

## **General allegation**

**117th session (11–15 February 2019)**

### **Pakistan**

9. The Working Group received information from sources concerning reported obstacles encountered in the implementation of Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in Pakistan.

10. The Working Group received a report that thousands of persons, including children and women, have been forcibly disappeared by security forces in Pashtun areas of Pakistan. They also report that most of the women, who have tried to register the cases of their loved ones with a human rights council commission established by the government of Pakistan, have experienced some form of harassment when doing so. The sources further report that the courts, police, media, and other human rights organizations are not operating in Pashtun areas.

11. The Working Group also received a report that approximately 2,000 enforced or involuntary disappearances were documented in Balochistan in 2017. According to sources, people from various backgrounds were abducted in military raids and operations. The sources report that Frontier Corps, that report to the Ministry of Interior, or military and secret service agents of intelligence agencies are responsible for the enforced disappearances of activists and civilians in Balochistan. They report that, in some cases, death squads kidnap people for ransom.

12. The Working Group was also informed that newly discovered mass graves are not properly investigated in Balochistan. According to a source, a new mass grave was discovered in the Panjgur district of Balochistan on July 17, 2018. The source reports that the government has neither acknowledged its existence nor examined the bodies to ascertain their identity. In 2014, three mass graves were found by a shepherd in Tutak area of Khuzdar, containing more than 150 bodies, including a that of a resident who had been picked up by Frontier Corps. Another mass grave was found in the Panjgur area of Balochistan in 2011, which contained three bodies previously abducted by the Frontier Corps. According to sources, all the four bodies from the recently discovered gravesite were decomposed beyond recognition. The sources request that the government should conduct a DNA test of the bodies to establish their identity, and that an impartial investigation should be conducted to bring the perpetrators to justice.