

Funds administered by OHCHR

Voluntary contributions to support OHCHR's activities at headquarters and in the field are channelled and managed through nine trust funds. This chapter provides a short description of each of these funds, including information on voluntary contributions respectively received in 2012. Additional financial information related to these funds can be found in the Statement of extrabudgetary income and expenditure in 2012 (on page 129).

In addition, this chapter describes two small funds managed by OHCHR, although they are not trust funds as per the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules (the OP-CAT Special Fund and the Contingency Fund).

United Nations Trust Fund for the Support of the Activities of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

The United Nations Trust Fund for the Support of the Activities of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was established by the Secretary-General in 1993 to cover contributions intended to support the substantive work programme of the then Centre for Human Rights and to supplement existing regular budget resources. Since then, the Fund has been used as a general funding pool to support a wide range of OHCHR activities. It is the largest fund administered by OHCHR, through which approximately 73.1 per cent of all extrabudgetary funds (including unearmarked funds) and 74.7 per cent of extrabudgetary expenditures were managed in 2012.

Detailed information on activities implemented and voluntary contributions managed through this Fund are described in the chapters presented in the annexed CD.

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights was established by the Secretary-General in 1987

in response to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1987/83. The Fund provides resources to support national efforts to build a strong human rights framework. Support is provided to promote and establish legal frameworks, effective national human rights institutions, independent judiciaries and vibrant civil society organizations. Since 1993, a Board of Trustees, appointed by the Secretary-General, has provided administrative and operational guidance, evolving in recent years to provide advice on policy orientation, a global vision and strategies on technical cooperation at a broader programme level. The Board meets twice a year to review the programmes it supports; discuss thematic issues, methodologies and procedures; examine financial, administrative and fundraising matters; and brief Member States on progress and achievements.

The Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation is the second largest trust fund administered by OHCHR. For the year 2012, the Fund received US\$18.5 million in new contributions. Funding was used to implement OHCHR technical cooperation activities, including many of the activities referred to in the chapter on field operations, in 36 regions, countries or territories: Afghanistan, Bolivia, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur (Sudan), Ecuador, Great Lakes, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Niger, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Caucasus, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Ukraine, Yemen and Zimbabwe. Activities implemented under the Fund have resulted in: efforts undertaken at the country level to incorporate international human rights standards into national laws, policies and practices; the establishment of more sustainable national capacities to adhere to these standards; strengthened administration of justice; greater emphasis on the development of human rights education programmes; the establishment of responsive national human rights institutions; the deployment of human rights advisers to UN Country Teams; and the development of national plans of action for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation (VFTC)

Voluntary contributions in 2012

Donor	US\$	Earmarking
Algeria	500,000	VFTC (African countries)
Finland	309,585	VFTC
Germany	664,011	VFTC
India	100,000	VFTC
Liechtenstein	21,505	VFTC
Panama	2,000	VFTC
Saudi Arabia	40,000	VFTC
Switzerland	1,556,017	VFTC
United States of America	1,400,000	VFTC
(a) Total contributions earmarked to VFTC	4,593,118	
Australia	295,920	Somalia
Austria	645,995	Somalia
Belgium	99,470	Afghanistan (Afghan people dialogue on peace - phase II)
European Commission	127,250	oPt (to support OHCHR's leadership of the protection cluster)
France	132,802	Mauritania
Germany	61,275	Somalia (transitional justice)
Israel	10,000	Somalia
Italy	74,627	Libya (to support the Libyan National Council for Civil Liberties and HR)
Japan	30,000	Afghanistan
	40,000	oPt
	120,000	Sri Lanka
	30,000	Timor Leste
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie	29,850	Chad (support to implementation of UPR recommendations)
	31,788	Côte d'Ivoire (training for security forces)
	4,456	Haiti (HR expert for 6 months to work with the "OPC")
	25,277	Madagascar (workshop on implementation of UPR recommendations and strengthening of civil society)
	31,873	Niger (support to implementation of UPR recommendations)
Russian Federation	450,000	Russian Federation (consolidation of the Human Rights Master Programme)
Spain	34,483	North Africa (allocated to Mauritania)
Sweden	600,150	Kenya
Switzerland	700,000	oPt (strengthening OHCHR oPt - legal advice, communication and monitoring in East Jerusalem)
UNDP	85,266	Republic of Moldova
United States of America	210,940	Mexico (strengthening institutional capacity)
	120,174	Mauritania (anti-slavery and anti-trafficking project)
(b) Total contributions earmarked to specific projects	3,991,594	
Unearmarked funds allocated to VFTC	9,881,559	Unearmarked
(c) Total unearmarked funds	9,881,559	
TOTAL (a) + (b) + (c)	18,466,272	

United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia

The United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia was established by the Secretary-General in 1992. The Fund was set up as a financial mechanism, financed

through voluntary contributions and administered by OHCHR, to contribute to the development and implementation of a human rights education programme to promote the understanding of and respect for human rights in Cambodia. It has since been used to implement all of the activities of OHCHR's Office in Cambodia (detailed information on the activities carried out in Cambodia in 2012 can be found on page 239 of the CD). In 2012, the Fund received US\$570,113 in voluntary contributions.

Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia Voluntary contributions in 2012

Donor	US\$
Japan	120,000
Sweden	450,113
TOTAL	570,113

United Nations Trust Fund for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

The United Nations Trust Fund for the Programme of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination was established by the Secretary-General in 1976. The Fund was set up as a financial mechanism to implement activities planned in the context of the First Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (1973-1982). The Fund was then used for activities during the second and third decades to combat racism and racial discrimination (1983-1992 and 1994-2003, respectively) as well as to cover expenditures related to the 2001 World Conference and its Review Conference, which took place in Geneva in 2009. There are no further activities planned under this Trust Fund which has received no new contributions since 2009. It is currently only used to resolve pending obligations or invoices related to participants in meetings.

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Participation in the UPR Mechanism

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review mechanism was established by the Secretary-General in 2008 pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 6/17. This Fund was set up as a financial mechanism to provide: (a) funding for the travel to Geneva of official representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to present the national report, take part in the ensuing interactive dialogue and be involved in the adoption of the report in the UPR Working Group sessions in which their countries are considered; (b) funding for the travel of official representatives of developing countries that are members of the Council but do not have a permanent mission in Geneva, to act as rapporteur (i.e., member of the 'troika'); and

(c) training for Member States in the preparation of national reports. The Fund is financed through voluntary contributions and administered by OHCHR. In 2012, the Fund received US\$423,407 in voluntary contributions.

The first UPR cycle formally ended with the adoption of the last outcome documents at the 19th session of the Human Rights Council in March 2012. As of that date, all Member States had undergone the review and had their final outcome documents adopted. The assistance provided by the Trust Fund through the funding of the participation of delegations to the sessions, as well as the field-based pre-session briefings contributed to ensuring the success of the first cycle with a 100 per cent participation rate. The second cycle began in May 2012 and resulted in the review of 28 States (14 per session as per the new UPR modalities). Out of the 17 States which could have benefitted from the travel assistance of the Fund, Benin and Sri Lanka availed themselves of that opportunity.

With regard to the pre-session briefings, and in order to allow States to prepare well in advance for their second review, three interregional briefings were organized in September and November 2011 (in Bangkok, Madrid and Tunis) and facilitated the participation of 176 participants, State representatives, national human rights institutions and representatives of United Nations programmes. The briefings were funded by the Trust Fund. In 2012, on the basis of the outcome of the review of the modalities and working methods of the Human Rights Council, OHCHR developed consolidated UPR training modules and adjusted the format of the regional briefings in order to take into consideration the specific needs of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States. Indeed, those States expressed their wish to benefit from more specific support to participate in an effective manner in the work of the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary bodies, in particular UPR. The holding of field-based UPR pre-session briefings will be resumed in 2013.

Voluntary Fund for Participation in the UPR Voluntary contributions in 2012

Donor	US\$
Australia	197,280
Hungary	6,127
Japan	80,000
Saudi Arabia	40,000
Sweden	100,000
TOTAL	423,407

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the UPR

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review was established by the Secretary-General in 2008 pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 6/17. This financial mechanism was established to provide, in conjunction with multilateral funding mechanisms, a source of financial and technical assistance to help countries implement recommendations emanating from the UPR, in consultation with and the consent of the country concerned. In 2012, the Fund received US\$1,066,034 in voluntary contributions.

During 2012, OHCHR pursued ongoing or undertook new activities funded by the Trust Fund to support efforts to implement UPR outcomes in 10 countries (Bahrain, Barbados, Ecuador, Fiji, Jamaica, the Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Paraguay, Tonga and Vanuatu). In April, through OHCHR's Regional Office in Central Asia, the Office jointly organized with UNDP in Kyrgyzstan, a regional seminar aimed at sharing experiences and strengthening national and regional cooperation in the implementation of recommendations from UN human rights mechanisms. The seminar involved representatives from the governments, national human rights institutions and civil society from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and followed similar initiatives undertaken by the Office for countries in the Caucasus region (Tbilisi, January 2012), the Balkans (Belgrade November 2011) and Eastern Europe (Moldova, November 2011). In November 2012 in Cairo, the Office cooperated with the UNDP in the convening of a governance week for the Arab region focusing on social accountability, which included a two-day component on the Universal Periodic Review. Representatives from Governments, civil society, human rights institutions and media from 17 countries of the region reviewed their engagement and progress in the implementation of UPR recommendations and explored avenues for strengthening collaborations at the national level.

Voluntary Fund for Implementation of the UPR	
Voluntary contributions in 2012	
Donor	US\$
Australia	197,280
Germany	345,286
Norway	523,469
TOTAL	1,066,034

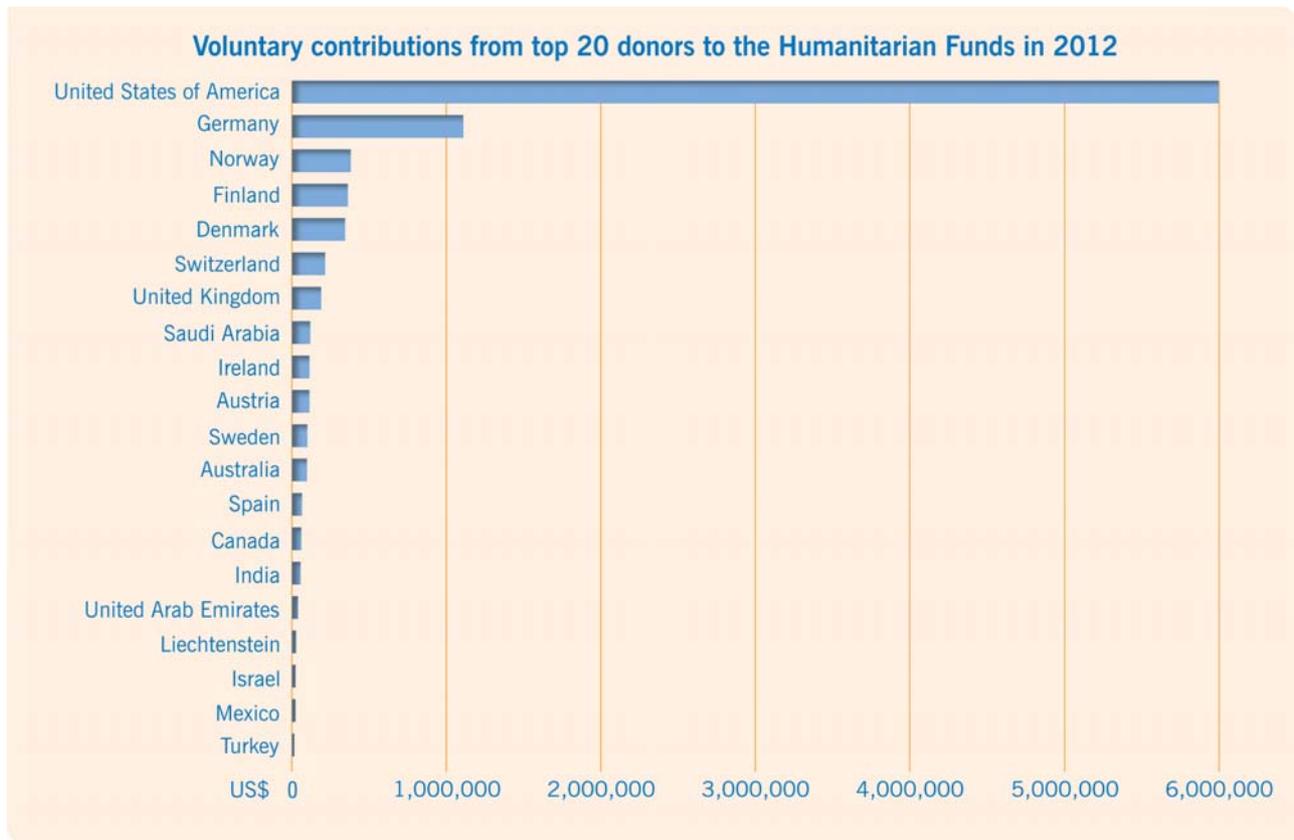
Humanitarian funds

OHCHR also provides Secretariat support for three grant-making funds, known as the humanitarian trust funds. These funds are the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. Each was established by a resolution of the General Assembly with the purpose of providing financial support to individuals and NGOs working in related human rights fields. These funds, which are financed through voluntary contributions, are formally administered by the Secretary-General, acting on the advice of a Board of Trustees that distributes the funds through grants in accordance with the mandates of the funds.

In 2012, 30 Member States and a handful of private donors made contributions to these three funds totalling US\$9.5 million, an eight per cent increase compared to the level of contributions in 2011. Contributions to these funds are not used to support OHCHR's wider work.

United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, established in 1981 by GA resolution 36/151, aims to support projects around the world which offer remedies and reparations, including rehabilitation, to victims of torture and their families. The Fund awards grants to organizations that provide medical, psychological and social assistance, legal aid and financial support to these victims. It also finances training programmes, seminars and conferences, allowing health professionals, social workers and lawyers to exchange experiences, increase their capacities and develop new strategies to address the needs of torture victims.



The Fund is administered by OHCHR on behalf of the Secretary-General, with the advice of a Board of Trustees, which is composed of five persons. The Board's mandate is to advise the Secretary-General on the management of the Fund and it meets twice a year to determine priorities, review the working methods of the Fund and make recommendations on new grants. The new Board that was appointed by the Secretary-General in October 2011 for a three-year mandate is composed of Ms. Mercedes Doretti, Mr. Morad El-Shazly, Ms. Natasa Kandic, Ms. Maria Cristina de Mendonca and Ms. Anastasia Pinto.

Due to the slightly delayed appointment of the new Board, its 35th session for the allocation of 2012 grants was held in February 2012 instead of October 2011. At that session, the Board recommended the awarding of 240 grants in 2012 amounting to over US\$7 million (against approximately US\$19 million in requests) for projects providing direct assistance to victims of torture and their families in more than 70 countries. The Board also launched

an Open-ended Special Call for projects aimed at offering assistance to victims of torture and their families in the Middle East and North Africa region, under which US\$300,000 was awarded for projects in Lebanon and Jordan aimed at assisting torture victims within the context of the Syrian crisis. During its 36th session held in October 2012, the Board recommended that grants be awarded to 247 projects located in over 70 countries for approximately US\$7 million.

In both 2011 and 2012, the Fund received approximately US\$8 million in annual contributions from 26 and 25 donors, respectively, which represents a decrease of approximately 22 per cent of its resources compared to the 2008-2010 period. In 2012, the support of donors remained stable, increasing the concerns of the Secretariat of the Board of Trustees and the Fund about the growing gap between requests and available financial resources which is making it increasingly difficult to provide long-term support to victims of torture and their family members.

UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture Voluntary contributions in 2012	
Donor	US\$
Afghanistan	500
Andorra	12,044
Argentina	3,500
Austria	112,882
Canada	60,000
Chile	10,000
Czech Republic	10,220
Denmark	345,312
Finland	338,083
Germany	730,412
India	25,000
Ireland	113,941
Kuwait	10,000
Liechtenstein	26,882
Morocco	2,000
Norway	174,490
Peru	1,850
Saudi Arabia	50,000
Spain	59,682
Switzerland	215,983
Turkey	10,000
United Arab Emirates	10,000
United Kingdom	158,228
United States of America	6,000,000
Individual donors	5,980
TOTAL	8,486,986

United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery established in 1991 by GA resolution 46/122 provides financial support to NGOs assisting victims of contemporary forms of slavery to help them obtain redress and recover their dignity, including through projects aimed at empowering victims and facilitating their integration in society. Contemporary forms of slavery include serfdom, forced labour, bonded labour, trafficking in persons and in human organs, sexual slavery, worst forms of child labour, early and forced marriage, inherited widows and sale of wives and other forms of slavery, which are brought to light on a regular basis. The Fund's victim-oriented approach has allowed it to channel funds to those most in need of assistance, such as vulnerable groups in society, including indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities, the majority of whom are women

and children. Projects undertaken with the support of the Fund include housing and emergency shelter, legal assistance at national and regional levels, psychosocial support, food, medical care, vocational training and income generating activities for victims of contemporary forms of slavery.

The Fund is administered by OHCHR on behalf of the Secretary-General, acting on the advice of a five-member Board of Trustees. The Board meets annually to determine priorities, review the working methods of the Fund and adopt recommendations on new grants. It held its 17th session in December 2012 to consider the 173 admissible applications received and make recommendations for the allocation of 2013 grants.

During its 17th session, the Board recommended the awarding of 55 grants totalling US\$607,500 to finance projects to be implemented by NGOs in 44 countries during 2013. With a view to further strengthening the victim-centred approach adopted by the Fund and the development of new framework for the monitoring of projects, the Board recommended continuing support for 20 projects already financed in 2012 that have been satisfactorily evaluated, including through field visits.

The Fund also continued to support the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery by supporting grassroots NGOs to attend meetings organized to follow up on the recommendations issued by the Special Rapporteur during her country visits.

In 2012, the Fund received US\$510,469 from eight Member States and one individual, which represents a decrease of 15.2 per cent compared to total contributions received in 2011.

UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery Voluntary contributions in 2012	
Donor	US\$
Germany	332,005
India	30,000
Israel	25,000
Saudi Arabia	50,000
Spain	5,172
Turkey	6,000
United Arab Emirates	30,000
United Kingdom	31,646
Individual donors	646
TOTAL	510,469

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, established in 1985 by General Assembly resolution 40/131, gives indigenous peoples the opportunity to participate in the sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Populations, the Human Rights Council and human rights treaty bodies. Over the years, the Fund has provided support to more than 1,550 indigenous representatives, thereby ensuring that the voices and concerns of indigenous peoples are heard by UN mechanisms and Member States. Since its establishment, the mandate of the Fund has been expanded five times. Most recently, in September 2012, the General Assembly adopted a resolution to expand the mandate of the Fund to include support for indigenous peoples to participate in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples which will be held in 2104.

The Fund is administered by OHCHR on behalf of the Secretary-General, acting on the advice of a five-member Board of Trustees. In 2012, 52 travel grants were awarded for representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the sessions of the Human Rights Council and its UPR process, as well as sessions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee Against Torture.

The Fund also organized, in cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information, six human rights training modules in four languages in Geneva and New York, to increase the capacity of grantees and other indigenous representatives to effectively participate in human rights mechanisms. Additionally, follow-up mechanisms were strengthened to ensure that the participation of indigenous representatives contributes to the national-level implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and related recommendations of human rights mechanisms. The biannual Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations submitted to the General Assembly in 2012 (A/67/221) contains further information on recent developments concerning the Fund.

In 2012, the Fund received US\$551,565 from 12 Member States, which represents an increase of 234 per cent compared to total contributions received in 2011.

UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations Voluntary contributions in 2012	
Donor	US\$
Argentina	10,000
Australia	98,640
Chile	5,000
Cyprus	4,047
Estonia	9,191
Finland	25,740
Germany	46,481
Mexico	24,188
Norway	205,692
Saudi Arabia	20,000
Spain	2,586
Sweden	100,000
TOTAL	551,565

Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture

The OP-CAT was adopted by the General Assembly on December 2002 and entered into force in June 2006. The OP-CAT created a two-pillar system, at the international and national levels, designed to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment in places where persons may be deprived of their liberty. At the international level, it established the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT), which became operational in February 2007. The SPT has an operational function which consists of visiting all places of detention in States Parties and an advisory function which consists of providing assistance and advice to both States Parties and NPMs. In addition, the SPT cooperates with relevant UN organs and mechanisms, as well as international, regional and national institutions or organizations to prevent torture. The SPT presents a public annual report on its activities to the Committee against Torture and the General Assembly. It convenes three times a year for one-week sessions at the United Nations Office in Geneva.

In accordance with article 26, paragraph 1, of the Optional Protocol, the purpose of the Special Fund is to help finance the implementation of

SPT recommendations made after a visit to a State Party to the Optional Protocol, as well as education programmes of the NPMs. The Fund is administered by OHCHR in conformity with the United Nations Financial Rules and Regulations and the relevant policies and procedures promulgated by the Secretary-General. As an interim scheme, it was decided that the OHCHR Grants Committee, the advisory body to the High Commissioner for Human Rights, would decide on the eligibility of projects and award grants based on the evaluation criteria established in the “Guidelines for Applications.” This interim scheme will be reviewed in 2013.

The Special Fund receives voluntary contributions from governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities. In 2012, the Fund received US\$403,363 in voluntary contributions.

The Fund became operational in the summer of 2011 and the first grants were awarded during 2012. Under the November 2011 call for applications, 69 proposals were received and nine projects, for a total of US\$ 166,977, from Benin, Honduras, Maldives, Mexico and Paraguay were approved and awarded grants. A new call for applications was published on 15 August 2012 and closed on 15 October 2012. For this call, thematic priorities per country were identified by the SPT during its 17th session held in Geneva in June 2012. Applicants could request grants of up to US\$50,000 for project activities which are to be implemented between 1 January and 31 December 2013. A total of 34 applications were received of which 4 were considered inadmissible. The 30 applications deemed admissible (those submitted within the deadline and in which the geographic eligibility criteria were met) concern 6 of the 7 countries which had agreed on the publication of the SPT report after its in-country visit: Benin, Brazil, Honduras, Maldives, Mexico and Paraguay. Out of those admissible projects, 11 applications were received from governmental bodies, 17 from non-governmental organizations and two from NPMs.

OP-CAT Special Fund	
Voluntary contributions in 2012	
Donor	US\$
Czech Republic	10,220
Italy	18,932
Switzerland	215,983
United Kingdom	158,228
TOTAL	403,363

Contingency Fund

The Contingency Fund is a flexible funding mechanism established in 2006 to implement and carry out activities within the priorities and strategies of the High Commissioner, and in particular, to respond to human rights emergencies through the rapid deployment of human rights personnel and the provision of necessary logistical support.

The Fund, which is financed through voluntary contributions, aims to hold approximately US\$1 million at any given point in time. Cash advances are drawn from the Fund to allow rapid response activities to take place immediately and avoid administrative delays. Where funding for the activity is later received from other sources, the Fund is reimbursed. Since the inception of the Fund, the ability of OHCHR headquarters to provide conceptual and operational support to unforeseen mandates or situations requiring rapid response has greatly increased.

During 2012, OHCHR used the Fund to deploy three assessment missions: to the Maldives, Jordan/Lebanon and Mali. Two human rights officers were deployed to the Maldives on the request of the Resident Coordinator to follow human rights concerns after the 7 February change of government and assist and advise the UNCT and the Human Rights Commission of Maldives in their response to the crisis. The mission presented a report including recommendations for future OHCHR engagement in the country. One senior human rights officer was deployed to Jordan and Lebanon in May 2012 to assess and report on the situation of Syrian refugees and gather pertinent information on the ground through interviews with primary sources. The findings and recommendations of the mission report were fundamental for the Office as part of its reporting on the human rights situation in Syria and in developing a comprehensive strategy for future action.

One human rights officer was deployed to Mali in June 2012, following the human rights crisis in the north of the country, and was mandated to assess and report on the situation; assist the UNCT and the Protection Cluster; work to strengthen the capacity of the national actors; and develop a strategy for future OHCHR engagement in the country. The human rights officer continues to assist the UNCT and national NGOs and sends regular updates on the human rights situation in the country.

In 2012, donors provided a total of US\$505,922 for the Contingency Fund. As of December 2012, US\$298,900 had been disbursed or obligated to fund the abovementioned activities. As a result, the balance stood at US\$1,473,258 as of the end of 2012.