

- (b) To vote and to be elected at genuine periodic elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot, guaranteeing the free expression of the will of the electors;
- (c) To have access, on general terms of equality, to public service in his country.

Article 26

All persons are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to the equal protection of the law. In this respect, the law shall prohibit discrimination and guarantee to all persons equal and effective protection against discrimination on any ground such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 27

In those states in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities exist, persons belonging to such minorities shall not be denied the right, in community with the other members of their group, to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practise their own religion, or to use their own language.

PART IV

Article 28

1 There shall be established a Human Rights Committee (hereafter referred to in the present Covenant as the Committee). It shall consist of eighteen members and shall carry out the functions hereinafter provided.

2 The Committee shall be composed of nationals of the States Parties to the present Covenant who shall be persons of high moral character and recognised competence in the field of human rights, consideration having been given to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience.

3 The members of the Committee shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity.

Article 29

1 The members of the Committee shall be elected by secret ballot from a list of persons possessing the qualifications prescribed in Article 28 and nominated for the purpose by the States Parties to the present Covenant.

2 Each State Party to the present Covenant may nominate not more than two persons. These persons shall be nationals of the nominating State.

3 A person shall be eligible for renomination.

Article 30

1 The initial election shall be held no later than six months after the date of the entry into force of the present Covenant.

2 At least four months before the date of each election to the Committee, other than an election to fill a vacancy declared in accordance with Article 34, the Secretary General of the United Nations shall address a written invitation to the States Parties to the present Covenant to submit their nominations for membership of the Committee within three months.

3 The Secretary General of the United Nations shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of all the persons thus nominated, with an indication of the States Parties which have nominated them, and shall submit it to the States Parties to the present Covenant no later than one month before the date of each election.

4 Elections of the members of the Committee shall be held at a meeting of the States Parties to the present Covenant convened by the Secretary General of the United Nations at the Headquarters of the United Nations. At that meeting, for which two thirds of the States Parties to the present Covenant shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Committee shall be those nominees who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of the representatives of States Parties present and voting.

Article 31

- 1 The Committee may not include more than one national of the same state.
- 2 In the election of the Committee, consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilisation and of the principal legal systems.

Article 32

- 1 The members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of four years. They shall be eligible for re-election if renominated. However, the terms of nine of the members elected at the first election shall expire at the end of two years; immediately after the first election, the names of these nine members shall be chosen by lot by the Chairman of the meeting referred to in Article 30, para 4.
- 2 Elections at the expiry of office shall be held in accordance with the preceding articles of this part of the present Covenant.

Article 33

- 1 If, in the unanimous opinion of the other members, a member of the Committee has ceased to carry out his functions for any cause other than absence of a temporary character, the Chairman of the Committee shall notify the Secretary General of the United Nations, who shall then declare the seat of that member to be vacant.
- 2 In the event of the death or the resignation of a member of the Committee, the Chairman shall immediately notify the Secretary General of the United Nations, who shall declare the seat vacant from the date of death or the date on which the resignation takes effect.

Article 34

- 1 When a vacancy is declared in accordance with Article 33 and if the term of office of the member to be replaced does not expire within six months of the declaration of the vacancy, the Secretary General of the United Nations shall notify each of the States Parties to the present Covenant, which may within two months submit nominations in accordance with Article 29 for the purpose of filling the vacancy.
- 2 The Secretary General of the United Nations shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of the persons thus nominated and shall submit it to the States Parties to the present Covenant. The election to fill the vacancy shall then take place in accordance with the relevant provisions of this part of the present Covenant.
- 3 A member of the Committee elected to fill a vacancy declared in accordance with Article 33 shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the member who vacated the seat on the Committee under the provisions of that article.

Article 35

The members of the Committee shall, with the approval of the General Assembly of the United Nations, receive emoluments from United Nations resources on such terms and conditions as the General Assembly may decide, having regard to the importance of the Committee's responsibilities.

Article 36

The Secretary General of the United Nations shall provide the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee under the present Covenant.

Article 37

1 The Secretary General of the United Nations shall convene the initial meeting of the Committee at the Headquarters of the United Nations.

2 After its initial meeting, the Committee shall meet at such times as shall be provided in its rules of procedure.

3 The Committee shall normally meet at the Headquarters of the United Nations or at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

Article 38

Every member of the Committee shall, before taking up his duties, make a solemn declaration in open committee that he will perform his functions impartially and conscientiously.

Article 39

1 The Committee shall elect its officers for a term of two years. They may be re-elected.

2 The Committee shall establish its own rules of procedure but these rules shall provide, *inter alia*, that:

- (a) Twelve members shall constitute a quorum;
- (b) Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a majority vote of the members present.

Article 40

1 The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to submit reports on the measures they have adopted which give effect to the rights recognised herein and on the progress made in the enjoyment of those rights:

- (a) Within one year of the entry into force of the present Covenant for the States Parties concerned;
- (b) Thereafter whenever the Committee so requests.

2 All reports shall be submitted to the Secretary General of the United Nations who shall transmit them to the Committee for consideration. Reports shall indicate the factors and difficulties, if any affecting the implementation of the present Covenant.

3 The Secretary General of the United Nations may, after consultation with the Committee, transmit to the specialised agencies concerned copies of such parts of the reports as may fall within their fields of competence.

4 The Committee shall study the reports submitted by the States Parties to the present Covenant. It shall transmit its reports, and such general comments as it may consider appropriate, to the States Parties. The Committee may also transmit to the Economic and Social Council their comments along with the copies of the reports it has received from States Parties to the present Covenant.

5 The States Parties to the present Covenant may submit to the Committee observations on any comments that may be made in accordance with para 4 of this article.

Article 41

1 A State Party to the present Covenant may at any time declare under this article that it recognises the competence of the Committee to receive and consider

communications to the effect that a State Party claims that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the present Covenant. Communications under this article may be received and considered only if submitted by a State Party which has made a declaration recognising in regard to itself the competence of the Committee. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerned a State Party which has not made such a declaration. Communications received under this article shall be dealt with in accordance with the following procedure:

- (a) If a State Party to the present Covenant considers that another State Party is not giving effect to the provisions of the present Covenant, it may, by written communication, bring the matter to the attention of that State Party. Within three months after the receipt of communication, the receiving state shall afford the state which sent the communication an explanation or any other statement in writing clarifying the matter, which should include, to the extent possible and pertinent, reference to domestic procedures and remedies taken, pending, or available in the matter.
- (b) If the matter is not adjusted to the satisfaction of other States Parties concerned within six months after the receipt by the receiving state of the initial communication, either state shall have the right to refer the matter to the Committee, by notice given to the Committee and to the other state.
- (c) The Committee shall deal with a matter referred to it only after it has ascertained that all available domestic remedies have been invoked and exhausted in the matter, in conformity with the generally recognised principles of international law. This shall not be the rule where the application of the remedies is unreasonably prolonged.
- (d) The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under this article.
- (e) Subject to the provisions of sub-para (c), the Committee shall make available its good offices to the State Parties concerned with a view to a friendly solution of the matter on the basis of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognised in the present Covenant.
- (f) In any matter referred to it, the Committee may call upon the States Parties concerned, referred to in sub-para (b), to supply any relevant information.
- (g) The States Parties concerned, referred to in sub-para (b), shall have the right to be represented when the matter is being considered in the Committee and to make submissions orally and/or in writing.
- (h) The Committee shall, within 12 months after the date of receipt of notice under sub-para (b), submit a report:
 - (i) If a solution within the terms of sub-para (e) is reached, the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached;
 - (ii) If a solution within the terms of sub-para (e) is not reached the Committee shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts; the written submissions and record of the oral submissions made by the State Parties concerned shall be attached to the report.

In every matter, the report shall be communicated to the States Parties concerned.

2 The provisions of this article shall come into force when ten States Parties to the present Covenant have made declarations under para 1 of this article. Such declarations shall be deposited by the States Parties with the Secretary General of

the United Nations, who shall transmit copies thereof to the other States Parties. A declaration may be withdrawn at any time by notification to the Secretary General. Such a withdrawal shall not prejudice the consideration of any matter which is the subject of a communication already transmitted under this article; no further communication by any State Party shall be received after the notification of withdrawal of the declaration has been received by the Secretary General, unless the State Party concerned has made a new declaration.

Article 42

1

- (a) If a matter referred to the Committee in accordance with Article 41 is not resolved to the satisfaction of the States Parties concerned, the Committee may, with the prior consent of the States Parties concerned, appoint an ad hoc Conciliation Commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission). The good offices of the Commission shall be made available to the States Parties concerned with a view to an amicable solution of the matter on the basis of respect for the present Covenant;
- (b) The Commission shall consist of five persons acceptable to the States Parties concerned. If the States Parties concerned fail to reach agreement within three months on all or part of the composition of the Commission the members of the Commission concerning whom no agreement has been reached shall be elected by secret ballot by a two-thirds majority vote of the Committee from among its members.

2 The members of the Commission shall serve in their personal capacity. They shall not be nationals of the States Parties concerned, or of a State not party to the present Covenant, or of a State Party which has not made a declaration under Article 41.

3 The Commission shall elect its own Chairman and adopt its own rules of procedure.

4 The meetings of the Commission shall normally be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations or at the United Nations Office in Geneva. However, they may be held at such other convenient places as the Commission may determine in consultation with the Secretary General of the United Nations and the States Parties concerned.

5 The Secretariat provided in accordance with Article 36 shall also service the commissions appointed under this article.

6 The information received and collated by the Committee shall be made available to the Commission and the Commission may call upon the States Parties concerned to supply any other relevant information.

7 When the Commission has fully considered the matter, but in any event not later than 12 months after having been seized of the matter, it shall submit to the Chairman of the Committee a report for communication to the States Parties concerned.

- (a) If the Commission is unable to complete its consideration of the matter within twelve months, it shall confine its report to a brief statement of the status of its consideration of the matter.
- (b) If an amicable solution to the matter on the basis of respect for human rights as recognised in the present Covenant is reached, the Commission shall confine its report to a brief statement of the facts and of the solution reached.
- (c) If a solution within the terms of sub-para (b) is not reached, the Commission's report shall embody its findings on all questions of fact

relevant to the issues between the States Parties concerned, and its views on the possibilities of an amicable solution of the matter. This report shall also contain the written submissions and a record of the oral submissions made by the States Parties concerned.

- (d) If the Commission's report is submitted under sub-para (c), the States Parties concerned shall, within three months of the receipt of the report, notify the Chairman of the Committee whether or not they accept the contents of the report of the Commission.

8 The provisions of this article are without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Committee under Article 41.

9 The States Parties concerned shall share equally all the expenses of the members of the Commission in accordance with estimates to be provided by the Secretary General of the United Nations.

10 The Secretary General of the United Nations shall be empowered to pay the expenses of the members of the Commission, if necessary, before reimbursement by the States Parties concerned, in accordance with para 9 of this article.

Article 43

The members of the Committee, and of the *ad hoc* conciliation commissions which may be appointed under Article 42, shall be entitled to the facilities, privileges and immunities of experts on mission for the United Nations as laid down in the relevant sections of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

Article 44

The provisions for the implementation of the present Covenant shall apply without prejudice to the procedures prescribed in the field of human rights by or under the constituent instruments and the conventions of the United Nations and of the specialised agencies and shall not prevent the States Parties to the present Covenant from having recourse to other procedures for settling a dispute in accordance with general or special international agreements in force between them.

Article 45

The Committee shall submit to the General Assembly of the United Nations through the Economic and Social Council, an annual report on its activities.

PART V

Article 46

Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the constitutions of the specialised agencies which define the respective responsibilities of the various organs of the United Nations and of the specialised agencies in regard to the matters dealt with in the present Covenant.

Article 47

Nothing in the present Covenant shall be interpreted as impairing the inherent right of all peoples to enjoy and utilise fully and freely their natural wealth and resources.

PART VI

Article 48

1 The present Covenant is open for signature by any State Member of the United Nations or members of any of its specialised agencies, by any State Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by any other state which has been invited to the General Assembly of the United Nations to become a party to the present Covenant.

2 The present Covenant is subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the United Nations.

3 The present Covenant shall be open to accession by any state referred to in para 1 of this article.

4 Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary General of the United Nations.

5 The Secretary General of the United Nations shall inform all states which have signed the present Covenant or acceded to it of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession.

Article 49

1 The present Covenant shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit with the Secretary General of the United Nations of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.

2 For each state ratifying the present Covenant or acceding to it after the deposit of the thirty-fifth instrument of ratification or instrument of accession, the present Covenant shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or instrument of accession.

Article 50

The provisions of the present Covenant shall extend to all parts of federal states without any limitations or exceptions.

Article 51

1 Any State Party to the present Covenant may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary General of the United Nations. The Secretary General shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties to the present Covenant with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposals. In the event that at least one third of the States Parties favours such a conference, the Secretary General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendments adopted by a majority of the States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval.

2 Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the present Covenant in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

3 When amendments come into force they shall be binding on those States Parties which have accepted them, other States Parties still being bound by the provisions of the present Covenant and any earlier amendment which they have accepted.

Article 52

Irrespective of the notifications made under Article 48, para 5, the Secretary General of the United Nations shall inform all states referred to in para 1 of the same article of the following particulars:

- (a) Signatures, ratifications and accessions under Article 48;
- (b) The date of the entry into force of the present Covenant under Article 49 and the date of the entry into force of any amendments under Article 51.

Article 53

1 The present Covenant, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

2 The Secretary General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Covenant to all States referred to in Article 48.

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights 1996

1 As evidenced by all too many examples of constant threats to and violations of the basic rights of individuals around the world, the human rights situation continues to be a daunting challenge for the international community. Considerable progress must yet be made in order to secure the realisation of human rights standards and a firmly established human rights culture. The ideals that inspired the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are as relevant today as they were nearly half a century ago when the community of nations pledged to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Bearing this in mind, collective efforts must be made on the part of all human rights actors to uphold these aspirations and to implement fully the mechanisms that ensure their effective realisation.

2 The United Nations human rights programme, under the direction of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, is making notable advances in promoting the objectives of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), Chapter III), which serves as a blueprint for action in the international efforts to promote and protect human rights. During the last year, important progress has been made in expanding the ratification of international human rights instruments, supporting the establishment or strengthening of human rights national institutions and broadening technical co-operation projects. These efforts have yielded positive and concrete results.

3 An important feature of the High Commissioner's agenda has been the strengthening of human rights work in the field. As governments increasingly seek human rights assistance *in situ*, the United Nations human rights programme is able to reach out to more people and bring tangible results to the numerous and urgent needs in this regard. This serves as further proof of the spirit of co-operation that more and more symbolises how human rights are being addressed today.

4 Similarly, the High Commissioner has assertively sought to secure that economic, social and cultural rights, and particularly the right to development, acquire a higher profile within the framework of United Nations human rights efforts, in the spirit of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which proclaimed that all human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent and interrelated.

5 During his tenure, the High Commissioner has encouraged governments and other human rights actors to attach to the consideration of human rights greater prominence and stature. Through dialogue with member states, through co-ordination with the United Nations agencies that support human rights efforts, through permanent contact with regional forums, academic institutions

and the leadership of the main international financial institutions, the High Commissioner has sought to ensure that the issue of human rights become a constant in the thinking and actions of the political and economic forces that govern or influence events globally.

6 The United Nations human rights programme is indeed ambitious and must be implemented through partnership. Member states and others are aware of the various obstacles that have been surmounted to accomplish what thus far has been achieved. However, more needs to be done to achieve further progress. The High Commissioner is firmly determined to work closely with all partners in order to ensure these objectives.

7 It should be recalled that human rights, together with peace and security, and development, constitute the triad upon which the United Nations was founded. Member states should entrust the High Commissioner with invigorating the human rights programme in order to maintain the strength of this triad and to preserve the fundamental role envisioned for human rights by the founders of the United Nations. This should be carefully reflected upon as both the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the five-year review on the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action draw near.

8 The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action provides the guidelines for the United Nations human rights programme. The methods and means being implemented are reflected throughout the present report. However, detailed information concerning the ways in which the recommendations adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights are being put into effect is also contained in other reports dealing with human rights submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session.

9 The following fundamental principles continue to be the basis of the High Commissioner's activities aimed at enhancing international co-operation in the field of human rights: (a) the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of human rights rests with governments; (b) the promotion and protection of all human rights is a legitimate concern of the international community; (c) the international community should foster processes leading towards a better implementation of human rights and the strengthening of democracy and the rule of law, and should take all necessary measures to prevent human rights abuses and to eradicate the gravest human rights violations; (d) the international protection and promotion of human rights is effective only if based on the principle of the indivisibility and equal value of all human rights – civil, cultural, economic, political and social, including the right to development; (e) the interdependence between democracy, development and respect for human rights, underlined by the World Conference on Human Rights, offers a prospect of harmonious national and international activity; (f) the international and regional systems of human rights protection are complementary and should support each other; and (g) national institutions, non-governmental organisations, academic institutions and grass-roots initiatives should be fully accepted as natural human rights advocates and partners in international co-operation for human rights.

...

33 The importance placed on strengthening the implementation of human rights world-wide by the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights, country and thematic special *rapporteurs*, working groups and treaty bodies has never been more clear. The globalisation of human rights as seen by their growing relevance for overall development trends world-wide, prompts the

international community to perceive making human rights a reality as one of its primary concerns. This attitude is strengthened by developments in countries that have recently chosen the challenging way to sustainable development through democracy and human rights. Already these countries are beginning to enjoy the benefits of this policy in the form of economic progress, political consolidation, and social stability. Although the adoption of legislation consistent with international standards is of utmost importance, it is the application of law which matters most.

34 The debate during the fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights has confirmed the overwhelming trend to human rights, democracy and development in the contemporary world. Adopted resolutions and decisions refer to positive developments in the current world human rights record. International exchange, promoted and facilitated by human rights organs and bodies, contributes to efforts made by governments and civil society. The value of the expertise of others, be it international organisations, governments, non-governmental organisations or local communities, cannot be overestimated.

35 However, as in previous years, the Commission continued to express its concern about (a) obstacles to the enjoyment of all human rights by all; (b) serious human rights violations, and (c) difficult human rights situations in a relatively large number of countries. Again, the Commission in its resolutions drew the attention of governments, the United Nations system and the general public to these issues. The Commission called for action with regard to impunity; racism and xenophobia; discrimination against women; ethnic and religious intolerance; mass exoduses and refugee flows; armed conflicts and terrorism and the lack of the rule of law as major obstacles to human rights. The Commission continued to alert the international community to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; torture and enforced disappearance; arbitrary detention; violence against women, children and vulnerable groups; the problem of internally displaced persons, extreme poverty and problems related to sustainable development, international debt, etc. Under the agenda item related to the question of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories, the Commission expressed its concern about the human rights situation in Afghanistan, Burundi, Cyprus, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Myanmar, Nigeria, the Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville, the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), Rwanda, southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa, the Sudan and Zaire. Furthermore, the Commission adopted the Chairman's statements on the situation of human rights in Colombia, Liberia, East Timor and the Republic of Chechnya of the Russian Federation. Under agenda item 4, the Commission considered violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine, human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan, and Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories, and under agenda item 9 the situation in occupied Palestine and the question of Western Sahara. In addition, various thematic procedures, in their reports to the Commission, pointed out serious human rights problems in a number of countries and made recommendations in that regard.

36 Concern continues to be expressed by the Commission on Human Rights when governments either deny or fail to lend their full co-operation to the Commission or its mechanisms. Similarly, the Commission expressed concern in its Resolution 1996/70 of 23 April 1996 with regard to continued reports of intimidation and reprisals against private individuals and groups who seek such co-operation. The High Commissioner shares those concerns.

37 Many human rights activists raise the problem of infringements upon their personal security and freedom of action. In this context, the High Commissioner supports endeavours aimed at the finalisation of the draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognised human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Commission on Human Rights, in its Resolution 1996/81 of 23 April 1996, urged an open-ended working group to make every effort to complete work on this draft declaration.

38 The High Commissioner raises issues related to the implementation of human rights in his dialogue with governments, stressing the need for consideration of the recommendations adopted by the Commission and made by its mechanisms. It is to be pointed out that in many cases the response of governments indicates their willingness to react constructively to the voice of the international community. The High Commissioner regrets that his appeals do not always bring expected results. In keeping with his mandate and guided by his responsibility to promote and protect human rights for everyone, the High Commissioner will continue to take up particular cases and, if appropriate, use direct contact with governments, and other relevant parties, in order to obtain concrete results.

...

V CHALLENGES TO HUMAN RIGHTS

A Equality and non-discrimination

1 Elimination of racial discrimination

71 In accordance with General Assembly Resolution 48/91 of 20 December 1993, in which the Assembly proclaimed the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, the High Commissioner/Centre for Human Rights organised a seminar to assess the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, with particular reference to Articles 4 and 6. The seminar was held at Geneva from 9 to 13 September 1996.

72 In his introductory statement, the High Commissioner focused on the discrimination of immigrants, refugees and ethnic minorities and the propaganda of racism and anti-semitism through the modern media, including the Internet. The participants expressed their concern about the use of media for the dissemination of racist ideas and incitement to acts of violence and stressed the necessity of a vigorous action, at the international and national levels, against such phenomena. In relation to the Internet, the seminar suggested that the High Commissioner/Centre for Human Rights hold a further seminar in co-operation with Internet service providers to discuss how to prevent racist information on the Internet. The seminar strongly underlined the importance of education as a significant means of preventing and eradicating racism and racial discrimination and of creating awareness of human rights principles, particularly among young people, and recommended to States parties that they take measures in that regard.

2 Women

73 In its Resolution 1996/22 of 19 April 1996, the Commission on Human Rights welcomed that the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies had emphasised that the enjoyment of human rights by women should be closely monitored by each treaty body within the competence of its mandate, and recommended that the reporting guidelines adopted by each treaty body should be amended to identify gender-specific information that should be provided by