

Terms of Reference for Fact-Finding Missions by Special Rapporteurs/Representatives
of the Commission on Human Rights¹

During fact-finding missions, special rapporteurs or representatives of the Commission on Human Rights, as well as United Nations staff accompanying them, should be given the following guarantees and facilities by the Government that invited them to visit its country:

- (a) Freedom of movement in the whole country, including facilitation of transport, in particular to restricted areas;
- (b) Freedom of inquiry, in particular as regards:
 - (i) Access to all prisons, detention centres and places of interrogation;
 - (ii) Contacts with central and local authorities of all branches of government;
 - (iii) Contacts with representatives of non-governmental organizations, other private institutions and the media;
 - (iv) Confidential and unsupervised contact with witnesses and other private persons, including persons deprived of their liberty, considered necessary to fulfil the mandate of the special rapporteur; and
 - (v) Full access to all documentary material relevant to the mandate;
- (c) Assurance by the Government that no persons, official or private individuals who have been in contact with the special rapporteur/representative in relation to the mandate will for this reason suffer threats, harassment or punishment or be subjected to judicial proceedings;
- (d) Appropriate security arrangements without, however, restricting the freedom of movement and inquiry referred to above;
- (e) Extension of the same guarantees and facilities mentioned above to the appropriate United Nations staff who will assist the special rapporteur/representative before, during and after the visit.

¹ Appendix V, E/CN.4/1998/45.