


Annual Appeal 2 0 0 1

*Overview of activities and
financial requirements*

Human Rights



OFFICE OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



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FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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Design and Desktop Publishing by Studio de Graphisme, Anne Iten, Genève

Printed by ATAR SA, Genève



Table of contents

Foreword by the High Commissioner	5	Human rights support for peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building activities	
Mission statement	6	Introduction	73
Executive summary	7	Burundi	73
Strategic overview	8	Democratic Republic of the Congo	76
The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	10	Colombia	78
Funding and budget	12	Cambodia	81
		Bosnia and Herzegovina	84
World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance	16	Croatia	87
		The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	89
International human rights conventions: <i>support to the treaty bodies</i>	21	Human rights trust funds established by the United Nations General Assembly	
Response to allegations of human rights violations: <i>support to the special procedures</i>	25	Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	91
<i>Servicing the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies</i>	27	Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	92
		Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations	93
Human rights in development	29	Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	94
Technical cooperation		Issues in focus	
Introduction	32	Introduction	95
Global projects	34	Gender issues, women's rights and reproductive rights	96
Support to national institutions	34	HIV/AIDS	97
UN decade for human rights education	36	Protection of indigenous peoples	98
Internally displaced persons	38	Protection of minorities	99
Human rights training for peacekeepers	40	Trafficking in persons	100
		Building the capacity of OHCHR	
Africa:		Introduction	101
Regional and sub-regional activities	41	Human rights knowledge management	102
Country projects	44	Human rights web site	103
Latin America and the Caribbean:		Documentation centre	104
Regional and sub-regional activities	49	Publications for human rights	105
Country projects	51	Public information	106
Europe and Central Asia:		Resource mobilization	107
Regional overview	57	Staff security	108
Country projects	57	Revolving fund	109
Asia and the Pacific:			
Regional and sub-regional activities	64		
Country projects	66		

Foreword by the High Commissioner

Last year saw the first ever Annual Appeal for funding by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The response was positive: the Annual Appeal document was regarded by many not only as valuable for donors but also as a useful information source for the activities of OHCHR and a tool to increase transparency in the Office's activities.

Another landmark which we have reached is that Palais Wilson has become fully operational this year. Meetings of committees and working groups as well as numerous other activities are now taking place here daily. This fulfils an important objective for the Office – making Palais Wilson a true home for human rights.

The Annual Appeal 2001 builds on the achievements of last year. The work which has gone into the preparation of costings and the description of individual projects has proved to be an important discipline for the Office. OHCHR has adopted a new Mission Statement as part of a management of change process which is taking place with the objective of strengthening the Office's management capacity. OHCHR intends to continue to build up its management and administrative base so that activities are carried out in the most efficient manner possible, thus ensuring that donors get full value for money. The overall target of this year's Appeal is US\$ 53,829,009, a modest increase on last year's target. Our aim is to present our needs as realistically as possible and not to overstate our case. At the same time, it must be stressed that the resource demands on the Office are growing fast. As the Strategic overview chapter shows, in the course of the past year there has been a substantial increase in the volume of work expected of OHCHR, without a commensurate increase in funds from the regular budget. More treaty ratifications, the creation of new mandates, the emphasis in the Report of the Panel on United Nations peace operations on the role of human rights in the peace and security activities of the UN, the heightened awareness of the need to devote more attention to the rights-based approach to



development, the ever-larger number of requests from governments for OHCHR to assist with technical cooperation and advisory services: all of these will place great demands on the Office.

If I single out the increased costs we are facing to service the treaty bodies, it is because the impetus given by the Millennium Summit to the ratification of core human rights treaties shows in very clear terms the resource implications of servicing the treaty bodies. The human rights treaty body system will only be able to fulfil its key role if there is adequate funding. The same applies to the special mechanisms, to OHCHR's actions in the field and to the rest of the Office's work.

A major event for OHCHR in the year ahead will be the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September. Preparing for and organizing the Conference will be a challenge for OHCHR, but it is one which we welcome as the Conference has the potential to revitalize the struggle against the evils of racism and xenophobia, the source of so many human rights violations in the world. A successful World Conference will require adequate resources and I make a special appeal to donors to provide us with the financial support we need to do the job.

I would like to thank all our donors for the generous response to last year's appeal and to urge them to assist us generously again this year. All donations are welcome. I have been particularly touched by contributions received from countries with scarce resources, demonstrating a solidarity with the work of the Office which is greatly appreciated.

The tasks facing all of us in defending human rights are clear: I need your help to make a true culture of human rights a reality.

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 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 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 of 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 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 organisations and civil society.

Executive summary

OHCHR carries out activities under a broad mandate that includes upholding human rights, 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 at the national level, devising preventive strategies, mainstreaming human rights into all UN programmes and combating racism and xenophobia. To carry out these activities in 2001 will require US\$ 53,829,009 from voluntary contributions in addition to US\$ 21,476,600 approved from the United Nations regular budget.

The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001, is a particular priority of the Office. The Conference will offer an opportunity to examine and make recommendations on a wide range of issues, including discrimination against minorities, migrants, indigenous peoples and refugees, ethnic conflicts, trafficking in persons, the re-emergence of contemporary forms of slavery, the preservation of cultural identity in multi-cultural societies and racism on the Internet and new, more subtle forms of racism. OHCHR's costs for the Conference and related activities will require US\$ 5,999,898 in 2001.

The human rights treaties are at the core of the international system for the promotion and protection of human rights. Increases in the number of mandates coupled with scarce resources have resulted in growing backlogs of reports, complaints and inquiries. To strengthen OHCHR's capacity to improve the treaty system, US\$ 2,920,666 will be required in addition to the US\$ 2,077,890 from the regular budget.

The number of special procedures mandates has grown significantly and now includes 21 thematic and 14 country mandates. Supporting these mandates with adequate resources, will require US\$ 2,243,841 in addition to the US\$ 1,373,690 from the regular budget.

OHCHR has a mandate to integrate human rights into the development work of the United Nations. Greater emphasis is also being given to economic, social and cultural rights. Building the Office's capacity to respond to the challenges of mainstreaming human rights and to devote greater attention to promoting social and economic rights will require US\$ 1,255,318 in 2001.

OHCHR's technical cooperation programme focuses on: national plans of action for human rights; legislative reforms that help national laws conform with international human rights standards; national human rights institutions; administration of justice, parliaments, the military, police and other sectors of law enforcement departments; treaty reporting; economic, social and cultural rights and the rights to development; human rights aspects of elections; human rights education and information; and human rights NGOs. Activities will require US\$ 10,569,778.

The presence of OHCHR in the field helps ensure that human rights standards are implemented and realized at the country level, both in law and practice. OHCHR's offices in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia make important contributions to peace-making and peace-building in those countries. Activities during 2001 will require US\$ 14,653,453. An additional US\$ 1,125,600 is allocated to the office in Cambodia from the regular budget.

Human rights funds established by the General Assembly provide aid to victims of torture, assist NGOs addressing the problem of contemporary forms of slavery, provide financial resources so representatives of indigenous communities can participate in meetings of those bodies that deal with the human rights of indigenous peoples, and fund projects advancing the goals of the international decade of the world's indigenous people. For 2001, donors are asked to contribute US\$ 10,023,860 to these funds.

In 2001, OHCHR will build its capacity to set standards and targets to protect specific groups by focusing on gender issues, women's rights and reproductive rights, HIV/AIDS, indigenous peoples and minorities and trafficking in persons. Donors are asked to contribute US\$ 1,860,206 to augment the US\$ 657,900 allocation from the regular budget. The Office will continue to consolidate and strengthen its institutional capacity in public information by enhancing its web site and other information services and databases. OHCHR will also improve its resource mobilization and staff security. US\$ 4,189,441 - which includes US\$ 300,000 for the revolving fund - will be needed for these activities.

An Annual Report, to be issued for the first time in 2001, will review the implementation of activities and the use of funds in 2000.

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trategic overview

The work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights takes place in the context of a rapidly evolving human rights situation in the world. The first year of the new millennium has seen a number of significant developments which will have important implications for the future work of the Office:

- The centrality of human rights to the United Nations mission was graphically illustrated at the Millennium Summit and particularly in the Declaration adopted by world leaders. The Secretary-General's report "We the Peoples" highlighted the fact that most people around the world consider the protection of human rights to be among the most important tasks of the United Nations.
- The Millennium Summit provided a powerful stimulus to the objective of universal ratification of core international human rights treaties. An unprecedented 273 "treaty actions" took place over the three days. With the ratifications lodged during the Summit and subsequently, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women will enter into force before the end of 2000. Other instruments gaining support were the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child – on child soldiers and the sale of children.
- The Beijing+5 and Copenhagen+5 review conferences assessed progress made in women's rights and social development. OHCHR circulated papers on the human rights dimension of both conferences and will pursue these issues actively.
- New mandates have been created by the Commission on Human Rights. The first special representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders has been appointed, as have two new special rapporteurs on the right to adequate housing and the right to food.
- The report of the Brahimi Panel on United Nations peace operations stresses the importance of the United Nations system adhering to and promoting international human rights instruments and standards and international humanitarian law in all aspects of its peace and security activities. The panel recommends the close involvement of OHCHR in UN peace operations and the substantial enhancement of the field mission planning and implementation capacity of OHCHR.
- There is a heightened awareness of the importance of and the need to devote more attention to the right to development and the realization of rights through development. The fact that the year 2000 edition of the UNDP Human Development Report takes as its subject human rights and human development was a landmark event. Other major developments include the devotion of the special dialogue of the Commission on Human Rights to extreme poverty, the substantive session of the Working Group on the right to development and the creation of the new special mechanisms of the Commission referred to above.
- Agreement to establish a permanent forum on indigenous issues promises to give indigenous peoples a voice within the United Nations system commensurate with the unique problems which they face.
- Increased calls are being made for international attention to issues such as the human rights impact of globalization, the related question of the role of business in human rights and trafficking in people.

All of these developments call for a response by OHCHR on an ongoing basis. This is additional to the many demands already being made on the Office. Among existing demands might be mentioned the ever-larger number of requests for technical cooperation and advisory services emanating from governments.



The resource implications are clear: OHCHR will only be able to meet the increased demands being placed on it if sufficient financial resources are available.

An example is the surge in accessions to core human rights treaties. Welcome as this trend is, the requirements for servicing the treaty bodies must be considered seriously. During the Millennium Summit OHCHR circulated an annex to the High Commissioner's report to the General Assembly, detailing the cost implications of universal ratification of core treaties. The message conveyed is stark: unless it is adequately funded, the human rights treaty body system will not be able to fulfil its key role. The same argument applies to the creation of new mandates for which no provision has been made from the regular budget and to the many other new areas requiring expenditure.

OHCHR is working hard to meet the challenges it faces. The Office is strengthening and will continue to strengthen its administrative and organisational base and will further define its priorities for the short and medium term. Particular emphasis is being placed on regional strategies which can maximize the use of resources in particular areas.

The Office has initiated a management of change process aimed at improving OHCHR's performance management and strategic planning as well as programme, financial, information and communications management. The management of change process will look at all aspects of the Office's activities, both in Geneva and in the field, with a view to improving performance. The process began with the adoption of a new Mission Statement setting out the overall aims of OHCHR.

An obvious priority for OHCHR during the year 2001 will be the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. Organizing a successful World Conference will pose a major challenge for OHCHR, both organizationally and in regard to substance. However, it is a challenge which the Office welcomes on two grounds. Firstly, the Conference will address an issue which is at the root of most of the conflicts within and between societies and numerous violations of human rights. Devising new strategies to combat racism and xenophobia has the potential to be one of the strongest preventive mechanisms at our disposal. Secondly, there is potential synergy between experience gained in preparing the World

Conference and the work of the Office as a whole. The World Conference will be the biggest event organized by OHCHR and this presents an opportunity to improve work practices and to make the Office better known.

A comprehensive preparatory structure has been put in place including four regional intergovernmental meetings, five regional experts seminars, two sessions of the Preparatory Committee, informal consultations and an inter-sessional open-ended working group, as well as NGO meetings, national consultations and various satellite meetings.

A successful World Conference will require adequate resources. Among the many expenses which will need to be met are the cost of travel for NGOs, experts and representatives of least developed countries, national institutions and treaty bodies to the regional preparatory meetings and to the World Conference itself. A special appeal is therefore made to all member states of the United Nations, large and small, to contribute generously to the cost of the World Conference.



The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mandate

OHCHR's priorities are set by the General Assembly and are contained in the document, *The Medium-term Plan for 1998-2001*. This plan follows the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (created after the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights) and the Charter of the United Nations. It contains 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. 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 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 establishment 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 processes reports and communications submitted to the various treaty bodies and follows-up on decisions taken at treaty body meetings.

Presence in the field

OHCHR has offices in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. 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 in, among other places, Angola, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ethiopia, Eritrea and East Timor.



Funding and budget

Introduction

The activities of the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights are funded biennially by the United Nations regular budget, approved by the General Assembly. In 2001, US\$ 21,476,600 was appropriated under the regular budget. Over the past few years, the activities of OHCHR and the geographical scope of field presences have expanded considerably and cannot, at present, be fully covered by the regular budget alone. An additional US\$ 53,829,009 for activities outlined in this Appeal, is required from voluntary contributions.

United Nations regular budget

The regular budget pays for staff and basic infrastructure. The Charter, which is an international treaty, obligates all Member States 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 review and approval. Since 1988, the budget has been approved by consensus. OHCHR's budgetary appropriations are reflected under section 22 of the United Nations regular budget. For the biennium 2000-2001, the approved budget for OHCHR is US\$ 41,163,400 (US\$ 20,243,800 for 2001). Under section 21, which includes the technical cooperation projects of the United Nations, OHCHR's 2001 portion amounts to US\$ 1,232,800.

Voluntary contributions

OHCHR receives contributions from governments, NGOs, foundations and other private donors. Many governments – 87 since 1994 – made 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 provides most of the funding for OHCHR. In 2000, OHCHR increased its overall funding level and expanded its donor base. Important contributions were made by foundations and by the European Commission in addition to governments.

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 (recorded as of 31 October)	36,012,113

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 United Nations 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 Fund Raising 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.

Reports

OHCHR is devising a uniform system for reporting, which hopefully will satisfy the reporting requirements of as many donors as possible and avoid a multitude of reporting formats. This will take the form of an Annual Report which will review previous year's activities and use of funds. The first Annual Report will be issued in 2001 and report on activities in 2000.

Programme planning and quality control

OHCHR has recently established a rigorous annual planning and scrutiny process to determine which activities require additional voluntary contributions. All activities have to be presented in detailed project documents specifying outcomes, indicators of achievement, activities, budgets and timetables as well as managerial and monitoring arrangements, and have to be approved by senior management through a project review committee before implementation. In addition to evaluating individual projects, which is already a standard practice, the Office is revising its programming cycle to improve its efficiency and effectiveness.

Programme support cost

All funds are charged for programme support cost (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/AL/286 of 3 March 1982, which remains operational.

Administrative support to OHCHR

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. Both UN offices provide support and advice in the areas of finance, budget and human resources management. The processing of all administrative requirements in the areas of finance, budgetary allotments and personnel administration goes through the United Nations Office in Geneva. OHCHR also uses the common services of conference facilities, including interpretation for all formal meetings of the Commission on Human Rights, Sub-Commission etc. The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) is also providing administrative backstopping for OHCHR.

Financial requirements in 2001

Activities in 2001 will require a total of US\$ 75,305,609. Of this amount, US\$ 21,476,600 (US\$ 42,396,200 for the biennium 2000-2001) will be financed from United Nations regular budget as indicated in sections 21 and 22 of the UN regular budget. US\$ 53,829,009 will be required from voluntary contributions.

Budget in US\$

(Required from voluntary contributions)

World Conference against Racism 5,999,898

**International human rights conventions:
support to the treaty bodies 2,920,666**

**Response to human rights violations:
support to the special procedures 2,243,841**

Servicing the Commission on Human Rights
and its subsidiary bodies **112,548**

Human rights in development 1,255,318

Technical cooperation activities 10,569,778

Global projects 2,253,220

Projects in Africa 2,550,055

Projects in Latin America and
the Caribbean 2,385,430

Projects in Europe and Central Asia 754,388

Projects in Asia and the Pacific 2,626,685

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

14,653,453

Burundi 2,651,887

Democratic Republic of the Congo 1,344,940

Colombia 4,540,044

Cambodia 1,799,999

Bosnia and Herzegovina 1,214,750

Croatia 785,333

Federal Republic of Yugoslavia 2,316,500

Human rights trust funds 10,023,860

Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture 8,700,000

Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary
Forms of Slavery 319,790

Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations 536,540

Voluntary Fund for the International

Decade of the World's Indigenous People 467,530

Issues in focus 1,860,206

Gender issues, women's rights and
reproductive rights 379,499

HIV/AIDS 169,116

Protection of minorities 322,050

Protection of indigenous peoples 422,281

Trafficking in persons 567,260

Building the capacity of OHCHR 4,189,441

Human rights knowledge management 1,202,088

Human rights web site 620,850

Documentation centre 168,370

Publications for human rights 566,333

Public information 131,645

Resource mobilization 742,966

Staff security 467,189

Revolving fund 300,000

Total 53,829,009



Regular budget in US\$

(Section 21 of the regular budget)

Policy-making organs **2,775,100**

Commission on Human Rights	101,600
Sub-Commission	375,000
Human Rights Committee	612,100
Special Committee to Investigate Israeli practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories	118,800
Committee on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	483,300
Committee on the Rights of the Child	557,200
Committee against Torture	171,200
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	330,700
Meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies	25,200

Executive direction and management **2,505,700**

Posts	2,281,200
Other expenditures	224,500

Programme of work **13,557,800**

Right to development, research and analysis	3,746,000
Supporting services	3,301,200
Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities	6,510,600
Programme support	1,140,600
Committee on missing persons in Cyprus	264,600

Sub-total **20,243,800**

(Section 22 of the UN regular budget) technical cooperation activities	1,232,800
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Total **21,476,600**

Total requirements **75,305,609**

(voluntary contributions and allocations from the regular budget in 2001)



World Conference against Racism Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

Introduction

Preparations for the World Conference against Racism, to be held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001, are gathering momentum. At the United Nations Millennium Assembly in New York, on 5 September 2000, South Africa's President, Thabo Mbeki, put forth a declaration that the 21st century should be a period characterized by tolerance and diversity. His declaration has been signed by more than 55 heads of State or Government, and is one of a series of special activities, events and meetings planned to raise awareness of the objectives of the World Conference.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights, in her capacity as Secretary-General of the World Conference, has underscored the importance of this Conference as an occasion to focus on an inclusive approach to national identity and to:

- Explore the relationship between extreme poverty and racial discrimination
- Examine racism and xenophobia as inhibiting factors to economic and human development and to highlight the importance of education and of combating racist ideas with facts, science and history
- Study the effective implementation of anti-discrimination laws and the importance of an appropriate institutional framework to support such efforts
- Underscore the importance of a preventive approach to racism and xenophobia
- Address existing obstacles to overcoming both traditional and contemporary forms of racial discrimination

The World Conference will provide the opportunity to examine and make recommendations on a wide range of issues, including ethnic cleansing, the re-emergence of contemporary forms of slavery, trafficking in persons, discrimination against minorities, migrants, indigenous peoples and refugees, the preservation of cultural identity in multi-cultural societies, and racism on the Internet as well as new, more subtle forms of racism.

The World Conference will be action-oriented, focusing on concrete measures to assist victims of racial discrimination. It will be a people's conference, with participation by grassroots NGOs and national human rights institutions, UN human rights bodies, specialized agencies, international organizations and States. The preparations for the World Conference will also have a bottom-up approach. Through national and regional meetings, including expert regional seminars being organized by OHCHR, national preparations will feed into the regional preparatory process, which will, in turn, flow into the work of the Preparatory Committee, which meets in Geneva. OHCHR, in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Public Information, has embarked on a worldwide information campaign and has appointed seven renowned goodwill ambassadors from different regions and backgrounds to help promote the Conference.

Activities

Regional expert seminars

OHCHR has held five expert seminars (in Geneva, Warsaw, Bangkok, Addis Ababa and Santiago de Chile) during 2000. The theme for each seminar was "trends, priorities and obstacles in combating racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance". Sub-themes under discussion were:

- Remedies available for victims of racial discrimination (Geneva)
- Protection of minorities and other vulnerable groups and strengthening human rights capacity at the national level (Warsaw)
- Migrants and trafficking in persons, with particular reference to women and children (Bangkok)
- Prevention of ethnic and racial conflicts (Addis Ababa)
- Economic, social and legal measures to combat racism, with particular reference to vulnerable groups (Santiago)

A report on the Geneva seminar on remedies was submitted to the first session of the Preparatory Committee in early May 2000. Reports on the other seminars will be presented at the second session of the Preparatory Committee, to be held from 21 May to 6 June 2001.

Regional preparatory meetings

The regional preparatory meetings in Strasbourg, Dakar, Santiago and Teheran are key components of the preparations for the World Conference. They will focus on national preparations in individual States as well as the particularities of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in each of the respective regions. The regional meetings are envisaged to be a key link between preparations at the national level and those for the World Conference. They will allow States, UN bodies and specialized agencies, UN human rights mechanisms, national human rights institutions, NGOs and civil society to discuss their experiences in combating racism and racial discrimination, and the conclusions they have drawn from these efforts. Both State and non-State organizations will be important actors in these meetings because of their different perspectives, experiences and expertise. Participants will make recommendations, to be submitted to the second session of the Preparatory Committee, on how progress can be made in overcoming racism and racial discrimination.

Studies and drafts requested of the High Commissioner

The High Commissioner was requested to submit, and has submitted, a number of studies to the Preparatory Committee. These include studies on:

- Ways of improving coordination between the OHCHR and all specialized agencies and international, regional and sub-regional organizations in the field of racism
- Progress made in the fight against racism, particularly since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and a re-appraisal of the obstacles to progress in the field, based on a questionnaire sent to States, specialized agencies, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and national institutions
- The effects of racial discrimination on the children of minorities and migrants

States, inter-governmental organizations and NGOs that did not reply to the questionnaire before the first session

of the Preparatory Committee have been invited to send their replies in time to allow them to be submitted to the second session of the Preparatory Committee.

The High Commissioner was also requested to undertake research and consultations on the use of the Internet to incite racial hatred and xenophobia and disseminate racist propaganda, and to study ways of promoting international cooperation to combat that problem. A report based on the High Commissioner's consultations with States, inter-governmental organizations, NGOs and specialized agencies and UN bodies was presented at the first session of the Preparatory Committee. A second, more comprehensive report will be presented at the second session of the Committee, taking into account the results from ongoing research and incorporating recent developments in Internet technology.

At its first session, the Preparatory Committee also invited the High Commissioner to draw up a draft declaration and a draft programme of action for the World Conference, based on the regional preparatory meetings and regional seminars, as well as on the suggestions provided by member States of the United Nations, various UN bodies and concerned NGOs.

Studies requested of UN bodies dealing with racism and the participation of these bodies in the preparatory process and in the World Conference

Contributions from the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Sub-Commission, and the special rapporteurs on religious intolerance and on the human rights of migrants were submitted to the first session of the Preparatory Committee. Additional studies are to be submitted to the second session of the Preparatory Committee.

Activities under the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Among the seminars, training courses and studies proposed in the programme of action, the following activities are planned for 2001:

- A seminar for education and training experts, including NGOs, conducted in cooperation with UNESCO and other appropriate organizations, aimed at devel-

oping educational materials and training courses on eliminating prejudice and fostering tolerance

- A study on the integration or preservation of cultural identity in a multi-racial or multi-ethnic society
- A study on the application of article 2 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

NGO participation

NGOs will play a vital role in the preparations leading up to the World Conference by mobilizing civil society and helping to define the issues to be addressed. NGOs will also play a key role during the Conference in the parallel NGO Forum, which will focus attention on critical issues, and in the follow-up after the Conference, to ensure that the commitments undertaken are implemented. An NGO liaison unit, created within the World Conference secretariat, is:

- Pursuing ongoing consultations and giving briefings to NGOs in Geneva, New York and elsewhere, and responding to questions from NGOs, academics and other members of civil society wishing to participate in the World Conference process
- Managing an electronic ListServ that provides regular information about the World Conference's developments to NGOs and others around the world
- Assisting NGOs in establishing and managing a web site for NGOs with information about the World Conference and the NGO Forum, and posting information of particular interest to NGOs through the web site established by OHCHR for the Conference
- Advising on procedures for the accreditation of NGOs to the World Conference
- Assisting NGOs in getting to, and participating in, the regional preparatory meetings, including providing them with appropriate funding for this purpose
- Assisting NGOs in organizing regional meetings to discuss how they can best participate in the NGO Forum that will take place prior to and during the World Conference
- Assisting in the establishment of an international NGO coordination committee for the World Conference
- Consulting with NGOs on the NGO Forum and providing technical assistance for this purpose
- Attending Conference-related meetings organized by NGOs and others, some of which may be designated as national processes and others designated as satellite meetings

Participation of the least-developed countries and other institutional actors

To adequately address and make appropriate recommendations concerning traditional and contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, this World Conference should be as inclusive as possible. In this spirit, both the General Assembly and the Preparatory Committee have requested that financial assistance be made available so representatives of the least-developed countries can participate in the Conference.

A wide range of other actors, such as representatives of treaty bodies, including members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the four special rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights (racism, religious intolerance, migrants, and freedom of expression) have been requested to participate in the Conference, as have representatives of the Sub-Commission and the Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights. The Conference would also greatly benefit from the participation of representatives of national human rights institutions, especially from developing countries, who are active in combating racism and xenophobia.

Public information and awareness-raising activities

Building broad support for the issues addressed in the World Conference is one of the main objectives of the Conference and its preparatory meetings. Public information activities will be able to draw on the wealth of expertise gathered for pre-Conference sessions and at the Conference, itself, to spotlight racism-related issues and encourage research, debate and changes in policies and attitudes. It is anticipated that the World Conference will lead to the adoption of a concrete programme of action. Thus, political support must be mobilized to encourage the highest level of participation at the Conference and to sensitize world public opinion on the World Conference and its objectives. This will be achieved through a worldwide information campaign. Within the Conference secretariat, a public information unit works in close cooperation with the United Nations Department of Public Information and United Nations Information Centres around the world. To date, one brochure on the World Conference and two fact sheets – one explaining why a World Conference is being held now and the second giving a historical perspective on the World Conference – have been produced. These

documents are available in English, French and Spanish. A poster is also being prepared. Up to six newsletters, providing the latest information on preparations leading up to the World Conference, will also be produced.

In the period leading up to the World Conference, both electronic and print media will be used to disseminate information about the Conference as well as the High Commissioner's articles, open letters, interviews and press conferences focusing on the Conference's aims and objectives. Newspapers, magazines, radio and TV networks will be used to convey information concerning the High Commissioner's activities to promote the World Conference, and the progress of the regional preparatory processes and NGO meetings. Major media will also be asked to cover the main ongoing activities and help produce publicity spots and announcements to sustain the awareness campaign.

Goodwill ambassadors from the worlds of entertainment, art, culture, sports and music will be appointed and will participate in special organized events. To date, seven goodwill ambassadors, from Panama, the United States, Iceland, Ireland, Morocco, India and Nigeria, have been appointed. Special efforts will be made to appoint goodwill ambassadors who will appeal to young people. One or more goodwill ambassadors will be asked to participate in meetings and events designed to promote the World Conference.

Parliamentarians, representatives of NGOs and religious leaders have been approached to support and promote the World Conference. Institutions such as the International Olympic Committee have been asked to sponsor a series of meetings related to racism in sports and other social and cultural activities. Journalists from developed and developing countries will be invited to attend meetings to promote the World Conference.

Internet-related activities

A World Conference home page within OHCHR's main web site (www.unhchr.ch) has been established. This web site contains information on the Conference, including a programme of events, documents, press releases, statements and information for NGOs. The web site was designed with new, user-friendly features, such as navigators and image frames.

The first session of the Preparatory Committee was covered on the Internet. Official documentation issued in advance of the first session of the Preparatory Committee, such as the annotated agenda, reports and various contributions by human rights mechanisms, were also posted on the Internet. All public sessions of the Preparatory

Committee were broadcast live on the Internet in English and French. The audio coverage was archived on the World Conference web site, and can be retrieved from <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/racism/sumrecords.htm>.

In 2001, OHCHR would like to expand its existing Internet services. The World Conference web site should be enhanced with up-to-date, interactive design features. OHCHR would like to include a programme of human rights education that would focus on the struggle against racism, xenophobia and anti-semitism and which would be linked to the existing human rights education component on the OHCHR web site. This new element on human rights education to combat racism would focus on the Office's work in multi-cultural education, the educational problems of indigenous peoples, reports of the special rapporteur on education, which analyze issues related to racial discrimination, and other reports by UN bodies that address the question of racial discrimination in education. OHCHR would also like to add a discussion feature on racism to its web site. Providing sufficient resources are made available, OHCHR intends to broadcast the proceedings of the World Conference over the Internet in English and French, and possibly in other official UN languages.

Coordination of the preparatory process and the World Conference

The secretariat for the World Conference was established as of 1 October 1999. To date, the secretariat staff includes an executive coordinator, nine professional staff, two part-time professionals from other branches within OHCHR, and three general service staff. The main tasks of this secretariat include:

- Handling all items listed above where the World Conference secretariat has either principal responsibility or complementary responsibility
- Organizing the regional expert seminars and submitting reports on these seminars to the Preparatory Committee and the World Conference
- Supporting the regional preparatory meetings in Dakar, Santiago and Teheran
- Preparing the draft declaration and draft programme of action for the Preparatory Committee
- Preparing all documentation for the inter-sessional, open-ended working group (15 to 19 January 2001), the second session of the Preparatory Committee (21 May to 6 June 2001), the High-Level Meeting and the World Conference, including forecasting tables, implementation charts, etc.

- Handling all logistical aspects of holding the inter-sessional open-ended working group, the second session of the Preparatory Committee, the High-Level Meeting and the World Conference
- Drafting documentation for these meetings, including: the provisional agenda; annotations to the provisional agenda; draft rules of procedure; official reports on each of the meetings of the inter-sessional, open-ended working group, the second session of the Preparatory Committee, the High-Level meeting and the World Conference; other internal documents as requested by the High Commissioner and Deputy High Commissioner related to briefing notes, speeches, progress reports, and implementation tables; other internal documents related to the coordination and administrative aspects of the preparatory process and the World Conference; project documents for funding purposes; fundraising documents for specific organizations and for the Office; and liaison activities with governments, regional organizations, specialized agencies, NGOs, foundations, academic institutions and other interested entities and persons

Contributions

OHCHR prefers that contributions are made to the "World Conference against Racism" rather than earmarked to specific activities.

Budget in US\$

Regional preparatory meeting in Asia (February 2001)	839,837
Activities under the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination	158,000
NGO participation	
Travel and related costs for NGOs to the NGO Forum/World Conference	1,195,084
Travel and related costs for the NGO liaison team	85,000
Staff	268,000
Participation of the least-developed countries and other institutional actors	
Travel and related costs	305,527
Public information and awareness-building	
Activities	200,000
Equipment	24,000
Travel	53,900
Internet-related activities	
Equipment	93,500
Staff	230,304
World Conference secretariat	
Travel	203,000
Staff	1,352,946
Miscellaneous	300,546
Sub-total	5,309,644
13 % Programme support cost	690,254
Total	5,999,898

International human rights conventions

Support to the treaty bodies

Background

The United Nations human rights treaties form the heart of the international system for promoting and protecting human rights. The central organs of the treaty monitoring system are the treaty bodies: committees composed of 10 to 23 independent experts, appointed in their personal capacities to monitor the implementation of these human rights treaties and their optional protocols. With the exception of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the 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 the system depends to a large extent on the effectiveness of the secretariat, particularly since Committee members meet only for a limited period two to three times a year.

The committees monitor the implementation of the treaties through reports submitted by the States parties every two to five years, depending on the treaty. Before examination by the committees, most reports undergo a preliminary analysis by OHCHR. This allows committee members to make optimal use of their limited time. To ensure that the treaties are consistently implemented during the period between reports, several committees also try to monitor the follow-up on their observations and recommendations conducted by States parties.

States parties to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) recognize the competence of the HRC to examine complaints from individuals who claim that their rights under the Covenant 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 the

competence of their respective committees to examine individual complaints. As of September 2000, 97 States had accepted the competence of the HRC under the Optional Protocols; 30 had accepted CERD's jurisdiction; and 41 that of CAT. Given its broad scope, the ICCPR has become the main instrument for dealing with individual complaints of violations of civil and political rights. The number of complaints received by the HRC has been increasing rapidly in recent years. At the current pace of correspondence, some 3,000 complaints will have been received in 2000, approximately 500 more than received the previous year.

Current situation

By 1990, 368 States parties had cumulatively ratified the ICCPR, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. A measure of the success of the system is that by 2000, that figure had increased by 51 per cent to 557. Furthermore, 191 States have become parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child during the ten years since its inception, an unprecedented rate of ratifications. The large number of ratifications is most welcome; indeed, universal ratification of the core human rights treaties is central to the United Nations' efforts to build a worldwide human rights culture, as reaffirmed in the various world conferences and at the Millennium Summit.

At the same time, however, the treaty system must be adequately equipped to do its work effectively. The greater the number of ratifications, the greater the number of State reports to be considered by a committee, and the greater the amount of time and energy spent on designing measures to ensure adequate follow-up to treaty body recommendations. It is estimated that universal ratification of the treaties currently in force, which would involve all States parties participating actively in the

reporting process, would require an estimated US\$ 48,834,999 or a 120 per cent increase over present levels of funding.

A freeze in the UN regular budget in 1993, together with a sharp rise in the number of OHCHR mandates, prevented OHCHR from increasing staff and developing the modern automation systems necessary to meet new demands. This, coupled with the limited time accorded to committees to consider State reports, has resulted in a tremendous backlog of State party reports awaiting consideration, particularly under the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Reports

Today, some treaty bodies still have an average of two to three years between the time a report by a State party is submitted until it can be considered. When treaty bodies are under such pressure to make optimal use of their meeting time, it is critical that they have the means to prepare thoroughly in advance to ensure constructive dialogue with States parties.

Complaints

The individual complaints procedure is particularly taxed, given the dramatic increase in the number of complaints received and the lack of an automated support system. Tasks that could be computerized, such as searching for jurisprudence, tracking correspondence and sending out replies and other routine letters, are carried out manually. By the end of 1999, the backlog of individual complaints awaiting HRC attention amounted to 2,523 pieces of correspondence.

Inquiries

The Committee against Torture is also faced with increasing demands stemming from its inquiry procedure, through which it considers whether there is a systematic practice of torture occurring in a State party. Under this procedure, the committee must examine large volumes of information before arriving at conclusions. As awareness about the committee and its inquiry procedure has grown, so has the number of requests for inquiries.

Objectives

The activities have four main objectives, which are developed and adapted in the specific project proposals. By the end of the two-year project:

- The average time lapse between the receipt of a State party report and its consideration by the corresponding committee should have been reduced and the research and analysis support capacity of the secretariat significantly strengthened
- The average time lapse between the receipt of an individual complaint and a final decision by the relevant committee will be reduced
- OHCHR will have conducted tests on and implemented new initiatives to improve the follow-up of committee recommendations and observations by the States parties
- OHCHR will have facilitated the continuation of the debate on improving the functioning of the treaty body system

Strategy

The problems identified are complex, requiring a sustained effort over a period of time and involving a range of actors in several areas who will address immediate needs as well as work towards a long-term structural reform. Many of the possible courses of action still need to be tested and further considered. Activities will focus on priority areas in which some improvement can be expected and on exploring and testing some long-term measures that will provide the basis for structural improvements.

Activities

- Strengthen the capacity of the system to consider State party reports. In-depth research and analysis capacity at the secretariat level will be improved, as will the information technology support system. Workflows will be revised and automated.
- Enhance OHCHR's capacity to handle individual complaints of human rights violations expeditiously. As a matter of priority, OHCHR will concentrate on eliminating the HRC's backlog of unprocessed communications. To avoid transferring the problem to the other end of the chain, where processed communications would be accumulating as they await examination by the HRC, OHCHR should provide the committee with additional meeting time entirely devoted to the examination of complaints. A revision of working methods, together with a heavy investment in modern automa-

tion systems, should enable the secretariat to eliminate the current backlog of some 2,500 pieces of correspondence, while keeping abreast of an estimated 3,000 new pieces of correspondence per year.

- Improve follow-up to committee recommendations and observations by States parties. Measures under this activity include: facilitating follow-up meetings with States parties whose reports are overdue (HRC); supporting the involvement of various partners, including other human rights bodies, UN agencies or national human rights institutions, in implementing the committee's recommendations (CRC); and exploring the possibility of establishing a "good practices" database on the implementation of human rights recommendations, thus making treaty bodies a kind of "clearing house" of information.
- Continue efforts to improve the treaty body system. An important debate has been fueled in recent years by a number of studies analyzing the functioning of the treaty body system. The Office will help organize ad hoc working meetings of designated representatives of treaty bodies for in-depth discussions on how to coordinate or streamline their work. Improvements to be considered include establishing joint approaches to the interpretation of common treaty provisions, drafting coordinated general comments and establishing common methods of work.

Achievements in 2000

Voluntary contributions to support the treaty bodies requested for 2000 were not provided until late in the year, delaying the launch of most new activities until the last quarter of the year. Priority has been placed on continuing the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Committee on the Rights of the Child: Thanks to the research, analysis and drafting of relevant documents undertaken by the support staff, the committee increased the number of State reports it examines by 50 per cent, to nine reports per session as of January 2000. As a result, the projected delay in examining reports was reduced from nearly 4 years to 2.5 years as of September 2000. Technical assistance is being provided to the committee in drafting its first general comment. Adoption of the general comment is expected

during the January 2001 session; the comment will be submitted to the second session of the preparatory committee of the World Conference against Racism. A day of general discussion on "State violence against children", held in collaboration with the CAT and the Special Rapporteur on Torture and with the support of other human rights bodies, helped mainstream the issue of child rights. A project for follow-up to the recommendations on juvenile justice was sub-contracted to partners in Uganda for implementation in October 2000. A meeting of the Coordination Panel on Technical Advice and Assistance in Juvenile Justice took place in New York in March 2000 and approved OHCHR's suggestion to convene an expert workshop in 2002, with OHCHR serving as secretariat for the Panel in 2001.

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights:

The committee has been provided with support for research and other vital components of the reporting process. This added assistance, with the two extraordinary sessions approved by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for 2000 and 2001 to examine State reports, will enable the committee to consider 12 more reports than it would otherwise be able to consider over the two-year period. With the participation of a wide range of interested parties, including specialized agencies and NGOs, the committee prepared two general comments and organized two informal workshops/consultations on the right to health and on globalization, international trade, investment and finance and economic, social and cultural rights. A follow-up informal workshop on globalization and economic, social and cultural rights is being organized. OHCHR helps disseminate information and provides expert assistance on economic, social and cultural rights for the committee. Liaisons have been established or strengthened with the specialized agencies whose mandates fall within the scope of the Covenant rights. These include UNDP, WHO, ILO, FAO and UNESCO.

Managerial arrangements

The overall responsibility falls under the leadership of the Chief of the Support Services Branch. The secretaries of the human rights treaty bodies are directly responsible for reaching the servicing targets established for the treaties under their responsibility. The coordinator of a proposed petitions unit in OHCHR will be directly responsible for the targets contained in the complaints project.

Funding

An amount of US\$ 2,077,890, representing staff and other costs, has been approved under the United Nations regular budget for 2001 to support the treaty bodies. An additional amount of US\$ 2,920,666 is required from voluntary contributions. OHCHR prefers that contributions are given to “treaty bodies” and not earmarked to any one treaty body.

Budget in US\$

Support to complaints and enquiry procedures	564,700
Support to HRC, CERD and CAT	869,460
Extending the support to CRC	699,400
Support to CESC	451,100

Sub-total	2,584,660
13% Programme support cost	336,006

Total	2,920,666
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The treaties

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

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

Convention on the Rights of the Child

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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 the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action in June 1993, the number of special procedures mandates has grown significantly. More than half of the 21 thematic mandates now in existence were created since 1993; of these, 14 are serviced by OHCHR's Activities and Programmes Branch (APB), and seven by the Research and Right to Development Branch (RRDB). In addition, there are 14 country-specific mandates, which are serviced by staff of the geographic teams in APB. While the number of special procedures mandates has grown, staffing and other resources to support the mandates have not increased in real terms, let alone proportionately to the increase in mandates. Only five established posts are available in APB to service the thematic mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights; five posts are available for servicing the country-specific mandates and four posts are available in RRDB. As a result, over the past few years, OHCHR has increasingly had to resort to providing assistance to mandate holders from extra-budgetary contributions. Twelve staff members with short-term contracts are now servicing thematic mandates, and nine staff members are servicing country-specific mandates.

In view of this situation, the High Commissioner, in mid-1999, requested that two independent experts of the Commission on Human Rights prepare a study on ways to meet the needs of the special procedures system. Based on the recommendations of that study, which were endorsed by the High Commissioner, four main objectives were identified as crucial for enhancing the effectiveness of the special procedures system: the establishment of a "quick response" desk to handle urgent appeals; the creation of an in-house emergency task force to enable OHCHR to deal more effectively with human rights emergencies; development of procedures to follow up on recommendations of special procedures mandate holders; and strengthening the analytical capacity of OHCHR.

Achievements in 2000

A "quick response" desk was created in January 2000. The desk coordinates incoming requests for urgent appeals addressed to a variety of thematic mechanisms and channels them into the relevant mandates for appropriate separate or joint action. This has improved the responsiveness to requests for urgent action on behalf of victims of human rights abuses, and has enhanced coordination among thematic mandates and between them and country-specific mandates on such appeals. A comprehensive thematic database to help track requests for responses and expedite action became fully operational in 2000.

Objectives for 2001

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

- Provide adequate support to thematic and country-specific mechanisms so mandate holders can respond to requests for action in a timely and effective manner, conduct relevant studies within the confines of their mandates, and coordinate action with other partners within and outside the UN system, especially with the human rights treaty bodies
- Conduct a number of studies, requested by the Commission on Human Rights in the context of the review of the Commissions' mechanisms, on the future of certain thematic mandates
- Consolidate and maintain the database recently developed for thematic procedures and extend its coverage to include country-specific mandates

In comparison with the plans presented in the Annual Appeal 2000, the above objectives are more moderate

in scope. For instance, there is no longer emphasis on the establishment of an emergency task force. The establishment of such a force is envisaged but not under the sole responsibility of the special procedures teams.

Implementation in 2001

- A coordinator for the “quick response” desk will be appointed. He or she will be responsible for monitoring and distributing the incoming requests for urgent action, and overseeing follow-up on urgent appeals. Consistent follow-up with target governments is crucial for the effectiveness and credibility of the urgent appeal system.
- One staff member within APB will be recruited to service the mandate of the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Human Rights Defenders. Two additional staff within RRDB will be required to service the new mandates on the right to food and the right to housing.
- Support for a number of thematic and country-specific mandates that are currently not serviced by regular staff should be maintained so they can work effectively and report to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly.
- Several analytical or comparative studies are currently outstanding from mandates serviced by the APB and RRDB. In addition, the Commission on Human Rights requested a number of studies that will have a bearing on the modus operandi of several thematic mandates. Appropriate professional assistance, for a limited period of time, is now required to conduct and finalize these studies.
- The recently created thematic mandates database will require on-going, full-time, technical support. A full-time “database manager” is required to ensure consistency of all data entered, help and train staff members in the proper use of the database, centralize proposals for change and enhance the project by integrating it into other information technology applications. To maximize its usefulness, the database will be expanded to cover all special procedures mandates, including country-specific mandates, and will be made accessible to all OHCHR field presences.

Funding

An amount of US\$ 1,373,690, representing staff and other costs, has been approved under the United Nations regular budget for 2001 to support the special procedures. An additional amount of US\$ 2,243,841 is required from voluntary contributions. OHCHR prefers that contributions are given to “special procedures” and not earmarked for specific mandates.

Budget in US\$

Staff	1,749,200
Studies	97,600
Thematic mandates database	138,900
Sub-total	1,985,700
13% Programme support cost	258,141
Total	2,243,841

Country mandates

Afghanistan (SR)
Burundi (SR)
Cambodia (SRep)
Democratic Republic of the Congo (SR)
Equatorial Guinea (SRep)
Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SR)
Haiti (IE)
Islamic Republic of Iran (SRep)
Iraq (SR)
Myanmar (SR)
Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 (SR)
Rwanda (SRep)
Somalia (IE)
Sudan (SR)

Thematic mandates

Arbitrary detention (WG)
Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (SR)
Right to development (IE)
Enforced or involuntary disappearances (WG)
Right to education (SR)
Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (SR)
Promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression (SR)
Independence of judges and lawyers (SR)

Internally displaced persons (RSG)
Use of mercenaries as means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (SR)
Human rights of migrants (SR)
Human rights and extreme poverty (IE)
Contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (SR)
Religious intolerance (SR)
Structural adjustment policies and foreign debt (IE)
Question of torture (SR)
Adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights (SR)
Violence against women, its causes and consequences (SR)
Adequate housing (SR)
Right to food (SR)
Human rights defenders (SRep)

SR: Special Rapporteur

SRep: Special Representative of the Secretary-General

WG: Working Group

IE: Independent Expert

RSG: Representative of the Secretary-General

Servicing the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies

Background

The Commission on Human Rights is the principal organ of the United Nations responsible for human rights matters. It is assisted by the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and by a number of working groups. The Commission also draws on other sources of expertise, notably the invaluable information provided by country and thematic special rapporteurs. This project focuses on servicing the needs of the Commission, the Sub-Commission and their working groups.

Through the 1998 restructuring of OHCHR, the services provided to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, which are both substantive and technical in nature, have become increasingly professionalized. Before 1998, an ad-hoc secretariat unit was created within the Office only a few weeks before each session of the Commission and Sub-Commission. The servicing of their working groups was performed by other units under no central coordination. About half the staff assigned to each session of the Commission and Sub-Commission had no prior experience. As a result, the level of inter-sessional follow-up was minimal, and persons interested in the work of these bodies, including Government representatives, members of NGOs and even the members of these very bodies, had no focal point between sessions. Today, the Commission, the Sub-Commission and their respective working groups are serviced, either entirely or at least partially, by a permanent secretariat.

Current situation

The capacity of the permanent secretariat to effectively service the Commission and its subsidiary bodies is far over-stretched. In recent years, there has been a tremendous increase in the number of mandates or working groups created by the Commission and the Sub-Commission, particularly in the area of economic and social rights, and a consequent increase in responsibilities accorded to the Office. In addition to the usual work of organizing regular meetings as well as special (extraordinary) sessions, the permanent secretariat unit has been requested to coordinate dozens of satellite meetings held during the time of the annual sessions of the Commission and the Sub-Commission. It has also

been asked to liaise with UN agencies, NGOs and others who follow the work of these bodies. This unit serviced post-session meetings of the Bureau of the Commission, which now meets at least once a month. Considerable efforts are also required to implement new initiatives adopted by the Commission. Among these are the newly established “special dialogues” during sessions of the Commission, which are attended by a large number of participants and, beginning in 2000, the informal one day-meetings of the Commission, which will be held in September, in advance of the General Assembly, to facilitate the exchange of information on human rights issues on the agenda of the Third Committee.

In addition to the tasks strictly related to the servicing of these bodies, the unit coordinates the submission of documentation to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on human rights issues. Other tasks include providing information to and assisting representatives of States, specialized agencies, UN bodies and departments, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs to keep them abreast of the work of these bodies. Equally important is the work of disseminating information within OHCHR, in particular among staff servicing various mandates of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission. Although the unit has been asked to assume more responsibilities in recent years, there has been no accompanying increase in resources. As a result, the demands now placed on the unit far exceed its capacity to handle them. Partial redress of this situation is being sought through this project.

Objectives

In 2001 the project aims to:

- Improve servicing to the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies, especially with regard to the preparation of the informal one-day meeting of the Commission in September
- Improve internal OHCHR sharing of data and information relating to the mandates of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission

The above objectives will be achieved by recruiting one professional officer for a period of one year. He or she will help service the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies, provide assistance to delegations, and develop information-sharing systems through OHCHR's intranet system, the Human Rights Computerized Analysis

Environment (HURICANE). The project is envisioned as a transitional measure while long-term arrangements are considered under the regular OHCHR programme. The project would be in addition to the regular work plan of Support Services Branch. Responsibility for the project would fall under the leadership of the Chief of Branch. The secretaries of the Commission and of the Sub-Commission will serve as coordinators for achieving the objectives of the project.

Budget in US\$

Support to servicing of the Commission	
on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies	99,600
13 % Programme support cost	12,948
Total	112,548

H human rights in development

The right to development, social and economic rights, rights-based approaches, and poverty eradication in the context of United Nations reform

Background

The Secretary-General's 1997 reform programme called for the integration of human rights into all United Nations programmes. OHCHR is responsible for this "mainstreaming" process, and has a mandate to integrate human rights into the Organization's development work. Since her appointment, the High Commissioner has given new emphasis to social and economic rights, while the Commission on Human Rights has created the first social and economic rights special procedure mandates. In addition to promoting the right to development and defining human rights-based approaches to development, OHCHR is now mandated to provide substantive assistance to independent experts who focus on the right to development and extreme poverty, and to special rapporteurs on education, toxic waste, food, housing, and structural adjustment policies. No additional funds or human resources have been provided to OHCHR to cover these new responsibilities.

Planned activities

OHCHR has developed a three-year plan to respond to the challenges and opportunities of the mainstreaming exercise and to the new recognition given to social and economic rights. OHCHR will serve as a conduit for the normative and operational guidelines that emerge from the work of the treaty bodies, the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights, and the Office's own research and analysis capacity. Activities will include: promoting the right to development through support to the working group and the independent expert on the right to development; strengthening implementation of socioeconomic rights through support for the special rapporteurs on food, housing, education, structural adjustment policies, and toxic waste; supporting UN initiatives to eradicate poverty; strengthening the UN's operational capacity to mainstream human rights by developing rights-based approaches to development; providing training and documentary resources to support the integration of human rights in the majority of Common Country Assessments

(CCAs) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF); and developing HURIST, the joint OHCHR/UNDP programme for the strengthening of human rights. In order to identify the role of human rights in a globalizing world it is proposed to hire a specialist to map out the issues.

United Nations reform

While peace, security, human rights and development are all identified as principal goals in the Charter of the United Nations, for much of the Organization's history, there had been no integrated approach to achieving those goals. In 1997, the Secretary-General launched a system-wide reform package that expressly called for the integration of human rights into the development (and other) work of the United Nations. One element of that reform was the introduction of an approach to development cooperation that was later embodied in the CCA and UNDAF. Another was the establishment of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), an executive committee comprised of heads of various agencies and programmes, including the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Implementing the right to development

The international community has underscored the importance of the right to development by twice referring to it in the mandate of the High Commissioner. The Commission on Human Rights has appointed an independent expert, and a working group, with mandates to monitor and review progress in realizing the right to development. Through this project, OHCHR will provide support to the expert and the working group, collect best practices and case studies relating to implementation, channel these to the operational agencies, and promote global consensus on normative implications and operational requirements. Specifically, OHCHR will provide substantive support to the Independent Expert in the preparation of reports to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and in his pilot research study on implementing the right to development in six countries. During 2001, the objectives,

the role of different actors and modes of implementation of the right to development will be more clearly defined through work on a pilot case.

Strengthening the realization of economic and social rights

Development agencies have long worked on health, education, housing and other social and economic sectors. Today, they are starting to work on the right to health, the right to education, the right to housing. But what do these rights mean for development work? What is the “rights element” of housing? Where are the case studies? What lessons are to be applied?

To date, these rights have attracted little attention. The Commission on Human Rights’ recent appointment of rapporteurs and experts on education, housing, and food, and the adoption of relevant general comments by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, will help redress this gap. But much remains to be done to clarify the content and operational requirements of these rights. OHCHR will address these issues through strengthened research and support for the special rapporteurs on education, food, housing, toxic waste, and structural adjustment, and through specialist discussions, including expert meetings mandated by the Commission, which will include:

- The High Commissioner’s third expert consultation on the right to food (resolution 2000/10)
- A workshop to identify progressive benchmarks and indicators related to the right to education (resolution 2000/9)
- Expert meeting(s) in the field of economic, social and cultural rights (resolution 2000/9)

These activities will help OHCHR strengthen its research capacity on social, economic and cultural rights, as was requested by the Commission (resolutions 2000/9 and 2000/82). The Office will then be able to provide substantive support to the new mandates on economic and social rights, and on structural adjustment policies and foreign debt, and make reports available to UN country teams. The Office will also maximize its resources and the impact of its work by cooperating with other UN agencies (for example, with HABITAT on the issue of housing rights and the right to secure tenure).

Contributing to poverty eradication

OHCHR is the focal point within the UNDG for integrating human rights into the UN system-wide strategy against

poverty to meet the Secretary-General’s goal of halving extreme poverty by the year 2015. The plan focuses on promoting rights and responsibilities and empowering the poor to bring about change. The UNDAF/CCA process is a key part of the strategy. Activities in this field will help OHCHR strengthen its support to the independent expert on human rights and extreme poverty. As requested by the Commission on Human Rights, OHCHR will organize a seminar to consider the need for a draft declaration on extreme poverty (resolution 2000/12). It will also provide guidance to UN country teams in operationalizing the advice given by treaty bodies and relevant Commission entities in defining poverty projects and strategies.

Strengthening the United Nations operational capacity to mainstream human rights

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is a key component of the Secretary-General’s reform proposals. It is a strategic planning and programming framework that helps identify priorities for UN action and is designed to bring greater coherence, collaboration and effectiveness to UN development efforts in the field. The Common Country Assessment (CCA) is a country-based process for reviewing and analyzing the national development situation and identifying key issues as a basis for advocacy, policy dialogue and preparation of the UNDAF. The CCA includes an indicator framework that helps assess the development situation in a country, highlighting potential major issues by focusing on and measuring progress in specific areas, including human rights. OHCHR works with its UNDG partners to ensure that human rights are integrated throughout the UNDAF/CCA process. Covering a broad range of civil, economic, political and social rights, this process allows for human rights indicators and for their disaggregation by categories (i.e., gender, race, etc.) of human rights concern. Policy dialogue on human rights and development, consultations with civil society, and attention to issues of governance are also included. The UNDAF/CCA provides a ready-made vehicle for strengthening UN action. As of October 2000, 56 CCAs have been completed, 54 are in the process of being completed and 13 are planned. At the country level, the integration initiative is still in its earliest stages. Therefore, a boost in resources is needed to move the process forward and ensure its sustainability. OHCHR, in partnership with UNDG and the UN country teams, will support the next phases of rights-based development in the UNDAF/CCA process: implementation on the ground, continuous monitoring and

lesson learning. The Office will also compile good governance practices at the national level (resolution 2000/64). In the second and third years of the three-year project, OHCHR will train specialist human rights officers in rights-based development. They will then carry out the collection, compilation, analysis, processing and dissemination of relevant best practices, case studies and methodologies. When requested to do so by the UN country teams, OHCHR will support them, through targeted advice, facilitation and training, in integrating human rights into national UNDAF/CCA processes. Country teams will then be able to employ rights-sensitive problem analysis, apply the elements of rights-based programming, and incorporate human rights into the CCA, UNDAF and country programming. A database will be constructed; best practices and case studies would be collected, analyzed, compiled, and widely disseminated. A manual will also be produced. Project staff will be housed at OHCHR, and follow closely the work of the various treaty- and charter-based human rights bodies. They will thus be well-placed to respond to special requests for assistance in the mainstreaming process and from country teams. Though based in Geneva, project staff will be at the service of UN country teams and the UNDG. Starting in the second year, they will act as a 'mobile team', capable of providing assistance in-country. The Office will work closely with the Development Group Office and relevant specialists of the United Nations Staff College will also be linked to the UNDAF learning network. Active support and participation will be sought from UNDP.

Building the joint HURIST programme in partnership with UNDP

UNDP, as the lead development agency of the United Nations system, and OHCHR, as the focal point for human rights, have, since signing a memorandum of understanding in 1998, been working together to integrate human rights into UNDP's development work. The principal results of this partnership have been: the launch of HURIST, a joint global programme to strengthen integration of human rights in development; the joint development of human rights training materials and workshops for UNDP staff and partners; and the establishment of a joint task force to monitor and advance institutional cooperation.

HURIST is the first attempt to mainstream human rights in the programmes of an operational UN agency. It infuses UNDP country projects with OHCHR human rights

expertise through needs assessment, substantive advice and technical assistance. The programme focuses on national human rights plans of action, human rights and sustainable human development, treaty ratification, and requests from UNDP country teams. By the end of 2000, the project will be engaged in some 30 countries and will expand significantly during 2001.

OHCHR has implemented the HURIST programme without any dedicated resources. The Office now needs a coordinator to manage the operational aspects of HURIST and ensure the quality of technical and substantive support for implementation.

Management arrangements

Activities will be supervised by the Chief of the Research and Right to Development Branch (RRDB). A senior human rights officer with development expertise will work with the RRDB development team and receive additional input from technical assistance teams, HURIST country desk officers of the Activities and Programme Branch, and treaty body teams of the Support Services Branch. The Office will work in cooperation with UNDG and its various committees associated with the UNDAF/CCA process, and the United Nations Strategy for Halving Extreme Poverty; the independent experts and special rapporteurs; HURIST and UNDP Resident Representatives; and the United Nations Staff College.

Budget in US\$

Staff:

Research on social and economic mandates, international economic issues, HURIST coordinator, data processing specialist, support staff	608,901
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Travel	59,200
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Equipment and technology:

desktop and portable computers, printers, portable computer projectors, database, web publishing, training, word-processing software	72,800
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Publications:

UN manual on rights-based development and compilation of best practices	70,000
Workshops in Geneva	100,000
Training courses in Geneva	200,000

Sub-total	1,110,901
13% Programme support cost	144,417

Total	1,255,318
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T echnical cooperation

Introduction

The technical cooperation programme helps countries build their capacity for promoting and protecting all human rights at the national and regional level by incorporating international human rights standards in national laws and by building sustainable national capacities and infrastructures to implement these standards and ensure respect for them. Projects are carried out at the request of the government concerned. They are formulated and implemented with the broadest possible participation of civil society and national institutions as well as the judicial, legislative and executive branches of the government. Partners from the United Nations family, regional organizations and others participate in the development of the programme and contribute to its implementation.

Activities focus on: national plans of action for human rights; legislative reforms undertaken to bring national law in conformity with international human rights standards; national human rights institutions established in accordance with the Paris Principles; administration of justice, parliaments, the military, police and other sectors of law enforcement departments; assistance in treaty reporting; economic, social and cultural rights, and the right to development; human rights aspects of elections; human rights education, information and documentation; and support to and development of the capacities of human rights NGOs. The form this cooperation takes is based on an assessment of domestic human rights needs and is delivered through expert advice, training courses, workshops, seminars, fellowships, grants, information and documentation, often in cooperation with international or national implementing partners. Requests from governments and activities have been increasing significantly over the past few years.

OHCHR has developed (in the Asia-Pacific and Latin America and Caribbean regions), or is in the process of developing, regional strategies to better coordinate its technical cooperation activities with national, sub-regional and regional organizations. OHCHR also works closely with other UN agencies and programmes, especially UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR and UNESCO, to mainstream and integrate human rights in the work of the UN system as a whole. This is a way to ensure maximum impact of the proposed projects and to improve the effectiveness of OHCHR's actions.

Funding

Technical cooperation activities are mainly funded through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights. The Board of the Fund meets twice a year to discuss the implementation of activities. An amount of US\$ 1,431,500 has been approved under the United Nations regular budget for 2001, to support technical cooperation activities. An additional US\$ 10,569,778 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 or national activities.



Budget summary in US\$

Global projects

National institutions	983,100
UN Decade for human rights education	1,165,030
Internally displaced persons	56,500
Training of peacekeepers	48,590

Sub-total **2,253,220**

Projects in Africa

Regional and sub-regional activities	1,378,399
Madagascar	173,466
Morocco	275,268
Rwanda	113,000
Sierra Leone	398,890
Somalia	144,979
Sudan	66,053

Sub-total **2,550,055**

Projects in Latin America and the Caribbean

Regional activities	598,900
Andean sub-regional project	200,010
Bolivia	75,710
Ecuador	237,300
El Salvador	248,600
Guatemala	245,210
Haiti	90,400
Mexico	384,200
Nicaragua	305,100

Sub-total **2,385,430**

Projects in Europe and Central Asia

Albania	51,980
Azerbaijan	56,048
Georgia	97,180
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	130,515
Moldova	67,235
Russian Federation	351,430

Sub-total **754,388**

Projects in Asia and the Pacific

Regional activities	519,800
Arab sub-regional project	90,400
China	349,735
East Timor	152,550
Indonesia	497,200
Mongolia	103,960
Palestine	600,030
Philippines	203,400
Yemen	109,610

Sub-total **2,626,685**

Total **10,569,778**



GLOBAL PROJECTS

Support to national institutions

Background

Independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights play an important role in fostering a culture of human rights. During 2000, OHCHR was invited to provide information, advice and/or assistance concerning the establishment of such institutions to a large number of countries, including: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Israel, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Malaysia, Malawi, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, St. Lucia, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, and the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland and Scotland).

In 2000, OHCHR also provided information, advice and material support to a number of recently established national human rights institutions, including: the Fiji Human Rights Commission, the Public Defender of Georgia, the Latvian Human Rights Office, the Human Rights Commission of Indonesia, the Human Rights Commission of Malawi, the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia, the Moldovan Human Rights Centre, the Nepalese Human Rights Commission, the Nigerian Human Rights Commission, the Human Rights Commission of Rwanda, the South African Human Rights Commission, the Ugandan Human Rights Commission and the Zambian Human Rights Commission.

With the support of the United Nations, an International Coordinating Committee (ICC) of national human rights institutions has held annual meetings in Geneva since 1993. These meetings coincide with the annual session of the Commission on Human Rights at which national institutions address the Commission. The National Institutions Team acts as the ICC's Secretariat. The ICC's

credentials committee, set up by the ICC in 1998, has accredited 35 institutions as complying with the relevant international standards.

Objectives

Activities aim to assist established national institutions and governments which are in the process of, or committed to, establishing such bodies in accordance with the relevant international standards (the "Paris Principles", adopted in 1993 by the General Assembly). Assistance provided to OHCHR's National Institutions Team will enable the Office to enhance its capacity to provide practical guidance to the growing number of countries requesting such advice, improve UN system-wide coordination in providing assistance to national institutions (particularly in cooperation with UNDP), and enhance the participation of national institutions in appropriate UN human rights fora.

Activities

Build national and regional capacity to promote and protect human rights

- Advise governments on an appropriate constitutional or legislative framework for any new national institution, and on the nature, functions, powers and responsibilities of such an institution
- Participate in high-level meetings, seminars and workshops, particularly through regional arrangements, to provide advice or assistance to governments, and hold 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 human rights institutions to develop complaint-handling systems and databases, design effective management structures, implement human rights education and training programmes, including those on economic, social and cultural rights issues, gender issues and women's and children's rights
- Facilitate international and regional meetings of national institutions to encourage sharing experiences and developing best practices

Increase United Nations system-wide coordination and implementation of human rights

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

Enhance the effectiveness of the UN human rights machinery and national institutions

- Provide training and/or training materials on the UN human rights mechanisms to national institutions staff
- 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, meetings of thematic and country rapporteurs 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

Process, analyze and disseminate information effectively

- Provide human rights information and documentation to national institutions, including on the Decade on Human Rights Education, Decade on Indigenous Peoples Decade to Combat Racism and other human rights issues
- Prepare a compilation of legislation related to national institutions
- Produce a compilation of national institutions profiles and prepare guidelines for establishing new institutions
- Establish a roster of experts/practitioners on national

institutions and capacity-building

- Develop training modules and information materials
- Identify and disseminate effective strategies concerning specific human rights issues, such as the role of national institutions in promoting the rights of children and the rights of women and in combating racial discrimination in preparation for the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

Expected impact

The building of national and regional capacities to promote and protect human rights will contribute to the implementation of principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments. At the end of the project, the following will have been achieved:

- At the request of member States, new independent national institutions will have been established, in accordance with relevant international 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 the promotion and protection of 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
- Established national institutions will have improved their coordination and effectiveness through the ICC and their own regional networks

Coordination

Activities are implemented in close cooperation with other UN agencies and programmes, as well as with other multilateral and regional organizations. In particular, OHCHR will continue to coordinate activities with UNDP, UNV, UNICEF, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Asia Pacific Forum of National Institutions, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Andean Commission of Jurists,

the Inter-American Institute for Human Rights, and others. All technical assistance provided will be coordinated with UN efforts at the national level.

Implementing arrangements

A small National Institutions Team implements the project. The team is headed by the High Commissioner's Special Advisor on National Institutions and includes two professionals with expertise in relevant technical cooperation and project preparation, one administrative assistant, and experienced practitioners as consultants. The team works with the assistance and support of OHCHR's geographic desk officers, field offices and other relevant OHCHR services (Research and Right to Development Branch, Support Services Branch, Gender Team, Methodology Team, thematic teams and consultants or practitioners) to guarantee monitoring and follow-up to the services.

Budget in US\$

Advice on the establishment of new institutions and/or strengthening established institutions:	
Special Advisor, two professional staff, secretary, consultants, travel	670,000
International meetings, including the ICC	150,000
Research and publications	20,000
Unforeseen and urgent requests for assistance	30,000
Sub-total	870,000
13% Programme support cost	113,100
Total	983,100

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

Background

Human rights education is an investment in the creation of just societies, in which the human rights of all persons are respected and protected. By improving human rights knowledge, skills and attitudes, groups and individuals are more likely to respect human rights and, as a result, conflict can be avoided. While it is important that the international community takes action when human rights violations occur, it is even more imperative that preventive efforts be developed and adequately supported.

The United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004) was proclaimed by the General Assembly in December 1994. The High Commissioner for Human Rights was requested by the General Assembly to coordinate the implementation a plan of action, which provides a strategy for strengthening human rights education programmes at the international, regional, national and local levels. OHCHR reports to both the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly on the implementation of the plan.

In the year 2000, the Office:

- Conducted a mid-term evaluation of the Decade, which included a worldwide survey, an on-line Forum, an expert meeting and the preparation of the High Commissioner's report to the General Assembly
- Finalized OHCHR's database on human rights education organizations, programmes and materials and OHCHR's resource collection on human rights education
- Developed OHCHR's database on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, available on-line at <http://www.unhchr.ch/udhr/index.htm>, containing more than 300 language versions of the Declaration (according to the Guinness World Records Company, the Universal Declaration is translated into more languages than any other document in the world)
- Finalized the publication *Human Rights Training* and revised the *ABC – Teaching Human Rights* and other documents, including a compendium of national plans of action for human rights education
- Continued work on training packages for prison officials, primary and secondary school teachers, judges and lawyers, national and local NGOs, human rights monitors, and developed a handbook on human rights and parliaments

- Launched the second phase of the Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project, which helps organizations and individuals carry out human rights work in local communities through financial assistance

Objectives and strategy

The objective is to promote a universal culture of human rights through human rights education, training and public information. OHCHR's strategy will comprise the following:

- Establish *ad hoc* partnerships, within specific projects, with other UN agencies and other actors
- Strengthen national capacities for human rights education, including by organizing education and training activities and facilitating information-sharing, within the Technical Cooperation Programme
- Provide support to grassroots initiatives through the ACT project
- Develop human rights education, training and information materials and methodologies and disseminate them through OHCHR's mailing list and through existing networks of both governmental and non-governmental organizations

Activities in 2001

- Finalize training packages (including an expert meeting) for teachers, national and local NGOs, a manual for judges and lawyers, and a handbook for parliamentarians
- Maintain OHCHR's database of more than 300 language versions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the database on human rights education programmes, materials and organizations
- Expand OHCHR's resource collection on human rights education
- Begin preparing five compilations of good human rights education practices in the Asia/Pacific region, the Middle East, Africa, the Americas and Europe
- Conduct a study (including an expert meeting) on how best to evaluate human rights education
- Produce a handbook on the establishment of documentation centres
- Prepare a paper on the role of human rights education in fighting religious intolerance for the international conference to be held in Madrid in November 2001

Assisting Communities Together

In November 1999, OHCHR launched the second phase of the Assisting Communities Together (ACT) project. ACT was established with UNDP in 1998 to assist orga-

nizations and individuals financially in carrying out activities aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights in local communities. Within the pilot phase (1998/99), 69 grants of up to US\$ 2,000 each were awarded to organizations or individuals in 24 countries. Within the second phase (1999/2000), 97 grants of up to US\$ 3,000 each were awarded in 16 countries. Recipients are selected and projects are monitored through the network of UNDP Resident Representatives and OHCHR field presences.

Activities that have received support under this project included: organizing human rights workshops/training courses for teachers, public officials, journalists, women, indigenous people, and human rights defenders, among others; developing human rights education activities in schools, community centres and other public meeting places; providing human rights education materials to local schools and libraries and establishing human rights corners in schools and public libraries; broadcasting audio versions of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in local languages on local radio stations; organizing awareness-raising campaigns on women's human rights; strengthening human rights information centres for specific groups, such as internally displaced persons and people living with HIV/AIDS; and fostering greater cooperation and communication among human rights advocates.

Although the amounts awarded are relatively small, they have a considerable impact at the community level. UN colleagues in the field have reported that the ACT project has facilitated or improved the establishment of good working relationships between local and national authorities and grassroots NGOs (the recipients). It has also helped make the United Nations a more meaningful presence in individuals' daily lives.

Beneficiaries

OHCHR has a mailing list of about 2,000 organizations and individuals and receives about 600 requests each month for human rights publications, education materials and related information. Every day, interested individuals and organizations visit OHCHR headquarters (and other OHCHR offices) to obtain related information. The Office conducts technical cooperation projects, which usually include some education and public information components, in some 55 countries. During 2000, OHCHR's web site recorded approximately 3 million hits/requests each month.

Through the Decade, all institutions, organizations and individuals conducting human rights educational activi-

ties and in contact with OHCHR will be provided with information, materials and methodologies to do so.

Impact

- Specific human rights education and training materials produced under the project are used by various partners all over the world
- Networks and partnerships among international, regional and national governmental and non-governmental organizations have been established as a result of initiatives within the Decade project
- Human rights activities conceived by community and grassroots organizations have been developed, implemented and evaluated under the ACT project

Many of the initiatives undertaken within the Decade project are, at least in part, sustainable beyond the project's 10-year duration (for example, the Universal Declaration database and OHCHR's database and resource collection on human rights education).

Budget in US\$

Manual for judges and lawyers	30,000
Training package for national and local NGOs	43,000
Training package for teachers	30,000
Maintenance of OHCHR database on the Universal Declaration	5,000
Maintenance of OHCHR database on human rights education and OHCHR's resource collection on human rights education	122,000
ACT project	556,000
Compilations of good human rights education practices	60,000
Evaluation study on human rights education including an expert meeting	43,000
Handbook on the establishment of documentation centres	10,000
Paper on school education, human rights education and freedom of religion	5,000
Staff and travel	127,000
Sub-total	1,031,000
13% Project support cost	134,030
Total	1,165,030

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 refugee population has remained more or less stable, many millions more people – some 30 million in over 40 nations – are displaced within the borders of their own countries. The responsibility of protecting these 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 has adopted a policy paper on the protection of internally displaced persons, reviewed the *Handbook on Applying the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* as well as the *Manual on Field Practice in Internal Displacement*. In 2000, the IASC reaffirmed the collaborative approach, but recognized the need to develop country plans reflecting 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 an important role in this collaborative framework. At present, important measures aimed at enhancing the international response are underway. A Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement, in which OHCHR is expected to play an active role, will be established to assess and strengthen the response, at the field level, through a series of inter-agency country assessments in late 2000/2001. 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 participate in inter-agency frameworks on internal displacement, especially the Senior Inter-Agency Network, and support integration of the issue in the work of the Office, including through human rights field presences, programmes of technical cooperation 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 then, in a second phase, develop a strategy for a more systematic and comprehensive involvement by OHCHR in the protection of the internally displaced persons.

Activities

For the year 2001, 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, participating (upon request) in the assessment missions of the Network and ensuring follow-up by OHCHR of relevant recommendations
- Mobilizing OHCHR field offices and/or geographic desks to implement the recommendations of the Network country missions through, where required, 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 where 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 Vienna expert meeting, and convening a half-day workshop, in June 2001, for independent experts and their staff in conjunction with the annual meetings of the treaty bodies and special procedures
- Developing, on the basis of these activities, a strategy for OHCHR to implement, as the second phase of the project to begin in 2002, a more systematic and comprehensive approach

Beneficiaries

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

Budget in US\$

Participation in country assessment missions of the Senior Inter-Agency Network and in related IASC activities	20,000
Translation into local languages and publication of the <i>Guiding Principles</i> and related material	25,000
Convening of workshop for special procedures and treaty bodies	5,000
Sub-total	50,000
13% Programme support cost	6,500
Total	56,500



Human rights training for peacekeepers

Background

Peacekeeping operations involve multi-faceted mandates, often combining traditional military with complex civilian tasks, including administrative, humanitarian and human rights functions. Given the significant increase in the number and complexity of United Nations peacekeeping operations in recent years, the United Nations and its Member States have sought ways to ensure that international personnel are adequately prepared to serve in those operations. To this end, the United Nations has developed training materials and specialized training courses targeted to peacekeeping personnel. In 1996, the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and OHCHR established an annual United Nations Training Programme for Civilian Police and Military Trainers on Peacekeeping, Human Rights and Humanitarian Assistance. The programme for 2001 is based on the lessons learned from the nine courses organized to date.

Objectives and strategy

The Training Programme for Civilian Police and Military Trainers is directed at national military and police trainers in charge of pre-deployment training for military and CIVPOL contingents assigned to peacekeeping operations. The project aims to support the programme and thus improve the capacity of Member States to train military and police personnel who will be deployed to these operations in human-rights aspects of peacekeeping. This objective will be achieved by organizing training programmes for national trainers and training planners and distributing training materials on peacekeeping, human rights and humanitarian assistance.

Activities

For the year 2001, the project includes one training programme, jointly organized by DPKO, OHCHR, UNHCR and the United Nations Staff College, for 25 to 30 national training planners and trainers of military and police contingents who will be deployed to peacekeeping operations.

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the project will be 15 military trainers and 15 police trainers (plus two observers) who will participate in the course and who will help develop a training capacity in human rights during peacekeeping 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, be trained by the participants in 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.

Coordination

The programme is organized jointly by DPKO, OHCHR, UNHCR and the UN Staff College. Common programme costs are shared among the organizing departments, while each bears the costs related to the participation of its own staff and experts. OHCHR is responsible for conducting the segment of the course focusing on human rights standards applicable to the work of military and police peacekeepers.

Budget in US\$

Participants' accommodation and miscellaneous costs	13,000
Training	30,000
Sub-total	43,000
13% Programme support cost	5,590
Total	48,590

AFRICA



Regional and sub-regional activities

Background

Sub-regional strategies, within the framework of the larger Africa strategy, address common concerns in order to find appropriate solutions to human rights problems in the five sub-regions of the continent. A Southern Africa project has been implemented since July 1998. Sub-regional strategies for Central Africa and the Great Lakes sub-region as well as for the sub-region of West Africa were implemented in 2000. Countries in Northern Africa will be associated with activities of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) or with those in the Arab region.

Objectives

The regional and sub-regional strategies focus on the following areas: strengthening national human rights capacities; establishing national human rights commissions; harmonizing national legislation with international human rights standards; developing and implementing national human rights plans of action; training personnel in the armed forces, prison systems, and police to ensure respect for human rights; providing courses for the judiciary, NGOs and civil society; and providing equipment and documentation to governmental, academic and non-governmental institutions.

The main objectives of these strategies in the mid- and long-term are to:

- Introduce a human rights dimension into the prevention, management and resolution of sub-regional and internal conflicts
- Support sub-regional institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights by deploying human rights regional advisers
- Strengthen national capacities by developing a framework of sub-regional and national plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights
- Establish national human rights institutions and provide training activities for the police and armed forces, penitentiary administration officials and judiciary officials
- Raise awareness about human rights through information campaigns and new information technologies and by establishing documentation centres

Activities

The activities planned at the regional and sub-regional levels are complementary and supportive of those undertaken at the national level. Regional and sub-regional activities will help maximize OHCHR's impact on the development of national human right plans of action, national human rights institutions, reconciliation processes and the rule of law.

Organization of African Unity (OAU)

OHCHR's cooperation with the OAU will be strengthened by creating a mechanism for regular high-level consultations to review the human rights situation in Africa and to agree on specific responses to priority OAU needs. In order to facilitate the integration of human rights into activities, OHCHR intends to have a human rights regional adviser in Addis Ababa. Assistance will continue to be offered to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), especially for establishing an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. The objective is to strengthen the capacities of the Commission, assist the secretariat in developing electronic documentation and data bases, provide follow-up activities related to the publication of the Manual on the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and offer assistance in the elaboration and implementation of a protocol to the African Charter on the protection of women's human rights.

North Africa

Activities are designed to support the implementation of the Cairo Plan of Action in cooperation with UNDP. Among the various activities planned over the next two years, special attention will be given to strengthening Arab NGOs for joint work on developing research, sharing information and preparing materials on human rights. OHCHR will also continue to assist the Arab Institute for Human Rights, based in Tunis, in the following activities:

- Enhancing the capacities of Arab NGOs by providing training courses for human rights trainers on international protection of refugees, international humanitarian law, administrative and financial management and the use of modern technologies in the field of documentation and information
- Strengthening the media through human rights training courses for journalists and media representatives
- Introducing human rights values in school and university curricula, studies and programmes focusing on women's and children's rights

A project on human development and human rights in the Arab region is presented on page 66.

Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)

Activities will help strengthen ECCAS' capacity to put human rights at the heart of its activities, develop a sub-regional plan of action in the field of human rights, and strengthen the work of the sub-regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy, which will be established in Yaoundé by the end of 2000. A joint OHCHR/Department of Political Affairs needs-assessment mission took place in June 2000 and a regional adviser was deployed in September 2000. A sub-regional workshop on national action plans for Central African countries is planned in Yaoundé in December 2000. Consultations, training activities and documentation will be provided to partners at the sub-regional level.

At the national level, the regional adviser in Yaoundé will assist in the following activities in Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad and the Republic of Congo:

- Strengthening the national human rights commissions, including by organizing workshops (Cameroon, Central African Republic and Chad); supporting the development of national human rights plans of action (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad and the Republic of Congo)

- Enhancing cooperation with NGOs (Cameroon and Republic of Congo)
- Training public officials in investigation methods (Cameroon); training security and military officials (Central African Republic); training teachers in the field of human rights (Republic of Congo); training officials on reporting under the major human rights instruments (Chad)
- Providing documentation for national human rights commissions, governmental and judicial bodies and NGOs (Cameroon, Chad and the Republic of Congo)

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Activities will help strengthen ECOWAS' capacity to integrate human rights in all activities and assist in organizing and developing a sub-regional action plan with a special focus on vulnerable groups and conflict prevention. A sub-regional workshop on national action plans in the field of human rights for West African countries will be organized in Banjul, the Gambia, in November 2000. A working session on the implementation of OHCHR's sub-regional strategy will be held in Abuja, Nigeria, before the end of 2000.

At the national level, a regional adviser to be posted in Abuja will assist in the following activities in Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritania and Niger:

- Establishing a national human rights commission (Guinea-Bissau); strengthening the national institution on human rights, poverty and rehabilitation (Mauritania); and supporting the national human rights commission (Niger)
- Supporting the implementation of a national plan of action (Guinea-Bissau) and the development of national human rights plans of action (Mauritania and Niger)
- Enhancing cooperation with NGOs (Liberia)
- Offering training to army, police and law-enforcement officers as well as members of the media (Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Niger); and providing training to former combatants (Guinea-Bissau)

Southern Africa

The sub-regional office, established in Pretoria in 1998, conducts activities in 15 countries. It also works to strengthen sub-regional networks in the field of human rights, democracy and the rule of law. Some of the country-specific activities carried in 2000 include: a session with NGOs on reporting to the Committee on the Rights

of the Child (Lesotho); support to a training centre of the South African Human Rights Commission (South Africa); a needs-assessment mission (Angola); a training session for UN staff and senior government officials on the rights-based approach to programming (Mauritius and Seychelles); a training session for UN staff and senior government officials on the rights-based approach, with special reference to the treaty body system (Zambia); and a one-month study tour of the chairperson and senior members of the Malawi Human Rights Commission with their counterparts in South Africa (Malawi). At the sub-regional level, a training course on human rights and civil policing was organized for 30 police chiefs from Southern Africa.

At the national level, the regional adviser based in Pretoria will assist in the following activities in Lesotho, Malawi and Namibia:

- Establishing a national human rights commission (Lesotho); strengthening the national human rights commission (Malawi)
- Enhancing cooperation with NGOs (Lesotho); organizing a workshop for NGOs (Malawi)
- Providing training activities for judicial and law-enforcement officials (Lesotho)
- Organizing human rights training workshops for police, judicial and penitentiary personnel (Malawi)
- Providing human rights documentation for the human rights documentation centre and the justice training centre (Namibia)

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR's main partner in Africa is UNDP, which will either co-finance or provide logistical support and premises for several projects (those in Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, Mauritania, Niger, the Republic of Congo and Somalia). Where the United Nations has an established office, peacekeeping, peace-building or observer mission manned by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) or the Department of Political Affairs (DPA), the human rights component is located within that office (Angola, Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia). OHCHR works closely with UN agencies and departments that are present in the field (UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, WFP, UNESCO) to ensure coordination, maximize the use of resources, and fully integrate human rights promotion and protection into all UN programmes and activities.

To implement the above activities, OHCHR will cooperate closely with all partners, especially with the regional and sub-regional organizations (OAU, ECCAS, ECOWAS, the Southern Africa Development Community, the Inter-governmental Authority for Development and the East Africa Community). OHCHR will not only work in partnership with the regional and sub-regional organizations in Africa, but will also encourage cooperation and exchange of experience, information and best practices among all regional and sub-regional organizations involved.

Budget in US\$

OAU and ACHPR:

Human rights institutions, including national commissions	132,743
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North Africa and Arab Institute:

Human rights institutions, including national commissions	132,743
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ECCAS, including Cameroon,

Central African Republic,

Chad and the Republic of Congo:

Human rights institutions, including national commissions	87,478
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Development of national plans of action	17,699
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Training for public officials and support to civil society	144,213
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Support to documentation and information centres	78,044
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ECOWAS, including Guinea-Bissau,

Liberia, Mauritania and Niger:

Human rights institutions, including commissions	90,796
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Development of national plans of action	71,000
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Training for public officials and support to civil society	131,363
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Documentation and information centres	21,000
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Southern Africa, including Lesotho,

Malawi and Namibia:

Human rights institutions, including national commissions	85,900
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Development of national plans of action	67,243
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Training for public officials and support to civil society	110,000
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Documentation and information centers	49,600
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Sub-total	1,219,822
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13 % Programme support cost	158,577
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Total	1,378,399
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Country projects

Madagascar

Background

During 2000, the technical cooperation project for Madagascar has focused on training for members of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC); training for human rights NGOs; training of human rights education personnel; and support for the NCHR and Ministry of Justice. In addition, three fellowships have been awarded for advanced training on the management and operation of the NHRC.

Objectives

The long-term objectives of the project are to contribute to the consolidation of the rule of law and strengthen the protection of the individual. The immediate objectives are to:

- Support the work of the National Human Rights Commission
- Support the Minister of Justice in efforts to ensure respect for human rights
- Help strengthen local NGOs

Activities

In 2001, the project will provide:

- Assistance to NGOs for carrying out a human rights information campaign (including provision of publications and documentation)
- Three workshops and training courses
- Fellowships

Since 2001 is the last year of the project, a final evaluation will be carried out to assess its performance.

Beneficiaries

Parliament, administrators of justice, the members of the NHRC, officers from different ministries, NGOs, teachers, judges, youth groups and women's organizations all benefit from the project.

Impact

The implementation of the project has helped the NHRC improve its work. Target groups, especially judges, lawyers, security forces, prison officers, and human rights NGO personnel have been provided the opportunity to increase their theoretical and practical understanding

of human rights issues; and personnel responsible for the administration of justice received support for legislative reform to ensure that national laws conform with international human rights standards.

Implementing arrangements

The project is implemented by a national project manager who works in cooperation with UNDP, the Government and the NHRC. The national manager is located at UNDP.

Budget in US\$

Training	23,310
Fellowships	24,000
Documentation and publications	42,000
Project management	33,500
Advisory services and final evaluation mission	30,700

Sub-total	153,510
13% Programme support cost	19,956

Total	173,466
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Morocco

Background

The National Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre, in Rabat, was inaugurated by the High Commissioner in April 2000. The Centre helps introduce and promote a culture of human rights at all levels of Moroccan civil society and provides access to documentation, information and training upon request by university professors and school teachers, the judiciary, the police, the media and NGOs. Over the past two years, an independent commission was appointed to monitor the issue of forced disappearances. Efforts were also made to revise the provisions of the Penal Code related to various forms of violence against women, especially rape and sexual abuse. Discussions on the situation of women were held in Parliament.

Objectives

- Contribute to national efforts to promote human rights, especially among vulnerable groups in the society
- Support the work of the National Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre



- Strengthen the various components of civil society and provide NGO leaders, law enforcement personnel and state institutions with capacity-building training

Activities

The National Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre will:

- Undertake studies, research and seminars focusing on specific human rights issues
- Collect relevant human rights documentation in the country and abroad
- Create a specialized library in human rights
- Assist NGOs in identifying and rationalizing their documentation needs
- Organize roundtables with guest speakers on the question of human rights and human development, globalization and the harmonization of Moroccan law with international human rights instruments and economic, social and cultural rights

In addition, training activities of the Centre will include:

- Five workshops for magistrates and advocates, penitentiary personnel, armed forces/gendarmerie, police members and NGO leaders
- One workshop for journalists

Beneficiaries

Individuals, groups, NGOs and State institutions 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 multi-faceted logistic equipment, databases, reference and bibliography resources. Some professional groups will receive professional training in the area of human rights. The longer-term challenge will be for the Centre to offer its services to the various NGOs and community associations working in suburban and rural areas with vulnerable or isolated groups.

Impact

Various professional groups will be able to apply human rights standards in their work; NGO leaders and national institutions, teachers, social workers, journalists and trade union members will become skilled in promoting and protecting human rights; and some vulnerable groups will become sensitized to their basic rights and become better able to defend them.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR funds about half the costs of this project; UNDP and the Government each fund one-quarter of the

project. As the Centre has just become operational, it will take some time before it can establish regular contacts with other UN partners, State institutions, professional groups and trade unions, universities, NGOs, and private individuals. However, several partners, including UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA, 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 strong interest in the work of the Centre.

Budget in US\$

Support for the National Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre	243,600
13% Programme support cost	31,668
Total	275,268

Rwanda

Background

In resolution 1999/20, the Commission on Human Rights urged the Government of Rwanda to cooperate with OHCHR and requested that OHCHR extend its full support to the Government in its efforts to promote and protect human rights in Rwanda. The Commission also emphasized the need to create an independent and effective national human rights commission. The Government created such a Commission in May 1999; and a cooperation project between OHCHR and the national human rights commission of Rwanda is being developed.

Objectives

The key objective of the project is to support the development of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and its promotion and protection activities. Although the project will focus on the NHRC, activities will also help strengthen the linkages between the NHRC and other institutions involved in the promotion and protection of human rights, such as the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission, the Ministries of Justice and of Interior and viable NGOs.

Activities

Activities include:

- Recruiting an international expert who will provide assistance to the Commission



- Developing sustainable operational capabilities of the Commission
- Supporting the development of advisory and reporting capabilities of the Commission
- Developing the Commission's capacity to assist the efforts of State institutions and civil society in designing and implementing human rights programmes

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiary of the project will be the NHRC. Various institutions will also benefit, as they will receive services from the NHRC.

Implementing arrangements

The executing institution will be the National Commission. OHCHR will provide support through experts or consultants and funding. UNDP will help implement the project and participate in the evaluation meetings of the Project Steering Committee, which are held every six months.

Budget in US\$

Advisory services	60,000
Support services and material	40,000
Sub-total	100,000
13% Programme support cost	13,000
Total	113,000

Sierra Leone

Background

Sierra Leone has been riven by civil war and its citizens have suffered grave violations of human rights. The country now hosts the largest peacekeeping mission in the world, the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL). The Security Council, the Commission on Human Rights and treaty bodies have all called for international assistance in supporting the peace process in Sierra Leone. In resolution 2000/24, the Commission on Human Rights requested that OHCHR and the international community assist UNAMSIL in strengthening its involvement in technical cooperation, advisory services, and human rights advocacy programmes. It also called on OHCHR to continue assisting the Government in establishing a truth and reconciliation commission and a national human rights commission. The international

community was called upon to provide support and expand cooperation with NGOs.

Objectives

- Implementation of the 1999 Human Rights Manifesto
- Launching a truth and reconciliation process
- Development of human rights infrastructure, including assistance to a proposed national human rights commission
- Assistance to the victims of human rights violations, in particular women and children
- Strengthening the human rights non-governmental sector

Activities

The proposed activities are based on recommendations made by treaty bodies and UN organs:

- **Support for the truth and reconciliation commission process:** awareness-raising campaign; study of traditional methods of reconciliation; assistance in the implementation of the Law on the truth and reconciliation commission, including training, documentation, and public relations. (OHCHR may implement additional activities focusing on the truth and reconciliation commission, depending on the situation. Accordingly, the figure indicated in this budget may be revised upward during 2001.)
- **Support for the establishment of a national human rights commission:** advice in law-making, training, establishment of a documentation centre and logistical support
- **Production and dissemination of human rights information and educational materials in English and local languages**
- **Training for the Sierra Leone police:** UNAMSIL's human rights section is already implementing a bi-weekly training course for 60 police officers from existing resources
- **Data collection and analysis on conflict-related rape and sexual abuse:** identify the special needs of women and girl victims of rape and sexual violence during and in the aftermath of the conflict
- **Promotion of child rights** and implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, following examination by the Committee in February 2000 of Sierra Leone's initial report
- **Social reintegration and rehabilitation of women and girls affected by war:** rehabilitating, empowering and reintegrating women and girl victims of violence into their home communities by establishing social



reintegration centres at which medical and counseling facilities, as well as vocational training, will be offered (funding sought is intended to cover the entire costs associated with the establishment of two centres for 300 women and girls each, for one year)

Beneficiaries

The immediate beneficiaries are Government institutions, civil society groups, war victims and the population of Sierra Leone.

Implementing arrangements

The projects will be implemented by OHCHR and UNAMSIL, in close coordination with UNDP and other partners, including the National Forum for Human Rights. OHCHR and various experts attached to the human rights section of UNAMSIL, namely those with expertise in child rights and gender, national institutions and civil society, will oversee the implementation of the activities in the field. OHCHR Geneva will provide backstopping. The memorandum of understanding between OHCHR and DPKO provides the framework for cooperation with UNAMSIL in the implementation of the proposed project activities.

Budget in US\$

Support to the truth and reconciliation process, including the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission	100,000
Support to the establishment of the national human rights commission	130,000
Production of human rights information and educational materials	30,000
Social reintegration and rehabilitation of women and girls affected by war	93,000
Sub-total	353,000
13% Programme support costs	45,890
Total	398,890

Somalia

Background

OHCHR has been working in Somalia since October 1999. Over the past year, the Office and UNDP have forged a strong alliance in implementing OHCHR's 1999-2000 project. UNDP Somalia has facilitated all the mis-

sions of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights and, following the establishment of OHCHR's office in Somalia, it agreed to bear some of the costs related to the project. UNDP proposed that OHCHR and UNDP jointly manage a three-year Somali Civil Protection Programme (SCPP), which focuses on demobilizing ex-combatants, de-mining, and providing human rights training for members of the judiciary, law enforcement personnel and the civil society. Specific projects are planned for those regions that have achieved a certain degree of stability, and may be expanded nationally, pending the successful outcome of the Djibouti-brokered peace initiative.

Activities

SCPP has four components, each one of which is treated as a separate project with its own manager. OHCHR would implement the judiciary and law enforcement component and ensure that human rights becomes an integral part of all programme activities, provide training in human rights and make available training materials available to staff. OHCHR would assist UNDP in designing interventions, sharing expertise in areas such as legal reform, harmonization of local and domestic legislation with international human rights standards, creating and strengthening national human rights institutions and other institutions of civil society, promoting human rights education and disseminating information. In particular, OHCHR would provide technical advice to the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia on the ratification of international human rights treaties with the aim of encouraging the newly created Somali Government to ultimately ratify or accede to all human rights treaties. The Office would also offer advice on effective ways of using treaty bodies to promote human rights and on the implementation of treaty bodies' recommendations. OHCHR would also work to ensure that human rights issues and standards are included, whenever possible, in the programmes of other UN agencies. Evaluations will be conducted to ensure the project is responsive to evolving needs.

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the project would be local civilian administrations, human rights-oriented NGOs, and women's groups. UN agencies operating in the field would also benefit from the presence of a human rights officer acting as a facilitator to integrate the human rights dimension into their work. UNDP's proposal to manage



jointly the SCPP is a successful example of OHCHR's mainstreaming policy which should be further supported.

Implementing arrangements

The project will be implemented with UNDP. OHCHR will be represented by one international staff, assisted by a national staff and two United Nations Volunteers, under HURIST, the joint OHCHR/UNDP programme aimed at strengthening human rights.

Budget in US\$

Staff	128,300
13% Programme support cost	16,679
Total	144,979

UNDP will provide US\$ 650,000 for the implementation of the project in 2001. This is in addition to OHCHR's requirements presented above.

Sudan

Background

On numerous occasions, the Government of the Sudan asked that OHCHR provide technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of human rights. On 29 March 2000, in keeping with Commission on Human Rights' Resolution 1999/15, the Government and OHCHR signed an accord to begin the preparatory phase of a project by fielding international human rights staff. Staff, working out of the UNDP office in Khartoum, will be tasked with providing advisory services to the Government on national capacity-building activities to protect human rights around the country.

Objectives

The assistance provided during the initial six-month period includes holding discussions with the Government on key topics, such as the administration of justice, human rights education and legislative reform. A strategy will be designed and the necessary mechanisms established. In addition, a survey and analysis of existing institutional capacity will be conducted. OHCHR and the Government will evaluate the scope of the assistance on the basis of its potential in improving the human rights situation in the short- and long-term. Continuation to a subsequent phase of cooperation will depend on the completion and success in this early phase.

Activities

The project will help promote and protect human rights by strengthening national human rights capacities and contributing to the creation of a culture of human rights. Initial activities will include:

- Assistance in building the national capacity in reporting to human rights supervisory treaty bodies
- Two-week training seminar, to be held in Khartoum, to train 30 Government officials and State-level officials on drafting, preparation and finalization of reports required under international human rights treaties
- Two-week training seminar, to be held in Khartoum, to train 30 members of NGOs from various states within the Sudan on drafting, preparation and finalization of reports (OHCHR training modules will be used)
- Consultations on a comprehensive project of technical cooperation in the field of human rights, including awareness-raising events

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries will be national decision-makers, including at the State and local levels, who will be sensitized to both human rights standards and options for integrating them in their daily work. Government officials and NGOs will also benefit from the training provided on reporting to the treaty bodies.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR and UNDP will cooperate in every aspect of the project assistance phase as well as in the formulation of technical cooperation projects in the field of human rights, in keeping with the memorandum of understanding between UNDP and OHCHR. International human rights staff will be located in the UNDP premises in Khartoum and will employ the logistical and administrative resources of that office. OHCHR will provide policy direction and supervision.

Budget in US\$

Training	43,312
Consultation on a comprehensive project of technical cooperation in the field of human rights	15,142
Sub-total	58,454
13% Programme support cost	7,599
Total	66,053

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Regional activities

Background

In cooperation with the Government of Ecuador, OHCHR organized a regional workshop, held from 29 November to 1 December 1999, to review lessons learned and best practices concerning: national plans of action for human rights and the strengthening of national human rights capacities; national institutions for the promotion of human rights; national plans of action on human rights education; strategies for the realization of the right to development and economic social and cultural rights; and the promotion of children and women's rights as well as those of vulnerable groups. At the conclusion of the workshop, governments adopted a framework for technical cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean region (LAC) covering the above five areas. The framework called for five workshops to be organized, one under each area. Internal constraints and a lack of countries volunteering to host the activities have delayed the realization of activities during 2000. Several countries have now volunteered to host some of the activities during 2001.

OHCHR is working with various actors in the LAC region to refine the regional strategy and identify priority areas for action and collaboration. During 2001, OHCHR will implement national projects in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua and a sub-regional project in the Andean Region.

OHCHR is also planning a new project for Brazil. During the High Commissioner's visit to Brazil in May 2000, OHCHR and the Government of Brazil agreed to develop and implement technical cooperation programmes. OHCHR is planning to field a needs-assessment mission to Brazil by the end of 2000. The recommendations of the mission will be analyzed and a project formulated during 2001.

Objective

The long-term objective of the regional strategy is to develop and strengthen national capacities through regional activities that permit the exchange of expertise and experiences among countries in their efforts to guarantee full enjoyment of human rights. The immediate objectives of the strategy are to protect economic, social and cultural rights and protect vulnerable groups, promote ratification and accession to international and regional human rights instruments, and ensure the application of international human rights instruments at the national level.

Activities

During 2001 the following activities, which will be designed, developed and implemented in collaboration with regional, national, government and non-governmental institutions and United Nations agencies, will be launched:

- A regional workshop for the promotion of strategies to guarantee the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights
- A sub-regional workshop on the ratification and application of international human rights instruments
- A sub-regional workshop on the application of international human rights instruments in the national courts, to strengthen the capacities of the national institutions and NGOs in the administration of justice
- Training for the police on domestic violence at a sub-regional level

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the project will be the governments of the region, the national institutions and the representatives of the civil society participating in the activities and members of the police of the countries involved in the training on domestic violence.

Implementing arrangements

The project will rely on the collaboration of governments, the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights (IACHR), the UN country teams and agencies and partners from civil society in the region. A focal point will be appointed for each of the workshops in the host countries; training for the police will be planned and conducted under the coordination of Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD). OHCHR will coordinate activities and monitor and evaluate the implementation of the activities.

Budget in US\$

Project management (monitoring missions, staff)	60,000
Regional workshops	320,000
Sub-regional training	150,000
Sub-total	530,000
13% Programme support cost	68,900
Total	598,900

Strengthening the rule of law and promoting human rights in the Andean region

Background

According to the reports of several special rapporteurs, human rights treaty bodies and research conducted by the Andean Commission of Jurists, one of the main concerns in the Andean region (which includes Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela) is the need for the judiciary to apply international human rights standards in its judgments. Another concern is that civil society in the region is insufficiently aware of human rights issues. In Chile, the Office of the Ombudsperson has not yet been established; in other Andean countries, Ombudspersons do not receive adequate support by their respective governments to perform their mandates. OHCHR, in cooperation with the Andean Commission of Jurists, has already implemented a two-year project to strengthen the capacity of the judiciary in the six countries of the region.

Objective

The objective of this project is to support and strengthen the human rights protection system in the six countries of the Andean region. The project will run for two years and will be implemented with the Andean Commission of Jurists (ACJ). The project will provide assistance in the following two areas:

Administration of justice: strengthening the capacity of the judicial system to protect human rights

National institutions: strengthening and promoting national institutions, especially the offices of Ombudspersons

Activities

Activities to strengthen the administration of justice include: analyzing and systematizing information on constitutional jurisprudence and legislation; conducting human rights training seminars for judges, prosecutors and professors of judicial schools; implementing a system to analyze the work of the judiciary in the field of human rights; elaborating and publishing research on the administration of justice in the Andean region and making recommendations to governments in this matter.

The Judicial Information Network (RIJ), the subject of an earlier joint project between the OHCHR and the ACJ, will be one of the main tools for this project. The project will also help improve the current database of judicial indicators and the RIJ.

To strengthen national institutions, activities will include: conducting human rights training activities for officials at the offices of the Ombudsperson; establishing an Office of the Ombudsperson in Chile; and publishing regional research on this institution.

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the project will be judges, prosecutors, lawyers, and the Ombudspersons in the Andean region.

Implementing arrangements

The project will be implemented through an agreement with the ACJ, in the framework of the two memoranda of understanding signed by both parties in Geneva in November 1995 and in Bogota in October 1998. The proposed project will involve close collaboration with the administrations of justice and Ombudspersons of the Andean region. This project will also be linked with the judicial schools, which have been playing an important role in the improvement of the regional justice system, and with the Andean Council of Ombudspersons. The project follows the framework for technical cooperation and conclusions adopted in the "Workshop for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Latin American and Caribbean Region" (the Quito Framework), which was organized by OHCHR and held in Quito, Ecuador, in November 1999. Activities complement, and will be coordinated with, OHCHR's national activities in Colombia, Bolivia and Ecuador. OHCHR will field monitoring missions to the Andean region.

Budget in US\$

Advice to the administration of justice	54,000
Advice to the Office of the Ombudsperson	40,000
Judicial information network, seminars and workshops, publications	83,000
Sub-total	177,000
13 % Programme support cost	23,010
Total	200,010

Country projects

Bolivia

Background

In 1994, the Government of Bolivia requested technical cooperation assistance from the Centre for Human Rights – now OHCHR – and from UNDP to strengthen the democratic process. A two-year technical cooperation project was signed by OHCHR, UNDP and the Government in 1998.

Objectives

The Government has created a Vice-Ministry for Human Rights within the Ministry of Justice, thus raising the human rights profile at the Ministry and creating a focal point for activities to promote and protect human rights.

The immediate objectives of the project are to:

- Strengthen the Ministry of Justice, the Vice-Ministry for Human Rights and other national institutions that promote and protect human rights
- Establish mechanisms for consultations and coordination between the Government and civil society (Comité inter-Institucional).

These objectives will be achieved by providing expert advice to the beneficiary institutions and conducting a series of workshops.

Activities

During 2000, activities included: organizing seminars on the rights of women, children and indigenous peoples; convening a human rights workshop for police commanders and a human rights workshop for military commanders; and inaugurating the documentation centre (library).

During 2001, the project will provide expert advice to the beneficiary institutions, conducting a series of workshops for the national police, military, university personnel and civil society to familiarize them with international human rights instruments, and organizing a workshop on reporting obligations to treaty bodies.

A training-of-trainers approach will be encouraged in all the workshops and seminars. Specific training materials will be developed and human rights information will be disseminated. The project also involves revising curricula used by the national police, the military and universities.

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the project are the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, women, children and the indigenous population.

Implementing arrangements

The project is co-financed by OHCHR and UNDP. The inter-institutional body for coordination between the Government and civil society (Comité inter-Institucional) meets every month. Monitoring missions and tripartite meetings among the Government, UNDP and OHCHR take place every six months. The remaining activities of the project will be designed and developed according to the Quito Framework. The project will be integrated into the programme of the UN country team under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) process.

Budget in US\$

Support to the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights: consultants, documentation and training centre	27,000
Support to realizing the rights of indigenous people, women and children: national experts responsible for workshops	30,000
Fellowships	10,000
Sub-total	67,000
13% Programme support cost	8,710
Total	75,710

Ecuador

Background

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Plan of Action, the Government of Ecuador, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, began elaborating a human rights national plan of action. For more than one year, Government officials, representatives of civil society, the church and the military worked together to design a national plan that addresses civil and political rights as well as economic, social and cultural rights. The plan foresees the establishment of a permanent commission for follow-up and evaluation composed of representatives from the Government, NGOs and civil society. On 24 June 1998, the

national plan of action was adopted by presidential decree. Activities during 2000 included training prosecutors, teachers, NGOs and educational institutions.

Objectives

The project aims to support implementation of the national plan of action on human rights as well as the specific plans that will follow. It will also enhance national capacities and infrastructures in the field of human rights and provide support to civil society, in particular indigenous populations, women and children.

The project focuses on four areas:

- Promotion and support of the national plan of action on human rights and of the subsequent plans
- Assistance to Ecuador in reporting obligations and legislative reform
- Strengthening the Ombudsman's Office (*Defensoría del Pueblo*)
- Human rights education and training activities

Activities

The following activities will be conducted:

- Organizing four workshops in different departments of the country to raise awareness of the national plan of action
- Convening workshops on human rights for civil society and publishing information on the main legislative developments in the country
- Organizing a workshop for the staff of the Office of the Ombudsman and publishing basic human rights documents and specialized human rights materials for the Documentation Centre of the Office of the Ombudsman (*Defensoría*)
- Organizing two training courses for NGOs, two for the media and two for the police and convening four workshops for the Supreme Court.

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the project are the bodies referred to in the national plan, including the national commission, the steering committee, and the relevant Government and non-governmental counterparts, including the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Congress, the Office of the Ombudsman, the judiciary, lawyers, prosecutors, police, prison officials, the media, social workers and NGOs.

Implementing arrangements

The project will be integrated within the programme of

the UN country team established as part of the UNDAF process. OHCHR will work with UNDP, UNV, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNFPA, WHO, ILO and the Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders as well as the Inter American Development Bank and the World Bank, each of whom will support, financially and technically, the implementation of activities within its mandate.

Budget in US\$

Project management	10,000
Training	145,000
Fellowships	55,000
Sub-total	210,000
13 % Programme support cost	27,300
Total	237,300

Other UN agencies will provide additional funds to the project. The above budget represents OHCHR's costs.

UNDP (some activities and a national coordinator)	100,000
UNV (national consultants and volunteers)	280,000
Other UN agencies (workshops and consultants)	77,500

El Salvador

Background

As a follow-up to a recommendation made by the UN Commission on Human Rights in January 1997, the Government of El Salvador and OHCHR signed two technical cooperation agreements for projects entitled "Human rights training and documentation" and "Police and human rights". To implement project activities, OHCHR established a technical cooperation office in El Salvador in April 1997. Two years later, the Government requested that OHCHR extend its technical cooperation programme. Following that request, OHCHR fielded a mission to evaluate the technical assistance provided during the project that ended in August 2000 and identify priority areas for future technical cooperation projects. The mission recommended that technical cooperation with the Government should continue for two more years.

Objectives

The project aims to strengthen the capacities of the national institutions responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights. More specifically, the project will help rebuild the Ombudsman's Office as an effective and trustworthy institution for the promotion and protection of human rights and will assist the legislative assembly in preparing important law reforms.

Activities

During 2001 the project will include the following activities:

- **Advisory and technical support :**

Strengthening the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman to follow up reports and comply with their recommendations and to verify police and judicial processes; assisting the legislative assembly in advancing legal reforms that conform to international standards on human rights

- **Training, publications and donations of human rights material:** Providing training activities for Office of the Ombudsman personnel and preparing educational materials to support the training; equipping the library of the Office of the Ombudsman with a specialized collection of materials; conducting training activities on international human rights instruments for the legal team of the legislative assembly

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the project are the Office of the Ombudsman, the legislative assembly, and the UN system. The ultimate beneficiary is the population of El Salvador.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR will work in coordination with the UN country team, within the CCA-UNDAF framework, and with the Government and institutions of the civil society. A national steering committee will be responsible for follow-up.

Budget in US\$

Project management	10,000
Advice to the Ombudsman and National Assembly	100,000
Workshops and seminars	100,000
Publications	10,000
Sub-total	220,000
13% Programme support cost	28,600
Total	248,600

Guatemala

Background

An OHCHR evaluation mission, conducted from 9 to 21 July 2000, concluded that the following should be priority activities: developing a system for monitoring and reporting on international human rights treaties; training judges and magistrates on the application of international human rights treaties and domestic laws; and promoting indigenous rights and the elimination of ethnic and racial discrimination. The Government had specifically requested OHCHR's assistance in supporting the development of a national plan of action for human rights.

Objectives

The long-term objective of the project is to strengthen the national capacity for the adoption of public policies and programmes that guarantee full enjoyment of human rights to the country's citizens. The immediate objectives of the project are to:

- Develop a participatory system to monitor the human rights situation and report on that situation to international bodies
- Provide human rights training for judges and magistrates
- Promote the realization of indigenous rights to combat discrimination
- Assist in the elaboration of a national human rights action plan by providing advisory services

Activities

Activities will include developing and implementing training activities, seminars, workshops, and conferences, to analyze cases in preparation for reporting to treaty bodies.

- A limited number of human rights instruments will be identified through which a pilot methodology will be developed. Training will then focus on such instruments and their application procedures, local and thematic investigation, participation and consultation in the drafting of Government reports under the different treaty instruments, and follow-up to recommendations made by UN supervisory bodies.
- Training will be provided to future instructors of the institutional training unit of the judicial system. In addition to training activities, a module for future training courses and programmes will be prepared.

- Public institutions and civil society will be advised on appropriate mechanisms for the promotion and verification of indigenous rights and will be assisted in designing methodologies to verify alleged discrimination.

Beneficiaries

The ultimate beneficiary of the project will be the Guatemalan population, since the project aims to strengthen national capacities to promote and protect human rights. The direct beneficiaries of the project will be the civil society, whose capacity to participate in the monitoring and reporting process will be strengthened, the judiciary, and indigenous groups.

Implementing arrangements

The project will be integrated within the programme of the UN country team established through the UNDAF process and activities will be developed under the Quito Framework. OHCHR will work with the Government and institutions of civil society to implement the project.

Budget in US\$

Project management	20,000
Training, including hiring of international consultants	157,000
National plan of action	40,000
Sub-total	217,000
13 % Programme support cost	28,210
Total	245,210

Haiti

Background

A technical cooperation project – *Renforcement de la capacité d'intervention des organes de l'Etat* – was signed by OHCHR on 11 December 1995 and by the Government of Haiti on 9 November 1996. In March 1998, the High Commissioner found that in order to ensure cost-effectiveness, complementarity and coordination, it was more appropriate to transfer implementation of this technical cooperation programme to the UN/Organization of American States International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH). Given the new mandate

of the UN International Civilian Mission Support to Haiti (MICAH), which became effective on 18 July 2000, OHCHR decided to close the project and develop a new project based on current human rights priorities.

Objectives

The objective of this new programme is to strengthen the capacity of the national institutions responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Activities

Human rights training will be provided to representatives of the Ombudsman's Office and relevant human rights NGOs. Activities for the Ombudsman's Office include reviewing investigatory procedures and the handling of complaints, preparing manuals and producing human rights documentation for dissemination. Activities directed at civil society include convening several workshops for NGOs, women's organizations, law universities and journalists to familiarize them with international human rights instruments; and assisting law universities in incorporating human rights instruments into their curricula.

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of this project are the Office of the Ombudsman and human rights NGOs.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR will cooperate closely with the Government and other parties, including civil society, MICAH/Department of Political Affairs and UNDP, in the design, development and implementation of the project. The project will be developed according to the Quito Framework and will be integrated into the programme of the UN country team established within the UN Development Assistance Framework.

Budget in US\$

Advice to the Ombudsman	20,000
Training activities and publications	60,000
Sub-total	80,000
13% Programme support cost	10,400
Total	90,400

Mexico

Background

The Government of Mexico requested technical cooperation in promoting and protecting human rights following the elaboration of its national plan of action in December 1997. Since then, independent experts, special rapporteurs and the High Commissioner have visited the country. During her visit in November 1999, the High Commissioner signed a memorandum of intent with Mexico's Foreign Minister to engage in a technical cooperation programme. A short, first-phase project was initiated to lay the groundwork for more comprehensive activities in the second phase.

Objectives

The main objective of the three-year, second-phase project is to assist the Government in its efforts to address the issues of the administration of justice, indigenous rights, economic, social and cultural rights and vulnerable groups. The project will: support Mexico's national human rights plan and the various national institutions that deal with human rights; assist in the establishment of new institutions devoted to supervising human rights practices in the justice system; build capacities within Mexico's indigenous population to defend their human rights; review and promote economic, social and cultural rights; and establish programmes to combat human rights abuses against women, children and migrants.

Activities

During the first year, activities include:

- Providing support to the work of an Inter-Secretarial Committee for Human Rights of the new administration
- Strengthening the role of the National Human Rights Commission
- Creating an indigenous media network on human rights issues
- Preparing a comprehensive annual Mexico Human Rights Report
- Providing support to the Independent Citizen's Oversight Board

These activities follow the positive results of the first-phase activities, which include: providing training on reporting torture and other human rights abuses in

police procedures; assessing the needs of the National Human Rights Commission; and providing training to indigenous NGOs on human rights mechanisms.

Beneficiaries

During the second phase of the project, as during the first phase, OHCHR will work with different Government and non-governmental institutions. The primary beneficiaries of this year's activities include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and Security, the National Human Rights Commission, and indigenous NGOs, representing a vast number of indigenous communities.

Implementing arrangements

UN agencies in the country and the Canadian Human Rights Commission will help implement project activities.

Budget in US\$

Project management	80,000
Support to the Inter-Secretarial Committee for Human Rights	40,000
Strengthening of the National Human Rights Commission	50,000
Creation of the Indigenous Media Network	50,000
Preparation of an Annual Mexico Human Rights Report	60,000
Support to the Independent Citizen's Oversight Board	60,000
Sub-total	340,000
13% Programme support cost	44,200
Total	384,200

Nicaragua

Background

The Office began implementing a two-year project for the Nicaraguan police in March 2000. Nicaragua's police force is a professional institution, but it lacks adequate human and financial resources. The two-year project aims to develop a relationship between the police force and the communities it serves.

Objectives

The two main objectives of the project are to establish a system, within the police force, to process human rights complaints from citizens and to train officers in human rights and crime prevention.

Activities

The project involves convening a series of meetings, at all levels, with police and local communities to design a programme of training on the human rights of women, children and detainees. Materials for future training will be prepared and published. A police-community structure is being created within the police force.

Beneficiaries

The Nicaraguan police force is the direct beneficiary of the project.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR and UNDP provide support for and monitor the implementation of activities. OHCHR works with UN agencies and other partners, such as the European Commission, the Inter-American Institute for Human Rights and the National Ombudsperson, to implement the project. Activities are coordinated by a national project coordinator, and monitoring missions are fielded every six months.

Budget in US\$

Project management	64,000
Operating expenses	40,000
Development strategy for police-community relations	89,000
Study of police and detainees, women, children and youth	47,000
Establishment of a complaint system for the police	30,000
Sub-total	270,000
13% Programme support cost	35,100
Total	305,100

UNDP is co-financing this project and will provide US\$ 50,000 in addition to the above budget.

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



Regional overview

The region comprised of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia has been undergoing a transition from centrally controlled systems to more open, market-based and democratic systems of government. In countries where civil society was previously repressed, there are now burgeoning civil society movements, NGOs, free media and other signs of strengthened respect for human rights. However, in parts of the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Balkans, inter-ethnic tensions and power struggles continue to dominate the political landscape, and conflict is ongoing or a potential threat in many situations. Extreme nationalism, authoritarianism, inter-ethnic hatred and intolerance threaten regional peace and stability. Given the historically strong legal structures and respect for law in the region, human rights projects can have a meaningful impact. However, the transformation to democracy has left many institutional and legal structures severely weakened, and there is often inadequate government support for these kinds of projects. OHCHR is working to address these difficulties by building linkages with key partners in the societies, both within and outside government.

OHCHR technical cooperation projects in the region can provide the catalyst for social dialogue aimed at developing greater awareness of human rights. To this end, the Office plans to maintain partnerships with governments to help them strengthen national capacities, solidify support for the implementation of human rights and increase human rights awareness. At the same time, civil society will be an important partner in many of OHCHR's projects in the region. The Office will continue to work through UNDP's national offices in the region, and will strengthen links with the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). A key element of OHCHR's approach will be the development of sub-regional strategies. Consultations have taken place among OHCHR field presences in Southeast Europe (the Balkans), and sub-regional initiatives have

been proposed, particularly in the areas of trafficking in persons and refugee returns. OHCHR is also developing sub-regional strategies in the South Caucasus and Central Asia, based on close cooperation with other Country projects UN agencies and regional organizations.

Country projects

Albania

Background

Following an OHCHR mission in October 1999, a preparatory assistance project to build sustainable capacities for human rights treaty reporting was developed. The project was finalized and signed by the three partners – the Government, OHCHR and UNDP – in the first half of 2000. Implementation began in October 2000 and will continue into 2001.

Objectives

The long-term objective of the project is to develop an institutionalized process of analyzing human rights developments and preparing periodic reports to UN treaty bodies in accordance with State obligations. The immediate objective is to initiate the process and assist in drafting State reports to various treaty bodies.

Activities

- Planning and organizing a reporting workshop for officials in all relevant ministries and institutions who will help prepare State reports
- Ensuring the official endorsement of a national strategy for reporting developed by the workshop

- Conducting an in-depth analysis and assessment of existing information and capacity for human rights treaty reporting
- Designing a subsequent project on capacity and institution building, targeting key ministries and institutions, to fulfill Albania's treaty obligations

Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries are government authorities responsible for human rights treaty reporting.

Implementing arrangements

The project is to be jointly implemented by the Government, OHCHR and UNDP in Albania. An international treaty-reporting specialist, assisted by national staff, is based at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tirana.

Budget in US\$

Advisory and technical assistance	33,200
National workshop on human rights treaty reporting	12,800
Sub-total	46,000
13% Programme support cost	5,980
Total	51,980

Azerbaijan

Background

The project entitled "Strengthening Capacities and Infrastructures for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights" is entering its third year of implementation in 2001. This project takes a broad-based approach to achieving its objectives by including initiatives that have an impact on both the Government and the general public. A key part of OHCHR's strategy has been to organize training-for-trainers of different professional groups. Main activities since the project's launch in 1999 have included workshops for government officials, legal professionals, and representatives of Azeri civil society and translations of UN human rights training materials. The Ministry of Justice reaffirmed its commitment to the project during a project-monitoring mission undertaken by OHCHR in 2000.

Objectives

The project's main objectives in 2001 include:

- Assisting the Government in drafting a comprehensive and sustainable national human rights action plan
- Disseminating UN human rights information more widely among public institutions and civil society
- Raising awareness of human rights, particularly of international standards and mechanisms, among state officials and civil society (this objective will be achieved primarily through additional training courses for selected target groups)
- Providing project participants with the skills necessary to apply the acquired knowledge in their daily work

Activities

Activities for 2001 include:

- Offering training courses and consultations related to the national action plan (convening all relevant actors to introduce the recommendations of the Vienna World Conference and share experiences of States that have already developed national action plans)
- Supporting the national committee/task force during the initial phase of the process
- Providing training courses for judges, educators and journalists on UN human rights standards and procedures, tailored to the needs of the target groups
- Providing expertise for media human rights public awareness campaigns
- Awarding two fellowships for government officials on treaty reporting obligations (training courses organized by the UN)
- Evaluating the project

Beneficiaries

The primary beneficiaries are government officials, NGOs, the legal profession, educators and journalists. In broader terms, the project is intended to benefit the entire population of Azerbaijan through improved observance of international human rights standards.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR's counterpart is the Ministry of Justice. The project is implemented in close coordination with UNDP and a national project coordinator. The main body overseeing project implementation is the Local Project Steering Committee (LPSC), which includes government officials, civil society representatives, representatives of other UN agencies and OHCHR. LPSC's participation is crucial to the meaningful and timely implementation of project activities. Decisions regarding further modalities of implementation, to be taken at the autumn 2000 LPSC meeting, will be incorporated into project activities in 2001.

Budget in US\$

Training courses, workshops	28,000
Fellowships	15,600
Project management	6,000
Sub-total	49,600
13% Programme support cost	6,448
Total	56,048

Georgia

Background

The technical cooperation project for Georgia, "Strengthening Capacities and Infrastructures for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights," will enter its third year of implementation in 2001. In recent years, the human rights situation in Georgia has improved significantly, particularly in the area of legislative reform. However, there is still an urgent need for human rights education and training. OHCHR has also been actively involved in the UNDP-administered project to build the capacity of the Georgian Public Defender's Office (PDO). OHCHR works closely with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and the Danish Center for Human Rights on this project.

Objectives

The long-term objective of OHCHR's project is to strengthen the rule of law and respect for human rights. The need for specific reforms, such as a better functioning judiciary and the adoption of new legislation that

complies with international standards, makes education and awareness-raising even more urgent. The following objectives will be achieved through training courses and other education-related activities:

- Capacity development in Government and institutions of higher learning and increased access for all sectors of society to information about human rights standards, procedures and reporting obligations
- Strengthened protection of human rights in the administration of justice
- Strengthened capacity of NGOs and the mass media in the promotion and protection of human rights
- Expertise for the Georgian Public Defender's Office to improve its effectiveness as a new national human rights institution

Immediate results for those participating include:

- Knowledge of international human rights standards and mechanisms in general and those that apply specifically to their work
- Skills needed to apply that knowledge in their daily work
- Development of materials to be used for further training on the national level
- Strengthened capacity of the Public Defender's Office to promote and protect human rights

Activities

Activities for 2001 include:

- Two follow-up training courses on human rights for NGOs and professionals working in mass media (training will focus on identifying rights, applying international standards and procedures, writing about and publicizing human rights, and training others using the acquired knowledge, skills and materials)
- Two follow-up courses on human rights and the administration of justice (targeted at judges, lawyers and prosecutors)
- Ongoing activities (including publishing and reproducing materials, launching publicity campaigns, offering fellowships, purchasing books) and project evaluation

In addition, OHCHR will continue to participate in Project Steering Committee meetings of the Public Defender's

Office, will provide expertise on policy matters and human rights issues, and will supplement resources for training.

Beneficiaries

The primary beneficiaries of the project are government officials, NGOs, members of the legal profession, educators in higher education, journalists and the Public Defender's Office. In a broader sense, the project benefits the population through improved observance of international human rights standards throughout the country.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR's main counterpart for the project is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Nationwide, the project is implemented by two partners: the Georgian Young Lawyers Association (GYLA), an NGO based in Tbilisi which organizes activities from the capital, while the Human Rights Office of the UN Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) organizes activities from Sukhumi in the region of Abkhazia. The Project Advisory Committee (which is composed of the implementing partners, a government representative and OHCHR) oversees implementation of the project, decides on necessary changes and facilitates coordination. OHCHR's partner for its work with the Public Defender's Office is UNDP. Project activities are implemented through the permanent participation of OHCHR in the Project Steering Committee. This allows OHCHR to provide expertise on policy direction and decisions related to international assistance to the PDO.

Budget in US\$

Training	40,000
Public information	9,000
Implementing partner (GYLA)	8,000
Implementing partner (UNOMIG)	2,000
Fellowships	16,000
Support to the Public Defender's Office (travel of experts, training, resource materials)	11,000
Sub-total	86,000
13% Programme support cost	11,180
Total	97,180

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Background

Following discussions with the Government, non-governmental and international organizations during an OHCHR mission in October 1999, a three-year sequence of projects was outlined to help integrate human rights education within the formal school system. Four project phases are planned, with each phase providing the information and building the commitment necessary to proceed to the next phase. The four phases are: dialogue on human rights and education, consisting of two workshops; curricula review and revision; materials development and piloting; and training of teachers. Each phase will be covered by a single project document. OHCHR approved and signed the first project document in June 2000 after receiving the Government's agreement. Pending signature by the Government, project implementation will begin in 2001.

Objectives

The long-term objective is to support the national capacity to develop and implement human rights education in primary and secondary schools. The immediate objective is to enrich understanding of human rights standards and to highlight the importance of incorporating these standards into primary and secondary school curricula.

Activities

- Setting up a national strategy group on human rights education
- Preparing and organizing a workshop on human rights and education for high-level officials and decision-makers
- Preparing and organizing a workshop on process for human rights education in schools for human rights education specialists and decision-makers
- Ensuring official endorsement of a plan for human rights education developed by the workshop
- Identifying requirements for undertaking a comprehensive curricula review and revision
- Organizing consultations on the next technical cooperation phase



Beneficiaries

Project beneficiaries are the Ministry of Education and the authorities responsible for educational reform who will be exposed both to human rights standards and options for integrating them into school curricula. Ultimately, school children will benefit when steps are taken to incorporate these standards into educational programmes.

Implementing arrangements

The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Education and OHCHR. A human rights education specialist will be based in Skopje to work with the Ministry and other international entities specializing in education.

Budget in US\$

Advisory and technical assistance	90,100
National workshops and consultations	25,400
Sub-total	115,500
13% Programme support cost	15,015
Total	130,515

Moldova

Background

Since 1998 OHCHR has provided technical assistance to the Moldovan Human Rights Centre, an independent national institution created to protect the human rights of persons in Moldova in accordance with the Constitution and international human rights treaty obligations. The Centre's main activities include strengthening human rights awareness through public information campaigns, investigating complaints of possible violations in the public or private sectors, and providing advice on Government policy and legislation. The Centre became operational in 1998, when three Parliamentary Advocates were appointed to coordinate activities and permanent premises were secured.

Objectives

A joint UNDP/OHCHR project is underway to develop the Centre's technical and substantive capacity. OHCHR initially contributed US\$ 147,000 to the cost-shared initia-

tive that had a total budget of US\$ 772,751 (UNDP and bilateral donors contributed the remainder). The project's main aim is to maximize the Human Rights Centre's effectiveness by improving its technical and substantive capacity and strengthening linkages between the Centre and others involved in promoting human rights in Moldova. With previous assistance, primarily in the form of expert advice, the Human Rights Centre has improved its ability to handle complaints and public relations and has enhanced its credibility with its stakeholders. However, the institution still needs support to carry out its functions most effectively.

Activities

The following activities will be undertaken prior to the project's planned conclusion in 2001:

- Mission of international experts to finalize the establishment of a complaints-handling and action-cycle plan, including procedures to receive, review and investigate complaints, and to implement decision-making, action, and follow-up
- Mission of international consultants on human rights institutions programme design and implementation
- Training courses on media relations, public education strategies, and establishment of information links with other institutions and organizations, both in Moldova and around the world

Implementing arrangements

This is a joint UNDP/OHCHR project. A steering committee, composed of representatives from UNDP Moldova, OHCHR, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Parliamentary Permanent Committee on Human Rights and National Minorities and the National Project Coordinator, is responsible for monitoring project implementation.

Budget in US\$

International consultants	42,000
Special advisor	10,000
Materials, printing and translation	7,500
Sub-total	59,500
13% Programme support cost	7,735
Total	67,235



Russian Federation

Background

The past several years have witnessed enormous political, legal and economic changes in the Russian Federation, with major consequences for all aspects of society, including education. With decentralization has come a dramatic shift of control in education to regional authorities. Thirty per cent of the content of school curricula is now determined by local administration, within guidelines set by the federal Government. OHCHR's project in Russia is intended to help develop the educational system's capacity in the areas of human rights, democracy and rule of law. The project was launched at an expert meeting in September 2000, during which national and foreign experts on human rights education reviewed the current status of human rights education. The primary activities of the project will be implemented through a national network of organizations working in the field of human rights education. The project's main aim is to develop the capacity of grade school teachers and education professors in the area of human rights education. The involvement of teachers, students and professors will be supported through regional and national student competitions, training-of-trainers, internships and dissemination of information through television and teachers' newspapers. Core human rights publications will be provided to libraries in higher education, the judiciary, legislature and executive branch of Government and to NGOs on the national and regional levels. Increased capacity and cooperation in the use of international human rights standards will be supported through training fellowships and a national workshop on the UN human rights treaty system, as specifically requested by the Government.

The project ensures on-site expertise by providing international and national consultants in training activities and publication development. Support will also be provided to develop Russian national trainers and to create a national network of human rights educators.

Objectives

Because of Russia's size and the diversity of its population, a project on human rights education must be aimed at a national audience and involve regional implementation in order to have the broadest possible impact. The project was designed specifically to identify capable national partners, and to build bridges between educators, NGOs, Government agencies and others in the development of a human rights education network.

Activities

During 2001, OHCHR will:

- Organize three regional "training-of-trainers" courses for education professors and instructors from state institutes of continuing education for teachers. 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 activity will be carried out primarily by experienced Russian professors and international experts.
- Prepare a programme of training and internships for graduate students and education professors that will be conducted over the following two years in an institute of higher learning in Russia. The programme will train educators in teaching human rights and help them develop new teaching materials. Participants will also become acquainted with the major institutions and individuals in the country who are working on human rights promotion and protection, including Government bodies, such as the Constitutional Court and the Duma, NGOs and international organizations.
- Organize three regional human rights essay competitions for students and training for their teachers. Through participation in the competitions, students and teachers will become more familiar with human rights concepts. The winning students and their teachers will participate in additional training and an awards ceremony.
- Publish 12 (monthly) articles in nationwide teachers' newspapers that will provide teaching materials and information about competitions and activities of the project. Materials developed and supported by the project that will be published will include winning student essays from regional competitions and teaching plans developed in the educators' regional and national trainings. The regular exchange of information on human rights education will strengthen contact among educators working in this area.
- Develop regional resource centres for human rights education. The resource centres will provide access to teaching materials and to electronic sources of information within the region.

Beneficiaries

Teachers, students and education professors are the project's main target groups. Further target groups are



the recipients and users of the human rights “mini-libraries”. These include people in executive, legislative and judicial offices across the country, as well as selected human rights NGOs, law faculties, pedagogical institutes and bar associations. Indirect beneficiaries include those who welcome increased knowledge about international human rights standards, procedures, teaching methodology, and related institutional development.

Implementing arrangements

The implementing arrangements with Government and non-governmental agencies are carried out through regular meetings of a project advisory committee, composed of representatives from the network’s regional centres as well as representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education and OHCHR. The project advisory committee ensures that the project continues to be responsive to needs and is not duplicating other efforts. An executive committee, composed of representatives of the Russian Government and OHCHR, meets regularly to review project implementation. A national NGO, Fulcrum Foundation, administers the project across Russia. Public information regarding the project will be published each month in the two main teachers’ newspapers. Selected activities will be implemented by Russian institutions on a sub-contractual basis, following selection by public tender. Implementation of the project’s first-year activities was delayed due to scheduling problems and to the extent of preparation required.

Budget in US\$

Administration of the project by national NGO	50,000
Expert consultants	20,000
Publications	30,000
Regional student competitions and teacher training	70,000
Training of trainers and internships	70,000
Educators' network (meetings and communication)	20,000
Equipment for regional educators' network	30,000
Miscellaneous	10,000
Project advisory committee meetings	3,000
Travel	8,000
Sub-total	311,000
13% Programme support cost	40,430
Total	351,430



ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



Regional activities

OHCHR's strategy and programme in the Asia-Pacific region have been in development and implementation since 1982. They are based on a step-by step, building-block approach involving extensive consultations among governments, national institutions and NGOs on the possibility of establishing regional arrangements. Regional workshops have taken place in Colombo (1982), Manila (1990), Jakarta (1993), Seoul (1994), Katmandu (1996), Amman (1997), Teheran (1998), New Delhi (1999) and Beijing (2000).

At the Teheran workshop in 1998, the participating States adopted a framework for regional technical cooperation focusing on four areas: national plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights and the strengthening of national capacities; human rights education; national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights; and strategies for the realization of the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights. At the New Delhi workshop one year later, the decision was taken to convene inter-sessional regional and sub-regional workshops addressing issues under each of those areas.

Participants at the Beijing workshop in March 2000 reviewed progress achieved in the four areas defined in the Teheran framework for regional technical cooperation and identified possible next steps. The conclusions adopted during the Beijing meeting affirmed the importance of the implementation of the technical cooperation programme as one of the key components of the promotion of human rights in the region. Member States emphasized the importance of undertaking activities under the framework at national and sub-regional levels with the assistance of the concerned governments, national institutions and civil society. The Beijing conclusions also noted that within each area of the framework, attention should be paid to the promotion and protection of the rights of women, children and vulnerable groups. Parliaments, national institutions and civil society groups were invited to participate in the development and implementation of the framework.

The Beijing conclusions also endorsed the paper developed by OHCHR entitled, "Next steps and activities to be considered in the Asia-Pacific region to facilitate the process of regional cooperation for the protection and promotion of human rights". The activities mentioned, which will be conducted over two years, include: finalizing and distributing the Handbook on National Human Rights Action Plans to key beneficiaries; conducting a survey on human rights education; studying non-formal human rights education; organizing a meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forum on the role of national institutions in combating racism; providing training on protection approaches by national institutions; convening a workshop on the impact of globalization; and holding a regional preparatory meeting on the World Conference against Racism. In addition, the Beijing meeting recommended convening several workshops and other activities to bring together key experts and professional groups at the sub-regional level. The first workshop, which addressed the role of national institutions and women's rights, was held in Fiji in May 2000. Subsequent meetings took place in Mongolia and New Zealand in August 2000, and meetings planned for late 2000 and early 2001 will be held in India and Malaysia. During 2001, the ninth workshop on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights will be held in Thailand; the workshop will be funded from the United Nations regular budget.

In 1999, the High Commissioner appointed a former chief justice of India and current vice-chairman of the Human Rights Committee, Mr. Justice Bhagwati, as Regional Adviser for the Asia-Pacific region. He plays a significant role in human rights advocacy, designing strategies and developing partnerships for human rights, facilitating appropriate coordination of human rights technical cooperation projects, and fostering regional cooperation among national institutions, parliamentary human rights bodies, bar associations and NGOs. OHCHR will continue to support his activities during 2001.



National-level activities

National-level activities, based on universal human rights standards, aim to enhance national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights. Cooperation programmes are thus implemented within the framework of, for instance, national human rights action plans and the development of national human rights institutions. Projects support civil society, including human rights NGOs, and strengthen key aspects of State structures, such as justice systems, police and prison services, relevant ministries, parliament and the armed forces. OHCHR's national-level activities devote equal attention to civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, as well as to the right to development.

Activities are underway in Bhutan, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Palestine and the Philippines. The programmes in Bhutan, Mongolia, Nepal, and Palestine will end in 2000. With the approval of the concerned governments, new projects will be developed for Palestine and Mongolia, among other countries, and activities will be launched in China and Yemen. OHCHR is also acting as a catalyst for a new initiative with the recently established Nepal Human Rights Commission. Responding to a request from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, OHCHR fielded a needs-assessment mission to the country in late 1999. The mission identified projects in the areas of administration of justice and law enforcement, national human rights capacity-building and human rights education. Subject to agreement with the Government, OHCHR intends to initiate technical cooperation assistance in 2001. Discussions are also being held with the Government of the Solomon Islands with a view to developing a technical cooperation project in 2001.

OHCHR field presences have been established in Cambodia (OHCHR also supports the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights situation in Cambodia), Indonesia, Mongolia and Palestine. In East Timor, OHCHR provides substantive support to the human rights programme of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET). In Afghanistan, OHCHR supports the work of the human rights officer within the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator.

Partnerships

OHCHR has developed close links with United Nations and other partners in the region. The Office collaborates with UNDP, including with its sub-regional resource facilities in Beirut, Bangkok and Islamabad. UNICEF, UNESCO and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) are also partners of particular importance. The Inter-Parliamentary Union and OHCHR jointly organized a workshop for northeast Asian countries on "Enhancing the role of Parliaments to promote and protect Human Rights in Northeast Asia", which was held in Mongolia in August 2000. The Asia-Pacific Forum of National Institutions also works closely with OHCHR to establish and strengthen national human rights institutions throughout the region. NGOs have made valuable contributions in the formulation, design and delivery of projects throughout the region.

Budget in US\$

Implementation of the Beijing conclusions:	
Regional and sub-regional workshops	400,000
Miscellaneous	60,000
Sub-total	460,000
13% Programme support cost	59,800
Total	519,800



Arab sub-regional project

Background

This sub-regional project for Arab states on human development and human rights is conducted jointly by OHCHR and UNDP. The Regional Seminar on Human Rights and Development, co-organized by UNDP, OHCHR and the Arab Organization for Human Rights and held in Cairo on 7-9 June 1999, adopted a programme of action that stressed the integration of development in human rights and reinforced the implementing role of human rights NGOs.

Objectives and strategy

The project is designed to support the implementation of the framework envisaged under the Cairo plan of action. The objective is to launch activities aimed at building national and regional human rights capacities in the Arab world, based on shared experiences and progress already made in the areas of the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights. The project will also provide a forum for States, NGOs and professionals from the region to exchange information and identify obstacles to the realization of the right to development in the region.

In order to achieve these long-term objectives, the project will:

- Build awareness among various segments of Arab society about the inter-linkages between sustainable human development and the realization of human rights, the right to development as a human right, and the human rights-based approach to development
- Establish a sustainable Arab platform for social dialogue and learning about the human-rights approach to development
- Strengthen cooperation between Arab NGOs and governments to promote the realization of economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development
- Strengthen the capacity of NGOs in the region for research, information-sharing and the preparation of materials on human rights and development

Activities

The above strategy will be implemented by:

- Ensuring a sustainable human rights information system in the region by drawing upon and complementing existing human rights information systems in Arabic, such as creating a human rights web site and developing and disseminating human rights materials.
- Organizing five roundtables on themes related to the human rights conventions and their relevance to a human rights-based approach to development (The themes would relate to issues of ratification, national incorporation and implementation, and to issues concerning the content of the conventions, such as rights, responsibilities and obligations. In each of the five roundtables, a common core agenda item will be the role of national human rights institutions and national human rights action plans. The roundtables will also discuss ways of strengthening cooperation among NGOs, governments and the business sector to promote the realization of economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development, and will adopt a specific follow-up plan of action).
- Convening a workshop for journalists and the media, facilitated by experts active in the field of human rights from within the region (The aim of the workshop will be to develop specific human rights training programmes and strategies for journalists to address human rights issues and develop specific strategies to promote a culture of human rights in the media. The workshop will develop pilot methodologies that can later be refined at the country level).

Beneficiaries

The immediate beneficiaries include the civil society organizations active in the area of human rights and involved in development work in 20 Arab countries. Government officials and policy-makers whose work and functions are closely related to development cooperation and the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights will also be immediate beneficiaries.

Implementing arrangements

The Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) will implement this project, in cooperation with UNDP and OHCHR. Both will contribute financially to the project.



OHCHR funds will cover the cost of experts, technical assistance, training materials and publications. UNDP funds will cover the cost of a limited amount of urgently needed equipment, as recommended by UNDP and AOHR. The remaining funds will cover priority-cost items, including those related to training. AOHR, the executing agency, will finance the provision of local staff, location and equipment and UNOPS will manage the funds.

Budget in US\$

UNDP will contribute US\$ 125,000 to this project in 2001 and 2002. The budget below represents OHCHR's part of the project in 2001.

Meetings and training seminars	50,000
Strengthening Arab NGOs	30,000
Sub-total	80,000
13% Programme support cost	10,400
Total	90,400

Budget in US\$

Punishment of minor crimes	85,000
Human rights and police	130,000
Human rights education	85,000
National focal point	10,000
Sub-total	309,500
13% Programme support cost	40,235
Total	349,735

East Timor

Background

Since the visit of the High Commissioner to East Timor (5-7 August 2000), a programme of technical cooperation between OHCHR and the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) has been under development.

Objectives and strategy

The primary objectives of the programme are to support UNTAET's efforts to develop East Timor's capacity to ensure the sustainable promotion and protection of human rights. OHCHR will support, facilitate and assist the work of UNTAET to integrate international human rights standards into national practice; develop a solid understanding of human rights guarantees and responsibilities; raise awareness of human rights within East Timorese society; and promote reconciliation among the people of East Timor. Working through UNTAET, OHCHR encourages the involvement of local partners, including institutions, organizations, experts and civil society, in implementing the programme.

Activities

OHCHR's technical cooperation activities in 2001 include:

- Training and supporting UN civilian police, the East Timor Police Academy and UN peacekeepers
- Training UNTAET human rights officers
- Recruiting and training UNTAET East Timorese human rights officers
- Training the new East Timorese judiciary and lawyers, especially concerning prosecution of gross violations of human rights
- Assisting UNTAET in reviewing draft legislation to ensure it is in full compliance with international human rights standards

Country projects

China

Background

Following the signing of a memorandum of intent between the Government of the People's Republic of China and OHCHR, OHCHR fielded a needs-assessment mission to the country in March 1999 to review potential areas of technical cooperation. The mission identified possibilities for cooperation under three broad areas: administration of justice, legislative reform and human rights education. In September 2000, a follow-up mission from OHCHR visited China to finalize a memorandum of understanding that established the framework for technical cooperation and outlined priorities for 2001.

Activities

During the first phase (until the end of 2001), technical cooperation activities will focus on the administration of justice and human rights education, including:

- Punishment of minor crimes
- Human rights and police
- Human rights education



- Promoting a reconciliation process by providing international expertise and support to local initiatives
- Translating (into local languages), publishing and disseminating UN human rights instruments and materials

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the programme are UNTAET officials, the police, the judiciary, prosecutors, defence lawyers, NGOs and political leaders.

Budget in US\$

Human rights training for UN officials and East Timorese police	80,000
Review of draft legislation	10,000
Promotion of reconciliation process	25,000
Translation, publication and dissemination of human rights materials	20,000
Sub-total	35,000
13% Programme support cost	17,550
Total	152,550

Indonesia

Background

A memorandum of understanding was signed by OHCHR and the Government of Indonesia on 13 August 1998 and its renewal is under consideration.

Objectives and strategy

The primary objectives are to support Indonesia in developing national capacities to ensure the sustainable promotion and protection of human rights, and to assist Indonesia in establishing an effective judicial system to prosecute gross violations of human rights. OHCHR's role is to support, facilitate and assist the work of Government and non-governmental actors and to raise awareness of human rights among the wider circles of Indonesian society. OHCHR cooperates with other UN agencies in implementing the programme.

Activities

Subject to approval by the Government, technical cooperation activities will include:

- Providing assistance to the national commission on human rights (KOMNAS HAM), the primary national protection body
- Launching training, education and outreach activities

to promote human rights among Government officials, members of the military and police, representatives of NGOs and the media

- Providing training in women's rights and NGO policy advocacy
- Providing technical assistance during the investigation, prosecution and punishment of gross violations of human rights, especially in relation to the prosecution of alleged perpetrators of human rights violations that occurred in East Timor in 1999
- Training judges, prosecutors, defence lawyers and other justice officials in prosecuting perpetrators of gross violations of human rights and in developing the national capacity to provide training on human rights
- Training public-awareness specialists to increase awareness of prosecutions of gross violations of human rights

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the programme are Government officials, the military, police, KOMNAS HAM, the judiciary, legislators, prosecutors, defence lawyers, professional bodies, NGOs, and the media.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR is located in the United Nations House in Jakarta and cooperates with other UN agencies and programmes. OHCHR will continue to participate in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

Budget in US\$

Support to the national commission on human rights (KOMNAS HAM)	20,000
Military and police training	20,000
Women's rights training and NGO policy advocacy	40,000
Technical assistance for prosecutions of gross human rights violations	150,000
Training for prosecutions of gross human rights violations	140,000
Development of awareness of prosecutions of human rights violations	40,000
Cooperation with UN programmes in Indonesia	30,000
Sub-total	440,000
13% Programme support cost	57,200
Total	497,200

Mongolia

Background

OHCHR has maintained a modest field presence in Mongolia since 1998. During 2000, the Office has been actively involved in raising awareness of international human rights standards by organizing a number of national and regional workshops, training sessions and seminars. The Office has also worked to strengthen local expertise in the field of human rights by funding academic fellowships in human rights. Following the elections in June 2000 and the official visit of the High Commissioner in August, the Government has indicated its willingness to proceed with the establishment of a national human rights commission and the adoption of a national plan of action in the field of human rights.

Objectives and strategy

The project aims to enhance the country's capacity to integrate constitutional and international human rights standards into national practice and assist both the Government and civil society in developing a solid understanding of human rights guarantees and responsibilities. The project is implemented in cooperation with the UN country team, in particular through the joint OHCHR/UNDP Human Rights Strengthening Programme (HURIST). The project aims to raise awareness of human rights within civil society, help establish a functioning national human rights commission, reform the prison system, and support the development of a national plan of action.

Activities in 2001

- Providing technical assistance for the drafting of the necessary legislation to establish a national human rights commission
- Assisting in drafting a national human rights plan of action
- Advising the UN country team on how to integrate human rights in all UN activities in the country
- Providing training seminars for national NGOs
- Offering training seminars for prison staff and staff in pre-trial detention centres
- Launching human rights public-awareness campaigns

Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the activities will be the officials of the national institutions and the Government.

The UN country team will also directly benefit from support for the integration of human rights. The population of Mongolia will ultimately benefit from an increased awareness of human rights, a functioning human rights commission, better protection for prisoners, prison legislation that conforms to international standards and a national plan of action for human rights.

Implementing arrangements

The Office will maintain its limited field presence and remain involved in established UN country theme groups. The Office will liaise closely with the UN Resident Coordinator to avoid duplicating efforts.

Budget in US\$

National human rights commission	10,000
National plan of action	10,000
Training and public awareness	17,000
Staff and operational expenses	55,000
Sub-total	92,000
13% Programme support cost	11,960
Total	103,960

Palestine

Background

OHCHR's activities in Palestine are an integral part of a broad international effort aimed at developing the social and economic infrastructure of Palestine by strengthening Palestinian institutional capacities in various sectors. The OHCHR programme, 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 for the Middle-East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General. The programme is implemented in a complex institutional setting. Since the Palestinian legal system was born of a variety of influences, harmonization of legislation is required to ensure adequate protection of human rights. Strategic planning is necessary for judicial administration, housing, and other economic and social areas. The ministries, the police and prison authorities and the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) need adequate

resources and training in human rights. Palestine's strong civil society should be encouraged to play an active role in both monitoring and assistance activities and should be supported as essential to establishing the rule of law.

Objectives and strategy

For 2001, 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 to and advice on the development and drafting of legislation
- Developing a national plan of action on human rights
- Strengthening national human rights structures, focusing especially on the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights (PICCR) and local NGOs

Activities

Establishing a legal framework

- Supporting Palestinian institutions and NGOs in law reform research and providing technical consultations
- Providing technical and financial assistance to the Independent Commission to establish a legal library
- Offering advisory services and training to Ministry of Justice staff on drafting legislation
- Providing fellowships and documentation for members of the Human Rights Committee of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC)
- Providing training on human rights and legal drafting techniques for staff of the PLC

Developing an official human rights policy

- Providing technical assistance in developing a national plan of action on human rights through expert advice, consultancies to prepare strategy papers, consultative workshops, documentation and publication of the plan

Strengthening national structures

- **Police:** Providing training in human rights for police commanders; offering advisory services for developing police standing orders and codes of conduct; 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 and offering training and fellowships for prison guards and administrators
- **Independent Commission:** Strengthening the Independent Commission's outreach capacity by maintaining field workers in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and launching educational activities
- **NGOs:** Providing technical and financial assistance to a West Bank NGO to establish a women's rights unit and providing training and documentation to various NGOs

Beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries of the programme include Palestinian Authority officials, police, members of the judiciary, prosecutors, lawyers, prison officials, members and staff of the Palestinian Legislative Council, the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizen's Rights and various human rights NGOs. Indirect beneficiaries include: victims of human rights violations, through the services of the Independent Commission and the NGOs supported by the programme; and women's groups and individuals, through the legal aid and public-awareness activities implemented by NGOs supported by the programme.

Impact

OHCHR-supported legal research activities have helped stimulate broad public debate on the crucial issue of developing new human rights legislation, thus ensuring expert contributions to the law reform process and fostering essential links between civil society and the Palestinian Authority in this area. OHCHR's assistance to the Independent Commission has helped institutionalize its role in Palestine, as demonstrated by the increased willingness of the population to seek out its services and the increased recognition of its role by the Palestinian Authority. A core group of law enforcement officials, well-versed in human rights standards relevant to their profession and committed to human rights principles, is ensuring ongoing human rights training within their respective branches.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR's activities rely to a large extent on existing national human rights expertise and institutions to implement programme activities. A number of programme 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 cooperation have also been

established with other UN agencies and bilateral donors. Such cooperation is facilitated by the special structure set up under the umbrella of the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle-East Peace Process.

Structure of OHCHR's presence

OHCHR's office is based in Gaza, with a sub-office in the West Bank. The staff is composed of one national and two international professionals, two national support staff, and one United Nations Volunteer. The office works under the umbrella of the UN Special Coordinator, and is supported administratively by UNDP/Programme of Assistance for the Palestinian People (PAPP) in Jerusalem.

Budget in US\$

Establishing a legal framework	100,000
Developing a human rights policy	40,000
Strengthening national structures	391,000
Sub-total	531,000
13% Programme support cost	69,030
Total	600,030

The Philippines

Background

In January 1995, the Committee on the Rights of the Child considered the initial report of the Philippines. Noting the Government's firm commitment to the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, the Committee recommended that the Philippines seek assistance from OHCHR to undertake a comprehensive reform of the juvenile justice system. In December 1999, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Government and the representative of the UNICEF/Manila, signed a project document for a two-year period.

The juvenile justice system in the Philippines is at a turning point: its concept and structure, as defined in law, are now being debated in the Congress and within the civil society. OHCHR thus has a unique opportunity to profoundly influence national attitudes and mechanisms for protecting the rights of children in conflict with the law.

Objectives and strategy

The long-term objective of the project is to enhance the protection of the rights of the child within the juvenile justice system. The project provides assistance for: developing juvenile justice legislation in conformity with international standards; elaborating internal procedures for professionals dealing with children in conflict with the law; training public authorities to promote the best interests of children, including by creating specialized materials for training-of-trainers courses; and launching an information campaign to raise public awareness concerning the rights of children in conflict with the law.

Activities

Assisting legal development

- Publishing and disseminating, among those actively involved in the development of the bill on juvenile justice, the research papers prepared during the first year of implementation, and convening regional consultations to consider those papers
- Organizing two study sessions in four consecutive weeks for the staff servicing the relevant committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate
- Organizing two study sessions for selected representatives from NGOs, representatives of the criminal justice system, religious organizations, schools, universities and the local chapters of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and Barangay officials

Guidelines and training

- Providing advice to police, prosecutors, public attorneys, courts and correctional officials as they develop internal operating guidelines and a corresponding checklist covering the handling of children who come into conflict with the law
- Developing, testing, evaluating and publishing specialized training materials for the various actors involved in the administration of juvenile justice
- Giving briefings to representatives of NGOs, professional staff of relevant national institutions and clerks in the new child and family courts about children in conflict with the law

Information campaign

- Producing 3,000 bilingual informational posters and 100,000 cards summarizing the main points of the

operating procedures that police and prison personnel should apply concerning children in conflict with the law for distribution in police stations and places of custody

- Producing 3,000 bilingual informational posters highlighting the rights of children in conflict with the law for distribution among the general public

Beneficiaries

The ultimate beneficiaries of this project are the Philippine children who come into conflict with the law. The direct beneficiaries are the professionals in the juvenile justice system, including public attorneys, staff servicing the committees of both chambers of the legislature, staff of the national human rights institution, representatives of NGOs and the media.

Implementing arrangements

The project was developed in close cooperation with UNICEF/Manila. All activities are to be jointly implemented by OHCHR and UNICEF. The activities of the project fall under a broader project called "A Comprehensive System of Justice for Children", which was included in the Fifth Master Plan of Operations agreed between the Government and UNICEF and signed 29 September 1998. The Philippine Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) is the Government counterpart. As established in the project, local academic centres and NGOs will be sub-contracted to implement selected activities.

Budget in US\$

UNICEF will contribute US\$ 179,400 to this project in 2001. The budget below represents OHCHR's part of the project.

Legal development of juvenile justice legislation	8,000
Guidelines and training, including information campaign	161,000
Managerial activities	11,000
Sub-total	180,000
13% Programme support cost	23,400
Total	203,400

Yemen

Background

In 1999, the Government of Yemen agreed with the recommendations contained in the needs-assessment report prepared by an OHCHR mission to the country. Since then, OHCHR has consulted closely with the Government, UNICEF and the UN team in Yemen in developing modalities of a technical cooperation project to assist children in conflict with the law.

Objectives and strategy

The project will assist children in conflict with the law by establishing a national mechanism for the administration of juvenile justice that conforms to international standards.

Activities

- Develop and formulate appropriate draft juvenile justice legislation that incorporates provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant international standards
- Elaborate regulatory procedures for dealing with children in conflict with the law
- Provide training-for-trainers on the revised draft law on juveniles and training manuals for security officials on how to deal with children during arrest, investigation, trial, sentencing and post-sentencing

Beneficiaries

The ultimate beneficiaries are the children who come into conflict with the law, whose rights will be better protected as a result of the project. Direct beneficiaries are all institutions and groups involved in the juvenile justice system.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR will be responsible for providing advisory services and technical expertise and will work closely with the UN team in Yemen, especially with UNICEF.

Budget in US\$

Training and workshops	55,000
Publications	20,000
Operational expenses	22,000
Sub-total	97,000
13 % Programme support cost	12,610
Total	109,610

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

Introduction

Through work in the field, international norms can be woven into national legislation and practice; human rights education and advocacy campaigns can help prevent violations of human rights; and the international, regional and national bodies devoted to the promotion and protection of human rights can join forces with like-minded NGOs and civil society.

OHCHR establishes presences in the field in response to emergency human rights situations, such as occurred in the countries of the Former Yugoslavia; as a reaction to decisions by the Commission on Human Rights, the Security Council or the General Assembly, as in the case of Burundi; or following an agreement between OHCHR and the government concerned, as in Colombia. Field work usually combines promotion and protection activities.

A key objective of OHCHR's field presences is to ensure that international human rights standards are implemented and realized at country level, both in law and practice. This is accomplished by setting up or strengthening national human rights capacities and national human rights institutions, following up on the recommendations of human rights treaty bodies and the Commission on Human Rights, and creating a culture of human rights. The success of OHCHR's field presences depends on the willingness and ability of governments, national institutions, NGOs and UN country teams to launch human rights-related activities on their own, within the context of regional or sub-regional strategies. Another important aspect of OHCHR's field work is developing the human rights component of complex UN missions, both peacekeeping and peace-making. Thus OHCHR is strengthening cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) in, among other places, Angola, East Timor, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The enhancement of OHCHR's capacity to plan, coordinate and execute human rights components

of UN peace operations is one of the key recommendations of the report of the Brahimi Panel on the United Nations peace operations.

Budget summary in US\$

Burundi	2,651,887
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,344,940
Colombia	4,540,044
Cambodia	1,799,999
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,214,750
Croatia	785,333
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	2,316,500

Total	14,653,453
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Burundi

Background

Since 1993, Burundi has endured conflict. Despite the signing of a peace accord in Arusha, Tanzania, in August 2000, the country is still riven by civil war. During the year 2000 alone, hundreds of unarmed civilians, including women, children and elderly persons, were killed by the warring parties. In April 2000, more than 9,000 prisoners were being held in detention centres built to accommodate one-third that number; 80 per cent of them were awaiting trial. The country's civil society is not well organized; nor is it trained and equipped to promote and protect respect for human rights. OHCHR established a presence in the capital, Bujumbura, in 1994. One year later, an agreement was signed authorizing the deployment of human rights experts and observers in a mission of observation throughout the country. In June 1998, OHCHR established two sub-offices, in Gitega and Ngozi.

Outline of objectives

OHCHR's activities during 2001 will focus on facilitating the implementation of the human rights provisions contained in the Arusha Peace Agreement, especially those concerning the return of refugees and internally displaced persons, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes, and economic and social rights. Unless the local society is adequately prepared beforehand, massive returns of both internally and externally displaced persons could seriously exacerbate the current hostilities. The Office will strengthen its programmes to foster a culture of peace, support the national reconciliation process and bolster the justice system so it can function effectively in a changing social and political environment. To achieve these long-term goals, OHCHR will help transfer knowledge and competence to national institutions.

The Burundi office of OHCHR is working on a three-pronged approach to the country's problems:

- Observation and reporting on human rights violations (Observation Unit)
- Assistance to the judiciary through support for the re-establishment of some of its entities, including training of employees. OHCHR also provides assistance in revising laws and in criminal proceedings and trials, especially for those related to the outbreak of fighting in 1993 (Legal Assistance Programme)
- Education and training on human rights issues (Promotion Unit)

The main objectives of the observation, promotion and administration of justice programmes are to:

- Observe and gather information on the current human rights situation
- Investigate human rights violations
- Monitor detention and the situation of people forced to flee their homes
- Work with the Government to ensure follow-up of OHCHR's findings
- Report on the human rights situation in Burundi
- Establish a human rights culture, strengthen the role and capacity of national human rights institutions, the civil society and the media in protecting human rights, and disseminate information about human rights through training, promotional and educational activities
- Reinforce the rule of law by providing assistance to the judiciary, promoting the implementation of and respect for international human rights instruments and working to ensure fair trials

Activities

Human rights observation

OHCHR will visit prisons and detention centres and monitor the functioning of the judicial system across the country. A preventive monitoring system will help ensure that returnees are not unlawfully arrested or detained for allegedly participating in the events of 1993. Together with UNHCR, OHCHR will monitor that the return from refugee camps and transit centres occurs with full respect for returnees' human rights.

Activities will include

- Investigating allegations of severe violations of human rights, including the right to life, and of forced or involuntary disappearances and arbitrary detention
- Collecting testimonies from local and provincial civil and military authorities concerning violations of human rights
- Visiting the country's main detention centres, conducting individual, private interviews with detainees and assessing conditions of detention
- Visiting internally displaced persons, regroupment and refugee camps, and visiting victims of human rights violations in hospitals

Anticipated results

- Decrease of human rights violations
- Release of illegally detained persons
- Strengthening of the national capacities for investigation and follow-up of human rights violations
- Establishment of a national network for the promotion and protection of human rights (the network will consist of human rights monitors in every sector of society. An initial network of 80 national human rights monitors will be trained)
- Assurance that returnees' rights will not be violated because of their prior status as refugees or displaced/regrouped persons

Assistance to the judicial system

Activities will include

- Providing training to employees of the judicial system, police forces and penitentiary personnel
- Providing legal assistance in criminal proceedings related to the start and continuation of the conflict
- Reinforcing the capacity of the judicial system, especially to handle litigation on land matters and lawsuits arising from the events of 1993
- Training public civil servants involved in arrest and detention

Anticipated results

- A decrease in the occurrence of arbitrary arrest and lengthy periods of detention without trial
- An increase in the fairness of trials and in legal assistance provided in cases of arrest linked with the events of 1993
- 90 members of the gendarmerie and the police forces trained in human rights
- 30 officials from the penitentiary administration trained in human rights
- 60 judiciary officials trained in human rights
- A well-functioning judicial system
- Legal assistance provided to individual returnees or groups of returnees in recovering their property in accordance with Burundian law

Human rights promotion, education and training

OHCHR will reinforce the capacities of transitional institutions, the army, the civil society and the educational system through training, information, awareness-raising and popularizing the concept of respect for human dignity.

Activities will include

- Preparing recipient communities, psychologically and morally, for mass returns
- Increasing public awareness about peace and tolerance towards returnees by expanding the training programme on human rights and supporting national reconciliation
- Elaborating and distributing adequate promotional materials

Anticipated results

- Three human rights seminars organized for 150 leaders and members of local human rights organizations
- Three human rights seminars organized for 150 leaders and members of women's associations and movements
- Two training sessions organized for 200 leaders and members of youth movements
- Translation and publishing of the Peace Accord in Kirundi
- Ten days of discussion and promotion organized
- Participation in the production of 52 micro-fictions and four information campaigns

Other activities

OHCHR will help organize and inform the missions of the special rapporteur on the human rights situation in Burundi.

Impact

The Office not only provides information about the human rights situation but also refers its findings to the competent local and national authorities for follow-up. OHCHR has won the acceptance of all warring parties to conduct its monitoring activities; indeed, in many cases, OHCHR has been the sole organization with access to certain detention centres or incident sites. Through its legal assistance programme, the Office helped free hundreds of people who had been illegally detained. Many Burundian citizens regularly contact the Office to report human rights violations and request OHCHR to intervene.

Coordination

The main partners remain UN agencies, especially UNDP, OCHA, UNHCR and UNESCO. OHCHR Burundi works closely with various ministries of the Burundi Government. Regular consultations are held between OHCHR and international NGOs, particularly *Avocats sans Frontière*, and with national NGOs, such as *Ligue Iteka*, *Association pour la Défense des Prisonniers* (ABDP), *Association Agir Dufantaye*, and women's associations, such as *Collectif des Associations et ONG féminines du Burundi* (CAFOB).

Lessons learned

While OHCHR cannot prevent all human rights violations, it can help limit their incidence. It is clear that OHCHR's continued presence, especially in the field, is crucial for preparing for the return of refugees and encouraging the population to embrace the Peace Agreement.

Budget in US\$

Monitoring:	
International and national staff, training,	
operational and logistic support	697,934
13% Programme support cost	90,731
Sub-total	788,665
Assistance to judiciary:	
International and national staff, training,	
operational and logistic support	1,006,487
13% Programme support cost	130,843
Sub-total	1,137,330
Technical assistance:	
International and national staff, training,	
operational and logistic support	642,382
13% Programme support cost	83,510
Sub-total	725,892
Total	2,651,887

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Background

Although a peace agreement was signed by the warring parties in 1999, the human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) remains dire. In territories under Government control, there are restrictions on the freedoms of opinion and expression, a ban on political-party activities, inadequate administration of justice, growing influence of the military court and life-threatening conditions in prisons. In the areas of the country under the control of the Rwandan, Ugandan and Burundian armies, civilian populations are massacred, ethnic hatred shows no signs of abating and violence and instability is widespread. According to the *protocole d'accord*, which established the OHCHR office in the Congo, the mandate is to monitor the human rights situation throughout the country and assist the Government authorities in applying international human rights standards, especially those contained in the international instruments that have been ratified by the Congo, and in adopting similar national legislation and developing human rights training and teaching.

Outline of activities

OHCHR's work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo focuses on two activities:

- Monitoring the human rights situation and providing support to the mandate of the special rapporteur on the human rights situation in the Congo
- Implementing technical cooperation activities, including training for NGO representatives and Government officials, developing a human rights documentation centre, and offering education and promotion programmes

Objectives and strategy

Activities focus on the implementation of the national plan for the promotion and protection of human rights, adopted in December 1999 for the period 2000-2002. This plan of action aims at strengthening national institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, responsible for human rights promotion and protection. This work will, in turn, enable the Congo to foster respect for the provisions contained in the international

and regional treaties to which it is a party. The approach adopted is participatory and complements other actions by national, international, governmental and non-governmental actors in the field of human rights. The office will play a coordinating role among the national institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, working in the fields of monitoring, promotion, and protection of human rights. Particular emphasis will be placed on strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Human Rights to carry out its role of coordinating Government action in the field of human rights.

Activities

A balance between technical cooperation and monitoring activities allows the office to underpin its reporting obligations with a constructive dialogue with national authorities in charge of the protection and promotion of human rights.

Monitoring

The human rights situation will be monitored comprehensively, focusing on investigating human rights violations and prison conditions. The opening of a sub-office in Goma, tasked to monitor the human rights situation in the territories controlled by rebels, has greatly expanded OHCHR's coverage throughout the country. Monitoring activities include gathering information from different sources and preparing reports to the High Commissioner, the special rapporteur and the thematic mechanisms. The information gathered will enable the special rapporteur, thematic special rapporteurs and working groups to send urgent appeals for individual cases. The information gathered will also be transmitted to treaty-monitoring bodies and will be referred to Government departments in charge of the promotion and protection of human rights to encourage proper follow-up.

Anticipated results

- Decrease in human rights violations
- Release of illegally detained persons
- Strengthening of the national capacities for monitoring and investigative follow-up of human rights violations
- Protection of refugees, returnees or displaced persons
- Participation of NGOs in monitoring and investigating human rights violations
- Adoption of laws in conformity with international human rights standards

Technical assistance

OHCHR's technical assistance activities in 2001 will primarily support the implementation of the national plan of action on human rights adopted in December 1999. The main activities will include:

- Assisting to the Ministry of Human Rights, which will take the form of providing office equipment, grants, training in treaty accession and reporting obligations, human rights documentation and advisory services
- Assisting in the establishment of a national human rights commission
- Reinforcing the national human rights documentation centre established in April 1999 in Kinshasa (the documentation centre will be handed over to the Government after a period of 18 months)
- Providing financial support for projects submitted by NGOs
- Producing radio and television broadcasts on human rights
- Providing training courses in the field of human rights for the media, inter-ministerial committees and lawyers

Anticipated results

- Fellowships for two staff members of the Ministry of Human Rights
- Assistance to the national human rights commission
- Provision of office equipment and books to the documentation centre
- Financial assistance to NGOs
- Human rights seminar for lawyers
- Human rights seminar for 30 journalists
- Training course for members of inter-ministerial committees

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries will be the victims of human rights violations, NGOs, and the Government, in particular, the Ministries of Human Rights and of Justice.

Impact

Through its work, OHCHR has developed stronger ties with other UN bodies working in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and with Government authorities and NGOs. The Government, the rebel movements, and civil society have recognized the importance of the Office, which is considered a neutral partner by national and international agencies working to promote and protect human rights in the Congo.

Risks

OHCHR could be prevented from realizing its objectives in the Congo if the security situation in the country degenerates further and the war spreads.

Coordination

The Office will work in close cooperation with the Government, especially the Ministry of Human Rights, with various actors in civil society, particularly human rights NGOs, and with UN agencies, the human rights section of the United Nations Mission in the Congo (MONUC), the European Union and international NGOs.

Lessons learned

OHCHR is the sole UN agency that has been authorized both by the Government and the rebels to visit prisons and other detention facilities. In light of persistent human rights abuses, the monitoring activities of the Office should be continued.

Structure of OHCHR in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

OHCHR's office in the Congo is headed by a Director and is composed of two substantive units in accordance with the activities outlined above: monitoring and technical cooperation. A sub-office has been operating in Goma since June 2000.

Budget in US\$

Monitoring:	
international and national staff,	
operating costs, logistics	396,737
13% Programme support cost	51,576
Sub-total	448,313
Technical cooperation activities:	
international and national staff, training,	
operating costs, logistics	793,475
13% Programme support cost	103,152
Sub-total	896,627
Total	1,344,940

Colombia

Background

In November 1996, the High Commissioner and the Government of Colombia signed an agreement that established a mandate for an office in Bogota. The mandate includes observing the in-country human rights situation and providing technical assistance to support the formulation and application of policies, programmes and measures to protect and promote human rights. The agreement has been extended and modified on three occasions; most recently, in February 2000, the Government renewed the Office's mandate until April 2002 and relaxed a restriction on the number of international personnel allowed to work in the country. During its 56th session in 2000, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights recognized that the Office plays a vital role in addressing on-going violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and in promoting and protecting human rights within Colombia. The Commission encouraged the Office to expand its presence beyond Bogota.

Strategy and priorities for 2001

An increase in fighting, triggered by the implementation of the military component of Plan Colombia, will worsen an already grave human rights situation and result in greater numbers of civilians being forcibly displaced from their homes. OHCHR will respond to these new challenges by expanding and enhancing its work throughout the country.

Observation: Given the size of Colombia and the magnitude of its human rights problems, the Bogota Office is developing a strategic approach to observation. The Office continues to register all complaints and develop analyses on a countrywide scale. However, because human resources are limited, the Office has had to prioritize "hot spots" and cases of particular seriousness to ensure follow-up of the most critical cases. The observation team has made frequent visits to these explosive zones. But as the war spread over the past year, the number of areas considered "hot spots" has grown and the observation team has been unable to fulfill requests to visit all these sites. The Office thus proposes opening three regional satellite offices in Medellín, Cali and Bucaramanga in 2001. With a greater presence in these areas, the Office can better prevent human rights violations and encourage the protection of human rights by working with regional and local actors.

Relations with media and human rights promotion:

Because of financial restrictions, promotional activities have, to date, been ad hoc. As recommended in the audit report of the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Service (OIOS), the Bogota office would like to develop a multi-faceted, coherent public-information strategy, including the promotion of international human rights standards, during 2001. The mass media, political interest groups, public-opinion makers, the academic community, social communicators, NGOs and the private sector will be targeted. It is urgent that the Office recruits a public information and promotions officer (a Colombian national with established credentials in journalism). The Office's strategy would include the production of publications, regular press releases and public statements, editorial opinion pieces in major newspapers, press conferences, the creation of a national award for journalism on human rights and humanitarian reporting, promotional seminars and workshops, the enhancement of the Office web site and off-the-record briefings with target audiences.

Technical cooperation and legal advisory services:

During 1999 and 2000, the Office made great efforts to structure its technical cooperation programme in response to requests from the Government, the civil society and the international community. Given the sporadic flow of resources during 2000, ongoing projects will be consolidated and completed in 2001. A limited number of additional activities, such as seminars and training events, will be explored. Technical assistance also includes providing legal advisory services with a view to harmonizing national legislation with international norms. Through analytical and investigative studies, the Office aims to strengthen the rule of law and encourage the correct interpretation and application of international norms and standards. These activities will continue through 2001.

Overall objectives

Given the current human rights climate, adversely affected by a multi-sided armed conflict that is subject to frequent, unpredictable change, most of the objectives and results of the office can only be achieved in the medium to long term (e.g., at least three to five years). The principal objective is to observe the human rights situation in the country with the aim of supporting the rule of law and promoting the development of a self-sustaining environment for the protection, promotion and full enjoyment of human rights by all Colombians.

This will be achieved through:

- Observing, monitoring and providing analytical reports to the High Commissioner, so the international community remains fully aware 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
- Providing technical assistance to selected State and non-governmental institutions to strengthen national capacity in human rights protection, promotion and dissemination

Activities in 2001

Increase the preventive and protection capacity of the Office through improved observation and situational analysis

Anticipated results

- Three regional satellite offices opened: Cali, Medellin and Bucaramanga
- Increased number of field visits to zones of particular concern
- Increased number of analytical reports with a thematic or regional focus
- Development of region-specific strategies for case follow-up

Increase the Office's capacity for dialogue

Anticipated results

- A wider network of contacts with State institutions, the Church, NGOs and other civil society organizations
- Enhanced public, particularly media, understanding of the Office's mandate and issues relating to human rights and international humanitarian law
- Increased possibility of constructive dialogue with armed forces units in the field

Strengthen the image of the Office and its ability to propose workable solutions, and act as a leading advocate for victims affected by human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law

Anticipated results

- Five regional seminars/workshops on human rights and international humanitarian law

- Regularly produced newsletters for national and international consumption
- At least six editions of the newsletter "Hoja informativa"
- An expanded and up-to-date web page
- Publication of international treaties and norms
- Publication of a historical record of the Office's experience in Colombia

Strengthen and build the national capacity of civil society and the State, and build UN capacity for the promotion and protection of human rights and international humanitarian law

Anticipated results

- A series of training events for civil society in subjects such as the investigation of human rights violations, preparation of human rights reports, etc.
- Incorporation of human rights into the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) exercise
- Implementation of 10 national technical assistance strategies with State counterparts
- Establishment of a human rights research and documentation centre in the National University
- The monitoring and evaluation of training projects with the Public Prosecutors Office and the Escuela Judicial (Judicial School)
- Establishment of a law clinic project in the National University with law students who will carry out human rights casework

Beneficiaries

- Individuals and communities at risk of human right violations and breaches of international humanitarian law
- State and national institutions working in 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)
- National NGOs and other civil society organizations

Impact

While an overall improvement in the human rights situation depends in large part upon ending the war, not all human rights violations in Colombia stem from the armed conflict. OHCHR is having an impact and can make a difference in several significant ways:

Prevention and protection: Observation and monitoring activities in areas of the country where there is a high level of violence play an important dissuasive role. Periodic visits to “hot zones” give important support to vulnerable populations, local human rights NGOs, church groups and local authorities who are often under pressure from armed actors. Such visits “lower the temperature” and put armed actors on notice. Human rights groups, unions, journalists and displaced communities, among others, are protected from a hostile and dangerous environment through their partnerships with the Office. Both OHCHR’s presence in the country and its public pronouncements on human rights themes help keep alive debate on these issues.

Legal advice and technical support: Through technical cooperation activities, OHCHR’s positions on problems and situations diagnosed by the observation team are reinforced with local and national authorities. By providing advisory services, the Office helps bring the domestic legal regime in line with international standards and helps national authorities improve their interpretation and application of these standards.

Supporting efforts for peace: While OHCHR plays no political role in the Colombian peace negotiations, the Office led an initiative to place respect for human rights and international humanitarian law on the peace agenda. The Office recognizes that there are positive forces and actors within Colombian society that need and deserve the support of the international community in general and OHCHR in particular. The “communities for peace” — entire rural communities that have declared their neutrality and refuse the presence of armed actors — are targeted for special monitoring efforts by OHCHR, as the Office believes that these grassroots peace constituencies are important sources of hope for the future of human rights in Colombia.

A new approach to human rights promotion and enforcement: Through its work, OHCHR acts as a laboratory in which a new approach to human rights promotion and enforcement is being developed. The approach combines oversight (monitoring and reporting) with constructive solutions (through technical cooperation and advisory services) to the problems that underlie human rights violations. This approach should help United Nations human rights organs make a qualitative leap in protection and promotion in Colombia.

Risk

The nature of the armed conflict, the deteriorating human rights situation and institutional difficulties within OHCHR pose a number of risks which could adversely affect the Office’s ability to realize its goals. These internal and external risks include:

- Insufficient financial resources and unpredictable resource flow, which will seriously affect planning, implementation of activities and staff morale
- Lack of political will, on the part of the Government, to implement its “Policy for the promotion, respect and guarantee of human rights and the application of international humanitarian law 1998 – 2002”
- Ongoing institutional weaknesses of implementing partners
- Deterioration of security conditions and consequent restriction of observation activities outside the capital

Coordination

The Office works toward strengthening existing capacities and building new capacities among 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. During 2000, the Office opened a dialogue with the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia guerrilla movement (FARC) on issues concerning respect for international humanitarian law.

International partners include other agencies in the UN system, international financial institutions, the diplomatic community, the International Committee of the Red Cross and international NGOs. OHCHR continues to work closely with the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on International Assistance to Colombia, Mr. Jan Egeland, the Representative of the Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons, Mr. Francis Deng, and the Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflicts, Mr. Olara Ottunu. The Office frequently briefs visiting members of foreign governments, parliamentarians, academics and members of think-tanks.

Regular contact is maintained with members and advisers of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court; public reports, information

concerning cases under consideration by the regional system and press communiqués are exchanged.

Structure of OHCHR Colombia

Under the leadership of a Director and Deputy Director, the Office is divided into four interdependent work areas:

Observation: Responsible for consolidating data on cases and situations with the aim of encouraging investigations by national authorities. Identifies and initiates follow-up on situations and themes requiring further analysis and preventive action.

Legal support: Responsible for analyzing 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, relations with donors, measuring the impact of projects and developing indicators for Office activities.

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

Lessons learned

- OHCHR should establish channels with national counterparts that allow it to raise the issues presented in the annual report to the Commission on Human Rights.
- OHCHR can play a key role behind the scenes, working with both national and international allies, to promote policy issues in the search for peace and respect for human rights. OHCHR lobbied for a Global Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Agreement between the warring parties.
- OHCHR should continue to build strong alliances with important national actors. The promotion of and respect for human rights in Colombia depends on a concerted effort by all sectors of society.
- OHCHR should undertake a specific project focusing on dissemination of information about and promotion of human rights, as there is limited knowledge and understanding of the issue in Colombia.

- OHCHR can help dissuade and prevent human rights violations and can contribute to the protection and promotion of human rights through its presence in areas of conflict. The observation team should be expanded to maximize that protection and prevention role.

Budget in US\$

Monitoring:	
International and national staff, travel, three regional offices, publications and operating cost	3,272,560
13% Programme support cost	425,433
Sub-total	3,697,993
Technical cooperation:	
International and national staff, seminars, law students training, assistance to Attorney General, municipalities and NGOs	745,178
13% Programme support cost	96,873
Sub-total	842,051
Total	4,540,044

Cambodia

Background

After almost three decades of war and conflict, Cambodia was left with a critical dearth of functioning state mechanisms and experienced personnel. During the last seven years, the country has gradually begun to rebuild major state institutions and an effective legal framework. Yet, despite these positive developments, protecting human rights remains a challenge. Strengthening the legal framework and the advocacy role of NGOs and civil society is essential to promoting the rule of law and human rights.

OHCHR established an office in Phnom Penh in 1993, at the end of the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). It was the first human rights field presence that combined both protection and promotion activities. The mandate of the office, based on a 1993 resolution of the Commission on Human Rights, involves maintaining contact with the Government and the people of Cambodia, guiding and coordinating the UN human rights presence in Cambodia, and assisting the Government in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Overview of activities

Activities focus on strengthening the Government, NGOs and civil society. To address the complex human rights issues facing the country, a strategy that combines monitoring, technical assistance and capacity-building is required. Activities envisaged for this phase will both help sustain what has been achieved in the past seven years and provide fresh support for institutions that are in the process of being rebuilt.

Objectives and anticipated results

The objectives for 2001 reflect the priorities identified by the Government, during the Consultative Group Meeting of Donors in May 2000, for ensuring the rule of law and good governance.

Objective 1: Assist the Government and people of Cambodia in promoting and protecting human rights, and support the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) in implementing his mandate to promote and protect human rights.

Anticipated result:

- Human rights issues of concern will be closely observed and individual cases of human rights violations will be investigated. Protection actions, disciplinary sanctions and judicial prosecutions will be initiated and monitored.

Objective 2: Contribute to the establishment of a legal framework and institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights consistent with international human rights standards, and to the development of an efficient and participatory law-making process.

Anticipated results:

- Textbook and training aids for a training programme on law drafting will be developed. Fifty persons from technical ministries, parliament and civil society will be trained on the technicalities of law drafting. Fifty government officials, legislators and civil society leaders will acquire draft-analysis skills, appreciate the need to draft, adopt and implement sound laws, and coordinate their functions through four workshops.
- Comments will be given on model draft laws developed for and used by legislators and law drafters with a view to improving the quality of reformulated draft laws. An informal consultative process will be launched so civil society can comment, from a human rights perspective, on major draft laws. Public debate on draft laws will be initiated.

- Legal advice and materials drawn from international human rights instruments will be provided to parliamentarians. Parliamentary guidelines on public consultations will be developed and adopted and a consultation mechanism will be established.

- Forty parliamentarians will be sensitized to Parliament's oversight role and techniques, with special focus on human rights policies and practices.

Objective 3: Strengthen the administration of justice, which will help ensure the rule of law and the promotion and protection of human rights.

Anticipated results:

- The court presidents and the 50 chief prosecutors in the country will be trained and given an opportunity to review their working methods and discuss human rights-related issues with high-ranking officials from the Gendarmerie, police, prison department, Ministry of Justice and human rights organizations. Eight workshops will be organized to this end.
- A report will be produced, recommendations made and regulatory framework and policies developed for the Supreme Council of Magistracy, the Constitutional Council, the Judicial Reform Council and the Supreme Court. Reports on several court cases and trials with serious human rights implications will be documented; appropriate actions will be taken. A code of conduct for judges and prosecutors will be developed and adopted.
- The Judicial Mentor Programme will be expanded to the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal, expert assistance will be provided to ten courts by eight mentors, legal services will be provided and test cases will be conducted.
- Thirty judges will be trained on the application of international human rights standards in the administration of justice.
- A core group of people in two provinces will be trained on key substantive and procedural legislation to act as links or intermediaries between poor communities and the judicial system.
- Training materials used in formal judicial education programmes will be developed and tested and a plan for the implementation of formal training for the judiciary will be developed.

Objective 4: Strengthen the national capacity to secure the rule of law and fair and professional law enforcement, consistent with international human rights standards.

Anticipated results:

- Training plans and materials for systematically teaching human rights to the security forces (military, gendarmes and police) will be developed, 50 security forces instructors will be trained in effective training methods and about 3,000 police will be trained in human rights.
- Middle-management police officials in 13 provinces and municipalities will receive formal and on-the-job training on effective procedures for the investigation of cases of sexual abuse of children (based on the procedures and materials produced by the project during 2000).
- The Cambodian police and international assistance providers will be made aware of organizational reforms that are needed to improve police performance and compliance with international standards on law enforcement and human rights.
- Awareness of key human rights issues, such as trafficking of persons and protection of minorities, will be increased among the local branches of the Executive.
- The capacity to monitor and protect human rights among OHCHR counterparts in the executive, judiciary and legislative branches of Government and in NGOs will be strengthened.

Objective 5: Enhance the capacity of Cambodia to meet its international human rights treaty reporting obligations and advocate for ratification of additional instruments.

Anticipated results:

- The Cambodia report on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights will be drafted, and recommendations by treaty bodies requiring priority attention will be identified.
- Cambodian human rights NGOs will be trained in economic, social and cultural rights and will produce a parallel report on the International Covenant.
- The Special Representative will advocate and support ratification of additional human rights conventions and protocols by the Government of Cambodia.

Objective 6: Enhance the capacity of Cambodian NGOs and civil society organizations to carry out human rights protection and promotion activities.

Anticipated results:

- A report containing an assessment of human rights education programmes will be produced by OHCHR and recommendations for effective education strategies will be formulated.
- NGOs' capacity to design and implement programmes in the areas of access to justice, the human rights

of women and the advancement of the rights of other groups in need of special protection will be strengthened.

- NGOs will establish a closer working relationship with the Special Representative and thematic rapporteurs or working groups, including on the protection of their own rights.

Objective 7: 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.

Anticipated results:

- The capacity of selected development NGOs to adopt a human rights approach to their work will be developed through the implementation of pilot projects.
- The capacity of Government departments or bodies and NGOs to address land, environment and labour issues through awareness-raising, advocacy and monitoring will be strengthened.
- Advice will be provided to other UN agencies, through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework monitoring process, on how to address human rights issues relevant to their programmes.
- The Special Representative will raise human rights aspects of poverty-related issues with Government authorities and recommendations for policies will be provided as part of his/her mandate.

Objective 8: Create an environment, at the commune level, that encourages free and fair elections by establishing an adequate legal framework, promoting public awareness on the human rights aspects of elections, and monitoring the electoral process.

Anticipated results:

- NGOs' and OHCHR's capacity to monitor election-related human rights violations will be strengthened.
- Individual cases of election-related human rights violations will be investigated, protection actions, disciplinary sanctions and judicial prosecution will be initiated and monitored, and reports on election-related human rights violations during the pre-election, election and post-election periods will be produced on behalf of OHCHR and the Special Representative.
- Knowledge of human rights standards relevant to elections held by Government officials, NGOs and special sectors of the populations will be strengthened.

Beneficiaries

OHCHR's cooperation with the Royal Government of Cambodia is formalized in a memorandum of understanding. Since its establishment in 1993, the Cambodia office has developed good working relations with various ministries, legislative and judicial organs. In addition, the office works closely with the Inter-Ministerial Committee responsible for preparing reports for treaty bodies, and assists the Government in fulfilling its obligations to various treaty bodies. Cambodian NGOs and civil society groups are essential partners and beneficiaries of activities and programmes carried out by the office.

Structure of the Cambodia office

Activities are implemented through OHCHR's office in Phnom Penh, eight provincial offices and six judicial mentor's offices. The OHCHR office in Cambodia consists of: The Director, who is responsible for overall management, including fulfilling reporting and other obligations to Headquarters, coordinating support to the SRSG, participating in the UN system and maintaining external relations. A Monitoring and Protection Unit, which is responsible for all aspects of the office's monitoring, investigation and protection activities. The head of the Unit also serves as the special assistant to the SRSG.

A Legal Assistance Unit, which coordinates all programmes and activities related to strengthening the judiciary and law-making, including 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.

An Education, Training and Information Unit, which is responsible for three aspects of OHCHR's mandate in Cambodia:

- Building the human rights capacity of Government and non-governmental institutions through education and training
- Supporting NGOs and civil society by providing technical and financial assistance to local human rights NGOs
- Helping Cambodia meet its reporting obligations under human rights treaties by supporting the work of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on the Preparation of Human Rights reports to the UN

Impact

The Cambodia office has contributed to a greater awareness of the importance of human rights issues in many levels of society. Its monitoring, legal, education, training and information activities have a reputation for quality, and demand for them exceeds the capacity to respond. The office also provides valuable support to the implementation of the SRSG's mandate.

Through its programmes, OHCHR facilitates the integration of human rights in the rebuilding of the country and its institutions. The office enjoys the unique position of being able to provide valuable advice to UN agencies, donors and other governments on integrating human rights in all aspects of governance.

Funding

An amount of US\$ 1,125,600, representing staff and other costs, has been approved under the United Nations regular budget for 2001. An additional US\$ 1,799,999 is required from voluntary contributions.

Budget in US\$

Monitoring and protection	119,469
Law and national institution-making process	65,310
Judicial mentor programme	259,646
Judicial education programme	74,867
Education and training programme	256,460
Treaty reporting	100,354
Support to NGOs	116,283
Poverty and human rights programme	101,947
Provincial network programme	382,301
Other activities	116,283

Sub-total	1,592,920
13% Programme support cost	207,079

Total

1,799,999

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Background

Five years after the Dayton Peace Agreement was signed, problems of human rights still occur regularly in Bosnia and Herzegovina, often involving discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, political affiliation or gender. As more people return to the country, the issue of property

rights has become critically important; and the broader issues of rights to adequate shelter, employment, education and health care must be addressed.

Tension and return-related incidents of violence continue throughout the country, but the response by law enforcement authorities and the judiciary is inadequate and there is little support for victims of violence. There is still no multi-ethnic, professional police force nor is there a functioning and independent judiciary in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Gender-based violence has emerged as a serious problem; while trafficking in persons, particularly for the purpose of forced prostitution, is one of the most egregious violations of rights in the country.

Since 1993, the field offices of OHCHR (then the UN Center for Human Rights) in the territory of former Yugoslavia (now Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina) have been supporting the mandate of the special rapporteur of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Commission resolution 2000/26, adopted 18 April 2000, renewed the mandate for one year. While the Commission noted some improvements in respect for human rights and progress on refugee returns, it also condemned the practice of discrimination used against returnees and displaced persons concerning their labour rights. The Commission requested that the International Labour Organization (ILO), OHCHR and the special rapporteur pay attention to the implementation of international standards and recommendations in this area. It also called on Government officials to combat vigorously the growing problem of trafficking in persons and to improve police standards.

Objectives

The principal human rights objective in Bosnia and Herzegovina is the creation of a climate of security by fostering respect for and protection of the rights of the individual. Through its partnership with other UN agencies, the Office is in a unique position to mainstream human rights concerns in all UN activities, to ensure that members of civil society are informed of their rights, and to assist the Government in understanding its responsibility and ultimate accountability.

The Office will therefore focus on human rights training, gender issues, and promotion of non-discrimination and economic and social rights, particularly through the use of legal mechanisms. In addition, OHCHR will strengthen its regional approach, especially in the areas of trafficking and the return of refugees and displaced persons, in cooperation with its offices in Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. OHCHR will also continue to

support the mandate of the special rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights.

OHCHR sees its role in Bosnia and Herzegovina as both a catalyst and reference point. The Office will help coordinate activities among other international organizations, national and international non-governmental organizations and the Government. In doing so, OHCHR will help ensure that human rights are integrated into all policies, programmes and legislation, and help avoid wasteful duplication of efforts. The ultimate goal of OHCHR is to achieve increased State responsibility for compliance with human rights norms and develop a vigorous civil society that will encourage accountability.

Activities in 2001

- Training of the International Police Task Force (IPTF) will continue in 2001 with greater emphasis placed on gender, violence against women, and trafficking. Local police will also be trained, including through the national police academies.
- Through a programme initiated in 1999 by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) and OHCHR, a system is now in place for the safe repatriation of trafficking victims; but much work remains in developing State responsibility. A main focus in 2001 will be to strengthen NGOs' capacities to encourage accountability. A regional approach to the issue will also be adopted through continued cooperation with the Stability Pact and other regional organizations.
- Initiated by OHCHR in autumn 1999, the Medica-Zenica pilot project, which focuses on violence against women, has been a success for the community and has helped draw attention to the issue from UNMIBH, IPTF and local authorities. The project will be replicated in other parts of the country, including the Brcko district, pending available funding.
- Additional activities in 2001 will include monitoring, protecting and promoting the rights of the most vulnerable groups in the country, as there is increasing evidence of marginalization and exclusion from access to such basic rights as adequate shelter and health care. OHCHR will seek to ensure equal access to health care by reviewing legislation, research on access to primary health care and rights issues related to HIV/AIDS. OHCHR also plans to develop its work with trade unions and promote dialogue with employers' associations in order to promote non-discrimination and recognition of employment rights.

- OHCHR has prepared analyses of cross-border returns and trafficking in the region, and has begun cooperative efforts with OHCHR offices in Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. These, and other issues, such as war-related prosecutions, will be further developed in 2001 to increase OHCHR's impact in the region.

Anticipated results

Training

- All IPTF human rights monitors trained in human rights
- Trainers trained in the police academies
- Human rights integrated into the curriculum at police academies and cadets trained in human rights
- Replication of the Medica-Zenica pilot project on gender-based violence

Trafficking

- Formation of a task force on trafficking, composed of the relevant Government ministries
- Creation of a national plan of action and its implementation

Social and economic rights

- Establishing non-discrimination awareness among trade unions with increased support for women's sections
- Revision/reform of labour-related laws
- Evaluation of the effects of non-discrimination clauses contained in the new labour laws
- Technical support to the Federal Ministry for Social Affairs for the establishment and work of the cantonal and federal commissions overseeing specific elements of the labour law
- Information campaigns concerning the promotion and protection of workers' rights, especially the concept of non-discrimination
- Assessment of the employment situation in selected municipalities and companies in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Development of an audit strategy to evaluate the employment practices in selected municipalities and companies. This would serve as a basis on which to foster fair employment practices, responsible business and conditional investment
- Close links with those involved in economic reforms, financial institutions and donors and working with them to foster fair employment practices

- Integrated legal framework within the Return and Reconstruction Task Force (RRTF) for the protection of social and economic rights of returnees
- Improved social and economic protection of vulnerable people, including victims and witnesses of war crimes

Health

- Review of health legislation in light of international human rights standards
- Improvement of the health status of the most vulnerable groups through positive changes in health legislation
- Increased equity in accessing health care
- Better protection of patients' rights
- Improved code of medical ethics respecting basic human rights standards

General

- Mainstreaming gender and human rights into the Common Country Study and ultimately the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process
- Working with the gender focal points in the Government and helping evaluate programmes
- Adding a human rights component to asylum and immigration laws, with special consideration of those who are outside the mandate of UNHCR

In addition, OHCHR in Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to provide expert human rights analysis of emerging problems, such as the issue of irregular immigration.

Beneficiaries

Training programmes: IPTF and local police, NGOs acting in the area of trafficking and violence against women and representatives of Government and local authorities

Anti-trafficking initiative: persons trafficked to Bosnia and Herzegovina and persons at risk of being trafficked to third countries

Social and economic rights: returnees, all those of employable age, trade unions, employers and vulnerable groups

Health: vulnerable groups, such as returnees and displaced persons with chronic diseases; women of child-bearing age who do not want to have children; diabetics; elderly who are terminally ill; patients with serious psychological problems; patients with HIV/AIDS; the Government, at state, entity and cantonal level; and medical workers and physicians.

Implementing arrangements

OHCHR in Bosnia and Herzegovina is located within the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. The Office works closely with the IPTF and UNMIBH. The Office also cooperates with other agencies, particularly IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO and the World Bank, on various projects. In addition, the Office provides expertise on gender, economic and social rights, health and human rights, and human rights reporting to the Office of the High Representative.

Most activities of OHCHR are implemented in partnership with local and international NGOs, in particular women's NGOs. OHCHR also has a close working relationship with the diplomatic and donor communities.

Structure of the office

The Head of Office is responsible for the Office's activities and for regional gender issues. Also working from the office are a human rights training officer, a gender and discrimination officer, an officer focusing on economic and social rights, in particular discrimination in employment and health and human rights, and an officer to support the mandate of the special rapporteur and provide human rights and legal expertise in addition to general human rights reporting.

Budget in US\$

Eight international and four national staff, travel and evaluation	960,000
Operational costs	115,000
Sub-total	1,075,000
13 % Programme support cost	139,750
Total	1,214,750

Croatia

Background

Human rights concerns in Croatia include the right to personal security, freedom from discrimination, independence of the judiciary, right to return and restitution of property, freedom of expression, gender-related discrimination, and respect for social and economic rights. During 2001, OHCHR will address these issues within an overall framework of monitoring, advocacy and the implementation of the technical cooperation programme.

An office of the High Commissioner/Centre for Human Rights was first established in Zagreb in March 1993 with the primary aim of assisting the special rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights. (The special rapporteur is mandated to monitor and report on the situation of human rights in the whole of the Former Yugoslavia.) At that time, the special rapporteur recommended that the office not only monitor human rights but also assist the Government in fulfilling its obligation to protect the human rights of its citizens. Consequently, OHCHR, in consultation with the Government, formulated a technical assistance project, which includes providing training on human rights standards to authorities as well as advisory services to various sectors of civil society. The Office and the Government agree that greater awareness of international human rights standards among police and prison officials in Croatia should also be one of the main goals of this project. While the Government has ratified many human rights treaties, many of the standards contained in these treaties have not yet been translated into action by authorities or by the judiciary. Indeed, it is evident that individual citizens require greater awareness of the rights protected by the Bill of Human Rights.

Objectives

The principal objective is to strengthen the protection and promotion of human rights in Croatia, consistent with the mandate and objectives of OHCHR and in light of the memorandum of understanding signed with the Government in June 2000. 2001 will be a crucial year in Croatia, as important advances in human rights made since the war will be consolidated and the national capacity to carry on human rights work into the future will be strengthened.

Strategy

To achieve the above objective, OHCHR will use the following tools:

Monitoring: Observe and assess objectively the human rights situation in the field and alert relevant Government offices to violations, especially those of concern to the special rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights. The extent of monitoring will be subject to developments in the mandate of the special rapporteur.

Training: As part of OHCHR's technical cooperation project, train and advise Government officials on reporting obligations to UN treaty bodies; train police officers, judges and prosecutors, journalists and NGOs, on the human rights standards relevant to their professions.

Advocacy: Disseminate information on human rights; make available UN human rights documents and works by prominent human rights defenders, academics and legal professionals by placing them in a centre for documentation of human rights, which OHCHR has agreed to open in cooperation with the Government. Advocacy activities will be scaled down during the year as OHCHR strengthens national capacities in this area.

Activities

- Assist and facilitate the work of the special rapporteur
- Implement the different components of the technical cooperation project and locally designed, small-scale projects
- Monitor the human rights situation
- Disseminate information on international human rights standards
- Expand the scope of cooperation with the Government
- Develop and strengthen the national capacity for future human rights work

Anticipated results

- The special rapporteur's visit, which will include meetings with Government officials, NGOs and individuals, including victims of human rights violations, will be well organized; reports of the special rapporteur, based on thorough investigations and verifications, will be written and submitted for presentation to the Commission and the General Assembly
- Technical cooperation/capacity-building projects will be designed in close cooperation with the Government's coordinating body and implemented in a timely manner; a series of training courses in human rights for police, judges, prosecutors and NGOs will be held; target beneficiaries will start systematically applying the acquired knowledge
- The human rights situation in the country will be systematically monitored and observed; violations will be reported to the national authorities and/or reflected in the report of the special rapporteur
- A UN human rights documentation and training centre will be opened in Zagreb and will provide a venue for various training activities; human rights publications from around the globe will be placed at the centre for free public use

Beneficiaries

Current and potential victims of human rights violations: Through direct and immediate intervention, OHCHR will seek appropriate remedies with responsible authorities. The office will also offer advice on legislation to ensure it conforms to recognized human rights standards. Through dissemination of information on human rights and relevant Croatian law, the public at large will benefit through increased awareness of the protections available.

Government offices: Through training on reporting mechanisms and capacity-building activities, Government officials will be better equipped to assume their responsibilities in protecting and promoting human rights.

Academic institutions: OHCHR will continue to cooperate with the faculties of law, in particular with the European Law Students Association. The Office will organize periodic roundtables at all four faculties of law in Croatia.

National human rights NGOs: OHCHR will assist national NGOs in forming a national council. Training will be provided in human rights reporting to UN treaty bodies and in using the UN human rights system effectively.

Cooperation

Government offices: The coordinating body, which consists of representatives from different ministries implementing those parts of the technical cooperation programme relevant to their respective ministries, will oversee all activities.

Academic institutions: Building on the experience of the past two summers, courses on human rights for senior law students will be offered in cooperation with the four law faculties in Croatia. Close contact will also be maintained with students who participated in previous summer courses and the local branches of the European Law Students Association.

National human rights NGOs: The office will continue to work closely with national NGOs, including the Croatian Helsinki Committee, Croatian Law Centre, Osijek Centre for Peace and Non-violence and the Vukovar Centre for Peace, Legal Advice and Psychological Help.

Inter-governmental organizations and other UN agencies:

Because regional organizations active in the area have both leverage and resources, OHCHR will continue working closely with these agencies, especially in human rights monitoring.

Budget in US\$

International and national staff	413,900
Technical cooperation activities	160,585
Operational costs	120,500
Sub-total	694,985
13% Programme support cost	90,348
Total	785,333

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

Background

OHCHR in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) has offices in Belgrade, Podgorica and Pristina. The Office concluded a status agreement with the federal Government in November 1998 and is the only international organization with a mandate to help protect and promote human rights throughout the territory of the FRY. In addition, OHCHR serves the mandates of the special rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights and the High Commissioner's Special Envoy on Persons Deprived of Liberty, appointed in September 2000.

The political context within the FRY is likely to continue to change dramatically during 2001 and the need for human rights will remain strong.

Objectives

The objectives are to monitor the human rights situation throughout the FRY, with particular attention paid to early warning and conflict prevention; clarify the fate of prisoners, detainees and missing persons; and build and strengthen the capacities of the Government, United Nations agencies, inter-governmental organizations and NGOs in human rights protection and promotion. In general, the field operation will seek effective country-wide implementation of international human rights standards through a strategy of dialogue with all authorities: federal, Serbian, Montenegrin, the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and local actors included in the Kosovo civil administration.

Activities

- **Monitoring and reporting on Serbia proper, Montenegro and Kosovo**

- **Protecting individuals belonging to national minorities**

Events in 2000 caused tensions within multi-ethnic Vojvodina and Sandzak, resulting in polarization on political questions and reviving ethnic issues in public discourse. OHCHR's programmes, designed to lessen tensions, will continue through 2001 and focus on early warning and prevention. In Kosovo, OHCHR will continue to work in the Inter-Agency Task Force on Minorities. In Montenegro, OHCHR is part of a partnership between international and Government authorities on Stability Pact initiatives on minority rights.

- **Rule of law**

Throughout the FRY, OHCHR monitors judicial administration, implementation of court decisions, and trials and proceedings with human rights implications. In Kosovo, OHCHR works with UNMIK and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to press for new judicial, prison and police norms and institutions based on human rights standards, and has supported the Working Group on Trafficking in developing a legal regime and creating support structures for victims. In 2001, OHCHR in the FRY will make an assessment of the effects of domestic prosecution of war-related crimes, armed uprising, terrorism and related charges on due process, the rule of law, return of refugees and internally displaced persons and reconciliation in conflict-affected areas.

- **Persons deprived of liberty**

In recognition of the human rights and humanitarian need to resolve the concerns of persons deprived of liberty as a result of the Kosovo crisis, regardless of ethnicity or political affiliation, OHCHR spearheads two major initiatives. In September 1999, the SRSG in Kosovo established the Commission on Prisoners and Detainees, under the chairmanship and mandate of OHCHR in the FRY. One year later, the High Commissioner appointed a special envoy on the issue. The multi-ethnic, multi-party Commission is concerned with persons deprived of liberty in territories in Kosovo before, during and after the NATO campaign. OHCHR and the Commission will work with the special envoy to support regional efforts on this issue.

- **Support to civil society and capacity-building**

OHCHR in the FRY manages the "Assisting Communities Together" small-grants programme, aimed at developing and supporting community projects in human rights protection and education. Nineteen projects are currently running, most in remote communities, addressing concrete and immediate "quick-start" needs. In Kosovo, OHCHR works with the OSCE and others on human rights promotion, education, training and capacity-building projects, including by providing support to the new Kosovo Ombudsperson's Office. In Montenegro, OHCHR will offer human rights education to police officers, prison staff, lawyers, and others. OHCHR will also raise public awareness of UN standards concerning minorities, children, the elderly and other vulnerable populations.

Beneficiaries

Groups vulnerable to violations of human rights comprise the majority of the population on the territory of the FRY. These include individuals belonging to national minorities, women, children, refugees, internally displaced persons, the elderly, detainees, members of NGOs and citizens' associations, persons who have refused to take up arms or participate in military service, media representatives, and persons associated with opposition political views. Trafficking of persons, including women, children and migrants, adds to the list of persons who have gone missing and remain unaccounted for as a result of the regional crisis.

Structure of the office

Nine international staff, including security personnel and 13 national staff work in OHCHR's offices in Belgrade, Podgorica and Pristina. One staff member gives back-stopping support in Geneva. The budget below includes the recruitment of another two international and two national staff in 2001.

Budget in US\$

International and national staff, travel and evaluation	1,675,000
Operational costs	375,000

Sub-total	2,050,000
13 % Programme support cost	266,500

Total	2,316,500
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Human rights trust funds established by the United Nations General Assembly

Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Background

The General Assembly created the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture in December 1981 to provide humanitarian aid to torture victims and their families. The physical and psychological scars left by torture affect not only the victims, but also their relatives. Rehabilitation programmes designed by organizations specialized in assisting victims of torture can help these victims and their families recover from their devastating traumas.

The Fund receives voluntary contributions that are then distributed to NGOs that provide medical, psychological, legal, social, financial, humanitarian or other assistance to victims of torture and their relatives. Grants are also provided to a limited number of projects for training health-care, social or legal workers and other professionals on how to assist victims of torture.

Beneficiaries

Each year, more than 60,000 victims around the world benefit from the Fund. Grants allocated to organizations based in developed countries are used to finance treatment centres in the field or to treat asylum-seekers and refugees who have been subjected to one or more forms of torture in their countries of origin. Upon recommendations made by the Board of Trustees of the Fund in May 2000, the High Commissioner for Human Rights approved grants amounting to US\$ 7 million to partially fund some 160 programmes in 65 countries. It is expected that there will be an increase in requests for grants in 2001.

A lack of adequate resources to fund these kinds of programmes could result in the disruption – or elimination – of treatment for victims of torture. For some 160 organizations, the support of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture is essential. 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.4/2000/60 and Add.1) and in its report to the General Assembly at its 55th session.

Funding

The Commission on Human Rights (resolution 2000/43) appealed to all governments, organizations and individuals to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably by 1st March, before the annual session of the Board. In 2000, the Fund would have needed more than US\$ 10 million to meet all the requests for assistance recorded in December 1999; but only US\$ 7 million was available. It is anticipated that applications for grants will total some US\$ 12 million in 2001. The Fund requires **US\$ 8.7 million** (this amount includes 13% of programme support cost) in 2001 to be able to finance projects that meet all the selection criteria.

Contributions to this Fund should be paid before end of April 2001

Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Background

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (established by General Assembly Resolution 46/122 of 17 December 1991) aims to provide financial assistance to representatives of NGOs that deal with issues of contemporary forms of slavery so they can participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, and extend humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery.

The Fund is administered in accordance with the financial rules and regulations of the United Nations by the Secretary-General, with the advice of a Board of Trustees. The Board is composed of five persons with relevant experience in the field of human rights, especially in contemporary forms of slavery, who serve in their personal capacity. Board members are appointed for three-year renewable terms by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. Efforts are made to ensure that Board members represent the broadest possible constituencies. The Board meets annually at the beginning of the year to adopt recommendations to the Secretary-General.

Beneficiaries

According to the criteria established by the General Assembly, the beneficiaries of the Fund: shall be representatives of NGOs dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery who are so considered by the Board of Trustees of the Fund; 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 would be able to contribute to a deeper knowledge of the problems related to contemporary forms of slavery. Individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery, and who are so considered by the Board, are also eligible to benefit from the Fund.

Upon recommendations adopted by the Board of Trustees at its fifth session in 2000, the High Commissioner

approved 17 project grants to NGOs that provide humanitarian, legal or financial assistance to victims of child labour, bonded labour, trafficking or sexual exploitation, as well as domestic workers. The previous year, only five grants were approved. Seventeen travel grants were also approved, enabling representatives of NGOs to participate in the twenty-fifth session of the Working Group. Since the main theme of the 2000 session of the Working Group was bonded labour and debt bondage, most of the travel grants recommended were for representatives of NGOs that work in this field, including victims. Additional information on the activities of the Fund is contained in the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2000/80 and Add.1) and in his report to the General Assembly at its 55th session.

Funding

Given that requests for funding received in 2000 amounted to approximately US\$ 700,000, the Board determined that the Fund would need an additional **US\$ 319,790** (this amount includes 13% of programme support cost).

Contributions to this Fund should be paid before January 2001

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 several bodies: the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights; 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; and the open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights on the Permanent Forum.

The Fund is administered in accordance with the financial rules and regulations of the United Nations by the Secretary-General, assisted by a Board of Trustees. The Board, composed of five United Nations indigenous experts who serve in their personal capacity, advises 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 three-year renewable terms. The Board meets annually to adopt recommendations on travel grants.

Beneficiaries

According to the criteria established by the General Assembly, beneficiaries of the Fund are representatives of indigenous people's organizations and communities who are so considered by the Board of Trustees of the Fund; who would not, in the opinion of the Board, be able to attend the sessions of the working groups without the Fund's assistance; who would contribute to a deeper knowledge of the problems affecting indigenous populations; and who 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 at the end of 1999 and in 2000 were used to pay 34 travel grants for representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to attend the session of the Working Group on the Permanent Forum in February 2000, 66 travel grants to attend the Working Group on Indigenous Populations in July 2000,

and 29 travel grants to attend the Working Group on the draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in November 2000. The Board of Trustees noted with satisfaction the increase in the number of grants awarded since the beginning of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People in 1993. This is largely due to an increase in contributions and in the number of satisfactory applications for grants. 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.4/2000/4) and in the biennial report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its 55th session.

Funding

In an effort to increase the number of grants and broaden the representation of indigenous communities and organizations in 2001, the Board invited the High Commissioner for Human Rights to appeal to all governments for additional contributions to be paid by the end of the year 2000. The Commission on Human Rights (resolution 2000/56) and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (resolution 2000/12) also appealed to governments, organizations and individuals to contribute to the Fund. To meet the requests for funding anticipated in 2001, the Fund for Indigenous Populations would need new contributions amounting to **US\$ 536,540** (this amount includes 13% of programme support cost) before the next meeting of its Board of Trustees in March 2001.

Contributions to this Fund should be paid before March 2001

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 in 1993 by the General Assembly to provide assistance to projects and programmes advancing the goal of the International Decade: international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education, culture and health.

Beneficiaries

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

Objectives

- Strengthened indigenous organizational structures and procedures through education
- Training and institution- and capacity-building, while respecting traditions
- Education and training in human and indigenous rights
- Information about indigenous peoples and the International Decade
- Communications and exchanges between the United Nations system and indigenous peoples and among indigenous peoples
- Fund-raising initiatives promoting the objectives of the Decade

Examples of projects financed by the Fund

A grant to a project in India helped an indigenous organization translate documents on international human rights and indigenous rights, as well as relevant national legislation, into the local indigenous language. Training materials with illustrations were disseminated among illiterate indigenous persons. The community participated throughout the production process, thereby assuring the sustainability of the project.

A project in Kenya used the grant to enhance the institutional capacity of an indigenous organization, which now supports its constituency more effectively. With new equipment and communication facilities, the organization offered training sessions for indigenous journalists. The journalists learned how to use modern communication technology to inform a broad audience about indigenous issues.

Funding

Thanks to an increase in contributions from regular and new donors, enough funds were available to finance all planned activities in 2000. Financial requirements for 2001 amount to **US\$ 467,530** (this amount includes 13% of programme support cost). Funds will be used to finance project grants to indigenous communities and organizations, as well as seminars and workshops on indigenous issues.

Contributions to this Fund should be paid by early March 2001, at the latest

Issues in focus

Introduction

Background

Since its creation, the United Nations has recognized the need to set standards and target action to protect specific groups. Mechanisms and procedures have been established to protect the human rights of these groups, which include minorities, indigenous peoples, and women and children who are the victims of trafficking. Special attention is also given to the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on the human rights of those who are affected. The Cairo and Beijing World Conferences have called for strengthening women's rights and have also identified gender issues and reproductive rights as related areas in which new initiatives are needed.

OHCHR works on behalf of these groups by supporting mandated working groups and experts, implementing action plans, and launching strategic initiatives to develop standards and strengthen the capacity of the United Nations system, including treaty bodies and special mechanisms, to apply those standards in ways that have a positive and measurable impact on individuals.

Funding

To support activities related to focus groups, an amount of US\$ 657,900, representing staff salaries and other costs, has been approved under the United Nations regular budget. An additional US\$ 1,794,946 is required from voluntary contributions. OHCHR prefers that contributions are made to "issues in focus" and not earmarked to specific activities.

Budget summary in US\$

Gender issues, women's rights and reproductive rights	379,499
HIV/AIDS	169,116
Protection of indigenous peoples	322,050
Protection of minorities	422,281
Trafficking in persons	567,260

Total	1,860,206
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Gender issues, women's rights and reproductive rights

Background

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes is a central goal of the United Nations system. To implement its mandate in this area, OHCHR needs to strengthen its capacity to integrate gender issues and women's human rights into its own policies, programmes and activities, and support other UN agencies and programmes in doing so.

The activities to be implemented over two years (2001-2002) will enable OHCHR to help integrate a gender perspective into the work of the United Nations human rights bodies and procedures, technical cooperation projects and other programmes and initiatives of the High Commissioner. The Office will also work in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Department on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (UNDAW), and other UN agencies to build a common understanding of the fundamental link between gender issues, the human rights of women and girl children, and reproductive rights.

OHCHR will ensure effective policy coordination with UNDAW and UNFPA in the area of reproductive rights and with other relevant parts of the UN system. At the operational level, OHCHR will support the inclusion of a gender approach into the UN's field and development activities, including through the Common Country Assessment/UN Development Assistance Framework (CCA/UNDAF) process. The project will make available the work of those Commission on Human Rights and Sub-Commission mandates and the work of the treaty bodies that have a normative bearing on gender issues and women's rights. These include the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, the Rapporteur on Harmful Traditional Practices, and the General Comments and Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee on equality and non-discrimination issues.

Priorities

- Integrating gender into all OHCHR programmes, operations and advocacy
- Making the decisions and findings of UN human rights activities available to all UN programmes, funds and agencies for use as tools to mainstream gender considerations throughout the UN system, to encourage a gender- and rights-based approach to programming, and to

integrate this perspective into the UN's operational development activities through the CCA/UNDAF processes

- Sensitizing the UN human rights machinery to gender mainstreaming by identifying gender-related issues for treaty bodies and special procedures
- Placing special thematic emphasis on issues such as racism, trafficking, HIV/AIDS, reproductive rights and poverty, where a careful gender analysis will clarify human rights implications and improve protection and promotion strategies

Activities

Policy guidelines and awareness-building

- Developing policy guidelines on rights-based programming with a gender perspective
- Developing indicators and guidelines to measure progress in mainstreaming gender perspectives
- Sensitizing treaty bodies and extra-conventional mechanisms to gender mainstreaming and providing them with tools to integrate gender, women's human rights and reproductive rights into their work
- Organizing regional and national seminars and expert group meetings on the integration of a gender perspective into human rights activities
- Providing guidance to agencies in the UN system, its national offices and others (regional inter-governmental organizations, governments, national institutions, and NGOs) on rights-based approaches to programming, with particular emphasis on gender, human rights of women and reproductive rights

Publication and information materials

- Developing guidelines on sexual, reproductive and HIV-related rights for the special rapporteurs and a kit on reproductive rights for treaty bodies and special rapporteurs
- Preparing materials to assist national human rights institutions in integrating gender and women's human rights
- Preparing printed and on-line materials, targeted to particular audiences, in all UN languages

Budget in US\$

Programme coordinator	135,600
Support staff	75,240
Meetings and seminars	25,000
Publication/translation	55,000
Travel	35,000
Two computers, one printer, furniture	10,000
Sub-total	335,840
13% Programme support cost	43,659
Total	379,499

HIV/AIDS

Background

Not only does respect for human rights help control the spread of HIV/AIDS, it also helps ensure that those infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS can live a life of greater dignity, free from discrimination. This project, which will begin in 2001, aims to contribute to an effective and sustainable human rights-based response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic at national, regional and international levels. Activities will be jointly undertaken by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and OHCHR. The project will focus on three activities: the integration of HIV/AIDS issues into the human rights machinery; implementation of HIV/AIDS-related rights at the national level; and global and regional advocacy.

Outline of activities

Integration of HIV/AIDS issues into the United Nations human rights machinery

Respect for all HIV/AIDS-related rights will be promoted through the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission and the treaty bodies, especially those that focus on the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Human Rights Committee. The goals of the activity are to enhance respect for HIV/AIDS-related rights by States parties to the international human rights instruments; and to ensure that relevant treaty bodies and special rapporteurs are aware of both the HIV/AIDS situation in particular countries and of the impact of the disease on vulnerable groups.

Implementation of HIV/AIDS-related rights at the national level

The aim of this activity is to integrate the protection and enjoyment of human rights into national responses to HIV/AIDS, especially by building capacity within national human rights institutions. In the long term, this activity aims to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS by addressing issues of stigmatization and discrimination against people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS. National institutions will be encouraged to continue integrating HIV/AIDS issues into their work to improve national compliance with applicable international human rights norms and to raise awareness concerning the pandemic.

National action will also be reinforced through OHCHR and UNAIDS technical cooperation programmes and field presences.

Global and regional advocacy

The objectives of this activity are to raise awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS-related issues and to ensure they are integrated into all programmes. Training will be provided to OHCHR and UNAIDS staff both at headquarters and in the field, ensuring that the High Commissioner sets HIV/AIDS in a human rights perspective and that HIV/AIDS-related human rights issues are reflected in the policies of all interested institutions.

Beneficiaries

The ultimate beneficiaries of the project are persons infected with and affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. National human rights commissions, the treaty bodies, UN agencies and international and national NGOs will also benefit from improved capacities to develop rights-based responses to the pandemic.

Budget in US\$

Integration of HIV/AIDS into the human rights machinery: staff	99,600
Documentation and publication	4,000
Training and workshops	10,000
Travel	5,000
Computer, desktop printer and furniture	6,060
Implementation of HIV/AIDS-related rights at national level: expert within a national institution	15,000
Global and regional advocacy: preparation of information materials	10,000
Sub-total	149,660
13% Programme support cost	19,456
Total	169,116

Protection of indigenous peoples

Background

The July 2000 decision by the Economic and Social Council to establish the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is likely to give OHCHR a leading role in advancing the interests of indigenous peoples throughout the UN system. The Forum, which will report to the Council, will be expected to serve as the principal advisory body on all issues related to indigenous peoples and to contribute to inter-agency cooperation in areas such as development, the environment, health, education and culture as well as human rights. The Forum represents a major innovation for the UN, as it will bring together indigenous and government experts, and provide a mechanism to mainstream indigenous concerns in global programmes.

Objectives and strategy

In order for OHCHR to respond to these new responsibilities, a series of preparatory activities must be launched prior to the first session of the Forum, which is likely to be held in 2002. However, there are no resources for these activities under the 2000-2001 regular budget. Therefore, extra-budgetary funds are needed for the pre-Forum activities, planned for 2001. These activities involve:

- Informing all interested parties, including indigenous peoples, intergovernmental and regional organizations, governments, NGOs, independent experts and others, about the Forum so that they can prepare for it
- Consulting with governments, UN agencies and indigenous peoples about the Forum so that OHCHR can prepare adequately to reflect the interests of all
- Preparing a database of indigenous organizations, UN agencies and other partners to facilitate the work of the Forum

Budget in US\$

Staff and consultant	99,600
Preparation of a database and support programme	75,240
Production of information material about the Forum in the six official UN languages and dissemination of that material	15,000
Consultations with UN agencies	20,000
Consultations with indigenous people and governments in four regions	60,000
Two computers, printer and furniture	15,160
Sub-total	285,000
13% Programme support cost	37,050

Total

322,050



Protection of minorities

Background

Estimates suggest that 10 to 20 per cent of the world's population belongs 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 seen as an integral part of the promotion and protection of human rights, development, peace and security. The Secretary-General has recognized group inequalities as a root cause of conflict; while the Commission on Human Rights has acknowledged that promoting and protecting minority rights can prevent conflict. Yet this understanding has developed only relatively recently. It was only in 1992 that the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities and only in 1998 that the Economic and Social Council approved an annual meeting of a five-member Working Group on Minorities of the Sub-Commission. This project builds on these advances.

Activities

Project activities are drawn directly from actions mandated in resolutions of the Sub-Commission, the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly. Activities will:

- Promote awareness and understanding of minority issues in different parts of the world by organizing regional seminars
- Facilitate the participation of minority representatives in UN-supported meetings and build contacts between governments and minorities
- Increase awareness of minority issues, policies and best practices through information material and promote cooperation with UN agencies, national institutions and academics

Budget in US\$

Project manager	99,600
One computer	2,100
Regional seminar: travel cost for 10 persons, conference room and interpretation	75,000
Two expert papers	4,000
Travel for staff	8,000
Participation of minority representatives at the seventh session of the Working Group on Minorities	30,000
Publication on minorities, including translation and printing	40,000
International seminar on cooperation of activities to better protect minorities	100,000
Collection and publication of information electronically	15,000
Sub-total	373,700
13% Programme support cost	48,581
Total	422,281



Trafficking in persons

Background

One of the most serious problems facing the international community today is the phenomenon of human trafficking. Each year, hundreds of thousands of individuals, most of them women and children from less-developed countries, are coerced into sexual and economic exploitation. They become the commodities of a transnational industry that generates billions of dollars, often with impunity. The issue of trafficking is now high on the international human rights agenda. Since there is a known link between trafficking, irregular migration and organized crime, individual countries are now launching anti-trafficking campaigns and mobilizing international action. The High Commissioner has given priority to OHCHR's work to eliminate trafficking and ensure the integration of human rights into international, regional and national anti-trafficking initiatives. The role of OHCHR is not to duplicate the efforts of other organizations and agencies, but to ensure that they fully reflect and reinforce the relevant international human rights standards. No other UN agency focuses on the issue from the perspective of the victims' human rights.

Outline of activities

A programme manager, based in Geneva, runs the project and coordinates field activities at the national, international and regional levels. In 2000, activities included: convening an expert group to draft international guidelines to integrate human rights into anti-trafficking initiatives; through its office in Bosnia and Herzegovina, leading UN system-wide activities to assist victims of trafficking regionally, facilitate the prosecution of traffickers and promote law reform; and advocating for increased human rights protection in the protocol to the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime being negotiated in Vienna, including a joint position statement with UNHCR, UNICEF and IOM. During 2001, activities include:

- Publishing the *United Nations Guidelines on the Integration of Human Rights into National, Regional and International Anti-trafficking Initiatives* and facilitating their dissemination within the UN system
- Establishing a policy group on trafficking to advise the High Commissioner on priorities and strategies and

planning an international conference on trafficking, migration and human rights, to be held in 2001

- Providing substantive support to national human rights institutions to integrate the trafficking issue into their protection and promotion activities by preparing materials and including the issue in regional workshops and seminars for national human rights institutions
- Providing substantive support to OHCHR's field presences, for example, in Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, to enable them to respond effectively to trafficking
- Supporting United Nations anti-trafficking initiatives at the national and sub-regional level, focusing on legislative, procedural and institutional measures for preventing trafficking and protecting trafficked persons, and providing financial support for specific projects
- Providing substantive and financial support to NGOs working at national and regional levels to prevent trafficking and protect trafficked persons

Beneficiaries

The ultimate beneficiaries will be the victims and potential victims of trafficking. The project's emphasis on integrating a human rights approach reflects the commitment to mainstream human rights throughout the UN system. The attention given to national human rights institutions underscores the need to link different areas of OHCHR's expertise and experience.

Budget in US\$

Establishment of a policy group on trafficking to advise the High Commissioner	30,000
Funding of human rights-based anti-trafficking initiatives within the United Nations	100,000
Funding of human rights-based anti-trafficking initiatives of external organizations	50,000
One regional and one international meeting of national human rights commissions to promote activity against trafficking	50,000
Consultant to prepare materials for use within the UN system	50,000
Staff and travel	222,000
Sub-total	502,000
13% Programme support cost	65,260
Total	567,260

B

uilding the capacity of OHCHR

Introduction

The Office will continue to strengthen its administrative and organizational base during 2001. Over the past year, OHCHR has improved the functioning of its management and administration systems. It also issued its first ever Annual Appeal, which greatly improved oversight and transparency, led to more predictability as regards funding and raised the visibility of OHCHR by effectively communicating its message. Further measures to improve in those areas, as well as in publications, information technology, OHCHR's web site and staff security are outlined in the following chapters.

Budget in US\$

Human rights knowledge management	1,202,088
Human rights web site	620,850
Documentation centre	168,370
Publications for human rights	566,333
Public information	131,645
Resource mobilization	742,966
Staff security	457,189
Revolving fund	300,000

Total	4,189,441
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Human rights knowledge management

Background

In 2000, OHCHR improved its information management infrastructure by enhancing the existing Treaty Bodies System (TBS) and by developing and finalizing the Thematic Mandates Database and the Communications Database. The Office also upgraded its IT infrastructure and equipment. OHCHR now has a total of six fully operational databases to support its human rights programme: the Treaty Bodies Database, the Charter-based Bodies Database, the News and Statements Database, the Internal Documents Database, the Human Rights Educational Database and the Thematic Mandates Database. To improve the sharing and retrieval of incoming correspondence, including faxes, a Digital Registry System, also built on database technology, has been established.

These databases are the basic components of HURICANE (Human Rights Computerized Analysis Environment), the internal network (Intranet) that allows staff members to access information in an integrated and user-friendly way. HURICANE will become the Human Rights Knowledge Management platform for OHCHR.

The documents stored in databases are made available to the public through OHCHR's web site. The average use of the web site (www.unhchr.ch) has increased from 1,000 to 30,000 user-sessions per week since its launch on 10 December 1996. As of mid-2000, more than 3 million pages are accessed each month. (*For complementary web site activities, please refer to the web site section on page 103*).

While OHCHR has made great strides in building a useful information management network, much work remains. Three recent studies identified a number of information technology initiatives that would improve the infrastructure and further develop the databases so the Office can function more effectively. During 2001, OHCHR will launch several of these initiatives.

Objectives

This project aims to strengthen OHCHR's operations by improving communications with external organizations and individuals, and by managing information and tracking systems more efficiently. These objectives will be achieved by:

- Developing and improving the electronic infrastructure that manages and makes available to the public, through the web site, the information and documentation generated by the Office
- Developing infrastructure for electronic communications with external partners (governments, NGOs, IGOs, experts and special rapporteurs) by enabling secure extranet and advanced fax/e-mail services
- Establishing a system to support OHCHR's workflows, including a central, digital complaints registry

Anticipated results

Improving OHCHR's communications with its partners and external bodies/individuals

1. External Partners Database (Governments, NGOs, IGO, etc.), including a fax/e-mail server for forwarding standard correspondence (e.g., invitations, *notes verbales*)
2. Linkage of the External Partners Database with the External Sources Database now under development

Improving OHCHR's research capacities

3. Multi-database search engine: this will be an integrated search facility through the six existing databases; the engine will enhance the Office's capacity for analytical research by facilitating access and integration of information by specific criteria (country, subject or mandate)
4. Packaging of human rights documents: automatic extraction of relevant paragraphs out of a predefined set of documents according to specific criteria, such as subject or country
5. Using existing commercially available information services and databases, for example LEXIS and NEXIS (information service on national legislation)

Improving OHCHR's service to treaty bodies

6. Incorporation of a system to store and manage the workflows of the secretariat's standard tasks into the existing Treaty Bodies Database

Improving OHCHR's management of human rights complaints

7. Common Early Entry Point System (CEEPS) for human rights complaints received at OHCHR. This would be a central registry that would receive, register and

forward complaints to the relevant procedures and mechanisms (e.g., the 1503 procedure, optional protocols, thematic mandates, etc.). The 1503 is a confidential procedure implemented by the Working Group on Communications, the Working Group on Situations and the Commission on Human Rights for dealing with communications related to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms

8. Conversion of the 1503 database into HURICANE-compatible format. If the 1503 procedure is to be a part of the CEEPS, the existing database must be made compatible with the HURICANE development platform

9. Making HURICANE available on an extranet. The Thematic Mandates Database, for example, stores complaints sent to OHCHR which are to be handled by various extra-conventional mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights. The idea is to make information available to outside partners and to OHCHR staff working in the field

10. Teleconferencing facilities for outside partners, to facilitate their communications with the staff servicing them at OHCHR

11. Information technology equipment for OHCHR staff and training in the use of this equipment not funded under the UN regular budget

Budget in US\$

External Partners Database	181,675
Expand External Partners Database towards research capabilities	37,500
Multi-database search engine	62,675
Packaging of human rights documents	20,000
External Information Services	78,000
Common Early Entry Point System (CEEPS)	65,625
Conversion of the 1503 database into HURICANE compatible format	56,250
HURICANE accessible on an extranet	56,350
Teleconferencing facilities for outside partners	12,000
IT equipment and training for staff	309,320
IT maintenance staff and project management for 2001	184,400
Sub-total	1,063,795
13 % Programme support cost	138,293

Total

1,202,088

Human rights web site

Background

Since its launch in 1996, OHCHR's Internet web site has been widely recognized as a primary source of information on the promotion and protection of human rights. Researchers, human rights activists and the general public have accessed the web site in growing numbers from more than 150 countries. Since early 2000, visitors are accessing 3 million documents per month at a rate of 30,000 user-sessions per week. To accommodate rising demand, catch up with the latest technological developments and enhance the web site's competitiveness, OHCHR replaced its external server, redesigned the web site, and broadcast special events live in English and French during 2000.

OHCHR's new image

In early 2000, all web pages for the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights were redesigned, giving these special events pages their own look. Soon thereafter, OHCHR launched the web pages for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, a project that will continue to expand. In September 2000, the new design for OHCHR's home page and menus was introduced. Changes in content and design continue to be made to enhance user-friendliness.

Human rights live

In addition to its impressive archive of official documents and menus on current human rights issues, the web site now also boasts live coverage of special events. In 1999, OHCHR broadcast the entire 55th session of the Commission on Human Rights live, in English, via its web site. The following year, the 56th session was broadcast in English and French, and audio archives of the meetings were recorded. The same service was available for the First Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism in 2000. OHCHR aims to broadcast future Commission sessions and other significant meetings live, and produce audio and video archives in all six official languages of the UN.

Access to human rights information for all

Since access to the Internet is still not universal, largely because of language and equipment constraints, the Office is developing Arabic, Chinese and Russian

versions of the web site and is producing the web site in three languages on CD-ROMs.

Expanding constituencies

Funding permitting, there is an opportunity for OHCHR to participate with other international organizations in a number of Internet initiatives on related issues, including development, humanitarian activities, peace building, indigenous peoples and internally displaced persons. Current Internet network projects include: a global IDP database with Global Compact; Net Aid with UNDP; Devlink with UNDG; Indigenous People Development Network with the World Bank; and Global Peace-building Network with the World Bank. OHCHR also plans to promote the web site to the media and NGOs as an authoritative source of timely and relevant material on current human rights issues as well as a valuable archive of reports, statements and assessments of both country and thematic human rights issues.

To achieve these goals, OHCHR will:

- Continue to improve the web site's design
- Out-source the archiving of broadcasts of selected human rights events and acquire the necessary hardware
- Out-source the development of Arabic, Chinese and Russian versions of the Charter-based Bodies Database and the production of main HTML menus in those languages
- Out-source the production of CD-ROMs
- Hire a webmaster who would coordinate the implementation of the above projects and keep the site competitive

Budget in US\$

Web site design	64,225
Arabic, Chinese and Russian web sites (main HTML menus + Charter-based bodies documents)	169,150
Broadcasting and archiving debates on human rights	56,500
CD-ROM production	54,800
Webmaster	148,300
PC for the webmaster	3,000
Annual fees for the participation in main UN Internet network projects	50,000
Travel	3,450
Sub-total	549,425
13% Project support cost	71,425
Total	620,850

Documentation centre

Background

Since OHCHR has no documentation centre or library, the Office cannot adequately support the research and information needs of the High Commissioner, the experts, special rapporteurs and treaty body members who rely on the Office for substantive assistance, or even its own staff. Nor can OHCHR respond effectively to requests from other United Nations agencies to provide the information needed to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed throughout the UN system. Without a documentation centre, the Office's unique collection of human rights books and documents cannot be made available to the public.

As a full department of the UN Secretariat, the Office has at its disposal the extensive resources of the UN Library in Geneva. The Library has a general and historical collection of materials covering human rights issues, but it is not a specialist collection and does not replicate the books, studies, government reports and video materials that are held by OHCHR. Although the Office's own web site now gives swift public access to UN human rights texts and materials, it does not perform the wider functions of a documentation centre. Such a centre, equipped with multi-media facilities, would give UN human rights bodies, the broader UN system, including OHCHR, and governments, scholars, journalists and NGOs, access to all UN human rights materials. It would also enable the Office to develop its collection as a publicly available resource. At present, there is no public access to the collection, which is stored in the basement of Palais Wilson.

A documentation centre and multi-media work station would offer easy access to:

- a complete set of current human rights documents, in hard copy or on-line, in all UN languages
- a collection of key reference works and human rights journals
- linked specialist human rights collections held by academic, governmental and non-governmental libraries around the world
- a unique collection of historic books and texts
- specialist human rights material for all UN departments and agencies

Budget in US\$

Shelving/furniture	58,000
IT equipment	25,000
DVD (Digital Video Display) unit, with large screen	5,000
Annual fee for copy machine	3,000
Annual information service subscriptions	8,000
Periodicals subscriptions	20,000
Books and materials acquisition	25,000
Library supplies	5,000
Sub-total	149,000
13% Programme support cost	19,370
Total	168,370

Publications for human rights

“Advocacy, human rights teaching and human rights documentation services are all central for the success of United Nations human rights action. The information activities are tools to promote and protect human rights; their importance is clearly growing.”

The external review of the OHCHR publications programme, commissioned in July 2000, concluded that the High Commissioner should build its capacities in the field of publications and public information. At present time the Office has no publications unit and there is no provision made in the regular budget for publications. Among the programme’s objectives, the review underscored the importance of strengthening the treaty system, the special procedures and the technical cooperation programme; providing manuals and other training materials for professional groups and basic publications for human rights education; and giving a clear account of the Office’s activities. The review noted that while the Office should give “supreme priority to modern information techniques” by developing its web site, there is still a need for printed publications. Priority should be given to basic materials with a clear purpose

and audience. “Simple basic documents, training materials and reference material, which can have a catalyzing effect, would come first”, the review suggested. These documents would be made available in all official United Nations languages.

Priority will be given to five categories of basic, well-written and well-designed publications targeted to specific audiences. Basic publications will include: fact sheets, international instruments and other key texts, training manuals and other special education materials, special issue papers, and promotion materials. Activities over a three-year period will include:

- Establishing an in-house editing and design capacity, as in other UN agencies
- Recruiting an editor, designer and publications officer
- Revising existing publications and holding discussions with other UN agencies and outside publishers to identify priorities and partnership projects
- Exploring the idea of producing an annual publication, similar to those produced by UNICEF and UNHCR
- Reviewing the dissemination strategy

Some steps will be taken immediately, such as hiring an editor, a designer and a publications officer. A consultant with experience, preferably gained within another UN agency, should be hired for one year to design a long-term, project-based strategy.

Budget in US\$

Editor	119,640
Publications officer	79,200
Designer consultant, 3 months	24,900
Consultant for publications strategy development	119,640
Drafting consultants, 2-3 months	49,800
Translation, editing (outsourcing)	50,000
Printing (outsourcing)	50,000
Five PCs and two printers	8,000
Sub-total	501,180
13% Programme support cost	65,153
Total	566,333

Public information

Background

It is widely recognized that the UN human rights programme must expand its information and media activities. The documents from the 1993 Vienna Conference explicitly confirm the importance of disseminating information on human rights in every region. Activities in 2001 aim to increase understanding and awareness of OHCHR's work in field operations, technical cooperation, the treaty bodies, the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights and initiatives of the High Commissioner. Increasing the quantity and improving the quality of human rights information available through all media will foster confidence among governments, NGOs, media, academics and the wider public that the United Nations and OHCHR are achieving results. In turn, greater confidence will lead to greater political and public support for the Office's work.

Activities

- Expanding and maintaining contacts with national media, especially with correspondents who specialize in human rights issues
- Facilitating television coverage of the field work done by the Office and the Special Procedures
- Providing media training, support and advice to the Office's field presences, particularly through on-site visits to the larger offices
- Installing equipment in the Palais Wilson that will help the international media arrange radio interviews, at short notice, with the High Commissioner and other senior officials and experts
- Developing information strategies for different audiences, including regional and issue-specific programmes

Budget in US\$

Mission to OHCHR's field offices	25,000
Coverage of field activities by television crews	40,000
Regional training and workshops	15,000
Local consultants' travel	25,000
ISDN line and interface, basic	
soundproofing for radio broadcasts	5,000
Two portable televisions sets and a VCR	3,000
Wire service access	2,500
Scanner	1,000
Sub-total	116,500
13% Programme support cost	15,145

Total 131,645

Resource mobilization

Background

The current activities of OHCHR cannot be carried out with funding from the United Nations regular budget alone, and the need for additional voluntary contributions have increased substantially over the past few years. A small team, consisting of two professional staff and one secretary, has been set up to manage resource mobilization and donor relations in the Office. The objectives of OHCHR's resource mobilization strategy are to:

- Secure adequate financial support for the activities of OHCHR
- Obtain timely and predictable funding, allowing for appropriate planning of the Office's activities
- Obtain flexible funding with less earmarking and conditions

In its first year of existence, the resource mobilization team has:

- Devised a resource mobilization strategy for OHCHR
- Increased the level of voluntary contributions (US\$ 36 million as of October, compared to US\$ 27 million in 1999)
- Expanded the donor base
- Set up and managed a system for the timely follow-up of pledges and contributions
- Established itself as the focal point on funding issues, internally and externally
- Improved OHCHR's participation in the UN system-wide consolidated appeals
- Negotiated funding arrangements that improve stability and predictability in funding
- Issued Annual Appeals for 2000 and 2001
- Contributed to improved programme planning and monitoring
- Devised a plan on reporting to donors and begun addressing a backlog of outstanding reports

Plans for 2001

The team will further consolidate and improve work in all areas described above and will focus on reporting on the implementation of activities and use of funds, providing regular updates on activities and funding and further expanding the donor base. In the past, reporting to donors was not systematic, hence backlogs developed. The team has been able to reduce the backlog only slightly, and so it will work to eliminate the backlog to the extent possible during 2001. To respond to the needs and expectations of most donors and to avoid a multitude of reporting formats, a uniform system for reporting is being prepared. Beginning in 2001, an Annual Report, which will mirror the Annual Appeal and review the previous year's implementation of activities and use of funds, will be issued.

In addition to the Annual Appeal and Annual Report, donors and others who take an interest in the work of the Office need regular updates on activities and funding. While progress has been made, updates on activities and more user-friendly funding overviews must be prepared and made available.

It is important to avoid dependency on a few donors and to build broad support for the activities of the Office. In 2000, important donors have been added to the list of contributors and efforts will be made to expand that list. For example, if approached more systematically, some governments may be inclined to increase their contributions. Relations with the European Commission, which contributed generously in 2000, will be further developed. Governments with scarce resources, but whose support is crucial to the Office, must be encouraged to contribute. Cooperation with foundations, which contributed several million US dollars in 2000, will be consolidated and others will be approached, if staff capacity permits.

Management arrangements

The team consists of three professionals (the third recruited in December 2000) and a secretary. The main tasks of the team include:

- Advising and briefing the High Commissioner on funding strategies and issues
- Providing a focal point on funding in OHCHR for governments and others who contribute funds
- Briefing donors on funding

- Managing the preparation of the Annual Appeal, 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
- Continuing efforts to expand the donor base

Risks

The implementation of the resource mobilization strategy will depend on the continuation of current, and the provision of additional, staff resources, good financial tracking and management and high-quality information from relevant units of OHCHR for appeals, reports and submissions. Resource mobilization cannot be carried out in isolation; its success depends on the performance and the perception of the Office as a whole. OHCHR depends 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 Report include editing, proof-reading, lay-out and printing. Translation into French is provided by the Languages Service 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	489,492
Travel	18,000
Preparation of the Annual Report for 2000	45,000
Preparation of the Annual Appeal 2002	45,000
Consultants	60,000
Sub-total	657,492
13% Programme support cost	85,474
Total	742,966

Staff security

Background

Staff security has become a major concern at all levels in the United Nations. According to the United Nations Security Coordination Office (UNSECOORD), 198 civilian UN staff members lost their lives in the line of duty between 1 January 1992 and 1 October 2000. Another 240 were taken hostage or kidnapped in 63 separate incidents. UN staff members have also been victims of rape and sexual assault, armed robbery, attacks on humanitarian convoys, car-jackings, harassment and arrest and detention. Frequently, the circumstances that warrant an OHCHR deployment are the same that pose serious risks to the life, liberty and property of staff, namely a breakdown in law and order, or political instability in the aftermath of armed conflict. Human rights monitoring often leads to criticism of the authorities or *de facto* authorities in a country. It is therefore difficult for human rights field staff to conduct their work without risking alienation from many quarters.

Staff must, then, be provided with the resources and training to allow them to do their work in difficult and dangerous environments. Field conditions that affect the work of the staff must be constantly analyzed so appropriate responses can be taken. Provisions must also be made for special rapporteurs and independent experts who are not covered by UN security procedures.

The UN security management system provides a professional security officer at many, but not all, duty stations. This person provides advice and planning support to the Designated Official (DO) for security, normally the Resident Representative, and his/her salary is cost-shared by the UN agencies operating there. In some of the most difficult locations, OHCHR has provided its own security staff for this purpose. The security coordination unit in Geneva will provide technical supervision on standards, training and procedures.

Activities

- Establish and implement a standardized, systematic approach to all security issues within OHCHR
- Evaluate existing and proposed new field activities with a view to improving all aspects of safety and security of personnel, information and property
- 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
- Conduct risk assessments, and establish, standardize and implement security procedures
- Develop an emergency communications plan
- Establish a comprehensive training programme for Geneva-based personnel, field staff and professional security officers
- Establish the criteria and a programme for the selection, recruitment and training of security staff, including detailed job descriptions
- Establish information-gathering and analysis capacity with regard to the security situation in areas in which OHCHR is operating or wants to operate
- Establish guidelines for the safe operation of all field vehicles

Management arrangements

A Security Coordinator would supervise the unit, which will analyze the security situation in areas in which OHCHR is operating or wants to operate, and advise OHCHR and liaise with other UN bodies and the office of the UN Security Coordinator in New York.

Two professional security staff will coordinate clearances, analyze conditions in the proposed location, provide pre-deployment briefings, liaise with local forces of law and order and, on occasion, accompany human rights staff to the field. Staff would help provide training and awareness programmes.

Requirements

Funds will be required for staff salaries, field evaluations, security-related equipment for the field, training programmes and manuals. In order to manage and disseminate information in a secure and timely fashion, information technology equipment is also needed.

Budget in US\$

Staff: chief of unit and two other professional staff	314,592
Security equipment and supplies for field staff	20,000
IT resources	10,000
Training	25,000
Operating costs, evaluation missions	35,000
Sub-total	404,592
13% Programme support cost	52,597
Total	457,189



Revolving fund

The ability to deploy qualified staff on short notice is crucial if OHCHR is to help avert human rights crises. Yet, apart from a limited pool of money available through a fund under the separate authority of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OHCHR has no financial resources to use in emergencies: the Office can only spend funds that have already been received. The revolving fund was established to provide urgently needed financial resources for emergencies so projects can be implemented before voluntary contributions from donors arrive. The fund will be replenished, in turn, with voluntary contributions. Within the next few years, OHCHR would like to see the revolving fund reach a level of about US\$ 2 million. The Office would thus appreciate contributions of **US\$ 300,000** during 2001.





Annual Appeal 2001
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Human Rights

ANNUAL APPEAL 2001

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