Questions

The Special Rapporteur seeks to develop a typology of common violations of the human rights to water and sanitation and relate these to their underlying structural causes and power relations. The Special Rapporteur intends to explore avenues for redressing such violations and seeking accountability (judicial and non-judicial mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels). While primarily focusing on the role of States, the Special Rapporteur also seeks to address the role of other actors, discussing how quasi-judicial bodies (including the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights under the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) can best address cases and complaints and how civil society organisations can strategically support bringing forward relevant cases on the rights to water and sanitation.

The Special Rapporteur would particularly welcome submissions that address the following questions:

1. What mechanisms are available in your Excellency’s country to individuals who are alleged victims of violations of their human rights to water and/or sanitation?
2. Have courts adjudicated on any cases related to human rights to water and/or sanitation? If yes, please indicate relevant cases and attach copies of relevant judgments.
3. Have courts or other mechanisms addressed issues that relate to the government’s obligation to take steps, to plan for, or to provide resources for the full realization of the rights to water and/or sanitation? How have courts addressed these issues?
4. Have courts or other mechanism addressed the obligation to ensure non-discrimination and equality in the realisation of the human rights to water and sanitation? What orders have courts adopted in that regard?
5. Does the National Human Rights Institution deal with alleged violations of the human rights to water and/or sanitation? If yes, please indicate relevant cases and attach copies.
6. Can people address complaints to service providers, regulators or other mechanisms? How do these processes work?