHCHR measure its impact and determine future action;
- Develop strategies for consultation with different actors and institutions to design and implement projects aimed at enabling them to integrate human rights ideals in their activities, and to review priorities, determine benchmarks and measure impact; and
- Deploy advisors, based in regional and sub-regional organizations, to work closely with the different actors and institutions in the regions.

## Regional and sub-regional activities

### Support to the African human rights system

OHCHR action to strengthen the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and support the establishment of the African Court will be clearly defined following an evaluation/needs-assessment mission to be carried out in late 2001. Based on existing needs and knowledge of the institution, that action may include:

- Support for the establishment of the Commission's website;
- Support to the campaign for ratification of the Protocol for the Establishment of the African Court through joint activities among OHCHR, OAU/AU and other relevant institutions and actors;
- Support to civil society participation in the work of the Commission through grants and fellowships; and
- Support to the OAU/AU and the ACHPR during the process of elaborating the Protocol on the Rights of Women.

### Regional advisors in the regional or sub-regional offices

Four regional advisors will be placed in different parts of Africa by the end of 2002. This will enable OHCHR to be better apprised of the realities on the ground and to address human rights issues through a sub-regional or regional approach. In general, the regional advisors will:

- Consult regularly with the different regional economic communities, other regional and national actors and UN bodies to determine immediate and long-term priorities;
- Carry out regional activities to follow-up on the Durban World Conference, tailoring those activities to fit issues of interest or concern in the specific region or sub-region;
- Conduct action-oriented research or studies on issues of regional concern, especially related to the peace-building initiatives in the different countries;
- Provide support to regional and national human rights organizations, the development of the NGO movement, and the development of a structured working relationship between OHCHR and the NGO community;
- Work closely with UN Country Teams to mainstream human rights in their activities and programmes;
- Identify regional participants for fellowships and grants; and
- Offer regional training programmes for different target groups, such as lawyers, judges, parliamentarians, law enforcement agents and NGOs.

Since an important component of this strategy will be to establish a link between human rights and development, the regional and sub-regional economic communities have been identified as key partners in this process. The priority areas for each of the regional advisors are described below:

**ECA, OAU/AU and East Africa:** In July 2001, the High Commissioner held preliminary discussions with the Executive Secretary of COMESA and the ECA on strategies for collaboration among OHCHR and these regional economic communities. A memorandum of understanding was concluded with the ECA and follow-up consultations have been held to work out specific details regarding the placement of a regional advisor based in the ECA in Addis Ababa. The regional advisor will cover activities in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, the Sudan and Somalia.

**Southern Africa:** The regional advisor was deployed to Pretoria in 1999 through a joint OHCHR-UNDP programme. Following an analysis of the evaluation report on the activities of the Southern Africa sub-regional office, activities in 2002 will be prepared by the regional advisor in consultation with SADC, UNDP and desk officers at headquarters. A needs assessment to determine activities was carried out in late 2001.

**West Africa:** The regional advisor based in the ECOWAS secretariat, in Abuja, will work closely with ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania, civil society and other regional institutions. National activities will be developed to respond to pressing requests or as part of a strategy for mobilizing the UN and other partners to mainstream human rights. The regional advisor will cover activities in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone (countries of the Mano River Union) to strengthen the human rights component of the peace-building and peacekeeping initiatives undertaken by the UN and ECOWAS.

**Central Africa:** A detailed programme of activities to be administered by the Yaoundé Centre has been prepared for the Central African region. The sub-regional office will focus efforts on continuing activities implemented during 2001; launching regional activities and developing national strategies in the areas of human rights education, democracy, and ethnicity, and following up the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. The Centre will also support the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi field presences in the implementation of technical assistance projects.

### Regional dialogues

In collaboration with its partners, OHCHR will organize a series of three regional dialogues a year on themes that affect the enjoyment of human rights in Africa, all of which were identified in the Grand Bay Declaration. During 2002, topics to be considered include: national implementation of human rights standards; the realization of economic, social

and cultural rights and the right to development; and combating impunity. The first dialogue was organized in November 2001, to prepare for the High Commissioner's address to the Africa Development Forum, to be held in Addis Ababa in March 2002.

The dialogues aim to facilitate a consultative process for the development of a regional strategy for human rights among OHCHR and African stakeholders; develop a broader constituency for the promotion and protection of human rights, including actors in government, civil society and external partners, and highlight the need for more effective partnerships and coordination among them; enhance commitment to human rights at all levels of society; and improve mutual understanding and appreciation of the important role that various stakeholders can play in fostering a culture of human rights.

Each of these dialogues will look at responsibilities and obligations, the role of government, national human rights institutions and NGOs, and develop strategies for using different tools and programmes that exist in OHCHR, such as national plans of action and the Decade for Human Rights Education. OHCHR hopes that each dialogue will serve as a consultative forum through which participants can develop strategies to complement ongoing efforts to promote human rights, peace and sustainable development in Africa.

### Assessment and evaluation

Mid-project assessment or monitoring missions will be carried out during 2002 by OHCHR. An evaluation involving all stakeholders, designed and led by an independent consultant, will be conducted at the end of the year. An analysis of the evaluation report will assist OHCHR and its UN and other partners in determining future plans to be implemented.

### Coordination

Most of the activities under this proposal will be carried out with UNDP, the OAU/AU, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the regional economic communities and NGOs. OHCHR will encourage cooperation and exchange of experience, information and best practices among all regional and sub-regional organizations, especially in the framework of South-South cooperation. UNDP, OHCHR's main partner in Africa, has been co-financing activities and providing logistical support in the existing regional offices and for national programmes; this relationship is expected to continue. ECA, ECOWAS and COMESA are committed to providing

similar support, the details of which are to be worked out during bilateral consultations.

Participants at each regional dialogue will be primarily African opinion-leaders and human rights experts drawn from government, inter-governmental institutions and civil society. OHCHR participants will be drawn from the branches relevant to the theme of the dialogue. To minimize costs and attract maximum participation, the dialogues will be organized in collaboration with OHCHR partners where possible, on the margins of important meetings and summits held primarily in Africa.

### Implementing arrangements

The regional advisors will be assisted by programme officers and local support staff and supported by headquarters in Geneva. By developing a consultative process with regional and national actors, the advisors will be able to draw on the wealth of existing local expertise, including human rights components in field presences. Regional and national consultants will be contracted to assist in the implementation of regional activities. Hiring and recruitment policies will be inspired by the need to create a pool of local and regional personnel who will be available to carry out future activities.

### National-level activities

During 2002, technical cooperation activities will be undertaken in Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia and Sudan, for which activities and requirements are described in the sections that follow. OHCHR also has field offices in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; work in these countries is described in the chapter entitled "Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities". In addition to the above, several other ongoing projects, for which funds have already been allocated, will continue. These include the following national projects:

- Madagascar: OHCHR will continue to support training programmes for judges and magistrates.
- Mauritania: OHCHR will continue to support activities to promote the rule of law and strengthen the protection of the individual.
- Guinea-Bissau and the Republic of Congo: projects in these countries will continue to strengthen national human rights capacities.

All national activities will be undertaken in consultation with the regional advisors.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	520,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	80,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	40,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	40,000
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	30,000
Supplies and acquisitions	30,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	193,900
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>933,900</b>
Programme support costs	121,407
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,055,307</b>

## Country projects

### Rwanda

#### Background

OHCHR and the National Human Rights Commission of Rwanda (NHRC) signed an agreement for technical cooperation in October 2000. Activities began in November 2000 and continued through 2001. The Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2001/23, urged OHCHR to respond to any further request made by the Government of Rwanda for technical assistance and advisory services in the field of human rights in order to develop and strengthen national human rights capacities. In June 2001, the Rwanda National Unity and Reconciliation Commission (RNURC) requested OHCHR's assistance; that assistance will be based on the needs of the NHRC and the RNURC. The needs of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Commission (LCAC) will be determined during the year.

#### Objectives

The key objective of this project is to support the development of effective national institutions to promote and protect human rights. Assistance will focus on the RNURC and the LCAC. While support will be provided to each institution, activities will be designed to enhance the linkages among the RNURC, the LCAC and the NHRC, and between them and other institutions in Rwanda involved in the promotion and protection of human right. These include the Ministries of Justice and Interior, and NGOs.

#### Activities in 2002

- International and national experts will provide assistance to the Commissions, in the form of training to build national capacities and managerial support.
- The Commissions' operational capabilities and those of their partners will be developed.
- Technical expertise and appropriate office information-technology facilities will be provided to the Commissions' offices to assure the efficient execution of their mandates.
- The Commissions' capacity to assist State institutions and civil society in designing and implementing human rights programmes will be developed.

## Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the project will be the two Commissions. Various institutions and civil society, as a whole, will also benefit, as they will receive services from the RNURC and the LCAC.

## Implementing arrangements

Additional activities will be developed in consultation with the appropriate Commission. OHCHR will provide experts and funding, while UNDP will assist with local implementation and participate in the evaluation meetings of the project steering committees to be held every six months.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	37,350
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	10,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	46,145
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>93,495</b>
Programme support costs	12,154
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,649</b>

## Sierra Leone

### Background

The recent history of Sierra Leone is tarnished by civil war, itself marked by serious violations and abuses of international human rights and humanitarian law, including amputations, mutilations and sexual violence. The Lomé Peace Agreement, signed in July 1999, ended the armed conflict, but fighting flared again in May 2000 leading to the Abuja Cease-fire Agreement of November 2000. The United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), established by the Security Council to support the restoration of peace, has become the UN's largest existing peacekeeping mission.

In accordance with the memorandum of understanding with the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, OHCHR has been supporting a human rights presence in Sierra Leone since 1998 under the UN Observer Mission in Sierra Leonean (UNOMSIL) and since 1999 under UNAMSIL. The Security Council, the Commission on Human Rights and treaty bodies have on several occasions called for international assistance to support the restoration of Sierra Leone society. In resolution 2001/20 of 20 April 2001, the Commission on Human Rights asked the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the international community to strengthen its involvement in technical cooperation programmes, advisory services and human rights advocacy; it also called for international participation in strengthening the courts and the judicial system and in creating a national human rights commission.

The ongoing peacekeeping and peace-building efforts in the region are incrementally producing positive results and creating an environment conducive to the protection and promotion of human rights and international humanitarian law. The establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) is stipulated by Article XXVI of the Lomé Peace Agreement; the enabling legislation was passed by the Sierra Leone Parliament in February 2000. OHCHR is already implementing activities to support the preparatory phase of the Sierra Leone TRC. The proposed activities in Sierra Leone during 2002 will reinforce an already substantial UN presence in Sierra Leone. Although emphasis during 2002 will continue to be placed on supporting the TRC, assistance will be extended to the establishment of the Human Rights Commission, the Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre, and to the re-establishment of the judicial system.

## Objectives

The proposed activities constitute part of a comprehensive programme of assistance to Sierra Leone. They will:

- Support the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission;
- Strengthen the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman;
- Support the establishment of the Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre, and a legal aid project; and
- Maintain OHCHR's capacity to provide substantive backstopping to activities in Sierra Leone.

## Activities in 2002

### The National Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman

OHCHR has been assisting the Office of the Attorney-General and the Minister of Justice in drafting legislation for the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission. It is expected that this legislation will be approved by Parliament in early 2002. Once approved, OHCHR will support the selection and training of Commissioners and the establishment of a secretariat. Technical assistance in developing a strategic and operational plan will also be provided to the Commission. Support to the Ombudsman aims to facilitate access to funding to enable it to function by negotiating with the Government and with international donors. This support will include assistance in preparing funding applications, and technical assistance on strategic and operational planning, investigations, reporting procedures and management systems.

### The Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre

Activities to support the establishment of the Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre will gather universal and regional human rights and international humanitarian law instruments, documents and bibliographies. They will strengthen the human rights information network in Sierra Leone through the use of the Internet and radio broadcasts. The Centre will also:

- Develop human rights educational material, including audiovisuals, periodic and thematic publications;
- Provide general and specialized training for the human rights community, civil servants, members of parliaments, law enforcement officials and the judiciary in the region through workshops, training-of-trainers programmes and an annual three-week seminar;

- Train State officials on treaty-body monitoring mechanisms and reporting; and
- Encourage research into traditional methods of conflict-management and -resolution as it relates to the protection and promotion of human rights.

### The Lawyers' Centre for Legal Assistance

In order to facilitate access to justice, OHCHR will provide assistance to the Lawyers' Centre for Legal Assistance which is attempting to establish the first legal aid programme for the indigent in Sierra Leone. OHCHR support in 2002 will be geared towards ensuring that the legal aid programme is implemented with emphasis on sustainability.

## Anticipated results

Activities will make a critical contribution to the protection and promotion of human rights in Sierra Leone and to the possibility of sustaining peace following a decade of internal armed conflict. Activities geared towards the establishment of the Human Rights Commission and that provide technical support to the Office of the Ombudsman aim to build strong and effective institutions that can promote and defend human rights as an essential part of reconstructing the country. Support to the judiciary will ensure that the system of justice will be able to meet the challenges it faces from a society that has been plagued by unimaginable human rights violations and abuses. The Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre will address the limited understanding of human rights that has played a significant role in aggravating the crises affecting Sierra Leone and the States of the Mano River Union. By establishing such a Centre, Sierra Leone will benefit from strengthened technical expertise in the protection and promotion of human rights, a comprehensive plan of action for the protection and promotion of human rights, and sustained cooperation among human rights stakeholders in the region.

## Beneficiaries

The citizens of Sierra Leone will benefit from the establishment of independent national institutions responsible for promoting and protecting human rights. The judiciary will also benefit from an improved capacity to fulfill its role in society. The Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre will directly target national institutions, human rights NGOs and civil

society, particularly the media, student associations, and inter-religious groups. The Centre will also provide information and educational materials for the entire community in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Special programmes will also target civil servants, law enforcement officials and security forces, members of parliaments and the judiciary in the region.

### Implementing arrangements

This project will be supported by the Sierra Leone Desk Officer. OHCHR and UNAMSIL will implement the programme in collaboration with UNDP and other national and regional human rights partners. The memorandum of understanding between OHCHR, DPKO and UNDP provides the framework for cooperation.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	135,700
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	111,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	12,000
General operating expenses	46,260
Supplies and acquisitions	82,750
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	55,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>442,710</b>
Programme support costs	57,552
<b>Total</b>	<b>500,262</b>

## Somalia

### Background

After a decade without a central Government, a new Transitional National Government was established in late 2000. The Transitional National Government emerged from the Somalia National Peace Conference of May 2000 in Djibouti, involving long deliberations on clan representation, parliamentary delegates, and the method of election. The self-declared autonomous region of "Somaliland" had announced its political independence and thus its non-participation in the peace process. Opposition was also expressed by the President of the "Puntland" region, and by several militia-faction leaders in Mogadishu, the latter resulting in the formation of the Somali Reconciliation and Restoration Council. The new Transitional National Government is made up of 245 members, elected on a strict clan basis, and includes 25 women. Early attempts were being made to disarm and demobilize the various militia and to refurbish the security forces.

The current project is the result of a September 2000 UNDP proposal to OHCHR to work jointly on the UNDP Somali Civil Protection Programme (SCPP). This provided a unique opportunity to mainstream human rights and implement a technical cooperation programme at a critical and potentially promising time of transition in Somalia.

### Objectives

Activities in 2002 will represent the second year of this ongoing project. The aim of the project is to mainstream human rights into the work of UN agencies, particularly in the governance and rule of law activities of UNDP, and to support the Independent Expert on Somalia.

### Activities in 2002

#### The Somali Civil Protection Programme

This programme provides technical advice on the formulation and implementation of UNDP rule-of-law and governance activities, especially regarding its judiciary and law enforcement components; monitoring, research and technical advice to the UNDP Resident Representative; and advice to Diakonia, a Swedish NGO responsible for the human rights training in "Puntland" in northeast Somalia.

#### Mainstreaming human rights

A human rights component will be integrated into the work of other UN bodies operating within the framework

of the office of the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia in Nairobi, Kenya, with particular focus on governance, the judiciary, law enforcement, parliaments, civil society and the media. Technical advice will be provided, UN staff will be trained, and activities will be coordinated through the joint human rights working group meeting.

**Support to the mandate of the Independent Expert**

The mandate of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia will receive information and support for field missions. The human rights situation will be monitored and reported to the Independent Expert; the Expert will also receive logistic and other support for missions in the field.

**Expected impact**

The project will ensure an enhanced level of awareness of human rights concerns in UNDP programming regarding its Somali Civil Protection Programme, notably its judiciary and law-enforcement components. UN-system programming for Somalia will also incorporate fundamental human rights standards, such as non-discrimination, empowerment and participation on the basis of the framework of accountability provided by human rights norms and standards.

**Beneficiaries**

Through the Somali Civil Protection Programme, local authorities involved in the administration of justice, law enforcement, reintegration of ex-combatants and mine-clearing action will benefit from the training sessions and human rights awareness activities. Mainstreaming activities will directly benefit the staff of the UN agencies operating in Somalia and, indirectly, those whom they serve, through enhanced awareness and incorporation of human rights concerns into programming.

**Implementing arrangements**

A senior human rights advisor, based in Nairobi, has been seconded to UNDP. The Advisor is responsible for mainstreaming human rights into the work of UN bodies in Somalia and will provide technical advice on the implementation of the UNDP Somali Civil Protection Programme (SCPP), comprising the judiciary, law enforcement, mine-clearing action and demobilization. He will also provide support to the Independent Expert on the situation in Somalia.

**Lessons learned**

Based on the evaluation of the previous technical cooperation project, the project’s effectiveness could be jeopardized by a lack of clarity of the Advisor’s role vis-à-vis UNDP. The evaluation also concluded that OHCHR itself should try to have a greater presence in Somalia, rather than only in Nairobi, from where UN bodies now operate. Relocation of the Advisor to Somalia is currently being considered. Greater attention must also be given to general and periodic human rights audits and impact-assessments of all UN programmes, as well as to training exercises among UN staff and workshops for the public.

**Budget in US\$**

Staff costs	143,000
Experts/consultants’ fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	10,800
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>153,800</b>
Programme support costs	19,994
<b>Total</b>	<b>173,794</b>

## Sudan

### Background

The human rights situation in the Sudan has been the subject of close scrutiny by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights since 1993. The Government has taken some measures to improve the human rights situation, including the adoption of a new Constitution in 1998 and new legislation. During the past two years, there have been more opportunities for political dialogue and a noted improvement in respect for the freedoms of expression, press and assembly. Nonetheless, the Special Rapporteur on the Sudan noted that the human rights situation worsened in 2001.

The North-South conflict and the deeply rooted and protracted conflicts among various ethnic groups are characterized by serious violations of human rights that have had an adverse effect on the civilian population, particularly women and children. A number of institutions have been created to implement human rights protection and promotion. However, these institutions need assistance if they are to function properly and meet the criteria established by international standards. More specifically, national human rights capacities and infrastructures will have to be strengthened if they are to implement international human rights instruments and harmonize domestic law and practice with international human rights standards.

The Government indicated its interest in having OHCHR provide technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of human rights. On 29 March 2000, as a follow-up to the needs-assessment mission, the Government and OHCHR signed an accord that allowed for the launch of a preparatory phase of the project. An international expert on human rights was recruited in March 2001 for an initial period of one year; he has been responsible for advising the Government on the development of national capacity-building activities throughout the country to protect human rights.

### Objectives

- Promote human rights awareness among Government officials who deal with reporting obligations to international treaty bodies;
- Promote human rights awareness among members of the armed forces, including the military, police and security officers with the aim of strengthening their ability to protect and promote human rights; and
- Promote human rights awareness and provide training to national NGOs.

The project is based on a phased approach and assistance will be evaluated on the basis of its potential to improve the human rights situation on the ground in the short- and long-term.

### Activities in 2002

- The project aims to strengthen the human rights capacities of Government and civil society institutions by providing training programmes for governmental and non-governmental institutions in the areas of human rights education, national capacity-building, and reporting obligations. The content of the training sessions will be based on OHCHR standard practice and training materials; participatory techniques will be adopted and audio-visual materials will be used.
- OHCHR staff will provide technical assistance to the Government and civil society organizations. Staff with legal, administrative, professional and academic expertise will provide such assistance in consultation with the Government.
- Material assistance will also be provided and human rights publications will be distributed with a view to establishing and/or updating human rights libraries.

### Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries will be national decision-makers, including at the State and local administration levels, who will learn about human rights standards. In addition, representatives from local human rights NGOs, academics and women groups will be better trained and advised, thus enabled to perform their functions better. Ultimately, the incorporation of human rights standards will benefit the entire civil society.

### Coordination

Since March 2001, OHCHR has worked closely with all counterparts within the UN Country Team. An OHCHR international staff is based in the UNDP office in Khartoum to ensure the effective implementation of this project.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	38,940
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	5,486
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	11,012
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	10,000
General operating expenses	6,016
Supplies and acquisitions	5,400
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>76,854</b>
Programme support costs	9,991
<b>Total</b>	<b>86,845</b>

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

## *Regional and sub-regional activities*

### Background

In the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region, OHCHR provides advisory services and technical assistance, encourages and supports the establishment of effective national institutions, and promotes the realization of the right to development. Activities with a national, sub-regional and regional focus are implemented in accordance with the Quito technical cooperation framework for LAC, which emphasizes providing assistance for the promotion and protection of human rights. A regional human rights advisor, based in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago de Chile, supports activities in the region.

Since the adoption of the Quito Framework, OHCHR has tried to rationalize and harmonize its activities in the region to respond to the priorities set out in the Framework. OHCHR's activities in the region include:

- Supporting national human rights plans of action, with emphasis on the administration of justice (in the Andean region, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico and Nicaragua);
- Supporting national institutions (in Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico and the Andean region);
- Promoting economic social and cultural rights (a regional workshop on this issue was held in Argentina in October 2001); and
- Protecting vulnerable groups (a workshop was held in Lima, in November 2001 on "Strengthening the capacities of the Office of the Ombudsman to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities").

### Objectives

In 2002 priority activities will include those related to the protection of vulnerable groups, to the follow-up to the World Conference against Racism and to the Santiago Declaration and Programme of Action adopted on 7 December 2000 at the LAC regional preparatory meeting for the World Conference. Projects will focus on:

- Mainstreaming human rights in all UN activities at the national level, through joint implementation of activities with UN Country Teams or UN partners; and
- Designing regional and sub-regional strategies to deal with common concerns in the administration of justice, the realization of economic social and cultural rights, and the protection of vulnerable groups.

### Activities in 2002

#### **The regional human rights advisor**

OHCHR is working with various actors in the LAC region to refine its regional strategy and identify priority areas for action and collaboration. To facilitate this process, OHCHR proposes to locate in ECLAC a regional human rights advisor who will support activities in the region in collaboration with headquarters. The advisor will:

- Advise ECLAC concerning human rights aspects of its activities;
- Provide advice on best practices in order to improve OHCHR's activities in the region;
- Develop strategic relationships with the UN Country Teams in the region, governments, regional institutions and NGOs, especially within the framework of rights-based planning and programming initiatives; and
- Identify, develop and implement best practices, particularly those related to the promotion of a rights-based approach to planning and programming, coordination mechanisms and inter-agency cooperation.

#### **Supporting the administration of justice**

Regional and sub-regional activities that focus on the administration of justice and the protection of vulnerable groups will include: organizing a regional workshop to develop strategies and elaborate policies for the adoption of actions that favour the integration of Afro-Latinos, in accordance with the Santiago Declaration and the

objectives of World Conference against Racism; assisting the Parliament of Uruguay in drafting national legislation that conforms to international human rights standards; and conducting a study to evaluate prison conditions, focusing on female and young inmates.

### Expected impact

Regional and sub-regional activities will increase the capacity of government representatives, officials of national institutions and civil society, and will identify best practices for the formulation of national policies that promote and protect human rights.

### Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the project will be governments and other state institutions, national institutions and the representatives of civil society who participate in the activities. UN partners will also benefit from joint projects developed with OHCHR.

### Implementing arrangements

Activities will be coordinated with the regional advisor, ECLAC, governments, UN Country Teams, the Inter-American Institute for Human Rights (IHR), the Inter-American Institute for Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD), the Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Development Bank.

### National-level activities

In 2001, OHCHR was planning for a new technical cooperation project in Brazil, following the High Commissioner's visit in May 2000. An agreement was made to develop and implement a technical cooperation programme in Brazil. To date, a needs-assessment mission has been conducted and the possibility of a project is still being considered. Prior to such an agreement, OHCHR will support UN partner activities in 2002, by strengthening the human rights mechanism put in place by UNDP and UN Country Teams in Brazil. In this regard, a consultant will be hired to assist in the revision of the national human rights plan of action for Brazil; revise the national plan for public security; establish a coordination mechanism to identify actors who implement human rights projects in Brazil; and assist in the establishment of a database on human rights activities in Brazil.

OHCHR staff in the region are deployed in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru to carry out technical cooperation activities. During 2002, technical cooperation activities will be undertaken in El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico, for which activities and requirements are described in the sections that follow. The activities launched by OHCHR's field office in Colombia are described in the chapter entitled "Human rights support for peace-making, peace-keeping and peace-building activities". In addition to the above, several other ongoing projects, for which funds have already been allocated, will continue; these include:

- Ecuador: OHCHR will complete activities to support the implementation of a national plan of action.
- Nicaragua: OHCHR will complete activities to support the national police.
- Haiti: OHCHR will continue to mainstream human rights and provide support to a UNDP national project.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	179,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	100,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	30,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	30,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	100,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>439,000</b>
Programme support costs	57,070
<b>Total</b>	<b>496,070</b>

## Country projects

### El Salvador

#### Background

As follow-up to a recommendation made by the Commission on Human Rights in January 1997, the Government of El Salvador and OHCHR signed two technical cooperation agreements: one on human rights training and documentation, a second on police and human rights. To implement these activities, OHCHR established a technical cooperation office in El Salvador in April 1997. Following recommendations made by an evaluation mission in 2000 and the appointment of a new Ombudsman, a new project, entitled "Strengthening the national system for the protection of human rights in El Salvador", was approved by OHCHR and the Government.

#### Objectives

This project aims to strengthen the capacities of the national institutions responsible for promoting and protecting human rights. The project will help build the Ombudsman's office into an effective and trustworthy institution that can assist the legislative assembly in reforming domestic laws.

#### Activities in 2002

- Advisory and technical support will be provided to strengthen the office of the Ombudsman and its ability to follow up on its reports to the legislative assembly, ensure compliance with its recommendations, and oversee the police and judicial process.
- The legislative assembly will be assisted in advancing legal reforms that conform to international standards on human rights.
- Personnel of the office of the Ombudsman will receive human rights training and educational materials to support the training session.
- The library of the office of the Ombudsman will be equipped with specialized materials.
- Training sessions on international human rights instruments will be organized for the legislative assembly's legal team.
- OHCHR will conduct monitoring missions to El Salvador every six months.

#### Beneficiaries

The project's direct beneficiaries are the office of the Ombudsman and the UN system; the legislative assembly will benefit indirectly.

#### Coordination

Activities will be coordinated with the Government, the office of the Ombudsman, civil society institutions, and the UN Country Team within the Common Country Assessment/United Nations Development Assistance Framework; they will be implemented in accordance with the Quito framework.

#### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	100,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	20,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	10,000
General operating expenses	10,000
Supplies and acquisitions	10,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	40,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>190,000</b>
Programme support costs	24,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>214,700</b>

### Guatemala

#### Background

The project responds to a request from the Government of Guatemala to support the *Defensoría de la Mujer Indígena* and to establish a national human rights action plan. The UN Country Team also requested advice on and assistance in strengthening national human rights capacities through a renewed OHCHR presence in the country. This is considered to be of a particular importance at a time when the United Nations Mission in Guatemala is reducing its staff. Since the present Government took office in January 2000, the following positive actions have been undertaken:

- A national human rights action plan was formulated on the basis of a participatory process, and the president of COPREDEH (Presidential Commission for the Coordination of Human Rights Policies) announced Guatemala's willingness to ratify important international human rights instruments;

- A *Defensoría de la Mujer Indígena*, attached to COPRE-DEH, was created and regional offices were opened;
- A new law against discrimination was presented to Congress as a follow-up to the proposals of indigenous members of parliament;
- The President recognized the State's responsibility for human rights abuses during the country's long civil war and promised compensation for victims' relatives;
- The Special Rapporteur on Independence of Judges and Lawyers was invited to conduct a follow-up mission to the country; and
- A standing invitation to all special procedures was made during the 57th session Commission on Human Rights.

Project activities began in October 2001 and are expected to continue for two years.

## Objectives

The project aims to strengthen the capacity of civil society to monitor respect for international human rights obligations and to help establish trust and cooperation between the Government and civil society. In the long-term, this should increase respect for international human rights standards. The project also aims to establish consensus among indigenous groups about strategies for the realization of their rights and to strengthen the effectiveness of the administration of justice. Under the project, OHCHR will help develop an effective, comprehensive and coordinated human rights plan of action.

## Activities in 2002

- Assist the Government in developing and implementing a system of participatory monitoring and reporting to the international human rights treaties ratified by Guatemala.
- Assist in formulating a national human rights action plan by providing advisory services as requested by the UN Country Team.
- Assist and support the office of the *Defensoría de la Mujer Indígena* by advising on appropriate mechanisms to promote and protect indigenous rights.
- Train judges and magistrates on international human rights instruments and on the mechanisms for applying these principles in the domestic judicial process.
- Promote indigenous rights and multiculturalism and advocate against ethnic and racial discrimination.

Indigenous issues will be mainstreamed into all the project components, including into training sessions for judges and lawyers. When assisting the Government in developing and implementing a system of participatory monitoring

and reporting to the human rights treaties, representatives of indigenous peoples will be encouraged to be involved in monitoring the implementation of those treaties.

## Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries of the project are: civil society, especially indigenous groups, whose capacities to assist in promoting and protecting human rights will be strengthened; the Office of the Ombudsman and the *Defensoría Indígena*, which will receive support and assistance; the judicial system, through strengthened capacity to apply international human rights norms and mechanisms; and UN partners in the country, who will benefit from OHCHR's advice and support.

## Implementing arrangements

The project will be implemented through OHCHR's office in Guatemala City, located within UNDP premises. The office is composed of four national staff members. One of the four will act as national coordinator and provide human rights advice to the UNDP Resident Coordinator to ensure coordination and consistency of the UN approach to promote and protect human rights. One national administrative assistant will provide administrative and logistic support. UNDP will cover half the office rent.

The project will be implemented in close cooperation with other agencies of the UN system. Project staff will participate in the UN Country Team, the Inter-Agency Working Group on Human Rights, and the Inter-Agency Group on Multiculturalism and Rights.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	83,322
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	35,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	13,780
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	20,550
Supplies and acquisitions	1,500
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>154,152</b>
Programme support costs	20,040
<b>Total</b>	<b>174,192</b>

## Mexico

### Background

This project was established after a memorandum of intent between OHCHR and the Government of Mexico was signed in November 1999. The project was formulated in cooperation with the Government, OHCHR, representatives of civil society, UN partners present in Mexico, and academic institutions. In the past, OHCHR has focused its activities on the administration of justice, national initiatives on human rights and indigenous rights. An evaluation conducted in August 2001 by an independent consultant concluded that the first phase of the project provided an historic opportunity for an international presence to observe and defend human rights in Mexico. The project, now in its second phase, is expected to run three more years; activities for each year will be agreed upon annually by OHCHR and the Government.

### Objectives

The objectives of the second phase are to assist the Government in launching national initiatives on human rights, in improving the administration of justice and the fight against impunity, and in securing indigenous rights.

### Activities in 2002

- A diagnosis will be undertaken to identify the obstacles that prevent Mexico from implementing international human rights recommendations. Three national human rights experts, supported by international experts, will gather and analyze all concluding observations of the treaty bodies and recommendations made by the Special Rapporteurs who have visited Mexico over the past five years. On the basis of this analysis, the main obstacles found in Mexico's legislation, institutions and programmes in the field of human rights will be identified. OHCHR will provide international experts while the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will act as technical secretariat.
- The above-mentioned analysis will also be used to design a National Plan of Action on Human Rights.
- Recommendations submitted by the experts will provide a framework for developing activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission in accordance with the Commission's priority work plan.
- A follow-up training session will be organized for health professionals on the medical and forensic examination of torture victims. Lawyers and judges will be trained in the medical investigation of torture, and training manuals will be produced.
- OHCHR will conduct three one-week workshops to train 40 participants in the application of international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR will support the participation of indigenous representatives through the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade for the World's Indigenous People.

### Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries include: State and national institutions working in the field of human rights protection and education, such as the Office of the General Prosecutor, the Office of the Attorney General, the National Commission on Human Rights, and the Human Rights Commission; the Government; national NGOs and other civil society organizations; medical staff working on the medical and forensic examination of torture victims; and indigenous peoples.

### Implementing arrangements

A national and international staff will ensure implementation of activities and participation of a broad range of organizations from civil society, including indigenous organizations. The Project Steering Committee, which consists of Government representatives, OHCHR's national coordinator, UNDP and members of the NGO liaison committee representing civil society, will monitor the implementation of activities.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	170,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	193,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	43,900
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	27,000
Contractual services	10,000
General operating expenses	63,000
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>506,900</b>
Programme support costs	65,897
<b>Total</b>	<b>572,797</b>

## EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND THE CAUCASUS

### *Regional and sub-regional activities*

#### Introduction

The region of Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus is vast in size and cultural diversity. Yet the common ground shared by nations in the area, notably the strong role of European institutions and values, and the unified security and political framework embodied by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), calls for a common approach to human rights. The human rights challenges in the region are substantial. In Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the transition from centralized control to more open and democratic systems of government continues to pose special difficulties. Institutional and legal structures have been severely weakened in some cases, complicating efforts to nurture the rule of law and good governance. While civil society is increasingly asserting itself as a vital partner in the democratization process, its role is precarious, especially for NGOs and the media. In several sub-regions, the political landscape is dominated by inter-ethnic tensions, extreme nationalism and power struggles, all of which pose grave threats to regional stability.

In the West, governments must contend with the growing problem of displacement, including trafficking in humans. Economic pressures are often accompanied by a rise in racism and xenophobia; in response, however, new strategies are being developed to promote tolerance and ensure equality and dignity for all before the law. These issues, discussed at the World Conference against Racism in Durban in 2001 and at regional preparatory sessions in Warsaw and Strasbourg, merit a prominent place in OHCHR's programming in the region in 2002.

#### **Regional activities: follow-up to the Dubrovnik Conference**

An important step forward in OHCHR's efforts to identify an effective regional approach was made by convening the International Conference on Human Rights and Democratization, which was co-organized by OHCHR, the

European Commission and the Government of Croatia. The Conference, held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, in October 2001, was called to follow-up on the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action in selected thematic areas; to reflect on major trends in human rights promotion and protection; to identify needs, strategies and best practices at both the national and regional levels; and to propose ways to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations and key regional partners. One of OHCHR's main projects in 2002 will be to ensure that the regional and multilateral cooperation agreed upon at Dubrovnik is followed by practical implementation.

The Dubrovnik Conclusions highlighted four priority areas for OHCHR's work in the region: national human rights action plans, national human rights institutions, human rights education, and follow-up to recommendations of treaty bodies and mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights. The Conclusions also called on the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the European Union, the Council of Europe and OSCE to enhance their cooperation in the field of human rights and democratization, with the aim of improving the effectiveness of their activities, avoiding duplication and identifying opportunities for cooperation. To these ends, the High Commissioner for Human Rights appointed Ambassador Thomas Hammarberg, of Sweden, as her Regional Advisor for Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus; OHCHR will continue to support his activities throughout 2002.

#### Objectives

The regional follow-up project to the Dubrovnik Conference aims to develop ideas raised at the Conference and provide a practical framework for regional activities in the priority areas identified by Member States. Through regional, sub-regional and national activities, the project will help develop and reinforce national capacities to:

- Develop, implement and evaluate national plans of action;

- Strengthen capacities of existing national institutions to promote and protect human rights, and strengthen national capacities to establish such institutions where they do not yet exist;
- Strengthen national capacities to develop, implement and evaluate national strategies and programmes for human rights education; and
- Strengthen national capacities to ensure effective and timely follow-up and implementation of recommendations made by treaty bodies and mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights.

### Activities

- A series of practical training workshops will be organized at sub-regional and national levels.
- Direct technical advisory services will be provided on a case-by-case basis.
- Joint reviews of national strategies and their implementation will be conducted on a case-by-case basis.

Studies and compendiums enumerating best practices and treaty-body recommendations will be commissioned and circulated among the project stakeholders. Training workshops for governments and civil society, including national human rights institutions, will focus on selected subjects and review obstacles to implementation, identify best strategies, and draft practical recommendations. The venue of workshops and the areas of technical assistance services will be determined in consultation with Member States and interested regional organizations. Where possible, the responsibility for implementation will be shared with qualified national professional and civil society organizations, with the aim of further strengthening national capacities.

### Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the regional project will be key national authorities and experts with experience in project management, as well as national human rights institutions and members of the civil society of Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus.

### Coordination

The activities will be coordinated with key regional and international organizations in order to increase effectiveness and avoid duplication of work. National and sub-regional activities will be implemented in close coordination with host governments and in consultation with members of the national civil society.

### Sub-regional activities: Central Asia

The Office will contribute to ongoing human rights developments on conflict prevention and democratization in the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Balkans. Joint approaches will be developed with regional organizations and will exploit OHCHR's special expertise, including in the areas of treaty reporting, human rights education and training, and the establishment of national human rights action plans. The sub-regional project on Central Asia arose out of OHCHR's priority to develop regional and sub-regional strategies around the world. The Central Asia sub-region has been identified by the UN Inter-agency Framework Team on Conflict Prevention as an area of human rights concern, particularly the Ferghana Valley, which runs through parts of Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. OHCHR has organized a series of assessment missions to be fielded from October 2001 to January 2002 that will culminate in a review of recommendations by a panel of experts. The recommendations that emerge from the review will provide the basis for a project that will be developed in close cooperation with governments in the region and with inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations. Inter-governmental organizations working in the region, such as other United Nations agencies, OSCE and the World Bank, have indicated their interest in working closely with OHCHR in implementing this initiative.

### Beneficiaries

The project addresses the need for capacity-development, both at the national level and within UN Country Teams in the region, to ensure that human rights are better integrated into programmes and policies. More specific objectives will be defined through the needs assessments to be conducted in late 2001. The direct beneficiaries will be government agencies in the region as well as UN Country Teams and other inter-governmental and national agencies and organizations working in the area of human rights.

### Coordination

The planning stages of the assessment missions have already benefited from coordination with UN bodies (OCHA, DPA, DPKO and UNDP) as well as with the OSCE and NGOs working in the region. The World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Asian Development Bank are also being consulted. OHCHR has worked closely with the Community of Independent States (CIS), the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the UN Resident Coordinators of all countries in Central Asia in preparing this project.

## National-level activities

During 2002 OHCHR will conduct technical cooperation activities in the following countries, for which activities and requirements are described in the sections that follow:

- Azerbaijan: Activities will focus on providing assistance to the Government in ensuring compliance with international standards in law enforcement and the administration of justice.
- Russian Federation: Activities will focus on human rights education for youth.
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Activities will focus on human rights education, strengthening civil society, the development of a national human rights action plan, and support for the establishment of a national human rights commission.

OHCHR's technical cooperation project in Georgia is in its final phase and residual activities will be undertaken in 2002, focusing on human rights promotion and activities related to the work of the Public Defender's Office. Funds for these activities have already been allotted and therefore activities and requirements are not described in the section which follows. Once the residual activities are complete, the modalities for future cooperation will be considered.

In addition, OHCHR has field offices in this region, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; work in these countries is described in the chapter entitled "Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities".

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	201,783
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	65,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	42,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	21,240
Contractual services	10,000
General operating expenses	7,000
Supplies and acquisitions	11,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	98,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>456,023</b>
Programme support costs	59,283
<b>Total</b>	<b>515,306</b>

## Country projects

### Azerbaijan

#### Background

The project will provide assistance to the Government in ensuring improved compliance with international standards in law enforcement and the administration of justice. OHCHR will provide crucial support to national experts in this field and will strengthen national capacity for reporting to treaty bodies. The project is based on recommendations made by UN charter- and treaty-based mechanisms and on findings from an expert mission to the country in February 2001. The project will entail an initial six-month phase and will provide for in-country development of training materials and elaboration of a plan for training activities at a later stage.

#### Objectives

The project will refine the tools available for human rights training of police officials before offering training at the district level. A three-tiered approach will target trainers of the National Police Academy, senior officials responsible for training of in-service police, and experts responsible for the elaboration of standing orders/instructions for law enforcement. A second objective will be to strengthen national capacity in treaty-reporting processes. Close cooperation and coordination with Azerbaijani authorities and experts will be maintained throughout the project. Working relations with regional organizations, UN agencies and international and local NGOs will be enhanced.

#### Activities in 2002

Activities will focus on improving law enforcement personnel's respect for human rights. Initially, all available human rights training materials will be reviewed together with the leadership of the National Police Academy; later, a training module in this area will be developed. A pilot training course will be organized for supervisory-level police officials and relevant decision-makers; and a training course will be organized for the Police Academy. Support will be provided to the Government for developing police standing orders and regulations on selected topics related to the administration of justice. Such regulations will affect procedures for investigations, arrests, use of force and firearms, visitation and access to counsel, conditions of detention and related issues.

The activity to strengthen national capacity in treaty-reporting obligations hinges on a strategy of broad-based participation among all relevant ministries, organizations and civil society to ensure meaningful reporting and follow-up to the recommendations of the treaty bodies. A workshop on improving coordination for treaty-reporting obligations will be convened for the relevant ministries and civil society organizations.

### Beneficiaries

Direct long-term beneficiaries of the project will include the institutions responsible for education and training of police officials, through the development of training materials and improved skills to train new generations of police in accordance with international norms and standards. Government ministries involved in preparing reports to treaty bodies will also benefit from the project. When observance of international norms and standards by law enforcement officials and the Government is improved, Azerbaijani society, in general, will benefit.

### Implementing arrangements

The Government counterpart for the implementation of activities is the Ministry of Justice. Close working relations with all relevant ministries and with civil society will be maintained. An international project coordinator will be recruited and will work with a local assistant. International experts will be identified to participate in the training courses and work with local experts. Coordination with the UN Country Team will continue, as will cooperation with key regional organizations.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	28,900
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	46,600
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	7,600
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	16,000
General operating expenses	2,700
Supplies and acquisitions	300
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	12,300
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>114,400</b>
Programme support costs	14,872
<b>Total</b>	<b>129,272</b>

## The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

### Background

A technical cooperation programme in the field of human rights education was scheduled for implementation in early 2001. Due to the security situation in the country, the project was placed on hold until after the High Commissioner's Personal Representative conducted an assessment mission in September 2001. Given some new developments, such as the August 2001 signing of the Framework Agreement that, among other provisions, calls for the cessation of hostilities and implementation of confidence-building measures in the field of human rights, the Personal Representative recommended a review of OHCHR's technical cooperation activities in the country. He also recommended the implementation of a comprehensive technical assistance project covering human rights education, measures to strengthen civil society, development of a national human rights action plan, and support for the establishment of a national human rights commission. The Government gave preliminary endorsement to the proposed approach, which is expected to be finalized during a project-formulation mission in November 2001. While some activities, principally in the areas of human rights education and strengthening civil society, are expected to be launched by the end of 2001, most are scheduled for implementation in early 2002.

### Objectives

The project aims to support and assist the Government in promoting and protecting human rights by strengthening local capacities for human rights planning, monitoring, evaluation and protection. The project addresses priority areas identified jointly with the Government, and aims to provide support to the civil society and to international agencies that will implement the Framework Agreement.

### Activities

Activities for 2002 will be more clearly defined once the project-formulation mission has been fielded; they will involve:

- Facilitating the mainstreaming of human rights through the development of school curricula;
- Professional training for law enforcement personnel, the judiciary and civil society;
- Strengthening institutional capacities for the development of a national action plan and the establishment

of a national human rights commission through training seminars and on-going consultations; and

- Coordinating with other sub-regional programmes, such as the sub-regional activities on trafficking and OHCHR field presences, and with projects implemented by other regional and international agencies present, such as the OSCE and the Council of Europe.

### Expected impact

The project will help to increase understanding of and engagement in the promotion and protection of human rights. The project will continue to support the establishment of national capacities for protecting human rights and promoting the culture of rights, especially among youth and within civil society.

### Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries of the programme include teachers and local education authorities, the Ministry of Education, and pupils and students of all ethnic backgrounds; members of civil society and the Government structures working with them; Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials responsible for the development of the action plan and their interlocutors in other Government departments and in civil society; and members of the Government and Parliamentary structures who are working to establish a national human rights commission.

### Implementing arrangements

The comprehensive programme will be implemented directly or through project partners (i.e., UN bodies such as UNHCR and UNDP, and NGOs) as appropriate and as elaborated by the project formulation mission. As agreed with the Government, the project will be coordinated from Headquarters and supported by a national project manager based in Skopje. Overseen by OHCHR, the project will be implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other partners identified during the project formulation mission. UNDP Skopje will provide general support and, jointly with other international agencies, will contribute to the ongoing evaluation of needs and project implementation.

### Risks

Security concerns and the prevailing uncertainty regarding the implementation of the Framework Agreement and associated constitutional and legislative modifications are the most prominent risks to the project.

### Coordination

Overseen by OHCHR, the project will be implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other partners identified during the project formulation mission. UNDP Skopje will provide general support and, jointly with other international agencies, will contribute to the ongoing evaluation of needs and project implementation

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	60,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	30,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	7,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	10,000
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	8,000
Supplies and acquisitions	3,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	15,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>133,000</b>
Programme support costs	17,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>150,290</b>

## Russian Federation

In Russia OHCHR focuses on human rights education for youth. The Office provides necessary assistance to national experts, who then train other educators, and develops and distributes teaching materials and strengthens the network of people and institutions active in this area. Significant changes have occurred in Russia during the last several years, not least the inclusion of human rights lessons into school curricula. However, given the country's limited financial resources, the Government has difficulty supporting these initiatives. At the Government's request, OHCHR works to help keep these programmes alive.

### Objectives

The main objectives of the projects are to:

- Introduce an understanding of human rights to students and teachers, with the aim of reinforcing the development of basic values needed for a democratic society; and
- Enhance the capacity of the national educational system in the area of human rights education.

### Activities in 2002

- Seven regional training courses on teaching human rights to teachers, targeting professors of education and instructors from State institutes of continuing education for teachers, will be offered: Participants will receive instruction on the methodology of teaching human rights to teachers and will be provided with teaching materials for distribution in their teaching institutions. This "training-of-trainers" activity will be carried out by experienced Russian professors and experts.
- Implementation of a programme of training and internships for graduate students and education professors will be conducted over the next two years in a pedagogical institute of higher education in Russia. The programme will help educators learn about teaching human rights and support them in developing new teaching materials in the area; the practical part of the programme will acquaint participants with Russia's major institutions and their staff working on human rights promotion and protection, State actors, such as the Constitutional Court and the Duma, and NGOs, international organizations and others.

- Seven regional human rights essay competitions for students and training for their teachers will be organized; by participating in the essay competitions, students and teachers will become more familiar with human rights concepts. Successful students and their teachers will participate in additional training and in an awards ceremony where their interest and knowledge will be supported and strengthened.
- A series of monthly articles will be written in national teachers' newspapers and support will be provided to a project web site that provides teaching materials and information about competitions and project activities. The published material will allow for an exchange of information among educators about successful teaching methods and materials. Published materials developed and supported by the project will include winning student essays from regional competitions and teaching plans developed in the educators' regional and national training sessions.
- Regional resource centres for human rights education will be developed. The regional resource centres will provide access to teaching materials and to electronic sources of information.
- "Mini-libraries" of human rights reference materials will be provided to two target sectors: higher education institutions for teachers and human rights NGOs working on human rights education.

### Expected impact

Activities are expected to have their greatest impact in the long-term rather than immediately as future generations become increasingly aware of human rights. Information will be more accessible to educators, students and the public through the establishment of the project web site and the monthly articles in the main teachers' newspapers. Activities have already generated great interest throughout the country: Russian central and regional TV stations and media have reported extensively on the announcement of a recent student essay competition. Preliminary responses indicate that the number of participants and locations involved in the competition will be greater this year.

### Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the project include high school students, school teachers and professors at pedagogical institutes and universities. In the long-

term, through broad-based dialogue, media coverage, publications, and particularly through improved national capacity to teach human rights, the projects will have a positive impact on the whole of Russian society.

### Implementing arrangements

The implementing arrangements include oversight by an executive committee composed of OHCHR, NGOs implementing the projects, and relevant Government and other entities, including the European Union. There are also project advisory committees for each project, composed of national regional representatives, NGO implementing partners, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education and OHCHR. Other UN bodies, such as UNICEF, UNHCR and UNDP, have standing invitations to attend the regular meetings of these committees and to participate in any activities. Selected activities are being implemented by Russian institutions on a sub-contractual basis following selection by public tender. As indicated above, national and international officials, organizations and experts are involved in coordinating the projects through the executive committee and project advisory committees. Relevant UN and other inter-governmental organizations are invited to attend meetings and activities, as appropriate, thus avoiding duplication of work and ensuring that other agencies benefit from contact with experts in this area from across Russia.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	12,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	560,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>572,000</b>
Programme support costs	74,360
<b>Total</b>	<b>646,360</b>

## ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

### *Regional and sub-regional activities*

#### Introduction

OHCHR's activities in Asia and the Pacific are designed to support the mandate of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the work of the special mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights, and recommendations made by the UN human rights treaty bodies. The Office has been implementing wide-ranging human rights technical cooperation projects as an important component of its activities in the region. During 2002, OHCHR's technical cooperation activities in the Asia-Pacific region will encompass a number of areas:

- Promoting human rights dialogue among States;
- Focusing activities at the national and sub-regional level, rather than at the regional level, as much as possible;
- Undertaking significant and appropriate human rights outreach initiatives in the Pacific sub-region;
- Promoting ratification and implementation of human rights instruments;
- Undertaking initiatives that promote accountability for human rights violations and abuses;
- Pursuing human rights, including gender-related rights, mainstreaming within the UN presence in the region;
- Enhancing links to and support of human rights civil society at the national, regional and sub-regional levels and building partnerships for implementation;
- Supporting national human rights institutions; and
- Prioritizing projects that target human rights public awareness.

#### The regional and sub-regional approach

Progress in protecting and promoting human rights depends primarily on actions taken at the national and local level. Thus, the High Commissioner tries to ensure that the limited resources available support

activities at these levels, and OHCHR has adopted an approach that focuses on cooperation with partners who can best address the needs of countries throughout the region. This approach draws upon and strengthens regional institutional capacities and involves convening forums for human rights dialogues between States and civil societies.

#### The Asia-Pacific framework for regional technical cooperation

OHCHR's regional and sub-regional activities in Asia and the Pacific are based on the Asia-Pacific framework for regional technical cooperation, which was adopted in Teheran in 1998. The framework focuses on four areas: national human rights plans of action, national human rights education plans of action, national human rights institutions, and strategies for the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development. During 2000/2001, OHCHR's activities under the framework were reviewed by Professor Vitit Muntarbhorn of Thailand. He concluded that the framework had been largely effective in achieving its stated objectives and made a number of recommendations that are now being implemented.

The ninth annual regional workshop of States in the Asia-Pacific region was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 28 February to 2 March 2001. The workshop conclusions affirmed "the importance of the implementation of technical cooperation in the Asian-Pacific region pursuant to the framework for regional cooperation established at Teheran, with the support of the international community, including through the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, as one of the key components of the promotion of human rights in the Asian-Pacific region". In January 2002, OHCHR plans to complete the programme of work under the Plan of Action by holding a Pacific sub-regional workshop on human rights education, focusing on the administration of justice.

A new plan of action will be developed and adopted during the annual workshop of States of the region, which will take place in March 2002.

### Regional human rights advisors

In 1999, the High Commissioner appointed a former Chief Justice of India and current Chairman of the Human Rights Committee, Justice Bhagwati, as Regional Advisor for the Asia-Pacific region; the appointment is non-executive and honorary in form. Justice Bhagwati plays an important role in human rights advocacy, designing strategies and developing partnerships for human rights, facilitating coordination of human rights technical cooperation projects, and fostering regional cooperation among national institutions, parliamentary human rights bodies, bar associations and NGOs.

The time has come to build on the success of the work of Justice Bhagwati and locate OHCHR expert staff in the region as operational-level human rights advisors. The World Conference recommended that such human rights officers be assigned to regional offices of the UN with the purpose of disseminating information and offering training and other technical assistance in the field of human rights upon the request of concerned Member States. The value of appointing operational human rights advisors has been confirmed with the increasing understanding of practical, field-level implications of the High Commissioner's mandate for mainstreaming of human rights within the UN system. Designating regional human rights advisors allows OHCHR to become a more active and constructive partner in promoting human rights and to help foster and strengthen human rights and rights-based programming throughout the UN system. The human rights advisors are also uniquely placed to integrate human rights into development activities, one of the key objectives of the Secretary-General's UN reform programme. During her visit to Bangkok in February 2000, the High Commissioner signed a memorandum of understanding with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for the appointment of an OHCHR human rights advisor based in Bangkok, within the Commission, who would be responsible for mainstreaming human rights within UN activities in the region. OHCHR also proposes to locate a regional human rights advisor within the UN regional team in the Pacific sub-region. The terms of reference for the regional human rights advisors include:

- Providing advice to ESCAP (in the case of the Bangkok-based advisor) concerning human rights aspects of its activities;
- Developing strategic relationships with the UN Country Teams in the region, especially within the framework of rights-based planning and programming

initiatives, such as the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), as well as in humanitarian planning and programming; and

- Identifying, developing and implementing best practices, particularly those related to the promotion of a rights-based approach to planning and programming, coordination mechanisms and inter-agency cooperation.

### National-level activities

During 2002, technical cooperation activities will be undertaken in China, East Timor, Mongolia and the Solomon Islands for which activities and requirements are presented in the sections that follow. In the region, OHCHR also has a field office in Cambodia; activities related to this project are described in the chapter entitled "Human rights support to peace-making, peace-keeping and peace-building activities". Several other on-going projects, for which funds have already been allocated, will continue while others are still being negotiated. These include the following national projects:

- Philippines: OHCHR's joint project with UNICEF on juvenile justice will continue; sufficient funds are available and an allocation has been made for planned activities in 2002.
- Indonesia: a project to support the administration of justice regarding human rights-related criminal proceedings is subject to agreement.
- Bangladesh: subject to the agreement of the Government, a technical cooperation needs-assessment mission will be fielded in 2002.
- The Islamic Republic of Iran: OHCHR fielded a needs-assessment mission to the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1999; the Office is still negotiating a technical cooperation agreement with the Government.

Due to the situation in Afghanistan at the time of writing this Appeal in October 2001, it is not possible to specify the nature of OHCHR activities there during 2002. These activities will, instead, be developed and brought to the attention of donors at the earliest possible opportunity. OHCHR will nonetheless continue to provide substantive support to the Human Rights Advisor within the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator. OHCHR will also design a project for human rights support to the UN Country Team and, where appropriate, to other actors. The High-Commissioner would like to draw attention to the ongoing human rights-related work undertaken by and through the UN Coordinator's Office for Afghanistan and notes the financial resources required to support these activities, including through the revised Donor Alert to Support an Inter-Agency Emergency Humanitarian

Assistance Plan for Afghans in Afghanistan and in Neighbouring Countries, issued on 27 November 2001 (under the heading 'Protection').

### Coordination

OHCHR has developed close ties with UN funds and programmes and other partners in the region. The link with ESCAP has been significantly enhanced through a memorandum of intent and the deployment of a human rights advisor. The Office works closely with UNDP, including with its sub-regional resource facilities in Beirut, Bangkok and Islamabad. UNICEF and UNESCO are partners of particular importance to OHCHR; a memorandum of intent was signed with the latter in February 2000. A memorandum of understanding was signed with the Asia-Africa Legal Consultative Organization in November 2001. The International Commission of Jurists, the International Bar Association and the Inter-Parliamentary Union are also cooperating with OHCHR. The Asia-Pacific Forum of National Institutions works closely with OHCHR to establish and strengthen national human rights institutions throughout the region. Regional, sub-regional and national NGOs and human rights institutes make important contributions to the formulation, design and delivery of programmes and projects throughout the region; particular progress was made during 2001 to enhance such partnerships in the Pacific sub-region.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	148,500
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	48,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	61,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	155,980
Contractual services	10,000
General operating expenses	13,000
Supplies and acquisitions	2,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	4,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>442,480</b>
Programme support costs	57,522
<b>Total</b>	<b>500,002</b>

## Country projects

### China

#### Background

OHCHR's project in China provides human rights technical assistance under the framework of a memorandum of understanding between OHCHR and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the mutual agreement to cooperate in the development and implementation of technical cooperation programmes. This agreement, signed on 20 November 2000, facilitates information-sharing between China and other States on promoting the rule of law and fosters mutual understanding of human rights issues. Activities have been implemented since the agreement was signed, and one follow-up activity on the punishment of minor crimes was launched in September 2001. In keeping with a step-by-step approach, a project usually begins with a workshop at which international and national experts establish a working relationship, explore substantive issues, and detail the elements of cooperation. National experts, drawn from both academic and professional circles, discuss international human rights law and its relevance to domestic law and practice, and review existing Chinese training materials to consider how best to incorporate additional information based on international human rights standards and UN materials.

#### Objective

The primary objective of OHCHR's technical cooperation project in China is to support the ratification and implementation of international human rights treaties. In 2002, emphasis will be placed on follow-up activities.

#### Activities in 2002

- Launch follow-up to workshop activities undertaken in 2001;
- Convene a human rights workshop for prison administration personnel;
- Convene a human rights workshop for judges and lawyers;
- Support academic institutions in their human rights activities;
- Offer human rights fellowships for key officials, including police trainers, legislators and senior government officials, to facilitate and encourage their work on promoting human rights; and

- Implement activities to promote understanding and implementation of economic, social and cultural rights in the various provinces.

### Beneficiaries

- Senior Government officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Public Security, Justice, Education, the State Council Office of Legislative Affairs and the Legislative Commission of the National Peoples Congress, and provincial-level officials;
- Representatives of the judiciary, prosecutors, the police force and lawyers; and
- Representatives from academic institutions and civil society.

### Implementing arrangements and coordination

OHCHR implements projects in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Office organizes workshops and all related logistical arrangements. A Geneva-based project manager and a national focal point were recruited to manage the implementation of activities. OHCHR has good working relationships with UNDP in China and with relevant NGOs and expert institutions.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	122,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	100,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	20,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	182,500
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>424,500</b>
Programme support costs	55,185
<b>Total</b>	<b>479,685</b>

## East Timor

### Background

In accordance with the terms of Security Council Resolution 1272, adopted on 25 October 1999, the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) has been responsible for the administration of East Timor during its transition to independence, and is empowered to exercise all legislative and executive authority, including the administration of justice. In keeping with the memorandum of understanding between OHCHR and the UN Department of Peace-keeping Operations (DPKO), signed in April 2001, the High Commissioner and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for East Timor signed an agreement for a human rights technical cooperation project to support UNTAET's mandate.

Throughout 2001, UNTAET strengthened the East Timorese national infrastructure to promote and protect human rights by supporting capacity-building activities for self-government and assisting in the establishment of conditions necessary for sustainable development. UNTAET's mandate as transitional government expires on 31 January 2002. Elections for an East Timorese government may take place in May 2002. The United Nations is therefore assessing the extent to which the new independent Government of East Timor will require ongoing technical assistance after UNTAET withdraws. Discussions so far have confirmed the need for a DPKO-UNTAET successor mission that would include a human rights component. During 2002, OHCHR will consolidate activities undertaken in 2001. These include: supporting capacity-building within the justice system and civil society, providing technical assistance to the legislature, supporting constitutional and ratification processes and the implementation of international human rights treaties, providing technical assistance to support the work of the Reception, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and facilitating preparatory discussions on the establishment of national mechanisms to protect human rights.

### Objectives

OHCHR's main objective during 2002 is to help develop an institutional and legal framework in East Timor to protect and promote human rights. OHCHR will:

- Provide adequate technical support to the DPKO-UNTAET successor mission to build upon human rights achievements to date;

- Ensure that, where possible, OHCHR seeks participation of civil society organizations in the capacity-building process; and
- Ensure that regional resource persons implement activities. (Not only do regional resource persons often have similar cultural backgrounds but, in the case of Indonesia and Malaysia, they speak the same language as the majority of East Timorese; this is particularly important for the judiciary, where Indonesian legislation remains applicable, except where new specific legislation has been adopted. In addition, regional resource persons can help establish human rights networks that will, in turn, help develop both local and regional human rights capacities).

### Activities in 2002

- Provide and/or consolidate human rights training and skills-building for the East Timor police, civilian police, judges, prosecutors, public defenders, national defence-force, and prison officials, among others, and offer technical assistance for the establishment of a complaints mechanism to address abuse by police/national defence-forces.
- Provide and/or consolidate human rights training and skills-building for East Timorese human rights professionals.
- Provide assistance to human rights public education and capacity-building, especially at the district level.
- Provide technical and legal assistance on issues related to the constitution-drafting and ratification processes and the implementation of international human rights standards and reporting obligations.
- Provide technical assistance to the Reception, Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Engage in preparatory discussions to establish national mechanisms to protect and promote human rights.

### Beneficiaries

Once elected, the direct beneficiaries will be officials of the newly established Government of East Timor, the police and defence-forces, prison staff, judiciary, members of the legal profession, NGOs and other sectors of civil society, and persons engaged in the truth and reconciliation process.

### Coordination

The project will be implemented by OHCHR and the human rights component of the DPKO-UNTAET successor mis-

sion, together with other mission components, national NGOs, government departments, UN agencies, regional and international organizations and specialist institutions. Specialists will be recruited for short-term deployments.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	300,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	30,000
Contractual services	48,500
General operating expenses	23,500
Supplies and acquisitions	5,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	130,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>537,000</b>
Programme support costs	69,810
<b>Total</b>	<b>606,810</b>

## Mongolia

### Background

On 10 December 2000, UNDP and the Government of Mongolia, in cooperation with OHCHR, signed a project agreement entitled "Human Rights Strengthening in Mongolia: Phase I (HURISTMON)". This project aims to assist in the development of a National Human Rights Action Plan in Mongolia (NHRAP) and has been elaborated by UNDP Mongolia with substantial input from OHCHR, within the framework of a joint OHCHR-UNDP Human Rights Strengthening (HURIST) project. The project will develop and strengthen the capacities of and strategic alliances among four sets of national institutions (i.e. public-sector governing institutions, national human rights institutions, civil society and private-sector institutions) to promote and protect human rights in Mongolia. The HURISTMON project provides for an international human rights advisor located in Mongolia and works under the umbrella of UNDP Mongolia, in close consultation with OHCHR.

## Objectives and strategy

OHCHR will support HURISTMON by recruiting an international human rights advisor, based in Mongolia, who will:

- Assist the Government in identifying areas for capacity-building and in implementing the HURISTMON project; and
- Serve as a human rights advisor to the UN Country Team to promote the mainstreaming of human rights into UN activities in Mongolia.

## Activities in 2002

### Integrating human rights into United Nations activities

- Provide advice and recommendations on human rights and right-based approaches as requested by the UN Resident Coordinator.
- Provide advice and support in monitoring progress of the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).
- Advise heads of UN agencies, individually or collectively, on human rights issues concerning Mongolia and on rights-based approaches to programmes and activities.
- Participate in the UN Theme Groups on Human Rights and Gender, which examine rights-based approaches, development work and integrating human rights in the UN activities.

### Support to the National Human Rights Action Plan

- Coordinate UN system participation in the HURISTMON Project Steering Committee to help oversee implementation of the project.
- Advise the National Coordinating Committee for the NHRAP, upon its request, on human rights issues, particularly concerning international human rights standards, rights-based approaches, and other methodologies and experiences in national human rights planning.
- Provide advice and support to the UNDP national human rights advisor and the National Coordination Office, including assistance in the orientation and training initiatives of the NHRAP planning process.
- Provide advice on strategies and activities to strengthen national capacities to improve promotion and protection of human rights while elaborating the NHRAP, including by coordinating OHCHR's technical cooperation activities in support of the HURISTMON project.
- Assist stakeholders and partners in the NHRAP planning process, particularly civil society organizations and the media, in sharing information.
- Provide advice to support information, communication

and education activities planned by the United Nations and the National Coordinating Committee to raise public awareness of the NHRAP planning process.

- Review draft documents produced by the National Coordination Office, particularly the draft regional, sectoral and governance human rights action plans, and coordinate UN system components; provide suggestions for strengthening these documents in accordance with international standards.
- Provide periodic reports to the UN Resident Coordinator and OHCHR on the implementation of the HURISTMON project, capacity-building activities, and progress in the development of the NHRAP.

## Expected impact

Providing technical human rights expertise at an early stage in the development of the National Human Rights Action Plan should raise public awareness about human rights and build the national capacity of key government institutions to promote and protect human rights. The international human rights advisor will ensure that human rights are mainstreamed through training, support and advice to the UN Country Team. This will ensure that the human rights agenda is at the forefront of all UN activities in Mongolia.

## Implementing arrangements

The international human rights advisor will be located in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. He/she will work under the direct supervision of the UN Resident Coordinator and be supported by OHCHR Geneva.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	118,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	22,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>140,000</b>
Programme support costs	18,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>158,200</b>

## Solomon Islands

### Background

OHCHR's activities in the Solomon Islands constitute a technical cooperation project in a post-conflict environment. The project is complemented by OHCHR's involvement in the joint OHCHR-UNDP Human Rights Strengthening Programme (HURIST), which includes the presence of a human rights officer in the regional UN Team in Fiji. A two-year internal conflict in the Solomon Islands ended in October 2000 when a peace agreement was signed. The main aim of the project is to provide human rights support to the peace process. During 2002, the second phase of this project will launch human rights capacity-building activities for Government and civil society actors, promote the establishment of a truth and reconciliation process, and will address the situation of internally displaced persons.

### Objectives

In 2002, the project will:

- Strengthen the rule of law by supporting the judiciary, advising the Government on implementation of international human rights treaty norms, and supporting police training;
- Support the truth and reconciliation process;
- Strengthen civil society in human rights by raising awareness of human rights at the grassroots level and supporting human rights capacity-building within religious communities; and
- Foster a lasting human rights capacity within government structures.

### Activities in 2002

- Provide human rights training seminars for the police and the judiciary to promote a sustainable human rights capacity in the administration of justice.
- Train government officials on reporting obligations to human rights treaty bodies, on implementation of international human rights instruments ratified by the Solomon Islands, and on incorporating provisions of international instruments into national legislation.
- Raise awareness of human rights and launch capacity-building activities for civil society, including human rights training seminars to reinforce the capacity of the non-governmental sector.
- Promote a truth and reconciliation process by providing expert advice and supporting the peace process.
- Provide human rights advice on legal reform issues.

### Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries will be various government officials and institutions, the legal profession, and religious leaders and civil society, including at the village level.

### Implementing arrangements and coordination

The project will build on a broad range of partnerships with UN agencies, government actors and human rights expert institutions. To a large extent, project activities will be jointly implemented with partners to build regional capacities and ensure a coordinated, sustainable approach to the task of promoting human rights. Project management will be carried out by an international human rights project officer who will be located in the Solomon Islands until the fourth quarter of 2002.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	58,200
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	61,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	10,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	16,500
Supplies and acquisitions	12,200
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	15,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>172,900</b>
Programme support costs	22,477
<b>Total</b>	<b>195,377</b>

## ARAB REGION

### Regional and sub-regional activities

#### Introduction

During the 1990s, the human rights movement burgeoned throughout the Arab world. The growth of national human rights institutions and ministerial mechanisms is an indication of governments' increased attention to protecting and promoting human rights. From the Maghreb to the Gulf States, there are now more than 50 NGOs that work in monitoring, protection, awareness-raising, education, legal assistance, research and victim rehabilitation; at the same time, regional non-governmental institutions have begun to flourish. In response to these positive developments and to requests for assistance from governments and civil society, OHCHR's involvement in the Arab world has increased. The Office has strengthened its relationship with Arab regional organizations while human rights mainstreaming has led to joint activities between OHCHR and other UN organizations.

To respond adequately and comprehensively to increasing demands from Arab countries, Arab national and regional NGOs and UN agencies in the region, the High Commissioner regrouped all OHCHR technical cooperation activities in the Arab world under a single desk, the Arab Region Desk, within the Activities and Programmes Branch (APB). In addition, OHCHR is planning to appoint a human rights regional advisor, to be based in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in Beirut. This will enable OHCHR to be present and develop its partnership with UN agencies in the region.

#### Objectives

- Build regional Arab expertise in the promotion and protection of human rights, based on a concerted and consistent policy towards all regional/national actors;
- Focus on best practices and information-sharing among governments and other actors working in a similar environment;

- Develop regional and national expertise among partners who can recommend the most effective action and use of resources by OHCHR;
- Enhance cooperation with regional organizations and networks active in the Arab region; and
- Strengthen cooperation and joint work between Africa and the Asia-Pacific regions and Arab NGOs and governments to promote and protect human rights.

#### Regional activities

##### Strengthening regional and national capacities in the Arab world

An important component of OHCHR's strategy in the region will be to use regional projects as a framework through which the Office can respond to demands for technical assistance in the field of human rights. This will also create linkages with regional partners with whom OHCHR will work during 2002. A regional project for the Arab States will be undertaken jointly by OHCHR and UNDP: The objective is to build national and regional human rights capacities in the Arab world based on shared experiences and progress made in the areas of the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights. OHCHR will:

- Strengthen its role within the UN family and the international community;
- Coordinate human rights-related assistance to countries in the region through various UN bodies and programmes, particularly ESCWA, UNDP and recipient countries;
- Facilitate direct communication between OHCHR and UNDP;
- Maximize UNDP's expertise at the national level and OHCHR's human rights expertise;
- Provide a forum for States, NGOs and professionals from the region to exchange information and identify common problems that have a negative impact on development; and

- Provide a sustainable framework and process for capacity-building that will enhance awareness of the linkages between human rights and development.

### Assistance to the Arab Institute for Human Rights

OHCHR will continue to provide assistance through grants to the Arab Institute for Human Rights (AIHR), based in Tunis, the activities of which aim to empower national NGOs to promote human rights in Arab countries. The AIHR is known in the region for promoting human rights through training and documentation and several NGOs in the region regularly attend its training sessions. It cooperates with Arab governments, as well as national, regional and international mechanisms for the protection of human rights.

### The Human Rights Regional Advisor

The OHCHR regional office will be composed of the human rights Regional Advisor as head of office, a nationally recruited regional programme officer, who will assist the head of office, and a nationally recruited secretary. The Regional Advisor will provide advice to ESCWA concerning human rights aspects of its activities; develop strategic relationships with the UN Country Teams in the region, especially within the framework of rights-based planning and programming; and identify, develop and implement best practices, particularly those related to the promotion of a rights-based approach to planning and programming, coordination mechanisms and inter-agency cooperation.

### Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of activities will include UN Country Teams in Arab countries, ESCWA, Arab States, and various institutions and human rights NGOs working in the region.

### National-level activities

During 2002, national projects will be undertaken in the following countries for which activities and requirements are presented in the sections that follow:

- Palestine: providing support to the rule of law and national institutions.
- Morocco: establishing and supporting activities of the National Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre.
- Yemen: assisting the Government in addressing the issue of children in conflict with the law.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	315,600
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	52,200
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	12,100
Supplies and acquisitions	2,700
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>382,600</b>
Programme support costs	49,738
<b>Total</b>	<b>432,338</b>

## Country projects

### Morocco

#### Background

Established at the request of the Government, the National Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre, located in Rabat, was inaugurated by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in April 2000. Since the beginning of this tripartite project in 2000, the total cost of US\$ 880,000 is supported by OHCHR (US\$ 480,000), UNDP (US\$ 200,000) and the Government of Morocco (US\$ 200,000). The Centre aims to introduce and promote a culture of human rights at all levels of Moroccan civil society and to provide targeted groups, such as university professors and school teachers, the judiciary, the police, the media, NGOs, women and children, with documentation, information and training according to their needs. The Centre became operational at a crucial moment in the democratization and modernization process taking place in the country. In the past few years, a number of positive initiatives aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights have taken place in Morocco, including the appointment of a minister for human rights, the establishment of an independent commission to monitor the issue of forced disappearances, and the adoption of new prison legislation on the treatment of detainees that conforms to international norms.

#### Objectives and strategy

The long-term objectives of the project are to:

- Contribute to national efforts to promote human rights, especially among vulnerable groups;
- Establish a specialized library and database on human rights, including various audio-visual and computerized materials, that will be available to a variety of users; and
- Strengthen the components of civil society by training NGO leaders, law enforcement personnel and staff of State institutions.

#### Activities for 2002

The Centre will continue to collect available human rights documentation from both within and outside the country and will enrich its recently established specialized library with various types of human rights documents using a variety of printed, audio-visual and electronic material. Assistance will

also be provided to NGOs and various partners in identifying and rationalizing their documentation needs. The Centre's newly launched web site will help publicize the centre.

A semi-annual specialized journal on human rights, due for publication in June and December 2002, will include studies and background articles on current human rights topics of interest to NGO members, human rights defenders, researchers, students and lawyers. Reports of seminars, roundtables and conferences organized by the Centre will also be issued throughout the year.

Scheduled training activities for 2002 include several workshops for magistrates and advocates, subordinate prison personnel, armed forces and gendarmerie, police members and NGO leaders in the area of human rights and sustainable development; some 30 to 40 persons will participate in each workshop. Roundtables on legal issues related to the harmonization of Moroccan law with international human rights instruments, the issue of globalization vis-à-vis economic, social and cultural rights, and on the question of human rights and human development will be held in Rabat.

#### Expected impact

The success of the new Centre in Rabat will depend not only on its relations with State institutions and the civil society, but also on its ability to offer services to the various NGOs and community associations that work with vulnerable or isolated groups in suburban and rural areas, including rural women, street children and exploited girls.

#### Beneficiaries

Individuals, groups, trade unions, NGOs, State institutions and representatives of vulnerable groups will have access to a specialized human rights library and to a range of research, reference, communication, publicity, and promotion material in the field of human rights. They will also benefit from multifaceted logistical equipment, databases, references and bibliographies.

#### Implementing arrangements and coordination

As the Centre began its operations in 2000, it will take some time before it can establish regular contacts with various partners. Nonetheless, UN bodies such as UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNIFEM, other organizations,

such as the Delegation of the European Commission and major human rights organizations, and representatives of NGOs active in women's and children's rights work and handicapped people's rights, and the Bar Association have already expressed a genuine interest in the Centre.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	137,460
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>137,460</b>
Programme support costs	17,870
<b>Total</b>	<b>155,330</b>

## Palestine

### Background

OHCHR's activities in the area are an integral part of a broad international effort aimed at developing the social and economic infrastructure of Palestine by strengthening institutional capacities in various sectors. The project, which began in late 1996, responds to the need for institution-building in the area of the rule of law, and fits within a wider UN initiative under the umbrella of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories (UNSCO). The project is implemented in a complex institutional setting. Since the Palestinian legal system was borne of a variety of influences, harmonization of legislation is required to ensure adequate protection of human rights. National institutions, ministries, police and prison authorities and the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) need adequate resources and training in human rights. The prominent Palestinian civil society should be encouraged to play an active role in monitoring and assistance activities, and should be supported as an essential actor in establishing the rule of law.

An evaluation mission conducted in January 2001 sought to measure the effects of the assistance provided so far. It found that: the national plan of action for human rights is ready to be launched; much has been done to disseminate knowledge of human rights standards among Palestinian police forces; some Palestinian legislation has been revised in accordance with international human rights standards; and Palestinian civil society has benefited from OHCHR's presence as a source of information on human rights. In addition, the mission recommended that OHCHR focus more clearly on the institutional foundations of the rule of law and on strengthening civil society to ensure sustainability of the rule of law. The 2002 project for Palestine reflects these recommendations.

### Objectives and strategy

In 2002, OHCHR's office in Gaza will continue to focus on institution-building activities. They include assistance in:

- Establishing a legal framework consistent with human rights standards by providing support and advice in developing and drafting legislation;
- Implementing an official human rights policy by supporting the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in implementing a national plan of action on human rights; and

- Strengthening national structures with a crucial role in protecting and promoting human rights, focusing particularly on the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights (PICCR) and local NGOs.

## Activities in 2002

### Establishing a legal framework

- Supporting Palestinian institutions and NGOs in law reform research and providing technical advice.
- Providing technical assistance to PICCR in defining its role as a national human rights institution.
- Offering advisory services and training to Ministry of Justice staff on drafting legislation.
- Providing fellowships for members of the Human Rights Committee of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC).
- Providing training on human rights for staff of the PLC.

### Developing a human rights policy

To assist in the development of a human rights policy for the PNA, technical assistance and financial support will be provided in implementing a national plan of action on human rights. The agreed national plan of action will be published.

### Strengthening national structures

- Police: Providing training in juvenile justice for police and offering fellowships for police trainers.
- Judiciary: Training judges and prosecutors and providing documentation and training for members of the Bar Association.
- Prison system: Providing advisory services for the development of prison regulations, offering fellowships for prison guards and administrators, and strengthening the training capacity within the prison system.
- PICCR: Providing fellowships to PICCR staff and training in the role of national human rights institutions.
- NGOs: Providing various human rights documentation to a number of NGOs.

## Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries of the project include PNA officials, the police, members of the judiciary, prosecutors, lawyers, prison officials, members and staff of the PLC, the PICCR, and various human rights NGOs. Indirect beneficiaries include: Palestinians, through improved police services and an improved legal framework; victims of human rights violations, through the services of

the PICCR and the NGOs supported by the project; and women's groups and individuals, through the legal aid and public-awareness activities implemented by NGOs and supported by the project.

## Coordination

To a large extent, the project relies on existing national human rights expertise and institutions to implement activities. Civil society and non-governmental groups, as well as PNA ministries, agencies and departments, also contribute to the project. A number of activities are specifically designed to bring together various national actors involved in, for example, law reform, or the formulation of strategies in national development sectors. Various forms of coordination have also been established with other UN agencies and bilateral donors. Such coordination is facilitated by the special structure set up under UNSCO. This structure provides for a number of sectoral working groups that concentrate on such issues as the rule of law and police and that gather representatives from the United Nations, donors and the Palestinian Authority to review the assistance provided in each area, facilitate coordination, and avoid duplication of activities.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	284,660
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	27,248
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	35,774
Supplies and acquisitions	16,950
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	200,868
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>565,500</b>
Programme support costs	73,515
<b>Total</b>	<b>639,015</b>

## Yemen

### Background

In response to a request from the Government, OHCHR, in close cooperation with the UN Country Team in Sana'a, provides assistance to the Government in the development, formulation and implementation of juvenile justice legislation that incorporates provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant international standards. The project constitutes the first phase of cooperation within the framework of the Mutual Agreement to Cooperate in the Development and Implementation of Comprehensive Programmes for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Yemen, signed by the High Commissioner and the Government of Yemen on 13 February 2001.

### Objectives

In 2002, OHCHR will launch activities focusing on the administration of justice sector and on human rights capacity-building. These will entail close collaboration with the newly appointed State Minister for Human Rights and other national governmental and non-governmental institutions.

### Activities in 2002

Activities will include:

- Assisting in the formulation of legislation covering children in conflict with the law;
- Organizing a number of human rights training and awareness-raising workshops and seminars for Government officials and civil society institutions;
- Providing training manuals on international human rights standards to law enforcement officials, which should assist the Government in its reporting obligations under the international human rights instruments ratified by Yemen; and,
- Promoting the inclusion of children's rights in university curricula by translating and publishing human rights training material and offering fellowships for university professors.

### Expected impact

The project will raise awareness of human rights, particularly children's rights, and strengthen the capacity of governmental and non-governmental actors.

### Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries will be various Government officials and institutions, the legal profession and civil society organizations active in the area of human rights, particularly in the administration of justice.

### Implementing arrangements

To ensure the mainstreaming of human rights, a human rights officer will be part of the UN Country Team. OHCHR will also continue to work closely with the Government of Yemen.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	120,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	15,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	8,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	6,000
Contractual services	6,000
General operating expenses	37,500
Supplies and acquisitions	10,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	55,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>257,500</b>
Programme support costs	33,475
<b>Total</b>	<b>290,975</b>

# H human rights in development

## Introduction

Under the Secretary-General's 1997 reform programme, OHCHR was given a mandate to facilitate the mainstreaming of human rights in UN development programming. Accordingly, OHCHR is promoting the full integration of human rights in development work by analysing good practices and lessons learned, and disseminating the norms and standards of the UN human rights system to development practitioners. During 2002, OHCHR will undertake initiatives to develop concepts, policies and training materials to translate human rights principles into practical tools for rights-based development.

The UN has identified the integration of globally agreed international development targets and cross-sectoral mandates, including human rights, in the Common Country Assessment (CCA) / United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) as a priority. The eradication of poverty is both a development goal and an implicit aspect of many human rights norms; yet it remains unclear how best to apply these norms to poverty-reduction strategies. System-wide training is needed, and best practices for rights-based development must be collected, documented and made available to development partners. Identification of rights-sensitive development indicators is still at an early stage. Implementation of a strategy on human rights in development should now move from a focus on advocacy to the articulation of content and operational strategies, as well as providing support for the implementation of rights-based development programmes by UN Country Teams.

### Objectives

The main objective is to promote the full integration of human rights into development work by defining the human rights content and the operational implications of human rights in development programmes and poverty-reduction strategies. Emphasis will be placed on deter-

mining the implications of operationalizing the right to development, the right to adequate food, the right to adequate housing and good governance, on development policy.

Within this context, OHCHR will:

- Identify how the Office can strengthen its operational support to UN Country Teams efforts to integrate human rights into their joint country analyses, strategies and programming through the CCA/UNDAF process.
- Implement the second stage of the UNDP Human Rights Strengthening (HURIST) project by working in collaboration with UNDP to analyse rights-based programming and deepen understanding of the operational implications of mainstreaming for development agencies.
- Support initiatives to integrate human rights into poverty-reduction strategies, including through support to the Sub-Commission's review of the need to develop new guiding principles.
- Work with United Nations Development Group (UNDG) partners to develop and apply a human rights training module for UN Country Teams.
- Implement mandates on development-related aspects of the environment, good governance, the right to food, and adequate housing.
- Strengthen its capacity to develop indicators, including through statistical analysis, to measure progress, and provide instruments for decision-making and benchmarking.
- Increase its support to the Independent Expert on the Right to Development, including in research.

### Strategy

In 2002, OHCHR will work to strengthen the capacity of UN agencies to mainstream human rights; develop a better conceptual understanding in key development

areas; and operationalize the right to development, the right to food, and adequate housing. Specifically, efforts will focus on developing the strategy through:

- Research and seminars to clarify and articulate conceptual and legal dimensions and implications;
- Pilot activities to document the operational implications of the integration of human rights in key development sectors; and
- Training materials to enhance the knowledge of development practitioners.

### **Cooperating with United Nations agencies to mainstream human rights**

#### **Human Rights Strengthening (HURIST)**

This joint UNDP/OHCHR project to mainstream human rights in development programmes aims to define and test methodologies, identify best practices and provide learning opportunities. The priorities include national human rights action plans and promoting treaty ratification as ‘tools’ to integrate human rights into sustainable human development. At present, HURIST activities are undertaken in some 34 countries. A recent mid-term review concluded that HURIST has already had a significant impact in raising awareness of and developing new national human rights action plans. The review recommended that the second phase of the project should concentrate on clarifying in practical terms what is meant by mainstreaming, identifying good practices and lessons learned, and understanding how practitioners should integrate human rights in their work. During 2002, OHCHR and UNDP will work together to integrate these findings in UNDP programmes.

#### **Support to UN Country Teams**

OHCHR is undertaking an Office-wide evaluation to determine how to enhance its operational support to UN Country Teams (UNCTs) that are integrating human rights into their joint country analyses, strategies and programming (CCA/UNDAF). The preparatory needs and capacity-assessment phase will lead to a longer-term programme to identify and meet the needs of UN Country Teams in undertaking rights-based development programmes. Activities will include a review of:

- The extent and areas of support provided by OHCHR to UNCTs, both at headquarters and in the field;
- UNCTs’ needs for technical and substantive support on human rights issues and the rights-based approaches to development programming;

- The Office’s capacity to respond efficiently to such needs at the field and headquarters levels; and
- The materials and strategies OHCHR should develop to support the adoption of a rights-based approach by UNCTs.

Activities will define the Office’s strategy for cooperation with the UN at the global and country levels, by strengthening support to UNCTs and human rights mainstreaming in the CCA/UNDAF process, and will establish the basis for increasing the Office’s capacity to provide such support. This project is presented below as part of Human Rights in Development, although activities are funded through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

#### **United Nations Development Group (UNDG) training module**

Using a module developed within UNDG, a core group of resource persons drawn from different UN agencies will be trained at the UN Staff College in Turin, and then deployed, on request, to train UN Country Teams on the integration of human rights into country development programming. Between 60 and 80 resource persons will be trained and equipped in three sessions in Turin under a joint multi-agency project being developed under the UNDG umbrella.

### **Developing conceptual and legal approaches**

#### **Good governance and democratization**

The Commission on Human Rights is paying increasing attention to democracy as one guarantor of human rights (resolutions 2000/47, “Promoting and consolidating democracy”; 2001/36, “Strengthening of popular participation, equity, social justice, and non-discrimination as essential foundations of democracy”; and 2001/41, “Continuing dialogue on measures to promote and consolidate democracy”). Its work has contributed to a wider understanding of the constituent elements of democracy and the interdependence between democracy and human rights. In resolution 2001/41, the Commission called upon the Office of the High Commissioner to organize an expert seminar to examine the interdependence between democracy and human rights. The seminar, to be funded by voluntary contributions and held in early 2003, would include observers from interested governments, experts of UN agencies, other relevant inter-governmental organizations and interested NGOs. The outcome of the seminar will inform the work of development professionals in supporting the establishment and strengthening of the insti-

tutions and practices of democracy at the national level. Substantive preparation will begin in 2002.

Successive Commission resolutions have encouraged OHCHR to collect examples of good governance practices in human rights for publication in a compilation to assist countries seeking to strengthen these practices. OHCHR will therefore assemble and analyse collected practices and disseminate them in print and electronic form, including through Internet access.

### **Environment**

At the request of the Commission on Human Rights (Decision 2001/111), OHCHR and UNEP will organize a support seminar to review and assess progress achieved since the 1992 Rio Conference on Environment and Development in promoting and protecting human rights in relation to environmental questions, and in the framework of Agenda 21. The seminar will report to the Commission on Human Rights and to the Second Preparatory Committee of the World Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development and will propose future action. The seminar will focus on three areas: substantive human rights issues, including the right to health; procedural issues relevant to the substantive rights; and the provision of effective remedies. Particular attention will be paid to: assessing progress in the implementation of Agenda 21, including a review of the Aarhus Convention; the special position of vulnerable groups; and the link between the environment and human rights in the context of poverty. The seminar will be held in Geneva at the beginning of 2002 and will be attended by 25 environment and human rights experts.

### **Poverty-alleviation strategies**

In February 2001, OHCHR held a workshop to review the need for a declaration on human rights and extreme poverty. Experts assessed the operational and advocacy value of a new normative text, and examined the phenomenon of poverty from a human rights perspective. They concluded that new guiding principles were needed. Following the seminar and a request from the Commission on Human Rights, Sub-Commission experts are examining the need to develop guiding principles on the implementation of existing human rights norms and standards in the context of the fight against poverty. An initial examination of poverty-reduction strategies reveals that integrating macroeconomic policy issues with broader social development goals, including the realization of human rights, remains a challenge. Furthermore, while most poverty-alleviation strategies

explicitly or implicitly address human rights issues, they do not demonstrate a good understanding of how to integrate a rights-based approach into poverty-reduction strategies. At the request of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, activities will be undertaken to examine how international legal norms can be translated into practical and operational human rights guidelines on rights-based approaches to poverty-reduction strategies. This project is presented as part of Human Rights in Development, although activities will be funded through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

### **Formulating rights-sensitive indicators**

OHCHR will map existing work on indicators in the UN, and in other inter-governmental institutions, with the aim of identifying relevant human rights indicators and priorities of its own work in this area. The Office's capacity to support treaty bodies in analyzing development data and statistical material provided by States parties and the UN system will thus be strengthened.

### **Operationalizing the right to development, the right to food and housing rights**

#### **The right to development**

In his "programme of action", presented to the Commission on Human Rights in March 2000, the Independent Expert stated his intention to study the realization of the right to development in practice, starting with the right to food, primary education and health. During 2002, OHCHR will support the Independent Expert in developing a methodology and carrying out empirical studies in selected countries of the right to development as it relates to the above three rights. The aim is to translate the Declaration on the Right to Development, and related resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly, and reports of the Independent Expert, into action and programmes. Activities will be carried out in partnership with research institutions and in cooperation with national and international development agencies.

#### **Right to food**

The mandate given to the High Commissioner at the World Food Summit in 1996 required her to clarify the content of the right to food and propose practical measures for implementation. Progress has taken place in both areas. At the Rome+5 Summit (July 2002), the High Commissioner will seek a renewed mandate to define further practical approaches to implementation

to enable OHCHR to encourage and facilitate national initiatives to realize the right to food and related rights as a means to integrate human rights into development strategies. National consultations, to be held in two developing countries, will be documented and disseminated among practitioners.

### Housing rights

On the basis of mandates from the Commission on Human Rights, OHCHR and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) are designing a joint housing-rights programme. The programme will establish a research-information network on housing rights, provide support to UN human rights mechanisms relevant to housing rights, including the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, and will promote equal tenurial rights for women, especially with respect to property entitlement and inheritance rights.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	351,200
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	45,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	32,500
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	30,000
Contractual services	74,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	8,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	170,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>710,700</b>
Programme support costs	92,391
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>803,091</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes projects for HURIST, UNDG training module, good governance and democratization, environment, formulating rights-sensitive indicators, the right to development, the right to food and housing rights.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	119,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	81,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	97,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	168,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>465,000</b>
Programme support costs	60,450
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>525,450</b>

<sup>1</sup> This project to support UN Country Teams is funded through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	0
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	45,700
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	68,400
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	101,000
Contractual services	17,000
General operating expenses	1,000
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>233,100</b>
Programme support costs	30,303
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>263,403</b>

<sup>1</sup> This project to support poverty-alleviation strategies is funded through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

# Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities

## Introduction

OHCHR has field offices with protection mandates in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Colombia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. They usually combine protection and promotion work; activities include strengthening national human rights capacities, helping to formulate human rights national action plans, supporting ratification of human rights treaties, and providing basic human rights training. Offices such as those in the former Yugoslavia and Burundi were established in response to emergency situations and decisions taken by the Security Council and the General Assembly. Other offices, such as those in Colombia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, were established as a result of agreements between OHCHR and the countries concerned. These offices are not intended to be permanent: when conditions permit, usually after the creation of national human rights institutions and infrastructures, responsibilities for promoting and protecting human rights are handed over to implementing partners both within and outside the UN system. The activities and requirements of the aforementioned seven field offices are presented in this chapter of the Appeal; the work of other OHCHR field presences is described in the chapter on technical cooperation.

In addition to the seven OHCHR field offices, the Office added more international and/or national staff working within UN Country Teams to implement specific technical cooperation projects, such as those in Azerbaijan, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Madagascar, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Palestine, Solomon Islands, Somalia and Yemen.

An increasingly important aspect of OHCHR's field work is the development of human rights components in complex UN missions, involving peacekeeping and peace-making. The report of the Brahimi Panel on the United Nations peace operations laid the foundations for this approach. OHCHR is cooperating with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the

Democratic Republic of the Congo, East Timor, Eritrea, Georgia, Kosovo (FRY) and Sierra Leone, and with the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) in Afghanistan (Islamabad), Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Tajikistan.

OHCHR is represented in the field by regional advisors in the various UN Economic Commissions in Bangkok and Santiago de Chile, and is in the process of establishing such presences in Addis Ababa and Beirut as well. Sub-regional OHCHR offices for Africa have opened in Yaoundé and Pretoria, and two others are being established in Abuja and Dakar.

In 2002, US\$ 16,7 million is requested for support to peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities. This includes ensuring enhanced security back-stopping to field offices around the world. Both human and financial management in the field presences and support from headquarters have improved over the past year. This trend should continue during 2002, particularly since the General Assembly appropriated additional resources to support the human rights component of UN peacekeeping and peace-making operations, as recommended in the Brahimi report. All field offices are funded through voluntary contributions except for the office in Cambodia which will receive US\$ 1,174,000 from the UN regular budget in 2002.

### Budget summary in US\$

Staff security	690,242
Burundi	3,085,510
The Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,480,807
Colombia	5,088,482
Cambodia	1,799,333
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,339,717
Croatia	752,117
The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	2,471,163

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**Total** **16,707,371**

## Staff security

### Background

In the past few years, there has been a dramatic rise in security incidents around the world that directly affect UN staff. The United Nations has responded to this situation by enhancing its security management system. The main elements of this system are staff training, provision of appropriate equipment and the efficient dissemination of information and advice. The UN Security Coordinator's Office (UNSECOORD) manages the system worldwide from UN Headquarters in New York; it establishes policy and standards and monitors country and regional situations to provide timely advice to the Secretary-General. OHCHR is required to ensure that its organizational needs are met by participating in UNSECOORD activities, such as coordinating meetings and training events. For its part, OHCHR is becoming increasingly active during the earliest stages of conflicts in which human rights violations are rampant.

### Objectives

During 2002 the primary objectives of OHCHR will be to:

- Strengthen OHCHR's security focal point and related activities;
- Develop and implement the OHCHR security policy;
- Establish and maintain minimum obligatory requirements for staff security; and
- Implement the Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS) and the Minimum Telecommunications Standards (MITS) in all field presences to meet existing standards.

### Activities in 2002

#### Ensuring security in field operations

UNSECOORD provides a field security officer in many locations where OHCHR operates, usually within the country or within UNDP's duty station office. The officer provides advice and disseminates information. In some locations, OHCHR shares the cost of these officers. However, the field security officer cannot dedicate his or her services to the needs of OHCHR only. In offices where there is a high level of activity, OHCHR has its own security officers who, in coordination with the UNSECOORD field security officer, provide the necessary advice and support to OHCHR staff. In locations where staff operate or visit, where no security coverage is readily

available, and during investigative and inquiry missions, support is provided as required on an ad hoc basis from a central location. OHCHR will ensure that staff are trained according to the new standards, are cleared by security, and that their travel is safely planned, including by ensuring adequate insurance coverage. Staff are issued with the appropriate communications and transportation equipment so they can safely carry out their tasks. Information gathered from local law enforcement sources, country field-security officers, UNSECOORD and other official sources are transmitted in a timely manner to staff. OHCHR shares information with UNSECOORD, other UN agencies and other actors. A regular reporting system between Geneva and the field will be established, as will guidelines for the safe operation of all field vehicles. Timely information and advice must also be available to the High Commissioner and her senior managers; a small team located within OHCHR's Geneva headquarters will provide these services.

#### Strengthening OHCHR's security focal point

The security unit in Geneva will provide technical supervision and assistance on policy, standards and procedures for all field presences and activities; it will also develop and implement OHCHR's security policy. Training programmes for staff will be designed, delivered and coordinated with other training programmes. Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS) and Minimum Telecommunications Standards (MITS) will be implemented in all field presences to meet existing standards. UNSECOORD, supported by OHCHR and others, has established standards for equipment, communications and training for each duty station. These standards include an accountability aspect for all supervisors and staff, a budget implication for each activity and a compliance element. In essence, those who do not meet these standards will have restrictions placed on their ability to operate in the field on behalf of the United Nations. Professional security staff must also be available to accompany special activities, such as investigative missions and commissions of inquiry.

In accordance with established standards, staff must be equipped, prepared, cleared and briefed before departing on missions; a professional security unit is available for this purpose. Records will be kept of all staff movements to ensure that staff meet system-wide requirements related to evacuations and insurance programmes. This facility will

enable OHCHR to receive and react to incident reports in accordance with the UNSECOORD field-reporting system. The OHCHR security unit must attain a sophisticated and professional level of operational security support to meet the goals of the Office while keeping staff and property safe.

Other related activities:

- Evaluate existing and proposed field activities with a view to improving all aspects of safety and security of personnel, information and property.
- Conduct risk assessments and establish, standardize and implement security procedures.
- Develop an emergency telecommunications plan and maintain communication channels with the field presences.
- Establish the criteria and a programme for the selection, recruitment and training of security staff, including detailed job descriptions.
- Manage the OHCHR duty-officer system.

**Promoting security awareness among OHCHR staff**

- Provide support, training, advice and technical supervision to security staff deployed to OHCHR field operations.
- Raise the level of security awareness of all OHCHR staff.
- Establish a comprehensive training programme for Geneva-based personnel, field staff and professional security officers.

**Management arrangements**

The OHCHR Security Coordinator (security focal point) supervises the unit, which is responsible for analyzing the security situation in areas where OHCHR operates or foresees operations, advises OHCHR and liaises with other UN bodies and UNSECOORD in New York. Two professional security officers and a general service security officer will coordinate clearances, analyze conditions in the proposed locations, provide pre-deployment briefings, liaise with local law enforcement officers and, on occasion, accompany human rights staff to the field. They will also provide training and awareness programmes, ensure compliance with MOSS and MITS, and maintain an operations room that controls security support to all field activities.

**Funding requirements**

Funds will be required for staff salaries, field evaluations, and security-related equipment for the field, training programmes and manuals. Information technology

equipment is also needed to manage and disseminate information in a secure and timely fashion. With the consent of donors, OHCHR proposes that a small portion of contributions received (i.e. 5 per cent) for field offices will be used for staff security.

**Budget in US\$**

Staff costs	497,334
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	50,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	25,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	38,500
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>610,834</b>
Programme support costs	79,408
<b>Total</b>	<b>690,242</b>

**Burundi**

**Background**

The Burundi office was established in 1994. A year later, OHCHR and the Government of Burundi signed an agreement authorizing the deployment of human rights officers as observers throughout the country; in June 1998, OHCHR established two sub-offices in Gitega and Ngozi. Insecurity in Burundi persists despite the signing of the Arusha Peace Accord in August 2000. Burundi is at a crossroads in its political and social development. The country is still plagued by civil war fought among government forces and various rebel movements. Hundreds of civilians, including women, children and elderly persons, have been killed in the fighting. The situation is tense, and violence may escalate if the international community fails in its attempts to push the peace process forward. As of July 2001, the main political actors in Burundi agreed to support the Arusha peace process and to put in place a 36-month transitional government. The Mediator for Burundi named the first two transitional leaders who will lead the country for a period

of 18 months starting November 2001. The nomination of the transitional cabinet, in which all parties are to be represented, is expected to follow. A regional Heads of States meeting held in Arusha on 23 July 2001 called for the Burundian head of State to commit himself to implementing the peace agreement. Yet developments in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo and intensified fighting in the provinces bordering Tanzania are feeding the insecurity prevalent in the country.

### Some achievements to date

The office regularly monitors the human rights situation throughout the country. It carries out investigations into the most serious human rights violations, visits prisons and transitory detention places, monitors the situation of regroupment camps and displaced persons. Findings of these investigations are referred to the competent authorities and to the Government. Weekly and monthly reports are submitted to the High Commissioner. Training has been offered to 37 military magistrates and 30 police officials. More than 120 national human rights observers, one-third of whom are women, have been trained. The office has developed a consultative civil society body composed of local associations involved in human rights issues. Regular meetings are held under the auspices of OHCHR. A new Code of Penal Procedure was promulgated in January 2000 and has been fully implemented. Legal assistance has been offered to plaintiffs and defendants at the criminal courts and other courts and tribunals resulting in an improvement in the fairness of trials and the appropriateness of sentencing.

### Objectives and implementing arrangements

The main objective of the activities is to empower the Government, national institutions and local partners to take over the activities carried out by OHCHR, namely monitoring, providing legal assistance through national lawyers, and supporting the development of an independent civil society. Other objectives include:

#### Supporting the implementation of the Arusha peace process

- The Observation Unit will carry out its activities with a special focus on gender and internally displaced persons (two new observers will be recruited) and will strengthen national capacities to investigate and follow up on human rights violations.

- The Justice Unit will help establish a legal framework for the exercise of political freedoms in Burundi, review provisions on temporary immunity to facilitate the return of refugees, handle the issue of political prisoners, help draft legislation to combat crimes against humanity, including genocide, and conduct activities intended to strengthen the rule of law.
- The Promotion Unit will increase its training activities and carry out human rights awareness campaigns to promote a culture of peace.

#### Strengthening national capacities in the field of human rights

- OHCHR will play a leading role in assisting and coordinating the various emerging human rights structures, including the Government's Human Rights Commission, local human rights committees and human rights NGOs, which need better managerial and financial support as well as appropriate training.
- OHCHR will further develop its concept of a permanent NGO forum to bring together Burundian human rights associations; OHCHR will continue to serve as secretariat of the forum.

#### Integrating a human rights dimension in all activities of UN partners in Burundi

- The Head of Office chairs an inter-agency committee, established by the UN Country Team, whose task is to ensure that human rights are integrated in the work of each UN partner in Burundi. Human rights training has already been provided to all heads of agencies and will be provided to all UN staff. Advisory assistance on human rights issues will also be provided to the Representative of the Secretary-General in Burundi, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region, and the mediation team when it moves to Bujumbura.

### Activities in 2002

#### Monitoring

In 2002 monitoring activities will include: identifying, monitoring and investigating serious human rights violations and abuses and their perpetrators; in close cooperation with UNHCR, monitoring respect for human rights of returnees and preventing illegal arrest or detention; monitoring the functioning of the judicial system and related institutions, such as the police, army and prison system; monitoring the situation of internally

displaced persons; making weekly visits to the central prison of Bujumbura, monthly visits to other prisons and detention centres (*cachots*) in administrative centres, bi-monthly visits to *cachots* in the communes, and following up, with prison authorities or those in charge of the detention centres, cases involving prolonged or arbitrary detention and maltreatment. To strengthen national capacities, OHCHR will continue to organize training seminars in human rights monitoring techniques for representatives of civil society from each province. Assistance will also be provided in establishing a preventive monitoring network of national human rights monitors to ensure that the rights of returnees are protected and properly followed up, and that returnees are not subject to illegal arrest or detention.

#### **Anticipated results**

Activities are expected to result in a decrease in the number of human rights violations, the release of illegally detained persons, respect for the rights of returnees, and the establishment of a national network for the promotion and protection of human rights. Human rights monitors will be present in every national sector to take over the activities carried out by OHCHR. An initial network of 124 national human rights monitors has already been trained through the OHCHR programme.

#### **Assistance to the judiciary**

In 2002 assistance to the judicial system will include: legal assistance to defendants and plaintiffs provided by international and national lawyers during four annual sessions of the criminal chambers and by national lawyers throughout the year; follow-up of trials related to the 1993 eruption of ethnic violence and requests for legal assistance emanating from plaintiffs and defendants; and meetings, brainstorming sessions and seminars on the Legal Assistance Programme, which will be attended by OHCHR, international and national lawyers, representatives of the Government, and local and international NGOs.

OHCHR will provide training for 90 police officers – 60 from the gendarmerie and 30 from other police forces – in three two-week sessions; training for 30 magistrates from the *Tribunaux de résidence*, which fall within the jurisdiction of the Appeal Courts in Ngozi and Gitega, in one four-week session; training for 30 court clerks and prosecution assistants in one two-week session; and training for 30 members of the prison administration on their rights and responsibilities concerning detention procedures and the treatment of detainees in one two-week session.

#### **Anticipated results**

The above activities will result in fewer arbitrary arrests and shorter periods of detention without trial; an increase in the fairness of trials and legal assistance provided in cases linked to the events of 1993; and a stronger judiciary, through the training of high courts and military courts magistrates and members of the gendarmerie and the prison administration. In addition, operational support will be provided to the judicial system to ensure its continuous functioning, and legal assistance will be offered to individual returnees or groups of returnees seeking to recover their property in accordance with Burundian law.

#### **Human rights promotion, education and training**

Promotion activities on human rights, a rights-based approach, democracy and good governance will be carried out through training seminars in each of five provinces for 150 leaders and members of local human rights organizations; three training seminars for 60 leaders and members of women associations; one training seminar for 30 trade-unionists; and one training seminar for 30 members of Parliament. In addition, training seminars on human rights and peaceful conflict resolution for 280 members of youth organizations in each of seven provinces are planned.

To increase public awareness of the impact of human rights in daily life, particularly with regard to refugees and displaced persons, 52 micro-fictions illustrating different types of human rights violations will be produced and broadcast. Other activities include the production of three sensitization campaigns, transferring techniques in developing information campaigns to civil society, and creating TV and radio broadcasts on human rights promotion and protection.

#### **Anticipated results**

As a result of these promotional activities, OHCHR anticipates the establishment of a permanent forum for civil society organizations involved in human rights. Civil society will be strengthened as leaders and members of local human rights groups, women and youth associations, and members of trade unions are trained in human rights.

#### **Coordination**

OHCHR works closely with the Government, particularly the Ministries of External Relations, Human Rights, Justice and Education. Weekly meetings with representatives from the Ministries of Defence and Interior and

the Governmental Commission within the Ministry of Human Rights address follow-up of protection activities, such as monitoring and legal assistance. OHCHR also works in close collaboration with other UN agencies. The Head of Office in Burundi is part of an inter-agency working group on human rights which assists with the integration of human rights issues in the work of all UN partners in the country. Excellent relations are also maintained with representatives from civil society, including with Ligue Iteka, *Association Burundaise pour la Défense des Prisonniers* (ABDP), *Association Agir Dufantaye* and *Collectif des Associations et ONG féminines du Burundi* (CAFOB) which represents women's associations, and the Burundi Bar Association.

### Structure of OHCHR's presence

The Burundi office is led by the Chief of Office, located in Bujumbura, and is composed of three substantive units: the Observation Unit, the Promotion Unit and the Justice Unit. There are a total of 12 international staff, each unit is headed by an international human rights officer. The Observation Unit has four additional international officers, while the other units have national staff. Two international security officers, one logistical officer and one international administrative officer support these units. Sub-offices are located in Gitega and in Ngozi, which cover the eastern and northern provinces, respectively, and undertake legal assistance programmes. The western and southern provinces are covered by the Bujumbura office.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	1,785,485
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	154,920
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	85,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	214,930
General operating expenses	168,780
Supplies and acquisitions	134,504
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	186,921
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,730,540</b>
Programme support costs	354,970
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,085,510</b>

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

### Background

Since it was opened in Kinshasa on 10 December 1996, the Human Rights Field Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (HRFOC) has been working to improve the human rights situation in the country, based on the *protocole d'accord* signed with the Government. A number of activities have been implemented according to the monitoring mandate and the technical cooperation programme, including support to NGOs, training activities, visits to prisons and detention centres, and support to government institutions, civil society and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the Congo. The situation remains grave, given the continuation of the war, inter-ethnic conflict, and recurring human rights abuses, such as summary executions, arbitrary detentions and violations of the right to a fair trial. Security in-country is tenuous. Yet despite these problems, some developments have been reported, including the start-up phase of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, the deployment of observers from the United Nations Mission in the Congo (MONUC), and the organizing of the national conference on human rights. The Inter-Congolese Dialogue should bolster prospects for peace and democratization. HRFOC will have a major role to play in strengthening institutions and promoting a culture of peace and human rights to foster reconciliation. The national conference on human rights held in late June 2001 issued a number of important recommendations, including the adoption of the National Charter on Human Rights, which will help strengthen the rule of law.

### Objectives

The main objectives of the project are to:

- Strengthen human rights national capacities and infrastructures;
- Reinforce the national human rights documentation centre established in 1999 in Kinshasa;
- Conduct human rights monitoring;
- Support the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights;
- Ensure appropriate coordination with MONUC; and
- Mainstream human rights within the UN Country Teams.

### Activities in 2002

#### Technical assistance

The technical cooperation units of the Kinshasa office and of the Goma sub-office will play a leading role in

assisting and coordinating the various emerging human rights structures, including the National Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. They will provide follow-up to the June 2001 national conference on human rights and implement its recommendations, in particular the National Charter on Human Rights. They will also support the implementation of the national human rights action plan which was launched in December 1999. The units will also focus on strengthening the Kinshasa documentation centre, establishing links with the Yaoundé sub-regional centre, and supporting the Ministry for Human Rights. Follow-up to training activities conducted in 2001 will also be undertaken.

### Monitoring

Visits to different parts of the country are generally carried out every three months, and/or when there is a specific need, as for monitoring trials. Such visits and monitoring activities help establish a picture of the human rights situation in the country. Observation units provide the Special Rapporteur with necessary background information and follow-up on individual cases. The observation units in Kinshasa and Goma will focus on children and internally displaced persons and work in coordination with UNICEF, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, and OCHA. National capacities to investigate and follow-up on human rights violations, in coordination with the human rights section of MONUC, will also be strengthened.

### Mainstreaming human rights

To ensure human rights mainstreaming within UN Country Teams, the Head of HRFOC will chair a thematic working group on human rights. Human rights training will be offered to all UN staff, and advice on human rights issues will be provided to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the DRC.

### Supporting the implementation of the Lusaka Peace Process and the Inter-Congolese Dialogue

Within the framework of the implementation of the Lusaka Peace Process, a number of activities have been envisaged whose implementation is still at an early stage. HROC is prepared to offer its expertise, documentation and support to these activities. The Lusaka Peace Process also calls for the deployment of MONUC observers, the organization of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, the liberalization of political activities, and the closing of a number of detention centres. The implementation of most of these activities is still at an early stage. HRFOC is prepared to offer its expertise, documentation and support to these activities.

### Anticipated results

HRFOC's monitoring presence has deterred flagrant human rights abuses. In addition, HRFOC has encouraged national NGOs and civil society, including churches, universities, the local press and local authorities, to help monitor the human rights situation. Civil society has been encouraged to voice its concerns and act upon them. It is anticipated that this positive trend will continue and that the dissemination of human rights standards and documentation, including through the Kinshasa documentation centre and partnerships with local universities, will help strengthen civil society as a monitoring partner. A large network of local NGOs, located mostly in the eastern part of the country, has been created to disseminate information and build local capacities.

### Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries will be victims of human rights violations, members of civil society, national institutions that promote and protect human rights, the media, relevant ministries, such as Human Rights, Information, Justice, Interior, Foreign Affairs, and Social Affairs, and universities, notably the Universities of Kinshasa, Lubumbashi and Goma.

### Risks

Continued conflict and political instability are the main threats to the implementation of activities. The current situation may deteriorate if the conditions of the Lusaka Agreements (i.e., the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, the withdrawal of foreign troops, and the deployment of the military wing of MONUC) are not met.

### Coordination

Since the establishment of the MONUC human rights section, steps have been taken to strengthen coordination with OHCHR. On 3 October 2000, OHCHR and the MONUC signed the terms of reference of cooperation, which cover consultation and coordination, monitoring, human rights training for MONUC staff, human rights documentation and publications, reporting lines and exchange of information, and public statements. Activities undertaken in accordance with the terms of reference aim to strengthen integration between OHCHR and MONUC. National counterparts for the implementation of activities include: Government institutions, universities, the army, the police, the media, human rights NGOs, trade unions, political parties, and women and youth associations. International partners include: the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, UN agencies, including ILO, WHO, FAO,

UNESCO, UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP and OCHA, the Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, the diplomatic and donor community, international NGOs and the Yaoundé sub-regional centre. Meetings are organized regularly to ensure and strengthen coordination among all actors.

### Structure of OHCHR's presence

OHCHR's office in the DRC is composed of a head of office, his deputy, and 14 national staff. A sub-office, opened in Goma during 2000, consists of one international staff and four national staff. Both offices are responsible for human rights monitoring and for providing advisory services to the Government and NGOs on the promotion and protection of human rights.

### Technical cooperation unit

Recent training sessions on human rights were held in Kinshasa and Goma for magistrates and lawyers. A radio programme, broadcast in the eastern part of the country, has been launched to promote human rights, explore peaceful means of conflict resolution, and foster a culture of peace. Training in human rights education for teachers is being developed. All activities involve domestic human rights NGOs, the media and Government counterparts.

### Monitoring unit

The units responsible for monitoring in Kinshasa and Goma work closely with MONUC, relevant Government counterparts and domestic and international NGOs; the units visit prisons and both Government- and rebel-controlled areas.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	857,049
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	60,600
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	195,300
General operating expenses	39,500
Supplies and acquisitions	158,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,310,449</b>
Programme support costs	170,358
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,480,807</b>

## Colombia

### Background

OHCHR's office in Bogotá was established on 26 November 1996 under an agreement signed by the Government of Colombia and the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Under the terms of that agreement, the office is to observe and monitor the human rights situation in the country in order to advise the Colombian authorities on how to formulate and implement policies, programmes and measures that promote and protect human rights in the context of internal armed conflict. The High Commissioner should also be able to submit analytical reports on the situation to the Commission on Human Rights. The agreement has been extended three times, the latest until April 2002. As requested in the statement of the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights in April 2001, the Bogotá office plans to continue its efforts to expand its presence and enhance its monitoring capacity by opening regional offices in Cali and Medellín by the end of 2001.

Human rights violations in Colombia can be described as grave, massive and systematic. The main rights affected continue to be the right to life and the rights to inviolability, freedom and security of the person. Breaches of international humanitarian law are also recurrent, massive and systematic and form part of a general assault on the civilian population. The worsening of the conflict is demonstrated by the combatants' frequent disregard for the humanitarian principle of proportionality and their targeting of defenceless civilians. The situation in Colombia is affected by a variety of influences, including the peace dialogues between the government and the guerrilla groups, the "Plan Colombia" initiative, bilateral relations between Colombia and its neighbours, the deterioration of the country's economy, and the activities of Colombia's powerful drug-trafficking networks. As a presidential election year, 2002 will offer new opportunities for OHCHR and the international community to place human rights high on the national agenda.

### Objectives and strategy for 2002

2002 will usher in important changes for OHCHR in Colombia. The opening of the two regional offices implies a re-structuring of responsibilities and lines of reporting. Significant changes in personnel are also foreseen, as some staff will be transferred to the two new offices. 2002 will therefore be a period of adjust-

ment and consolidation, and the Bogotá office will also seek to ensure that existing objectives are achieved.

The objectives for 2002 include:

- Observing, monitoring, and providing analytical reports to the High Commissioner so the international community remains informed of the human rights situation in Colombia;
- Advising the Colombian authorities on the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes to promote and protect human rights and providing technical assistance to selected State and non-governmental institutions to strengthen national capacity in human rights protection; and
- Developing public information and promotion campaigns on human rights, including publications and awareness-raising campaigns. This will be achieved by developing a communications strategy linking OHCHR with the local media. This strategy will allow the office to highlight human rights topics and raise the level of discussion within Colombian society, especially among policy-makers.

## Activities in 2002

### Observation

The observation unit in the Bogotá office will be re-arranged to give greater coverage to those areas that have not yet received the desired level of attention. Similarly, the responsibilities of officers in Bogotá will increasingly focus on specific human rights themes. A new focal point will be established for the issues of children's rights and violence against women in the context of armed conflict. Economic, social and cultural rights will be monitored more closely in cooperation with UN sister agencies. Information on cases and situations collected through field observation will be entered into the office's database and periodically assessed and analyzed to develop an understanding of how human rights and international humanitarian law can be applied throughout the country.

### Relations with the media and human rights promotion

The Bogotá office will expand its multi-faceted public information strategy, which includes promoting international human rights standards, initiated in 2001. Particular emphasis will be placed on targeting the

mass media, including journalists, political-interest groups, opinion-makers, presidential candidates, the academic community, social communicators, NGOs and the private sector. To support the work of the regional offices in Cali and Medellín, OHCHR will develop a series of radio and television spots and will produce written materials outlining its mandate and basic human rights issues. A short video outlining the work of OHCHR will also be produced. The office intends to continue writing editorial pieces, providing off-the-record briefings for specific interest groups, and offering human rights training activities to Colombian journalists. The OHCHR Colombia web site will be expanded to better exploit its potential as a public relations tool.

### Technical cooperation and legal advice

A balance between the two main activities of the Bogotá office, technical cooperation and observation, allows the office to underpin its reporting obligations (through observation) with constructive dialogue for change with national authorities (through technical assistance projects). During 2002, OHCHR Colombia plans to complete existing commitments with national human rights institutions. Some modest follow-up activities are foreseen to build the capacity of State institutions which work in the area of human rights. This includes the Attorney General's Office, the Office of the Public Prosecutor and *Defensor del Pueblo* (Office of the Ombudsman). These institutions should implement the recommendations and adopt measures specified through assessment studies supported by the office during 2000 and 2001.

In response to growing concerns for the safety of Colombian human rights professionals, the office plans to introduce a fellowship programme that will allow three outstanding Colombian human rights defenders (one governmental, one non-governmental and one State) to participate in international human rights and international humanitarian law training initiatives, including the summer sessions at the René-Cassin Institute (Strasbourg), Washington University (Washington D.C.) and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (San José, Costa Rica). Technical assistance also involves providing legal advisory services with a view to harmonizing national legislation with international norms and recommendations. Through the development and promotion of analytical/ investigative studies, the office strives to strengthen the rule of law and encourage the correct interpretation and application of international norms and standards.

## Other related activities

With a view to creating a best-practice model for the creation of OHCHR field presences, a historical record of the Bogotá office will be published.

## Anticipated results

The opening of the two regional offices will guarantee greater coverage of some of the country's worst-affected areas. The Medellín office will allow OHCHR to improve its observation capacity in the departments of Chocó, Antioquia and South Cordoba. The Cali office will facilitate greater coverage of Cauca, Valle del Cauca, Nariño, Risaralda, Caldas, Quindío, Tolima and Huila. It is hoped that a more permanent presence in these areas will increase OHCHR's role in dissuading and preventing human rights violations and in encouraging the protection of human rights. The regional offices will work in close coordination with the human rights Ombudsman.

## Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries:

- Individuals and communities at risk of human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law.
- State and national institutions working for human rights protection and education.
- Vulnerable groups, including internally displaced persons and Afro-Colombian and indigenous minority groups.
- National media representatives (TV, newspaper and radio), especially journalists.
- National NGOs and other civil society organizations.

Indirect beneficiaries:

All Colombians will benefit from measures and policies resulting in an improvement in the conditions needed to guarantee the full enjoyment of their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

## Risks

The unpredictable nature of the armed conflict, the deteriorating human rights climate and the political conditions in Colombia pose a number of risks that could impede the office's ability to meet its goals in 2002.

## Coordination

The Bogotá office works with national partners, including the Office of the Vice-President, the Ombudsman for Human Rights, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Attorney General's Office, the *Consejo Superior de la Judicatura*, national universities, the military and the police. Civil society partners include Colombian human rights NGOs, journalists, opinion-makers, members of Congress, union activists and representatives of the private sector. The office continues its dialogue with the *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia* (FARC) guerrillas on issues of respect for international humanitarian law.

International partners include UN agencies, international financial institutions, the diplomatic community, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and international NGOs. The Office maintains continuous dialogue with UNHCR through joint activities developed by its human rights officer for internally displaced persons. OHCHR works in close cooperation with the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on International Assistance to Colombia. The UN agencies in Colombia have set up four groups to coordinate work on priority areas of concern. OHCHR is coordinating the thematic group on human rights and international humanitarian law and has participated in the three other thematic groups: alternative development, local development and reconciliation and internal displacement.

## Structure of OHCHR's presence

Under the leadership of the Chief and Deputy Chief, the office is divided into four strategic, interdependent work areas:

**Observation:** responsible for consolidating data concerning cases and situations with a view to encouraging investigations by national authorities. Identifies and initiates follow-up on situations and themes requiring further analysis and preventive action.

**Public information and human rights promotion:** responsible for promoting and raising awareness of the office's mandate, functions and activities and of international standards and recommendations concerning human rights and humanitarian law.

**Legal support:** responsible for analyzing the legal and thematic aspects of human rights and international

humanitarian law as applied to the office. Reviews complaints/cases for admissibility and legal categorization and initiates follow-up strategies with the competent authorities.

**Technical cooperation:** responsible for identifying, formulating, monitoring and evaluating projects, maintaining relations with donors, and developing indicators for and measuring the impact of activities.

### Lessons learned

OHCHR is aware of the need to ensure the early involvement of national human rights partners in as many activities as possible. The office anticipates greater collaboration with the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office in 2002. Since OHCHR's ultimate goal is to leave in place a self-sustaining environment for the protection, promotion and full enjoyment of human rights by all Colombians, the Ombudsman's Office, as OHCHR's natural counterpart, should receive increased support and training. The Ombudsman's Office could thus potentially act as a "project champion" once OHCHR has left the country. The development of a common understanding of and UN strategy for human rights in Colombia is essential. Appropriate training materials and activities with UN agencies are essential for the UN Country Team's efforts to integrate human rights into its overall strategy for Colombia. Headquarters' work to support mainstreaming in the field should be prioritized and strengthened.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	2,799,981
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	734,560
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	145,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	56,430
Contractual services	354,820
General operating expenses	113,600
Supplies and acquisitions	130,690
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	168,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>4,503,081</b>
Programme support costs	585,401
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,088,482</b>

## Cambodia

### Background

The Cambodia office was established in 1993 at the end of the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). The mandates of the field office and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Human Rights in Cambodia, which were defined in Resolution 1993/6 of the Commission on Human Rights and elaborated in subsequent resolutions, combine technical assistance, monitoring and the protection of human rights. After almost three decades of war and conflict, Cambodia suffers from a dearth of functioning state mechanisms and experienced personnel. During the past eight years, the country has gradually begun to rebuild major state institutions and a legal framework. Despite these positive developments, protecting human rights remains a challenge. Strengthening the legal framework and the advocacy role of NGOs and civil society are essential to promoting the rule of law and human rights. In its governance action plan of January 2001, the Government acknowledged the urgent need for legal reform. It also pointed to the need for transparency and strong anti-corruption measures and affirmed the importance of gender equality and the protection of children's rights. The plan defined specific actions the Government intends to take to address these issues. Communal elections are scheduled to take place in February 2002 as part of the Government's decentralization programme. During the first part of 2002, the Cambodia office will undertake a review of its programmes and strategies. An external evaluation of the office and its activities will be organized in the latter part of the year.

### Objectives

Activities will focus on strengthening government institutions, NGOs and civil society. To address the complex human rights issues facing the country, the strategy will combine monitoring, technical assistance and capacity-building components. Activities envisaged for 2002 will both help sustain what has been achieved in the past eight years and provide fresh support for institutions that are being rebuilt. The office will also undertake an appropriate programme of monitoring and related activities during the municipal election process.

## Activities and anticipated results

- Help establish institutions and a legal framework, that promote and protect human rights consistent with international human rights standards, and an efficient and participatory law-making process. The office will provide training and technical advice to drafters of law, comment on draft laws, facilitate civil society consultations and otherwise help the State to integrate international human rights standards into law and practice.
- Strengthen judicial reform efforts and the justice delivery system to ensure human rights are promoted and protected under the rule of law. The office will deliver targeted technical assistance to judicial institutions, including the courts, and to legal aid and related NGOs through workshops and other training activities. The office will also provide technical advice, mentoring, and will prepare and disseminate materials.
- Strengthen national capacity to secure the rule of law and to ensure fair and professional law enforcement consistent with international human rights standards and national legislation. The office will participate in initiatives aimed at consolidating and institutionalizing the capacity of the armed forces and law-enforcement bodies to act in accordance with international human rights standards, including by preparing training materials, providing training, and assisting in the development of human rights redress mechanisms. The office will also assist the Ministry of the Interior in its work to combat child trafficking.
- Enhance the capacity of the Government to meet its international human rights treaty reporting obligations and of NGOs both to participate in the treaty reporting process and to advocate for ratification of additional instruments. The office will assist in developing State capacity to implement and report on the implementation of human rights treaties and of treaty bodies' recommendations. Appropriate technical assistance will be provided to relevant NGOs within this framework.
- Strengthen the capacity of Cambodian NGOs and civil society organizations to carry out human rights protection and promotion activities. Greater attention will be given to strengthening NGO capacity to promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights and the human rights of vulnerable groups. The office will continue to support the course on human rights offered at the Royal University of Phnom Penh.
- Address human rights concerns in poverty-related issues, in particular by promoting equitable access to and management of land and other natural resources, adequate workers' conditions, and equitable access to basic services, especially in the areas of health and education. The office will work with government, UN and NGO partners to promote rights-based approaches to poverty alleviation and environmental activities and will undertake appropriate monitoring activities.
- Promote an environment for free and fair elections at the commune level. The office will establish an election programme to monitor all phases of the electoral process and to promote a correct implementation of the legal framework relating to the elections.
- Support the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in implementing his mandate.

## Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries will include: the Ministries of Justice, Interior, Social Affairs and Labour, Environment, Women and Veterans' Affairs, Defence, and the Inter-Ministerial Committee responsible for preparing reports for treaty bodies; judges and prosecutors; parliamentarians and staff of the National Assembly and Senate; NGOs and civil society groups; the Royal University of Phnom Penh; the police; the Royal Gendarmerie and the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces; lawyers; and the future-elected Commune Councils.

## Coordination

The Cambodia office works with all three branches of the State: the ministries, the legislature and the judiciary. In addition, the office works closely with the Legislative and Human Rights Commissions of the National Assembly and Senate. The office also cooperates with UN agencies in promoting the rule of law and human rights by supporting human rights mainstreaming within UN programmes. OHCHR gives high priority to its relations with NGOs and civil society.

## Structure of OHCHR's presence

The Cambodia office currently consists of 12 international staff, 45 national staff and 10 consultants. The office is composed of:

- The Chief's office: responsible for the management of the office, including fulfilling reporting and other obligations to OHCHR Geneva, coordinating support to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, participating in UN system activities, and maintaining external and donor relations. The Chief of office is responsible for supervising the provincial office network.
- The Monitoring and Protection Unit: responsible for all aspects of the office's monitoring, investigation and protection activities. The head of unit also serves as assistant to the Special Representative.
- The Legal Assistance Unit: coordinates programmes and activities for strengthening the judiciary and law-making process, including by commenting on draft legislation and facilitating the involvement of civil society in the law-making process. It also coordinates the Judicial Mentor Programme, which places trained lawyers in provincial and municipal courts to train judges and court officials.
- The Education, Training and Information Unit: responsible for building the capacity of government and non-governmental institutions through education and training and development of guidelines and training materials; supporting NGOs and civil society by providing both technical and financial assistance to local human rights NGOs; and assisting the Government in meeting its reporting obligations under international human rights instruments.
- The Provincial Office Network: consists of eight provincial offices and implements the programmes and activities in the provinces.
- The Administrative Unit: provides personnel, administrative and financial services, including providing transport and logistical support.

## Funding

Core funding for the office is provided under the regular budget, which covers seven professional international staff, 16 national professional and administrative support staff, costs related to travel of the Special Representative, and support provided by OHCHR headquarters for the Cambodia office. All other expenses are covered by the Trust Fund for Human Rights in Cambodia, established by UNTAC and transferred to OHCHR in 1993.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	488,800
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	106,970
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	165,610
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	80,000
Contractual services	263,100
General operating expenses	205,100
Supplies and acquisitions	172,750
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	110,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,592,330</b>
Programme support costs	207,003
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,799,333</b>

## Bosnia and Herzegovina

### Background

OHCHR in Bosnia and Herzegovina has produced reports on the human rights situation in the country since 1993 under the mandate of the Special Rapporteur (since 18 April 2001, the Special Representative) of the Commission on Human Rights. This traditional monitoring and reporting activity was expanded in August 1998 to include a focus on major human rights issues in the country, including gender discrimination, the protection of minorities and rule of law, and social and economic rights.

The human rights situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina has improved considerably since the signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement in November 1995; but continued improvement is hampered by the transitional nature of the nation's economy and the complicated constitutional and legal structure of the State. The economy is evolving from State control to a free market. A weak coalition government, installed after the most recent elections, is struggling in the uncertain political and economic climate. Although there is increased recognition of the need to comply with international human rights obligations, there is still insufficient cooperation between ministries at the Entity (i.e., the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska) and State levels to make substantial progress. It is still too soon to determine if sustainable changes will or can be implemented.

Most human rights violations in Bosnia and Herzegovina are predicated on some form of discrimination, whether on grounds of ethnicity, political affiliation or gender. The intersection of gender and ethnic discrimination has exacerbated the plight of women, particularly in the areas of social and economic rights and gender-based violence. Members of vulnerable groups, such as minority returnees, former detainees, and those who provide assistance to the International Criminal Tribunal of the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) are most at risk.

The return of refugees and displaced persons and the reclamation of property continue. Yet six years after the Dayton Peace Accord, over 700,000 people from Bosnia and Herzegovina are still refugees or displaced persons and have no durable solution to their problem. Implementation of property laws remains far too slow and requires constant monitoring and pressure from the international community. The sustainability of returns remains a major concern. Bosnia and Herzegovina's weak economy adversely affects the entire population; but returnees suffer more, primarily because they often cannot exercise their rights. Many areas still do not meet the minimum criteria for compliance with international standards in effective policing, independent judiciary, and non-discriminatory protection of social and economic rights; as a result, there is no security for returnees.

The dearth of adequate public services, most notably access to pensions, health care and social protection, makes the return of vulnerable groups unrealistic without additional assistance and support. Decreasing levels of international aid and the weak economy only undermine the already-fragile national protection system.

With no multi-ethnic and professional police force and no functioning and independent judiciary, impunity and disregard for the rule of law persist. Corruption is of grave concern and hinders progress in disrupting and prosecuting organized crime. Trafficking in persons, primarily for the purpose of forced prostitution, and the smuggling of migrants are both issues of major concern in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in the region as a whole. While the Government's response to the problem has improved, there is concern that the international community has not adequately addressed the demand for the services of women forced into prostitution. The extent to which organized crime and corruption feature in the economy and in society, in general, remains a major obstacle to the creation of a society where human rights are respected and violations redressed.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a country of destination for victims of trafficking and a country of transit for smuggled migrants. Since there is no coherent framework or system to deal with all forms of migration at the point of entry, the protection of those who may be seeking asylum is jeopardized.

Yet despite the above-mentioned problems, the evolution of civil society and the role played by NGOs in calling the authorities to account in Bosnia and Herzegovina are positive developments that prompt some optimism for the future.

### Main objectives and strategy

OHCHR's role in Bosnia and Herzegovina is to act as a catalyst for the promotion and protection of human rights. During 2002 the Office will:

- Ensure that the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights is kept fully informed of events in Bosnia and Herzegovina and that reports to the Commission and the General Assembly accurately reflect the situation in the country;
- Ensure that issues of gender-based violence as they relate to the international police mandate are addressed within the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH);
- Pursue the concept of gender mainstreaming and obtain greater gender analysis in the programmes and policies that are implemented in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Ensure that social and economic rights are addressed as human rights and that the principle is incorporated into the work done with national institutions and international agencies;
- Work with NGOs on rule of law issues, reporting and assessment of human rights;
- Work towards developing a return programme that respects human rights and recognizes the nature of the obstacles encountered, not least by ensuring a gender analysis;
- Identify particularly vulnerable groups and help define the violations of their rights and any appropriate remedies; and
- Ensure that the legal framework on immigration and asylum and the mechanisms for its implementation provide for effective protection of human rights.

## Activities in 2002

In 2001, OHCHR started the Municipality Assessment Programme, designed to give an indication of factors that influence the conditions for a safe and dignified return of minorities to particular municipalities. A climate of security includes a broad array of institutions and measures related to rights and protection. This includes the composition and reactions of the police, the independence of the judiciary, access to and quality of health care, employment, education, housing, the provision of utilities, access to Government administrations, such as for passport applications, and freedom to participate in social and cultural activities. The programme will be expanded in 2002.

OHCHR has been involved in activities to establish quality health care/protection in Bosnia and Herzegovina, ensuring non-discrimination and emphasizing the full implementation of international human rights standards. The office established and chairs a working group of international and local institutions covering health issues, and has worked on interim solutions for access to health care. In 2002 OHCHR will continue to advocate for reforms in the health-care system, aimed at ensuring better health care/protection for all citizens on a non-discriminatory basis, by helping to develop a final agreement on the method and procedures for access to health care.

As trafficking in persons remains a major human rights violation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, OHCHR will continue to coordinate activities to provide immediate assistance to those who are victims of trafficking. This includes working with the International Police Task Force (IPTF) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Following an October 2000 meeting of ministries responsible for addressing trafficking, which was also attended by the chair of the trafficking task force of the Stability Pact to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Government committed itself to formulating and implementing a national plan of action. OHCHR will continue to play a leading role in providing assistance to the ministries in developing the plan and ensuring that the protection of human rights remains a central priority. The office will provide advice and expert analysis of the legal frameworks from a human rights perspective and will participate in the three working groups established under the national plan of action: legal reform, prevention and awareness, and direct assistance to victims. OHCHR will share information with NGOs that will help develop the assistance programme. In collaboration with the UNMIBH human rights office, OHCHR will devise a new strategy detailing the role of the IPTF in relation to

trafficking. OHCHR will be involved in training the State Border Service and local police and will work more directly with the international community and local NGOs on referral systems.

In 2002 OHCHR will continue to highlight the issue of discrimination in employment by raising awareness of the problem and offering advice to international organizations and relevant government agencies on how to integrate international human rights standards into economic and social legislation and policies. In collaboration with the American Refugee Committee, UNHCR and the Office of the High Representative, OHCHR will monitor the implementation of Entity labour laws. Problems identified in both Entities include: discrimination on the grounds of ethnic origin, political affiliation or non-affiliation, or gender; employees working without a contract and thus not entitled to social protection measures; and employers not recognizing unions as social partners. OHCHR will provide advice on implementing labour legislation. In addition, OHCHR will work with partners to strengthen the legal framework to ensure that the rights of irregular migrants entering or transiting the country, particularly victims of trafficking, smuggled migrants and asylum seekers, are protected.

## Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of OHCHR's activities include state institutions, governments of both Entities, NGOs working on human rights issues, returnees and potential returnees (including those wishing to return to Croatia), internally displaced persons and refugees, migrants and victims of trafficking, stakeholders in the national health system, and members of the international community.

## Risks

The protection of economic and social rights is sometimes viewed as impracticable and/or incompatible with the economic reforms taking place in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Guaranteeing respect for economic and social rights, especially for fair employment practices, is all the more important as returns increase.

## Coordination

The office works closely with other international organizations, national and international NGOs and with the Government to coordinate activities, to ensure that human rights are integrated into policies, programmes and legislation, and to avoid duplication of efforts. The office also works to promote dialogue and cooperation

between NGOs and the Government. The office is part of the Country Group of Multilateral Agencies (CGMA) working on the Common Country Study (CCS) for Bosnia and Herzegovina. This initiative addresses the development needs of the country through close cooperation with and assistance to the Government. OHCHR has worked on developing the indicators for the CCS and plays a crucial role in ensuring that human rights and gender are integral parts of the process.

### Structure of OHCHR's presence

The Chief of office is responsible for the office's activities and for regional gender issues. Three other officers work on economic and social rights, migration and issues of internal displacement, support the mandate of the Special Representative and provide human rights expertise. In addition, a local lawyer works on human rights legal issues. Two consultants focus on the Municipal Assessment Programme and one consultant handles trafficking issues in the context of a joint project between OHCHR and UNICEF, which is administered by UNDP.

### Lessons learned

Demands made upon OHCHR are great, not only in relation to regional issues, such as migration, trafficking and return, but also in the areas of economic and social rights. As OHCHR facilitates further dialogue between the Government and NGOs, progress is being made, yet the relationship between the Government and NGOs must be continually nurtured.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	672,590
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	108,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	40,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	90,000
General operating expenses	195,000
Supplies and acquisitions	80,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,185,590</b>
Programme support costs	154,127
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,339,717</b>

## Croatia

### Background

A technical cooperation agreement signed in May 1999 and a memorandum of understanding signed in June 2000 launched this project and regularized the legal status of OHCHR as a diplomatic mission in Croatia. Key human rights issues (e.g., refugee returns and reintegration, property restitution, tenancy or occupancy rights, rights of minorities, appropriate legislative changes, judicial reform, equal application of the rule of law, and impartial trials, especially for war crimes) are still not adequately addressed in Croatia. Ongoing land and property disputes, which form the majority of the more than one million cases pending adjudication in Croatia's judicial system, impede return, reintegration and, most important, reconciliation. Growing tension within and outside the ruling coalition over Croatia's cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) is another cause of concern.

### Objectives

OHCHR will continue to monitor human rights developments in 2002 and inform thematic rapporteurs and/or other human rights mechanisms on the systematic patterns of violations in Croatia. OHCHR will implement activities that focus on human rights monitoring and training and strengthen the capacity of national institutions to promote and protect human rights.

### Activities in 2002

#### Monitoring

The mandate of the Special Rapporteur in Croatia ended in mid-April 2001. However, in 2002 OHCHR will continue to monitor human rights developments in accordance with the MOU signed in June 2000. Activities will draw the attention of thematic rapporteurs and various human rights mechanisms to systematic patterns of violations in Croatia; complement the technical cooperation programme in Croatia; and ensure timely reports to OHCHR Geneva on the human rights situation in the country. Special attention will be paid to war crimes trials and to the independence and impartiality, or lack thereof, of the judiciary.

## Training

OHCHR will:

- Implement training programmes for journalists, police and prison officials, judges, lawyers, prosecutors, and staff of NGOs on human rights standards appropriate to their professions. OHCHR will also provide advisory services and/or technical assistance to the Government.
- Promote and strengthen national human rights institutions through training, workshops, seminars, lectures, and documentation. These institutions include the Office of the Ombudsman, the National Parliament of Human Rights, the National Minorities Committee, and the Committee on Legislation.
- Target human rights NGOs, teachers, journalists, concerned government officials, students, the Bar Association and community-based organizations to disseminate human rights culture, emphasizing economic and social rights, human rights education, gender, multi-culturalism and children's rights.
- Strengthen the legal framework by ensuring that all necessary human rights legislation, compatible with international standards, is adopted and implemented, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, parliament, other government bodies, international and regional organizations and NGOs.
- Promote better administration of justice by monitoring the independence of the judiciary and non-interference by the Executive, the recruitment of qualified judges, the training of judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police and prison personal, including training of trainers, cooperation with ICTY, and by monitoring local trials of international humanitarian law violations.
- Advise the Government, in cooperation with other international and regional organizations, on the implementation of the plan of action and resolutions adopted following the International Human Rights Conference, convened in Dubrovnik in October 2001.

## Promotion

The Office will disseminate information on various human rights topics relevant to Croatia and make available documents on human rights standards, works of prominent human rights defenders and academics, and national laws on minority rights. These documents will be held at the Human Rights Documentation and Training Centre, which was established in Zagreb by OHCHR in October 2000 in cooperation with the Government. The Centre is an independent institution, accessible to civil society organizations, academics, students and the general public, for promoting human rights awareness, studies and research; it also serves as a public resource for computers, databases and other human rights materials.

## Advocacy

OHCHR will:

- Intensify efforts with the Government, in close cooperation with international and regional organizations and NGOs, to establish and implement an adequate legal framework to resolve problems that arise concerning the return of refugees and displaced persons, restitution and reconstruction of housing, citizenship, work, and social benefits. The Office will also work towards restoring trust and reconciliation among the different ethnic communities.

## Anticipated results

The capacity-building projects are expected to produce excellent results in 2002, with participants continuing to benefit from the seminars and training programmes. The office will seek to assist the Government in its attempt to address human rights concerns and encourage a sense of partnership between the parties. Among many anticipated achievements, activities should increase NGO credibility and leverage with the Government and international organizations; reinforce local efforts to demand and defend human rights; contribute to the development of a sustainable human rights training capacity within the prison administration; and increase the visibility of the Ombudsman by strengthening its capacity and improving public understanding of the role and function of the office.

## Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries will include current and potential victims of violations of human rights; government offices (legislative, judicial, and executive, including the office of the Ombudsman); national human rights NGOs; academic institutions, including senior law and political science students and, in particular, the European Law Students' Association; and journalists. OHCHR will also continue to work with NGOs on minority rights and

individual complaints. The NGOs will benefit from training sessions and seminars that will raise awareness of international human rights standards.

### Coordination

Activities are coordinated with government offices, academic institutions, human rights NGOs, and inter-governmental agencies, including UN agencies, which work in concert with OHCHR as implementing partners and as sources of information for human rights monitoring.

### Structure of OHCHR's presence

The office in Zagreb comprises six local and two international staff, headed by the Chief of Mission.

### Lessons learned

Given the human rights situation in Croatia, particularly with regard to unfair war crimes trials and the implementation of the return programme, and the fact that other international actors have ceased their monitoring programmes, if only temporarily, it is imperative that OHCHR continue its activities. In the coming year, OHCHR will focus on building both national capacity and local ownership of the Human Rights Documentation and Training Centre in order to shift responsibility for project training and monitoring activities in Croatia to local partners, thereby facilitating OHCHR's eventual departure.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	390,590
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	7,500
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	9,500
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	90,000
Contractual services	81,000
General operating expenses	25,000
Supplies and acquisitions	62,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>665,590</b>
Programme support costs	86,527
<b>Total</b>	<b>752,117</b>

## The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

### Background

OHCHR's field mission in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) is governed by an agreement with the Government that grants a broad human rights monitoring, reporting and promotion mandate throughout the country. The human rights situation in FRY varies by region. Serbia is in the early stages of a post-Milosevic transition to democracy and is facing a number of significant challenges: addressing the consequences of Serbia's involvement in the Balkan wars (war crimes committed by Serbs; large numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons; missing persons; and Kosovo Albanian political prisoners); changing constitutional norms and legislation to meet international standards; reforming highly politicized and inefficient State institutions, particularly the police and judiciary; implementing the terms of a settlement of ethnic conflict in southern Serbia; creating political structures that will protect the rights of and integrate minorities into political, social and economic life; and resolving the final status of Kosovo.

Montenegro's human rights situation has been relatively stable over the past two years, but the Government must develop legal norms and political structures to protect minorities, address organized crime and trafficking in humans, and reform governing norms and institutions to meet international standards. Much will depend on the outcome of a national referendum on independence that is likely to be held late in 2001. Kosovo, on the other hand, remains troubled by ethnic violence, particularly Albanian attacks on Serbs, Roma and other minorities, political violence among Albanian groups, and a legal system whose norms and trials often fail to meet human rights standards. The conflict in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, meanwhile, has regional implications that directly affect stability in Kosovo and southern Serbia.

### Objectives and strategy

- Provide continuous monitoring and reporting on human rights developments throughout FRY with a focus on providing early warning for human rights problems that might contribute to ethnic conflict.

- Obtain the release of all remaining persons illegally deprived of liberty, particularly Kosovo Albanians detained in Serbia.
- Increase the number and quality of human rights education and promotion activities in schools, civil society and by governing authorities, particularly through the creation of national human rights institutions in each region.
- Contribute to conflict reduction in southern Serbia.
- Support the mandate of the Special Representative.
- Assist FRY, Serbian and Montenegrin governments and authorities of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) to bring all legislation and governing institutional norms and practices into accord with human rights standards. In particular, OHCHR will provide all necessary technical support to the relevant national authorities and NGOs in order to improve the quality of reporting to human rights treaty bodies to which FRY is a State Party.
- To date, OHCHR's human rights training study of the Kosovo Police Service has improved the police academy's curriculum, teaching methods and follow-up in-service training even before the study results have been published. OHCHR will continue its follow-up activities to improve human rights policing standards and community relations.
- OHCHR will continue to work with Albanian political prisoners in Serbia and support visits of the Special Envoy on Persons Deprived of Liberty. This should result in the release/return of all remaining prisoners by early 2002, which will, in turn, reduce tensions between Serbia and Kosovo. In 2001, this initiative led to the amnesty of 363 detainees.
- The Belgrade and Pristina offices will continue to work with FRY, UNMIK, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and other actors to maintain the momentum of work regarding missing persons. This work involves hosting a bi-monthly information-sharing meeting in Belgrade of all concerned parties. OHCHR will continue to play a mediating role in 2002 to encourage all parties to move forward on this issue, which is a source of conflict between Kosovo and Serbia.
- OHCHR will support human rights education and promotion initiatives, including human rights campaigns, training sessions for university, school, and local officials, including police. These activities will increase awareness of human rights in the Government, schools, and civil society throughout FRY.

### Activities and expected results in 2002

- The FRY field mission will play an important role in ensuring that international human rights standards are incorporated into legal and institutional reforms and development activities in the region. While European human rights and development organizations are active in FRY, OHCHR is the only agency that promotes UN human rights standards. OHCHR-FRY has established good working relationships with UNMIK, key FRY and Serbia ministries (judiciary, interior, national and ethnic communities) and the Government of Montenegro. OHCHR's advice is often solicited on legislative and institutional issues that have a human rights dimension. This advisory role will continue throughout 2002.
- During 2002 the National Institutions Team will continue to conduct assessment visits to national human rights institutions in FRY/Serbia. In particular, the National Institutions Team is preparing a support project for the Kosovo Ombudsperson's Office.
- As the sole human rights presence in southern Serbia, OHCHR will play a stabilizing role as human rights monitoring, reporting, civil society- and confidence-building activities come into full operation. A staff member will be responsible for developing the informal human rights reporting network in the region and for exploring support strategies for the local human rights NGO community. These efforts will help shape a UN country team assessment of and recommendations for peace-building, within a human rights context, in southern Serbia.

### Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries include ethnic Albanian prisoners detained in Serbia and their families, families of missing persons (when cooperative FRY-UNMIK efforts discover and identify the remains of missing individuals), local NGOs, government ministries, Albanian and Serb ethnic communities in southern Serbia, residents of Kosovo, particularly minority groups, and students and young people.

### Risks

The principal risk to OHCHR-FRY operations is renewed ethnic violence in southern Serbia or Kosovo, or spillover violence as a result of a renewal of the conflict in Macedonia. This risk is minimized, however, by the likely regional nature of any violence, allowing one office to transfer staff and resources easily to another office (from southern Serbia to Belgrade, for example). In Montenegro, the ongoing political uncertainty over the

Republic's relationship with Serbia and FRY impedes Government efforts to move forward on a concrete plan for legal and institutional reform. OHCHR-FRY is adjusting to this situation by increasing work with NGOs, the legal community and others on human rights education, training and promotion. As soon as the political future of Montenegro is clarified, OHCHR will have an important role to play in monitoring and supporting the Government's efforts to incorporate human rights into all institutional reforms.

### Coordination

OHCHR works with all UN bodies in the FRY including UNICEF, UNDP and UNHCR, and participates in weekly heads-of-agencies meetings and joint UN country team projects, such as south Serbia. The office coordinates regularly with OSCE, the EU and the Council of Europe and other international governmental organizations and NGOs. OHCHR has initiated a monthly meeting involving human rights actors, including UN bodies and OSCE, to discuss activities and improve coordination.

### Implementing arrangements

All activities will be implemented by field mission personnel supplemented by the thematic teams, such as the National Institutions Team at headquarters, and consultants. OHCHR-FRY will carry out its activities through headquarters in Belgrade and field offices in Kosovo and Montenegro. The mission is led by a chief of mission based in Belgrade with heads of offices responsible for managing each sub-office.

The offices in Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo will work with relevant governing authorities, NGOs and other international organizations to assist in reforming legal norms and key institutions, such as the judiciary, police, and national human rights institutions, so they conform to international human rights standards. The offices in Serbia, Belgrade and Pristina will continue to work for the release of the remaining Albanian political prisoners, search for missing persons, and extend confidence-building activities throughout southern Serbia. Offices in all three regions will work with local NGOs and education ministries on human rights capacity-building, education and promotion. The Belgrade office will continue to monitor developments in Macedonia and provide assessments and recommendations to OHCHR and other UN, regional and international mechanisms.

### Lessons learned

OHCHR regional field presences can play an important role in conflict-reduction initiatives because of their ability to operate in all countries or provinces involved in conflict. OHCHR-FRY has been able to play such a role in the Kosovo-Serbia situation, providing independent monitoring and reporting on events in both entities and serving as a facilitator of discussions between Belgrade and Pristina on a range of crucial issues. The key to the success of this kind of operation is the field presence's ability to operate as a single organization and move staff around the region as quickly as possible in response to emergencies or changing conditions.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	1,604,870
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	50,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	120,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	157,000
General operating expenses	175,000
Supplies and acquisitions	80,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,186,870</b>
Programme support costs	284,293
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,471,163</b>

# S support to human rights organs and treaty bodies

## Background

Under the terms of the United Nations human rights programme, OHCHR is responsible for supporting the human rights organs and treaty bodies. This task is entrusted to the Support Services Branch (SSB) of OHCHR, which provides support to the Commission on Human Rights (Commission), the Sub-Commission on the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (Sub-Commission), and the treaty-monitoring bodies. The Commission is a functional body of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and, as such, is an inter-governmental body. The Sub-Commission is a subsidiary body of the Commission made up of 26 independent experts. The treaty bodies are committees composed of 10 to 23 independent experts appointed in their personal capacities to monitor the implementation of the main international human rights treaties and their optional protocols. Five of the six treaty bodies in operation today are serviced by OHCHR: the Human Rights Committee (HRC), the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), the Committee against Torture (CAT) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The effectiveness of both the Commission and the treaty-body system depends to a large extent on the support provided by the secretariat, particularly since these bodies meet for only a limited period each year. The Commission meets for six weeks a year, the Sub-Commission meets for 3 weeks a year, and the treaty bodies meet two to three times a year, for between two to four weeks.

The treaty bodies monitor the implementation of relevant human rights treaties through reports submitted by States Parties every two to five years, depending on the treaty. Before examination by a committee, State reports undergo a preliminary analysis by OHCHR aimed at identifying where progress has been made and where there may be room for improvement. This enables com-

mittee members to use their limited time to focus on identified problems or to consider broader issues of policy. To ensure that the treaties are consistently implemented during the period between report submissions, several committees monitor States parties' follow-up to their observations and recommendations.

The treaty bodies also examine complaints by individuals. States Parties to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) recognize the competence of the Human Rights Committee to consider communications from individuals who claim that their human rights have been violated by the State. States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination may also recognize such competence on the part of the respective committee. As of July 2001, 98 States had accepted the competence of the HRC under the Optional Protocols; 33 had accepted CERD's jurisdiction; and 44 that of CAT. The comprehensive nature of the ICCPR, which received some 3,000 complaints in 2001, makes it the main instrument that deals with individual complaints of violations of civil and political rights. The Commission is the principal organ of the United Nations responsible for human rights matters. It is assisted in its work by the Sub-Commission and by a number of working groups. The Commission also draws on other sources of expertise, notably the valuable information provided by country and thematic special rapporteurs, which are handled in separate projects.

## Current situation

The adherence of States to the treaty-body system has increased phenomenally over the last decade. In 1990, the total number of ratifications of State parties to the ICCPR, the Convention Against Torture and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial

Discrimination was 272; by June 2001, that figure had increased to 429. In addition, 191 States have become parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the 12 years since it was adopted, representing an unprecedented pace of ratifications. Two new optional protocols (Optional Protocol on Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict and Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography), to be monitored by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, were adopted by the General Assembly in 2000; as a result, the number and scope of reports to be handled by the Committee increased greatly. While a good indication of the success of the system, ratification of the human rights treaties has reached such levels that it is becoming impossible to support the growing workload of the treaty bodies within the current regular budget.

In 2001, approximately 50 per cent of the staff providing support to the treaty bodies was funded from extra-budgetary sources. Although the secretariats have had to take on additional tasks in recent years, only very limited additional resources have been made available for them. Under present resource levels, the demands on OHCHR to fulfill its responsibilities in all the above areas far exceed its limited capacity. To help alleviate this problem, OHCHR is launching a new programme that will focus on servicing the needs of the Commission, the Sub-Commission and its subsidiary bodies, and the treaty bodies.

## Challenges

The freeze of the United Nations regular budget in 1993 together with a sharp rise in the number of OHCHR mandates prevented OHCHR from increasing the number of regular staff and fully developing the modern automation systems necessary to meet new demands. Since the committees have only limited time to consider State reports, a tremendous backlog of reports to be considered had accumulated, particularly under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It took an unacceptable two to three years between the submission of a report by a State party and its consideration by either of the two treaty-monitoring bodies. Since 1997 and 1999 respectively, the backlog has been reduced to between 12 and 24 months from the time of submission to the examination of a report.

The individual complaints procedures, the system's strongest means of protecting individuals from violations, have been considerably weakened because a lack of information-technology systems to handle the increase in communications received.

With the growing awareness of the CAT's inquiry procedure, through which it considers whether there is a systematic practice of torture occurring in a State party, there has been an extraordinary increase in demands for inquiries in recent years. If the number of requests for inquiries continues to grow, the secretariat's capacity to service the procedure will soon be overwhelmed.

In addition to the regular work of organizing committee meetings, coordinating dozens of parallel meetings held around the time of the Commission and Sub-Commission, liaising with UN agencies, NGOs and others, and servicing post-session meetings of the Bureau of the Commission, the secretariat must implement new initiatives, such as special dialogues, review mechanisms, parallel consultations, and informal one-day meetings of the Commission. All of these initiatives place heavy strains on the secretariat.

## Strategy for 2002 and beyond

OHCHR has identified the following impact areas for the 2002-2004 programme:

- **Supporting the treaty bodies in the reporting process** and in the general functioning of the treaty bodies, and fostering effective coordination among all six treaty bodies in their efforts to better rationalize their work and procedures. This requires support in collecting and analyzing relevant information for consideration by the treaty bodies so backlogs of State reports do not recur.
- **Enhancing OHCHR's capacity to deal expeditiously with individual complaints about human rights violations.** OHCHR will concentrate on eliminating the backlog of cases awaiting consideration by the HRC. Substantial investment in modern information-management systems, together with a revision of working methods, require that a complaints protocol and/or practice manual be prepared.
- **Strengthening the capacity of the system to support follow-up activities,** both in relation to the concluding observations of the treaty bodies and the Views expressed under the individual complaints procedures. New initiatives to improve the follow-up to committee recommendations and concluding observations by States parties will be tested and implemented. Measures under this objective include facilitating follow-up meetings with States parties whose reports are overdue (HRC); raising awareness about and facilitating national-level implementation of the CRC's recommendations, either through national seminars or by estab-

lishing thematic panels; and exploring the possibility of establishing a system for maintaining information about good practices in the implementation of human rights recommendations.

- **Enhancing the support provided to the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission** by establishing an automated system to control the workflows that result from the decisions adopted by these bodies and by the General Assembly and ECOSOC. OHCHR will concentrate on developing a database of all documentation that OHCHR submits for the attention of these bodies.

### Objectives for 2002 and beyond

OHCHR has developed a plan, to be implemented over three years, to achieve four main objectives by the end of 2004:

- The average delay between the receipt of a State party's report and its consideration by the corresponding committee will be one year. This is the time necessary to process and translate the report. The research and analysis support capacity of the secretariat will remain significantly strengthened.
- The delay between the receipt of an individual complaint and a final decision by the relevant committee will be a maximum of 18 months.
- New initiatives to improve the follow-up of committee recommendations and observations by State parties will have been tested and, if feasible, implemented, including evaluating the possibility of establishing a specialized follow-up unit.
- The workflows of the Commission on Human Rights will have been automated, thus facilitating the consideration of human rights items by ECOSOC and the General Assembly; the sharing of data and information on the mandates of the Commission among OHCHR staff will be improved.

### Activities in 2002

#### Strengthening support to treaty bodies and complaints procedures and servicing of the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies

Staff support will continue at its current level. However, there will be a gradual reduction in the number of professional staff servicing the petitions team, since these staff members were recruited specifically to handle the backlog of HRC complaints. This reduction may have to be reviewed if the number of complaints registered continues to increase.

#### New and reinforced mandates and activities

**Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.** The CRC support team has prepared draft reporting guidelines for the committee. The draft reporting guidelines on one of the two Optional Protocols were adopted by the committee in October 2001. Substantial work and consultation is still needed on the draft reporting guidelines for the other Protocol, whose technical complexity makes the adoption of such guidelines particularly challenging for the committee. It is likely that the two Optional Protocols will enter into force sometime before the end of 2002. Thus, CRC will have to start examining initial reports required under both Optional Protocols possibly in 2003 but no later than 2004. Given the committee's workload, the examination of such reports is likely to require significant additional secretariat support.

**The General Assembly Special Session on Children.** Under the draft outcome document, the CRC will be designated to monitor implementation, at the national level, of the goals and objectives agreed at the Special Session on Children.

**Follow-up to human rights bodies and organs.** To follow up more effectively on the treaty bodies' concluding observations, Views and specific requests, the treaty bodies must first establish the type of follow-up activities they would like to pursue so the secretariat can implement them. For individual complaints, in particular, the proposal seeks to undertake and document an overview of follow-up activities conducted by similar international organizations, analyze existing enabling legislation, and prepare suggestions of ways forward for the relevant committees. Treaty bodies need to identify more carefully tailored suggestions for advisory services and better follow-up to be undertaken concerning concluding observations. This can be accomplished by assisting States in both the reporting and follow-up processes and by organizing workshops for government officials and training courses for various social partners at the national level. A study to analyze best practices is envisaged during 2002.

In addition to providing support to the treaty bodies, activities will:

- Assist in drafting general comments;
- Support the days of general discussion;
- Prepare for the International Workshop on Juvenile Justice;
- Conduct an international study on violence against children;
- Compile a record of the jurisprudence of the treaty bodies' selected decisions;

- Produce a complaints protocol or instructions manual;
- Edit all treaty-body individual complaints and decisions;
- Establish a system for maintaining information about good practices in implementation of human rights recommendations;
- Update the reporting manual and fact sheets; and
- Evaluate the programme.

### Information technology requirements

To address its long-standing problem with managing documents, OHCHR designed a project to create a database that would classify, track, manage and generate all documentation required by OHCHR and link it to the UNOG conference services. This would be done in four logical system components:

- **ResDec** (Storage system for **Resolution and Decisions** of the Commission and Sub-Commission): resolutions or decisions (or parts of them) requiring action by the High Commissioner, OHCHR, the UN system, treaty bodies, etc.
- **TrackRep** (**Tracking** system for the research and drafting process of UN **reports** to the various UN bodies).
- **DocMan** (**Document Management** system to support the management of documents, including approval procedures, consistency of drafts, version management, etc.).
- **InterDRITS** (Submission of documents to UNOG conference services electronically, or short **interaction** with the **Document Records, Information and Tracking System**).

### Beneficiaries

There will be multiple beneficiaries of the programme, particularly the human rights bodies and organs, States parties and their delegations, victims of human rights violations and OHCHR. Human rights bodies and organs will be better able to accomplish the work entrusted to them under the respective human rights instruments. The reinforced staff will allow OHCHR's Support Services Branch (SSB) to better fulfil its mandated activities. It will also provide SSB with new information technology tools that will facilitate its work and ensure better control of activities, allowing staff to concentrate on more substantive aspects of work.

### Implementing arrangements

The overall responsibility falls under the Chief of SSB. The secretaries of the human rights treaty bodies, Commission and Sub-Commission and Petitions Team will be directly responsible for reaching the servicing targets established for the activities under their responsibility. To assist the Chief of SSB in the administration and

management of the programme and the timely achievement of its objectives, the programme requires the recruitment of a senior project manager.

### Risks

Lack of extra-budgetary funding would jeopardize the programme's ability to support the treaty and charter based bodies and increase the likelihood of continuing backlogs. In addition, if, as expected, the CRC increases its membership from 10 to 18, and if a working group to CAT is established, and the Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families enters into force, the secretariat will face further strains on its already-overwhelmed capacity.

### Lessons learned

The sustainability of the system requires not only strengthening the capacity of treaty- and charter-based bodies and the secretariat to deal with their existing workloads, but also enabling them to explore and test new and innovative approaches to their work. An evaluation of the work and activities implemented under the present programme should be conducted.

### Funding

An amount of US\$ 2,166,900, representing staff and other costs, has been requested from the United Nations regular budget for 2002 to support the treaty bodies. An additional amount of US\$ 3,094,210 is required from voluntary contributions. OHCHR prefers that contributions are given to "treaty bodies" and not earmarked to any treaty body.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	2,351,225
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	228,814
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	26,800
- Commission members	72,400
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	45,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	14,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,738,239</b>
Programme support costs	355,971
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,094,210</b>

## The treaties

*International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)*

*International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*

*International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination*

*Convention against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment*

*Convention on the Rights of the Child*

## The treaty bodies

*Human Rights Committee (HRC)*

*Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)*

*Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)*

*Committee against Torture (CAT)*

*Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)*

*Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)*



# Response to allegations of human rights violations

## *Support to the special procedures*

### Background

Since 1979, special mechanisms have been created by the United Nations to examine specific country situations or themes from a human rights perspective. The Commission on Human Rights has mandated experts to study particular human rights issues. These experts or mandate-holders have different titles, such as special rapporteur, special representative, or independent expert; however, they all have the same legal status and constitute what are known as the UN human rights mechanisms or mandates, or the system of special procedures. During recent years, UN human rights experts have brought many issues of concern to the attention of the international community, including police brutality, summary executions, the killing of women in the name of honour, the suffering of street children, the persecution of ethnic minorities in many societies, the role of non-State actors in human rights violations, the link between extreme poverty and respect for human rights, and the impact of human rights violations on civil society. Since the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action in June 1993, the number of special procedures mandates (i.e., thematic and country-specific mandates) has grown significantly.

There are currently 37 mandates, all of which are serviced by OHCHR staff. More than half of the 24 thematic mandates now in existence were created since 1993; of these, 15 are serviced by the Activities and Programmes Branch (APB) of OHCHR and nine by the Research and Right to Development Branch (RRDB). In addition, there are 13 country-specific mandates serviced by staff of the geographic teams in APB. While the number of special procedures mandates has grown, staffing and other resources in support of the mandates have not increased in real terms, let alone in proportion to the increase in mandates. The main purpose of the present appeal is to ensure that the contracts of 14 professional staff and two general service staff

currently assigned to service special procedures are further extended until 31 December 2002, and that a number of new mandates created by the Commission on Human Rights in its 2001 session are properly serviced.

### Achievements in 2001

A “quick response” desk was created in January 2000 following a recommendation made by two independent experts of the Commission on Human Rights who prepared a study on ways to meet the needs of the special procedures system. A full-time staff member was recruited to ensure better coordination of all urgent appeals (i.e. specific allegations of human rights violations sent by experts to a government if a serious human rights violation appears to be imminent) between the thematic mandates and the country-specific mandates. This staff member is also responsible for ensuring follow-up to replies received from governments regarding urgent appeals. The thematic database was applied more systematically, and staff members were trained on the proper use of the database. Additional staff were recruited to assist special procedures mandate-holders; and several studies requested by mandate-holders or by the Commission on Human Rights were completed.

### Objectives in 2002

Activities in support of the special procedures will have the following objectives:

- Provide adequate support to thematic and country-specific mechanisms to enable mandate-holders to respond to requests for action in a timely and effective manner. This includes fielding fact-finding missions, conducting relevant studies within the scope of their mandates, and coordinating action with other partners within and outside the UN system, especially with human rights treaty bodies.

- Ensure that timely and efficient action is taken in response to requests for urgent intervention on behalf of persons at risk of human rights violations through the “quick response” desk.
- Ensure the consistency of data entered into the thematic database and extend its coverage to include as many thematic and country-specific mandates as possible.
- Provide funding to ensure that thematic mandate-holders, accompanied by one OHCHR staff member, may conduct one additional fact-finding mission per year.

### Activities

- Support for a number of thematic and country-specific mandates that are currently not serviced by regular staff should be maintained so those mandates can work effectively, report to the Commission on Human Rights and, when required, report to the General Assembly.
- In addition, one staff member will be recruited to service each of the following mandates: the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education; the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and extreme poverty; and the newly created mandate of the Independent Expert on the draft optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- Additional staff support will be required to ensure proper servicing of the mandate on violence against women and the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict.
- Several analytical or comparative studies are outstanding from mandates serviced by APB and RRDB; appropriate professional assistance will therefore be required, for a limited period of time, to conduct and finalize these studies.
- The thematic database has started functioning, but requires on-going, full-time, technical support. To maximize its usefulness, the database will be expanded to cover all special procedures mandates, including country-specific mandates and mandates serviced by RRDB, and will be made accessible to all OHCHR field presences.

### Management arrangements

Under the regular budget for the biennium 2002-2003, only 15 established posts are available to service 37 thematic and country-specific procedures of the

Commission on Human Rights. Five such posts are available for the thematic mechanisms serviced by APB, five posts service country-specific mandates in APB, and five posts are available for thematic mechanisms serviced by RRDB. In addition to servicing the mandates of these experts, staff in the geographic teams who are assigned to assist country-specific rapporteurs or representatives, as well as staff in RRDB assigned to assist thematic experts, also assume various other tasks related to the objectives of their specific teams. Given the insufficient number of staff available to assist the special procedures mandate-holders in past years, OHCHR has increasingly resorted to recruiting assistance from extra-budgetary sources. Twelve staff members with short-term contracts service thematic mandates and nine staff members service country-specific mandates.

### Funding

An amount of US\$ 1,289,000, representing staff and other costs, has been requested from the United Nations regular budget for 2002 to support the special procedures. An additional amount of US\$ 2,607,080 is required from voluntary contributions. OHCHR prefers that contributions be given to “special procedures” and not earmarked for specific mandates.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	2,020,400
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	161,750
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	62,500
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	62,500
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,307,150</b>
Programme support costs	299,930
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,607,080</b>

## Thematic mandates

- Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances (1980)*
- Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (1982)*
- Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (1985)*
- Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (1986)*
- Special Rapporteur on the question of the use of mercenaries (1987)*
- Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (1990)*
- Working Group on arbitrary detention (1991)*
- Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons (1992)*
- Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (1993)*
- Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression (1993)*
- Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (1994)*
- Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences (1994)*
- Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes (1995)*
- Independent Expert on the right to development (1998)*
- Special Rapporteur on education (1998)*
- Independent Expert on extreme poverty (1998)*
- Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (1999)*
- Special Rapporteur on adequate housing (2000)*
- Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders (2000)*
- Special Rapporteur on the right to food (2000)*
- Independent Expert on structural adjustment policies and foreign debt (2000)*
- Independent Expert to examine the question of a draft optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2001)*
- Independent Expert to examine the existing international criminal and human rights framework for the protection of persons from enforced or involuntary disappearance (2001)*
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples (2001)*

## Country mandates

- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (1984)*
- Special Representative of the Commission on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (1984)*
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq (1991)*
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (1992)*
- Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia (1993)*
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan (1993)*
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 (1993)*
- Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia (1993)*
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (1994)*
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi (1995)*
- Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti (1995)*
- Special Representative of the Commission on the situation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea (1999)*
- Special Representative on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (2001)*

# Issues in focus

## Introduction

Since its creation, the United Nations has recognized the need to set standards and target action to address concerns that may affect the enjoyment of human rights and to protect vulnerable groups. A range of specialized mechanisms and initiatives have been developed to advance the rights of women, minorities, indigenous peoples and the disabled, among others. New phenomena that present challenges to the international human rights system, including the HIV/AIDS pandemic, advances in biotechnology and the globalized economic and trade systems, require examination and action.

The Commission on Human Rights has been at the forefront in developing responses through its specialized mechanisms and initiatives. In its role as “think-tank” of that system, the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights has played an important part in identifying emerging issues and gaps in the existing protection regime. Along with the General Assembly, these organs request that OHCHR research and develop programmes that address these vulnerable groups and critical issues. Accordingly, the Research and Right to Development Branch (RRDB) supports working groups and prepares reports, promotes the development of new standards, and applies existing standards to new issues. In addition, it strengthens the analytic capacity of the UN system, including the treaty bodies and special mechanisms, to use those standards in ways that have a positive and measurable impact on individuals, and that recognize and respond to the human rights implications of new phenomena. Through the knowledge and skills developed on thematic issues, such as disability, the globalized economy or HIV/AIDS, OHCHR also supports national institutions and field offices in their programme work and strengthens thematic discussions at the regional level.

### Budget summary in US\$

Gender issues, women's rights and reproductive rights	159,330
HIV/AIDS	344,198
Persons living with disabilities	202,270
Protection of indigenous peoples	203,400
Protection of minorities	640,710
Thematic issues <sup>1</sup>	249,730

**Total** **1,799,638**

<sup>1</sup> Includes bioethics and human rights, international economic and trade issues and new mandates emerging from the Commission on Human Rights.

## Gender issues, women's rights and reproductive rights

### Background

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes is a central goal of the UN system. To strengthen its capacity to integrate gender issues and women's human rights into its own policies and activities, OHCHR has recently appointed a gender coordinator who will also support other UN agencies and programmes in this area. During 2001, a meeting was held to examine the application of human rights to reproductive and sexual health. The meeting was organized by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and OHCHR to assess progress, obstacles and opportunities in integrating reproductive rights into the work of the treaty bodies and to elaborate strategies to be used by treaty bodies in monitoring and strengthening reproductive and sexual health. The meeting defined actions and recommendations to ensure better implementation of treaty obligations at the national level to promote and ensure enjoyment of reproductive rights and sexual health by men and women.

### Objective and activities in 2002

During 2002, the main objective will be to ensure that effective follow-up on these recommendations is a priority for the Office; to this end, OHCHR will work closely with UNFPA. Specific activities will include:

- Supporting the work of all UN treaty bodies in monitoring reproductive rights; and
- Assisting national human rights institutions in integrating women's rights and reproductive rights in their ongoing activities.

Due to the late arrival of funds, appointment of the gender coordinator was delayed during 2001. The first task of the gender coordinator will be to define a precise strategy for gender mainstreaming. Special attention will be given to follow-up of Cairo + 5 and Beijing + 5, including the need to promote the integration of a gender perspective in the work of the UN human rights mechanisms.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	120,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	5,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	10,000
General operating expenses	3,000
Supplies and acquisitions	3,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>141,000</b>
Programme support costs	18,330
<b>Total</b>	<b>159,330</b>

## HIV/AIDS

### Background and objectives

OHCHR entered an agreement with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in December 2000 to contribute to an effective and sustainable human rights-based response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic at the national, regional and international levels. The agreement forms an integral part of the Office's work on HIV/AIDS.

The primary objectives of the programme are: to strengthen the capacity of OHCHR and the UN human rights system to address the human rights dimensions of HIV/AIDS; to encourage the integration of a human rights perspective into national responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic; and to raise awareness and understanding of the human rights ramifications of HIV/AIDS related issues.

Not only does respect for human rights help reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, it also helps to ensure that those infected and affected by the disease can live a life of dignity, free from discrimination. The Office's mandate in this area has been strengthened by actions taken recently within the UN system. The Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly have each recognized the need to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic from a human rights perspective. At its 57th session, the Commission on Human Rights adopted a resolution on the protection and promotion of human rights in the context of HIV/AIDS and, for the first time, adopted a resolution on access to medication in the context of

pandemics such as HIV/AIDS. At its Special Session on HIV/AIDS in June 2001, the General Assembly emphasized the need to address the epidemic by strengthening respect for human rights, particularly the rights of those most vulnerable to infection, including women and children. The Declaration of Commitment adopted by Member States calls for strengthening the monitoring mechanisms for HIV/AIDS-related human rights. At the World Conference against Racism, States agreed to address the need to strengthen mechanisms to promote and protect the human rights of people who suffer multiple discrimination based on presumed or actual HIV/AIDS status and race.

### Activities in 2002

Ensuring effective follow-up will be a priority for the Office's work on HIV/AIDS in 2002. Specific activities will include:

- Supporting the work of all UN treaty bodies and special mechanisms in integrating HIV/AIDS issues by ensuring that all States parties' reports include HIV/AIDS related issues;
- Assisting national human rights institutions in developing strategies to address HIV/AIDS-related human rights issues through a series of regional workshops in Africa, Latin America and Europe, with a focus on developing countries;
- Developing laws and policies on issues related to HIV/AIDS, such as access to medication and migration/trafficking;
- Preparing the Secretary-General's reports to the Commission on Human Rights; and
- Providing advocacy at all levels, including by promoting the International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	99,600
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	50,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	35,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	120,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>304,600</b>
Programme support costs	39,598
<b>Total</b>	<b>344,198</b>

## Persons living with disabilities

The Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2000/51, has recognized the human rights dimension of disability issues. However, little has been done so far to translate this recognition into action that will have a direct impact on the lives of people living with disabilities. OHCHR therefore commissioned a "mapping" study of human rights standards relevant to the issue of disability and to the work of human rights bodies involved in the elaboration and implementation of these norms. The Office also requested proposals for practical options for future action. The study is due to be completed by the end of 2001 and will be annexed to the final report of the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development and submitted to the Commission on Human Rights.

### Activities

During 2002, OHCHR will:

- Follow up on the study's conclusions and recommendations;
- Link with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs' web page and create a section on disability on OHCHR's website;
- Develop written material and organize training workshops for disability and human rights advocates on how to use the UN human rights procedures more effectively;
- Explore what steps could be taken to promote better representation of persons with disabilities by members of treaty monitoring bodies, special rapporteurs, or OHCHR staff; and
- Initiate inter-agency consultations on the issue of human rights and disability and strengthen the participation of UN agencies at meetings convened to examine the issue of disability.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	80,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	10,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	89,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>179,000</b>
Programme support costs	23,270
<b>Total</b>	<b>202,270</b>

## Protection of indigenous peoples

There have been important recent developments in protecting and promoting the rights of indigenous peoples. In July 2000, the Economic and Social Council decided to establish the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to serve as an advisory body to the Council. In 2001, the Secretary-General designated OHCHR as the lead agency to prepare for the first session of the Forum. OHCHR must also take the lead in communications (i.e., developing promotional activities) both before and after the Forum. The focus of this activity is to ensure that there are resources available to communicate and disseminate information about the Forum. Funding for the secretariat needs of the Forum are being sought through inter-agency project funding. However, an amount of US\$ 107,000 has been approved for 2002 under the United Nations regular budget.

### Activities in 2002

- Implement a communications programme by developing a database of indigenous organizations that have information on development, health, education and human rights, UN and governmental departments and agencies, NGOs and other potential partners. This database will be an important source of information for governments and other UN agencies.
- Produce information materials on the Forum and related issues.
- Support an indigenous media team to cover the first session of the Forum.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	90,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	0
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	40,000
Contractual services	50,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>180,000</b>
Programme support costs	23,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>203,400</b>

## Protection of minorities

### Background

Estimates suggest that 10 to 20 per cent of the world's population belong to minority groups whose members have ethnic, religious or linguistic characteristics that differ from those of the rest of the local population. Often, the rights of minorities can only be protected through special measures. Minority rights are increasingly recognized as an integral part of the promotion and protection of human rights, development, peace and security; inequality is regarded as a root cause of conflict, and the Commission on Human Rights has acknowledged that promoting and protecting minority rights can prevent conflict. Yet this understanding has developed only relatively recently. In 1992 the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities; the Economic and Social Council approved an annual meeting of the Working Group on Minorities of the Sub-Commission in 1998. The Durban Conference underscored the unique role that the United Nations can play in giving minorities a space from which they can voice their concerns and work towards the solution of their problems. This project builds on these advances.

### Activities in 2002

During 2002, OHCHR will continue to support the Working Group on Minorities of the Sub-Commission by:

- Funding participation of minority representatives and minority experts from developing countries in meetings of the Working Group;
- Organizing regional seminars in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Europe and Latin America to ensure that the voices of minority groups are heard on issues that directly affect them. Topics for discussion will include participation and empowerment, development and traditional methods of conflict-prevention;
- Organizing two thematic seminars on "Minority and Development" and "Autonomy and Integration". These were identified as priority areas by the Working Group on Minorities;
- Increasing understanding of the practical linkages between minority rights and conflict-resolution. OHCHR is co-organizing a joint lessons-learned seminar with the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities and other mandates; and

- Commemorating the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the UN Declaration on Minorities to strengthen dissemination of the Declaration and the participation of minority groups in the international and regional human rights system. OHCHR will provide support by translating the Declaration and the UN Guide for Minority Groups into minority languages.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	125,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	75,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	8,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	50,000
Contractual services	57,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	2,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	250,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>567,000</b>
Programme support costs	73,710
<b>Total</b>	<b>640,710</b>

## Thematic issues

### Bioethics and human rights

The human rights implications of recent advances in biotechnology are not yet fully known. In April 2001 the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2001/71, called for the High Commissioner to pay "all due attention" to the question of human rights and bioethics within her area of competence. The Secretary-General has asked the High Commissioner to contribute to discussions on this issue and to the growing debate on biotechnology in general now occurring within the United Nations. To meet this challenge, OHCHR must rapidly develop its policy-making capacity in this area.

### Objectives

The primary objective of the project is to provide the High Commissioner with sufficient advice on the human rights implications of human cloning. The aims are twofold: to build a policy discussion using external

experts from a range of backgrounds (medical, human rights and ethical); and to involve staff of OHCHR in this process to broaden institutional capacity.

### Activities in 2002

A number of initiatives have already begun within OHCHR. The High Commissioner appointed an honorary advisor on bioethics who is working closely with the Research and Right to Development Branch (RRDB) of the Office. The advisor will act as a focal point for biotechnology issues and help increase OHCHR's capacity in this area. A small group of experts will be convened to advise the High Commissioner on policy options regarding this complex issue, and will meet twice in Geneva, at the beginning and end of 2002. A rapporteur will be responsible for producing a report of the meeting and its conclusions. Background papers defining specific human rights issues arising from recent advances in biotechnology will be prepared.

### International economic and trade issues

The UN human rights system is giving increased attention to the impact of international economic and trade issues on the realization of human rights. Since 1999, OHCHR has received mandates from the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission to report on the impact of globalization and related issues on human rights. OHCHR also consults with partner organizations on the impact of trade and economic issues on the enjoyment of human rights; in particular, consultations have been held and are continuing with WTO, WIPO, WHO, FAO and UNCTAD. The preparation of reports requires specialist research skills, and the Commission has requested that OHCHR strengthen its capacity in this regard.

### Objectives

Activities will seek to clarify the link between obligations under international trade law and international human rights law, and elaborate on the meaning and requirements of a human rights approach to international trade liberalization.

### Activities in 2002

- OHCHR will prepare mandated reports for the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission.
- OHCHR will continue to support the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in drafting statements and general comments on trade issues.

## New mandates emerging from the Commission on Human Rights

Every year, OHCHR receives new mandates from the Commission to study new phenomena which have an impact on the recognition of human rights and/or demand a human rights response. Frequently, the Commission asks OHCHR to fund these new mandates with voluntary contributions. However, since the Annual Appeal is issued before the Commission meets in March/April, OHCHR is unable to meet the new requests due to insufficient resources. An appeal is therefore being made to ensure seed resources for these new mandates.

In April 2002, the Commission will decide whether to hold a two-day social forum on economic, social and cultural rights as requested at the last session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. The first session of the forum is likely to focus on the relationship between poverty reduction and the realization of the right to food; it will be attended by ten members of the Sub-Commission as well as NGOs from developing countries, trade unions and associations of workers, representatives of the private sector, UN agencies, the relevant functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the regional economic commissions, international financial institutions and development agencies.

## Activities in 2002

- Provide administrative and substantive support to the Sub-Commission in drafting a preliminary working paper outlining the methodology and work of the social forum.
- Prepare a compilation of relevant documents on the right to food and poverty reduction.
- Extend an invitation to NGOs with Economic and Social Council consultative status and other NGOs outside Geneva, particularly emerging actors in the South, to attend the forum.
- Ensure consultation, including via the Internet, with poverty affected groups on the theme selected for discussion at the social forum.

All activities will be approved on the basis of decisions taken at the Commission on Human Rights in April 2001.

## Budget in US\$

Staff costs	120,000
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	84,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	13,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	4,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>221,000</b>
Programme support costs	28,730
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>249,730</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes US\$ 178,540 for bioethics and human rights, US\$ 56,500 for international economic and trade issues, and US\$ 14,690 for new mandates emerging from the Commission on Human Rights.

# B

## uilding the capacity of OHCHR

### Introduction

Strengthening OHCHR's core support functions remains at the forefront of the High Commissioner's strategy for 2002. The topic was first presented in the 2000 Annual Appeal to introduce basic functions and activities that are not funded from the regular budget but which, nevertheless, are crucial to a well-functioning Office. In the 2001 Appeal, the activity of staff security was added to this chapter; but given its close links to field activities, from 2002 this activity will be included in the chapter entitled "Human rights support for peace-making, peace-keeping and peace-building activities".

This year, "Building the capacity of OHCHR" includes five distinct, but closely related, areas of work which will be discussed in the sections which follow. At the heart of OHCHR is the executive office, which ensures that matters of concern to the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner are addressed. The executive office is responsible for providing advice and support, disseminating the High Commissioner's human rights message, maintaining relations with the media and ensuring adequate coordination with governments, UN agencies and civil society on a variety of external-relation issues. It also helps raise awareness of OHCHR's activities through exhibits, press releases, public events and briefings.

The executive office also maintains relations with donors. This involves providing regular information and updates on OHCHR's main activities in order to secure an adequate, predictable and stable level of voluntary contributions, therefore allowing for the appropriate planning of the Office's activities. The small resource mobilization team that interacts daily with donors also produces the Annual Appeal and Annual Report.

The donors recognize the need to strengthen the Office's capacity to provide basic administrative support for budgeting and for financial reporting and control. Until recently, however, resources for this purpose were

limited. Still, there have been several improvements, including the production of our first Annual Report earlier this year. In addition, the core management system project, which began in 2001, will be expanded in 2002 to include human resources and programme management. As the work of the Office expands, information management has become an important element of the strategy. The functioning of the Office's internal information system is thus under review. Provided that adequate resources are made available, substantial improvements are planned, including upgrading computer equipment, providing basic intranet services to staff, both at headquarters and in the field, improving the human rights website, and enhancing the Office's information-storage capabilities through the use of external service providers.

In response to OHCHR's need for increased capacity in methodology, a dedicated team on policy planning and methodology was set up in 2001. This team will work with all departments to improve an evolving system of basic standards and rules for human rights work with the aim of enhancing promotional, protection, mainstreaming, educational, training and partnership-building activities. OHCHR has been exploring how best to obtain voluntary contributions for these basic activities. Subject to consultations with donors, it is suggested that a small percentage of each donor's major contribution to the Office could be allocated to some of these activities.

### Summary budget in US\$

Core management system	1,400,397
Human rights knowledge management	2,283,617
Public information	942,176
Policy planning and methodology	603,307
Resource mobilization	760,000

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**Total** **5,989,497**

## Core management system

### Background

This project is an integral part of OHCHR's overall management of change initiative as it focuses on improving systems and procedures used to manage the Office's human and financial resources so that they operate in a more cost-efficient, transparent and effective manner. Given the difficulties in obtaining a clear picture of the total funds available for implementation, determining the amount of any unspent funds, reporting to donors on the use of their contributions, establishing a solid basis on which to fundraise, and ensuring that implementation takes place according to plans presented in the Annual Appeal, there is an urgent need to create an internal financial and project management system, accompanied by adequate procedures and processes.

All necessary hardware and software resources for the systems-development part of the project have been coordinated with OHCHR's information technology (IT) department. Subject to available funding, the IT department will provide most of the required Internet/database servers, database software and web-development tools. An initial analysis of OHCHR's requirements for programme/project management, financial management and reporting, information management and communications, and human resources management/staff development was made in 2000. This analysis recommended that a number of core staff be recruited who would oversee activities related to the development of a new management tool. Phase I of the Core Management System project (analysis and definition of needs) began in the spring of 2001.

### Objectives and activities

The goal of the project is to improve OHCHR's financial, programme/project and human resources management tools and procedures by creating clearly established levels of accountability. This, in turn, will lead to increased efficiency and productivity throughout the Office.

The project will focus on five areas, with specific objectives and activities under each area:

#### **Development of an automated "data warehouse" in OHCHR**

Providing OHCHR staff directly involved in project management, senior managers and others with easy, electronic access to basic project-related information. This

includes both financial and substantive information (project documents, monitoring reports, evaluations, budgets, funding information, expenditures, etc.) required for their daily work. The data warehouse, which will store information on project management, contribution management and financial management, will contain current data on all projects implemented by OHCHR's various service providers (i.e., UNOG, UNOPS and UNDP). The development of this data warehouse will begin in early 2002 and take approximately two years.

#### **Contributions management**

Ensuring that donors receive accurate information about voluntary contributions and that programme/project managers and finance managers/assistants are regularly informed about newly received funds as well as about the total funds available for implementation under each project/trust fund. This will mainly be achieved once the OHCHR data warehouse is set up; in the interim, the contribution-tracking system will be improved, manual tracking charts will be created, funds will be monitored more closely, and concerned OHCHR officers will be notified about funds received.

#### **Financial management and reporting**

Ensuring more efficient use of OHCHR's resources. This will be accomplished by tightening financial monitoring and control, particularly for projects implemented through external service providers; providing regular financial status reports on OHCHR trust funds and projects to senior managers and programme/project managers; and assisting OHCHR staff in project-control tasks, such as budgeting, revisions, transfer/allocation of funds, and monitoring of project expenditures.

#### **Programme/project management**

Introducing a new results-based programming cycle in line with the Annual Appeal and the Annual Report; achieving more efficient and effective project management by establishing a programming manual; organizing office-wide project management training; advising on daily project management issues; and exploring new avenues for project implementation in consultation with external parties.

## Human resources management/staff development

Strengthening the Office's capacity to manage its human resources by setting up a roster database (initially for the human rights profile and later for other profiles); establishing a staff- and career-counselling capacity; enhancing the recruitment process and procedures; and establishing a post-management system and related procedures. The main activities in 2002 include undertaking a thorough review of all posts in OHCHR, with a view to classifying them as "core" and "non-core", and possibly requesting additional resources from regular resources for those posts classified as core functions. The Office also aims to improve the interview and pre-selection process during recruitment. Project managers will be given the opportunity to attend training courses on these subjects during 2002. OHCHR will also be exploring the possibility of issuing one-year contracts to ensure more job security for its staff.

## Beneficiaries

The main beneficiaries of this project will be the people who benefit from OHCHR's mandates, since the Office's work is expected to become more focused, with integrated regular and extra-budgetary programmes/projects. These projects will be based on sound planning, realistic assumptions regarding implementing capacity, the financial situation and information on past performance and lessons learned.

OHCHR staff, particularly project managers, finance staff and human resources staff are also expected to benefit from the new management tools. Senior managers will also benefit, since clear and concise financial overviews will allow them to make sound policy decisions. An improved human resources management system will help boost staff morale, since issues such as recruitment, post-creation and classification, and contractual arrangements will be handled in a transparent manner and according to the highest professional standards.

The international donor community will benefit from OHCHR's increased efficiency and transparency, better reporting and more precise knowledge of its financial situation, particularly regarding funding requirements.

## Implementing arrangements

Staff with appropriate expertise will be hired for a defined period of time to implement each activity; the duration of each position depends upon the task at hand. OHCHR may also decide to outsource some of the

activities to external service providers, particularly those related to systems-development and training. OHCHR will work closely with UNOG, the UN in New York, UNDP and UNOPS in establishing the necessary links for the creation of the data warehouse.

## Expected impact

As of this writing, OHCHR has no internal financial management system; the Office relies on the UN-based Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) for information related to UNOG/UNDP-implemented projects. Data on UNOPS-implemented projects is available at UNOPS' New York and Geneva offices. Both external and internal users recognize that the IMIS system is an accounting tool and not a project management tool, hence its use for project staff is limited. It has also been noted that the lead-time in obtaining updated records in the IMIS could be considerably shortened if OHCHR received the information in electronic format from UNDP. At the moment, the information from these three sources is often merged manually to obtain an overview of the situation. Easy access to project-related information that has already been processed in the format required by OHCHR staff would considerably improve project management, financial control and reporting. Access to current information on the Office's financial and human resources would enhance senior managers' decision-making and policy-making abilities. Such access would also make it possible to provide regular information to donors about contributions and their use, and would enhance OHCHR's image within the international donor community as a UN office with sound managerial and financial practices.

## Risks

The Office is working with UNOG to determine how data could be retrieved from the IMIS and transferred into the Core Management System. OHCHR is also negotiating with UNOPS to provide more detailed, consolidated and up-to-date financial information that could be fed into the Core Management System each month. The resolution of these issues will have a direct impact on OHCHR's ability to create its "data warehouse" and on the integrity and usefulness of the data contained therein. Without this essential management tool, OHCHR project managers will continue to lack essential information about the projects for which they are responsible. The Office must continue to explore the possibility of gradually assuming financial authority from the UN Controller's

office as a way of streamlining procedures, shortening time lags and generally improving the financial management of the Office.

### Coordination

OHCHR's projects are largely managed through UN bodies (i.e. UNOPS, UNOG and UNDP). Close coordination will therefore be required, particularly with UNOPS finance and IT departments in New York and Geneva. An implementation team mission to UN New York in July 2001 found that UNOPS is introducing an enhanced web-based funds-control system and UNDP is making data available to its "clients" on the Internet. These developments are likely to help OHCHR achieve its objectives concerning systems development and ensure that information is more up-to-date.

The importance of adequate internal coordination among the various OHCHR departments involved in this project has also been recognized. Two different working groups have been established: one is focusing on project and programme management; a second is responsible for financial management issues. The working groups are composed of participants from all three substantive branches of the office (APB, SSB and RRDB), the executive office, administration and the resource mobilization team. They meet regularly to identify problem areas, discuss managerial and organizational issues, set standards and propose solutions.

### Lessons learned

The difficulties in obtaining and manually reconciling data from a variety of sources has a direct impact on the work of OHCHR's fundraising and administrative sections; indirectly, they affect donors and OHCHR staff. The problem will only be resolved once adequate automated tracking mechanisms are put in place. The current OHCHR "contribution tracking system" was designed at a time when OHCHR's reporting and financial monitoring requirements were very different from what they are today. Donors have begun to request more detailed reports, OHCHR has become more aware of the need to ensure proper financial control, and the number of mandates leading to project submissions has continued to increase. The Office is therefore highly aware that new automated and user-friendly systems must be introduced, that these systems must be accompanied by appropriate processes and procedures, and that strategic planning in all areas of the Office's activities must be improved.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	1,134,749
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	9,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	55,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	40,540
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,239,289</b>
Programme support costs	161,108
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,400,397</b>

## Human rights knowledge management

### Background

During the past few years, OHCHR has significantly improved its information-management infrastructure. Databases store information on human rights treaty bodies, thematic mandates, and petition communications, UN human rights documents, press releases, statements for the public, internal documents, information on external partners and their publications, and human rights education. The Office has also launched an electronic registry system, which is an in-house information-sharing network, used for sharing incoming information among OHCHR staff and is an efficient tracking system for incoming correspondence by country, subject and sender. This information is available through OHCHR's internal information network and through the OHCHR website ([www.unhchr.ch](http://www.unhchr.ch)).

Since it was launched in December 1996, the OHCHR website has grown to accommodate some 60,000 documents and is available in English, French and Spanish. The site attracted more than 5 million hits per month during 2001, an increase from 3 million hits the previous year. It is now an indispensable tool for governments, the UN system, external partners, human rights experts and human rights NGOs. In accordance with recommen-

dations made by the external review of the publications programme, commissioned in July 2000, policy guidelines have been set to strengthen OHCHR's capacity to produce publications. Preparations are also underway to create a documentation and electronic information reference centre to provide assistance for research.

## Challenges

- Enhance internal communication and information exchange, especially between headquarters and field presences.
- Develop and enhance databases and human rights document-management systems and improve data search facilities.
- Establish Extranet access to the in-house information-sharing network from field presences, UN human rights experts and OHCHR staff on mission.
- Expand availability of human rights information from the Office's databases.
- Re-design some of the OHCHR website to encourage public access through user-friendly presentations and facilities.
- Develop a new human rights publications strategy.
- Establish a documentation centre equipped with information and communication network facilities to provide information and reference services.
- Strengthen the capacity of the OHCHR registry system.

## Objectives

- Provide comprehensive and efficient information and reference services to OHCHR partners, UN human rights mechanisms and experts, and OHCHR staff in order to establish global networks and partnerships.
- Strengthen the capacity of OHCHR's registry to achieve timely and effective access to incoming human rights information and requests, and to facilitate action.
- Create an "electronic OHCHR" for better communication with field presences, member states, NGOs and the public as well as within the Secretariat and with the funds and programmes of UN bodies.
- Re-engineer information and communication technology applications, especially in the areas of document- and database-management systems, to allow research activities to be conducted through international and interdisciplinary information networks.
- Support human rights partners and experts, inside and outside the UN system, in their specialized areas of work, and provide the public with printed and news-media materials on human rights.

- Disseminate information through the Internet in order to keep countries informed of UN human rights activities.

## Activities in 2002

### Information and reference services

- Establish the documentation and electronic information centre in OHCHR.
- Plan and manage book acquisitions and periodical subscriptions.
- Provide a specialized collection of human rights books and materials at the centre.
- Liaise with UN departments, libraries, UN Consortium on Information Services, UN agencies, international and national organizations, universities and research institutes to strengthen the information-service network.
- Provide information and reference services through electronic information-network facilities to OHCHR's external partners, including governments, international organizations, NGOs, universities and research institutes, UN bodies, UN human rights mechanisms and experts, and OHCHR staff.
- Establish IT networks to search and secure information.

### OHCHR registry

- Monitor, analyze, distribute and archive all incoming mail, facsimiles and e-mail messages so OHCHR can react rapidly to human rights needs and emergencies.
- Enhance the registry's IT support system by adding a scanner.
- Recruit an additional registry clerk.

### IT services

- Establish an efficient IT infrastructure, and streamline and outsource its servers: an Internet server for the OHCHR website; an Extranet server for the institutional networks; an Intranet server for better sharing of internal information; a portal server for workflow; a database server for database management and administration; a groupware server for e-mail and document management; and a system server for remote access service and user management.
- Strengthen OHCHR's connection and communication capacity with its field presences, the human rights components of DPKO, governments, NGOs and human rights experts, and establish Extranet access to OHCHR's in-house information system via the Remote Access Service (RAS) and the Virtual Private Network (VPN).

- Replace outdated desktop and portable computers which are not covered by the regular budget.
- Develop databases and systems required for human rights projects.
- Arrange IT training for both OHCHR technical staff and users.
- Prepare and monitor video conferences at OHCHR Headquarters and at its field presences.
- Secure technical service for web broadcasts of human rights conferences and meetings and archive records of those events.

**Human rights documents and databases**

- Develop documents and database-management systems to include treaty bodies documents, charter-based bodies documents, thematic mandates, internal documents, news and statements, and human right educational information, and to improve user interfaces.
- Enhance the existing database functions.
- Conduct a needs-assessment for database-management system applications and a feasibility study for new database development proposed under various human rights projects.

**Publications**

- Establish a new OHCHR publications programme policy and strategy in line with objectives defined by the external review: to provide support to the High Commissioner in her advocacy role; to strengthen mechanisms for protecting human rights; to produce core publications; and to expand OHCHR’s outreach.
- Establish an OHCHR publications committee to provide guidance on OHCHR publications and ensure consistency and high quality.
- Produce high-quality publications, either new or updated, such as manuals and other training material for specific professional groups, and reference material, such as the *United Nations Action in the Field of Human Rights, A Compilation of International Instruments, the Human Rights Reporting Manual, and the Compilation of Decisions of the Human Rights Committee*.
- Produce a human rights CD-ROM based on the website.

**Web publishing**

- Improve and expand the content, design and presentation of the website.
- Broadcast and archive proceedings of the Commission on Human Rights and other selected human rights meetings.

- Develop Arabic, Chinese and Russian language websites.
- Recruit a webmaster to oversee the web operation.
- Participate in UN Internet web portal projects.

**Expected impact**

Information dissemination within OHCHR, including communications between OHCHR headquarters and the field presences, will be enhanced. Human rights information will be distributed and disseminated in a structured and timely manner among OHCHR external partners, thus assisting governments that are implementing human rights activities and allowing UN bodies, human rights mechanisms, experts and the public to make informed decisions and establish networks for human rights.

**Beneficiaries**

The beneficiaries will be the public in all regions of the world, OHCHR external partners, including member states, UN human rights mechanisms and experts, UN bodies, international organizations, NGOs, universities and research institutes and OHCHR staff.

**Lessons learned**

In the past, OHCHR adopted a separate approach to information, publications and communication-related activities. A coordinated approach ensures comprehensive and effective management of information received, analyzed, processed, disseminated and distributed and avoids inconsistency and duplication of efforts.

**Budget in US\$**

Staff costs	591,400
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	102,300
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	0
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	500,600
General operating expenses	115,500
Supplies and acquisitions	136,100
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	575,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,020,900</b>
Programme support costs	262,717
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,283,617</b>

## Public information

### Background

The promotion and protection of human rights depends to a great degree on public opinion, political pressure and moral authority. One of OHCHR's main goals is to maintain and strengthen its public communications capacity, thereby helping the High Commissioner to shape and communicate her message at a time when the international human rights agenda is undergoing rapid development and is enjoying unprecedented attention. The Public Information and Communications Team was created to realize the advocacy potential of OHCHR on behalf of human rights victims. The Team helps shape opinion in support of universal human rights standards, defines the role and identity of the Office within the international system, and publicizes OHCHR's achievements. It also boosts the morale of those working in human rights, including within OHCHR, and complements the work of the resource-mobilization unit in securing additional extra-budgetary funds for the Office.

### Strategy

The Office's high public profile can be explained partly by the increased interest in human rights around the world, but also by the deliberate efforts by the High Commissioner and the Office to raise awareness about human rights. Greater recognition of OHCHR has, in turn, increased opportunities for the Office to intervene to protect human rights and helped promote human rights awareness among governments, international agencies and civil society.

### Objectives

The objective is to maintain and strengthen the range of OHCHR information and communication activities and ensure they are clearly focused on disseminating the High Commissioner's message. The Public Information and Communications Team is responsible for:

- Preparing speeches, written messages and articles;
- Implementing public information activities and maintaining relations with the media;
- Coordinating external relations activities, including contacts with governments, UN agencies and programmes, NGOs and civil society;
- Developing cooperation with the private sector within the framework of the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Compact initiative;

- Organizing public events, meetings, exhibits and briefings; and
- Preparing and publishing basic informational literature on OHCHR and its activities.

### Activities in 2002

#### Media relations

The aim is to enhance OHCHR's abilities to communicate its policies and activities through oral presentations, print, television, radio and other media. Liaison with the media is the responsibility of a senior media officer and a press officer. Their role is to craft the media strategy for the High Commissioner using all available channels to ensure that her views and the work of OHCHR are presented to all relevant audiences. They also act as the "voice" of OHCHR as spokespersons, help the High Commissioner to respond to media inquiries, especially during rapidly developing situations, and provide assistance during her missions in the field. Effective media management has helped make a success of a number of the High Commissioner's high-profile missions, including those to East Timor, Palestine, Chechnya and China. Since good internal communication is essential for maintaining OHCHR's effectiveness, the media team has also developed a twice-monthly newsletter in which Office staff around the world can learn about OHCHR's activities and developments within the Office.

Activities to be undertaken by the senior media officer and the press officer in 2002 include:

- Expanding contacts with media from around the world, especially with correspondents who specialize in human rights issues.
- Building relationships with information components of relevant UN agencies and organizations concerned with human rights in order to reach a wider audience (this is of particular importance in the wake of the World Conference against Racism and the unprecedented mobilization of civil society it engendered).
- Facilitating media coverage of the Office's work and of the UN human rights programme, including work in the field and by Special Procedures (booklets, posters and a video on OHCHR activities, targeted to the general public, will be produced).
- Providing media training, support and advice to the Office's field presences, particularly through on-site visits to the larger offices (a minimum of four regional training workshops will be organized in Bosnia, Cambodia, Colombia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo).

- Installing equipment in OHCHR headquarters in Geneva that will help the international media conduct broadcast-quality interviews with the High Commissioner, other senior officials and experts from the Special Procedures and treaty bodies.
- Developing information strategies for different audiences, including regional and issue-specific programmes.

### Public relations

The aim is to enhance OHCHR's ability to arrange and manage public events, presentations, exhibits and briefings on the work of the Office. A human rights officer is responsible for liaising with visitors to OHCHR headquarters, organizing events, UN observance days, and exhibitions, and supervising briefings on OHCHR activities for the general public. The human rights officer will be assisted by an associate officer and a secretary, for whom funding is also requested.

Activities to be undertaken by the human rights officer and his/her associate in 2002 include:

- Organizing public events at OHCHR headquarters in Geneva on the occasion of UN observances related to human rights (UN observances should increase from one, Human Rights Day, to four: UN Day against Racial Discrimination, UN Day in Support of Victims of Torture, UN Day on the Eradication of Extreme Poverty, and Human Rights Day).
- Increasing the number of exhibits related to human rights to be displayed in OHCHR headquarters on the occasion of UN observances, sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Sub-Commission, UN Treaty Bodies and Working Groups (exhibits should increase from the three organized in 2001 to six in 2002).
- Enhancing OHCHR's capacity to organize briefings on its activities for targeted audiences, including members of permanent missions, academics, journalists, professionals and the general public.
- Organizing high-level events, such as meetings of eminent persons or goodwill ambassadors, as requested by the High Commissioner.
- Establishing clear policies and procedures for granting the High Commissioner's and OHCHR's patronage and the use of the OHCHR logo.
- Improve OHCHR's internal procedures concerning flow of information, coordination of correspondence, processing of invitations and organization of the High Commissioner's travel schedule. Liaise with the general public and manage the flow of correspondence to

and from OHCHR and handle various invitations for the High Commissioner, which number over 100 per week.

### Private sector relations

The objective is to develop OHCHR's capacity to engage in dialogues and partnerships with the private sector. The position of a private sector liaison officer was established to take action within the framework of the Secretary-General's Global Compact initiative with the private sector. This officer, the primary point of contact between OHCHR and the international business community, assists the High Commissioner's Advisor on Corporate Responsibility, supports other human rights activities involving the private sector, such as the Sub-Commission Working Group on the activities of transnational corporations, and liaises with Special Rapporteurs, who are showing increasing interest in the role of the private sector in promoting and protecting human rights. The officer works with the ILO and other UN agencies, trade unions and NGOs to organize events and provide information and guidance to ensure that corporations do not violate human rights directly or indirectly in their own operations.

Activities include:

- Developing training tools for business managers based on Global Compact principles, in cooperation with ILO, UNEP, UNDP and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General.
- Coordinating other aspects of OHCHR's involvement in the Global Compact, such as providing commentary on case studies submitted by companies on steps taken to implement Global Compact principles, and establishing a network of Global Compact participating organizations to follow up on commitments made at the World Conference against Racism to foster diversity and combat discrimination in the workplace and in the community.
- Contributing to the development of human rights reporting guidelines for companies within the Global Reporting Initiative, the multi-stakeholder sustainability initiative being developed with UNEP as the lead UN agency.
- Developing cooperation with business schools to integrate human rights into management curricula and develop joint research on specific issues, such as the responsibilities of businesses operating in conflict zones.

- Assisting the Advisor to the High Commissioner on Corporate Responsibility in supporting treaty bodies, extra-conventional mechanisms and other UN human rights activities that address the role of the private sector in the promotion and protection of human rights.

### Anticipated results

Activities will significantly increase popular knowledge and understanding of the role of the Office of the High Commissioner in the global promotion and protection of human rights. It will also enhance basic awareness of the international human rights system and programme as a whole and how it links with national and regional institutions for the defence of human rights.

### Implementing arrangements

The Public Information and Communications Team is headed by a senior public affairs advisor/speechwriter who works closely with the High Commissioner to assess and refine the High Commissioner’s agenda to ensure that the public affairs aspects of all decisions are given due consideration. The Team is composed of seven professionals – of these posts, only one represents a regular-budget professional position in the public affairs area – and three secretaries, two of whom are covered by the regular budget.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	674,784
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	15,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	58,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	68,500
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	17,500
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>833,784</b>
Programme support costs	108,392
<b>Total</b>	<b>942,176</b>

## Policy planning and methodology

### Background

As part of the management of change process, a Policy Planning and Methodology Team has been established. It will develop stable and coherent policies based on lessons learned across all the Office’s activities; this will include field presences, the development of human rights activities, administrative procedures, training programmes and support to treaty bodies. The Team will undertake policy reviews at the request of the Senior Policy Committee as well as methodology work to develop a system in the form of rules and standard procedures to be applied in human rights work with the aim of improving its quality, effectiveness and efficiency. These methodological tools will be applied not only by OHCHR, but also by its partners: They can take the form of manuals, guidance, advice and training; they are already used by government departments, UN agencies and programmes, regional organizations, NGOs and academic institutions.

### Objectives and strategy

The goal of the project is to develop OHCHR’s policy planning and the methodology of its human rights work, thus enhancing the capacities of the Office to promote and protect human rights. Specific activities include:

- Supporting the work of the Senior Policy Committee, including analysis, planning and efforts to develop a consistent and comprehensive set of policies;
- Elaborating methodological tools for human rights work;
- Developing a learning system based on external and internal evaluation;
- Developing a strategy for and methodology of technical cooperation to mainstream human rights;
- Developing policies and methodologies on human rights protection and human rights education and training;
- Developing policies and methodologies of the field presences within the “one-Office” framework; and
- Enhancing synergies between human rights and development and humanitarian work, peace and conflict-resolution efforts, and other areas, and developing OHCHR methodologies related to those activities.

The Team will:

- Assume direct responsibility for organizing the process of in-house policy planning and methodology development;
- Assume direct responsibility for developing policy and methodology proposals within its area of expertise;

- Assist and advise teams and officers on policy and methodology development; and
- Reach out to academic and research institutions, with the aim of creating geographically balanced partnerships with institutions and experts who could assist in the development of methodologies for human rights work.

### Current and planned activities

In the short term, the Policy Planning and Methodology Team will: map policy needs; analyze the Activities and Programmes Branch’s management of change; examine the human rights approach in the humanitarian area and OHCHR’s role in human rights protection; address OHCHR’s contribution to peace operations, including implementation of the Brahimi report; work with OHCHR’s human rights field presences; launch training programmes; examine truth and reconciliation and inquiry procedures; network with academic institutions; and develop training tools. The Team will produce policy background papers for consideration by OHCHR’s Senior Policy Committee.

In the area of methodological tools, the Team is organizing and supervising the preparation of the following standard procedures: guidelines for witness protection; new recruitment procedures for peace operations; a methodological framework for inquiries into human rights violations; and methods to facilitate the lessons-learned process. In addition, seven manuals or training packages will be printed, or will be ready for print, addressing subjects such as national human rights action plans, field presences, human rights monitoring, human rights education in primary and secondary schools, and human rights training for police and prison officials, judges and lawyers. The Team is also preparing: a workshop on human rights manuals (November 2001); a workshop on transitional justice (December 2001); a workshop on the future of OHCHR field presences (January 2002); the annual meeting of human rights field presences (October 2002); and meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation (November 2001 and June 2002).

### Expected impact

- The development of policy and methodology will have a positive impact on the effectiveness of OHCHR’s work and on individual staff members.
- A presence in all OHCHR units will ensure that the Team contributes to cooperation within the Office, thus enhancing consistency of work.
- Cooperation with partners from academic institutions,

NGOs, regional organizations, UN bodies, and individual experts will ensure that the Team channels outside expertise into the work of OHCHR. The Team will develop a geographically inclusive network of partners, thus helping to strengthen human rights.

- UN human rights work relies on the experience acquired by its staff members in the field and at headquarters. In the field, the human rights message is tested against reality and processes are developed and refined. The Team facilitates this lessons-learned processes within OHCHR.

### Management arrangements and requirements

The Policy Planning and Methodology Team is composed of two professional staff and one general service staff. In addition, three professional staff and one general service staff support field presences and technical cooperation activities in the Activities and Programmes Branch. Available resources, however, do not cover all planned activities and additional resources are needed for policy panning, preparing manuals and other methodological tools, training and other activities. An increase in resources, both systematic, for policy planning and manuals, and ad hoc, for the development of a lessons-learned process, is necessary. Three professional staff are needed to strengthen policy planning, especially with regard to the human rights approach to humanitarian activities, and the management of manuals and training programmes.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	318,900
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	115,000
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	40,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	0
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	10,000
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	50,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>533,900</b>
Programme support costs	69,407
<b>Total</b>	<b>603,307</b>

## Resource mobilization

### Background

Since funding from the UN regular budget does not cover all of OHCHR's activities, the Office relies, to an increasing extent, on voluntary contributions. Thus, the main objectives of the resource mobilization strategy are to:

- Secure adequate financial support for the activities of the Office;
- Obtain timely and predictable funding; and
- Obtain flexible funding with less earmarking and conditions attached to contributions.

A team of three professionals and one secretary was established to manage resource mobilization and donor relations in the Office; it is responsible for:

- Advising and briefing the High Commissioner on funding strategies and issues;
- Providing a focal point on funding, within OHCHR, for governments and other donors;
- Briefing donors on funding;
- Preparing the Annual Appeal, the Annual Report and other funding submissions and reports, as needed;
- Coordinating OHCHR's contributions to the UN consolidated appeals;
- Following-up on pledges and contributions in a timely manner; and
- Continuing efforts to expand the donor base.

### Plans for 2002

#### Improve information to donors on activities, requirements and use of funds

- Issue an improved Annual Report, in spring 2002, reviewing activities and use of funds in 2001;
- Issue an improved Annual Appeal, in November 2002, presenting plans and requirements for 2003; and
- Issue regular updates on activities, requirements and use of funds.

#### Improve the stability, predictability and flexibility of funding

- Establish predictable funding arrangements with additional donors;
- Convince donors to make pledges early in the year and make multi-year funding commitments;
- Establish more rigorous policies on earmarking; and
- Convince donors to earmark less and to give a portion of their yearly contribution with no earmarking at all.

### Management arrangements

The team now consists of three professional staff and one secretary. The recruitment of a fourth professional staff during 2001 was postponed due to insufficient funds. Consultants assist the team in preparing the Annual Appeal and the Annual Report, in handling the backlog of outstanding reports, and in preparing submissions to donors who do not make funding decisions based on the Appeal.

### Risks

The implementation of the resource mobilization strategy depends on maintaining, or adding to, current staff resources; good financial tracking and management systems; and the provision of high-quality information, from relevant units of OHCHR, on which appeals, reports and submissions are based. Resource mobilization cannot be carried out in isolation; its success depends on the performance and the perception of the Office as a whole. OHCHR relies on a limited number of donors. Changes in aid policies, in general, and in policies vis-à-vis OHCHR, in particular, by major donors could have an immediate impact on funding.

### Requirements

The budget includes four professional staff and one secretary and travel to field offices and donor capitals. Costs for the preparation of the Annual Appeal and Annual Report include editing, proofreading, layout and printing. Translation into French is provided by the Languages Services of the United Nations Office in Geneva. A consultant with relevant experience is required to manage the preparation of submissions and reports to the European Commission, and a short-term consultant is needed to address other specific reporting requirements.

### Budget in US\$

Staff costs	463,650
Experts/consultants' fees and travel	103,916
Travel:	
- OHCHR staff	15,000
- Commission members	0
- Representatives and other participants	0
Contractual services	90,000
General operating expenses	0
Supplies and acquisitions	0
Grants, contributions, fellowships and seminars	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>672,566</b>
Programme support costs	87,434
<b>Total</b>	<b>760,000</b>





OFFICE OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS  
HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



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# Human Rights