

OHCHR's approach to field work

Background

Supporting the work of human rights field presences is the main function of OHCHR's Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division (FOTCD). The Division, in cooperation with other parts of the Office, oversees activities relating to field operations, including advisory services and technical cooperation.

Based on dialogue with national counterparts, the Office's activities at country level (through headquarters or field presences) focus on the promotion and protection of human rights, including by preventing and reducing human rights violations. This occurs mainly through strengthening national protection systems which involves ensuring that government authorities are aware of their human rights obligations, supporting them in their implementation and designing effective remedies to overcome obstacles to the realization of human rights. Through its programmes in the field, OHCHR likewise seeks to ensure that national authorities and civil society actors have the capacity to address human rights concerns and are better informed about international human rights standards and how to translate these into laws, regulations and policies so that rights-holders are better protected and

empowered. In particular, OHCHR supports efforts to establish or strengthen justice and accountability mechanisms at the national level, including through strengthened monitoring and investigation and redress of violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

In 2013, a new peace mission was established in Mali and a new Human Rights Adviser (HRA) was deployed to Timor-Leste. The peace mission in Sierra Leone closed in 2013. At the end of 2013, OHCHR was running or supporting 59 field presences and providing support to other members of the UN family through rapid deployment.

Types of field presences

OHCHR field presences fall into two categories: stand-alone presences and collaborative arrangements. The first category comprises those offices that are under the direct supervision of OHCHR, namely country and regional offices. The second category comprises field presences with double reporting lines, namely human rights components of peace or political missions who report to the Head of the mission and the



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High Commissioner and HRAs who report to the Resident Coordinator and the High Commissioner.

The decision to establish an OHCHR country or regional presence is made with the concerned government, taking into account the overall human rights situation, security considerations, the presence and role of other international actors on the ground, as well as available human and financial resources, administrative arrangements and the scope of activities to be undertaken.

Country and Stand-alone Offices

OHCHR country and stand-alone offices are established on the basis of a standard agreement between OHCHR and the host government. A mandate typically includes human rights monitoring, protection, technical cooperation activities and public reporting and is tailored to a specific country situation. These offices are primarily funded through voluntary contributions.

OHCHR has 13 country or stand-alone offices which are comprised of 12 country offices in Bolivia, Cambodia, Colombia, Guatemala, Guinea, Mauritania, Mexico, State of Palestine,¹ Togo, Tunisia, Uganda and Yemen and one stand-alone office in Kosovo.²

Regional Offices and Centres

Regional offices are similarly established on the basis of an agreement with a host government and in consultation with other countries in the region. These offices focus on cross-cutting regional human rights concerns and play an important role in supporting governments in their engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms, specifically the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). They work closely with regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and civil society. Regional offices complement the expertise of OHCHR country offices by providing support on institutional and thematic issues. In addition to the regional offices, OHCHR has regional centres that are established in accordance with a General Assembly resolution and are imbued with a specific

mandate. Regional offices and centres are funded by the UN regular budget and voluntary contributions.

OHCHR has 12 regional presences which include 10 regional offices in East Africa (Addis Ababa), Southern Africa (Pretoria), West Africa (Dakar), South-East Asia (Bangkok), the Pacific (Suva), the Middle East and North Africa (Beirut), Central Asia (Bishkek), Europe (Brussels), Central America (Panama City), South America (Santiago de Chile), a subregional centre for human rights and democracy for Central Africa (Yaoundé) and a Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha).

Human rights components of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions

OHCHR supports human rights components of peacekeeping and political missions by providing strategic and expert advice, technical assistance, operational support and day-to-day backstopping on human rights issues. In this context, the Office participates in interdepartmental technical assessment missions for the design, establishment and reconfiguration of peace missions. Additionally, OHCHR contributes, through its voluntary contributions, to the implementation of technical cooperation activities and projects. While most of the human rights staff in peace missions are contracted by the Department of Field Support and report to the peace missions, the Head of a human rights component acts as the representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the country and has a dual reporting line, both to the Head of the mission and to the High Commissioner. In accordance with UN Security Council mandates, typical functions of a human rights component may include:

- ▶ Monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation and investigating human rights violations;
- ▶ Advocating for peace processes to be inclusive, addressing past human rights violations and promoting and protecting human rights;
- ▶ Integrating human rights in legislative and institutional reforms, including the rule of law and security sectors reforms;
- ▶ Preventing and redressing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, with a focus on the protection of civilians;
- ▶ Building human rights capacities and institutions; and
- ▶ Mainstreaming human rights into all UN programmes and activities.

¹ Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

² All references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

Fifteen UN peace missions maintained a human rights component and incorporated human rights promotion and protection into their mandated work, namely in: Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iraq, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan (Darfur).

Human Rights Advisers in United Nations Country Teams

Human rights advisers are deployed at the request of Resident Coordinators on behalf of the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs). Advisers support and assist the Resident Coordinators, Heads of UN agencies and members of UNCTs to integrate human rights into their programming strategies and their implementation and to build and strengthen national human rights capacities. Other functions include: advising and providing training to independent national human rights institutions and other stakeholders; advising State actors on the promotion and protection of human rights and other UN norms and standards; building networks with and providing practical support to civil society actors; providing operational support to human rights training and/or national capacity-building activities; promoting engagement with the international human rights mechanisms; and when applicable, advising on integrating human rights in humanitarian response and post-crisis recovery processes.

Human rights advisers are normally funded through extrabudgetary contributions. In some past instances, cost-sharing agreements have been concluded with UNDP or relevant UNCTs and other UN entities at the country level. Since 2013, new deployments have been funded through a Multi-Donor Trust Fund established under the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism (UNDG-HRM), chaired by OHCHR, to support the implementation of the 2012 UNDG strategy for the deployment of new human rights advisers.

OHCHR has deployed 19 human rights advisers in Chad, Ecuador, Honduras, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives,³ Niger, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, the Southern Caucasus (based in Tbilisi and covering Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia), Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste,⁴ the former

Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine. In 2014, the deployment of human rights advisers through the UNDG-HRM has been agreed for UNCTs in Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Zambia and for UNDG regional teams in Bangkok and Panama.

Engagement in Humanitarian Action

At the global level, OHCHR integrates human rights considerations and advocates for the adoption of a human rights-based approach into the strategies and policies of humanitarian initiatives through its engagement in a number of inter-agency mechanisms. In October 2013, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) endorsed protection as a priority for 2014-2015, requesting the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) to take forward implementation of three related tasks, including: publication of an IASC Principals statement on the centrality of protection in humanitarian crises; a whole-of-systems review of protection; and the subsequent development of an IASC policy on protection. This work seeks to ensure that humanitarian action responds appropriately in the face of serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law. OHCHR, with InterAction, is co-chair of the GPC Task Team facilitating implementation of the three tasks.

OHCHR actively contributed to other key IASC work, primarily through participation of the High Commissioner, Deputy High Commissioner, its Field Operations Director and Rapid Response Chief, in the regular and ad hoc thematic and country-specific meetings of the IASC Principals, Working Group and Emergency Directors Group. OHCHR integrated human rights considerations and approaches in IASC policies, strategies and operational decisions and processes, including the Transformative Agenda Protocols and implementation in Level-3 crises in Syria, the Philippines and the Central African Republic (i.e., IASC policy paper on integration; IASC draft terms of reference; the Transformative Agenda Protocol: Common Framework for Preparedness; Syria Security Council Statement Plan of Action).

OHCHR continues to lead Protection Clusters in Haiti, Mauritania and the State of Palestine, co-lead at the regional level in the Pacific and lead a Sub-Cluster on access to justice in Mali. In December, OHCHR took the lead of a Protection Cluster hub at subnational level in the Philippines.

³ Funded through the Multi-Donor Trust Fund established under the UNDG-HRM.

⁴ Ibid.

Throughout the biennium, OHCHR continued to support governments, civil society and other actors in responding to the threats being faced to the enjoyment of human rights, including violence against civilians; discrimination, notably on the basis of gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation; attacks against public liberties, in particular in the context of elections; and the absence of the rule of law. State responses to challenges to the enjoyment of economic and social rights have often been insufficient and failed to take into account human rights standards and principles.

In 2013, some progress was achieved in strengthening regional and subregional human rights and justice institutions. At the same time, efforts were undertaken to enhance the functioning of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and promote greater compliance with the Paris Principles. Some institutions in the region, however, faced important challenges in becoming operationally effective. Governments maintained their engagement with OHCHR and the human rights treaty body system, which resulted in the achievement of some progress in fulfilling reporting-related requirements. In 2013, 11 African countries were examined under the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), leading to increased requests for support from governments, United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) and civil society actors. The Human Rights Council created new special procedures mandates on the Central African Republic (CAR) and Mali.

In 2013, OHCHR maintained 23 field presences in Africa: four regional offices (West, Central, East and Southern Africa); three country offices (Guinea, Togo and Uganda); five human rights advisers (HRAs) within UNCTs (Chad, Kenya, Madagascar, Niger and Rwanda); and 11 human rights components within UN peace missions (Burundi, CAR, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan/Darfur). OHCHR deployed human rights officers to contribute to the establishment of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and is working to reinforce the role of the human rights component based in CAR to help respond to the crisis. OHCHR also contributed to the design of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel. In addition, HRA positions have been established in Malawi, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

The Africa Branch in headquarters is composed of 27 staff and provides substantive, technical and

administrative support to all presences. It also supports the work of the Independent Experts on the human rights situations in Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan and the newly established mandate on Mali. In 2013, the Branch facilitated meetings between the Heads of field presences at the subregional level in West and Central Africa. The gatherings reinforced teambuilding and information sharing and helped OHCHR to achieve its objectives in the region. The Branch provided support to various missions of OHCHR Senior Management which, in some instances, led to the increased engagement of States with the UN human rights mechanisms.

Country Offices

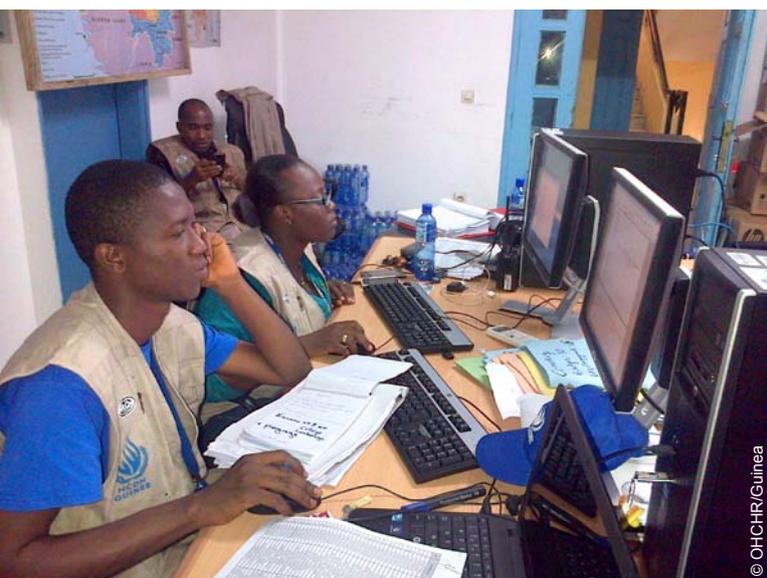
Guinea (Conakry)

Year established	2010
Staff as of 31 December 2013	15
Expenditure in 2013	US\$2,651,397

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of a NHRI in compliance with the Paris Principles.*
The draft law for the establishment of a NHRI is awaiting promulgation. The Office provided legal advice to national authorities and non-State entities on the draft and advocated for its adoption. It also promoted the establishment of a civil society thematic group to follow-up on the process.
- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of national actors, including security forces, with international human rights standards.*
As a result of trainings provided by OHCHR on the promotion, protection and monitoring of human rights, security forces began implementing international human rights standards in their activities, including in relation to crowd control and investigation techniques. Improvements were also noted on compliance with detention standards, especially with regard to respecting the maximum 48-hour detention period by police and the gendarmerie. Moreover, improvements were noticed in the conduct of the Special Forces for the Security of Elections, both before and during the 2013 legislative elections process.



Call centre established by the OHCHR office in Guinea during the 2013 legislative elections.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission, as recommended by the International Commission of Inquiry.* The Provisional National Reconciliation Commission established a plan of action towards the organization of national consultations, with the support of OHCHR, which undertook capacity-building activities and deployed a consultant who assisted in the establishment of a plan of action.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by the Government with UN human rights mechanisms, through the issuance of standing invitations to special procedures and the submission of reports to treaty bodies, as required under international human rights treaties.* OHCHR advocated for the establishment of a government body in charge of drafting reports to the UN human rights mechanisms. As a result, the Ministry of Human Rights and Public Liberties initiated a process to create an interministerial committee in charge of preparing the reports to the human rights treaty bodies. The new mechanism is expected to contribute to an increase in the submission rate.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number and diversity of rights-holders and human rights NGOs making use of international and regional human rights mechanisms, especially through the submission of*

shadow reports to the treaty bodies.

A network of Guinean civil society organizations submitted a shadow report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) after receiving training on the universal and regional human rights mechanisms and technical assistance from the Office.

Responsiveness of the international community (EA 10)

- ▶ *National EA: International community increasingly responsive to specific human rights situations and issues.*

Based on the updates and analysis on the human rights situation in the country prepared by OHCHR, the international community advocated with the Government on the human rights situation, particularly in the context of demonstrations held before the 2013 legislative elections.

Guinea: Expenditure in 2013		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	2,001,459
Consultants	-	(6,000)
Official travel	-	34,215
Contractual services	-	(413)
General operating expenses	-	205,955
Supplies & materials	-	65,116
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	46,037
Subtotal	-	2,346,369
Programme support costs		305,028
GRAND TOTAL	-	2,651,397

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Togo

Year established	2006
Staff as of 31 December 2013	6
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,452,891

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the NHRI with the Paris Principles.* Amendments were made to the *Commission Nationale des Droits de l'Homme's* (CNDH)

organic law, to ensure its compliance with the Paris Principles. The CNDH commissioners and staff also elaborated an action plan to improve the effectiveness of their work. This was undertaken with the financial and technical support of OHCHR.

► *National EA: Implementation of the national human rights action plan.*

A first draft of a national action plan to implement the UPR recommendations was finalized by the Ministry of Human Rights following a participatory process in March 2012 which included the CNDH and civil society organizations. In 2013, the Government decided to expand the draft to make it more comprehensive. As a result of advocacy undertaken by OHCHR, the Ministry revised the initial draft to include the implementation of various treaty body observations. OHCHR provided broad technical and financial support during the revision process. It is anticipated that the Council of Ministers will adopt the draft in 2014.

► *National EA: Establishment of a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT).*

Amendments to the CNDH's organic law establishing a NPM under the OP-CAT were drafted. The new Penal Code and the Code of Penal Procedure both criminalize torture. OHCHR provided legal advice during the drafting process to promote its compliance with international human rights standards.

► *National EA: Increased compliance with international standards by the judicial police, prison staff and judges of the first instance.*

High-level representatives from the judiciary and the police created a committee to oversee

the implementation of a roadmap, adopted in 2012, which addresses constraints and capacity gaps related to compliance with human rights standards in the handling of criminal cases. The roadmap was developed after OHCHR organized a human rights training programme in 2011.

In 2013, a handbook of all the materials used during the training was distributed to magistrates, prosecutors and criminal investigation police to increase their awareness and enhance their capacities to perform their duties in compliance with human rights standards.

The Government adopted a decision to reduce the number of pre-trial detainees by 50 per cent by the end of 2012. During that year, 421 detainees were released and another 562 were released in early 2013. This result followed the implementation of a joint advocacy project by OHCHR and a former Special Rapporteur on torture. A significant number of detainees and prisoners were also released due to OHCHR's interventions, both for legal and medical reasons. Police forces showed more restraint in the discharge of their duties, for instance while ensuring law and order during public protest demonstrations. In 2013, OHCHR prepared a report on respect for and the implementation of human rights in the administration of justice. The report was submitted to the Government for comments and was made public in mid-December. The report is intended to serve as guidance and a measurement tool in the ongoing justice reform process.

An important improvement was noted in the perceptions and attitudes of penitentiary officers towards prisoners. This progress was achieved after the Office provided training modules on human rights norms and the proper maintenance of the prison's registry. The new members of the Supreme Court increased their knowledge on human rights issues as a result of training conducted by OHCHR on human rights norms in the administration of justice.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

► *National EA: The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (La Commission Vérité, Justice et Réconciliation (CVJR)) functions in compliance with international human rights standards and a new mechanism to follow up on its recommendations is established.*

The presidential decree creating the Office of the High Commissioner for Reconciliation and Strengthening of National Unity was published and included a mandate to implement the CVJR recommendations. The Office provided technical



Group of journalists trained by OHCHR in the context of the 2013 legislative elections in Togo.



Human Rights Day celebration in Togo.

advice and comments to the draft presidential decree and organized, in cooperation with the Ministry of Human Rights, several workshops for the media, CSOs and government representatives on the work of the CVJR.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders participate in the local and legislative elections in an environment of respect for human rights.*

Legislative elections were held in a conducive and peaceful environment, with broad participation. OHCHR ran a four-month media campaign on human rights in French and local languages. It also distributed a detailed reference manual on elections that was adapted to the Togolese context, to local authorities and security forces, journalists and civil society organizations. The Office trained and coordinated the deployment of 600 human rights observers to Togo's 35 prefectures and Lomé's five communes.

- ▶ Results for which no national EA was set: In 2013, a joint project to promote the rights of persons with disabilities was implemented by UNICEF, WHO and OHCHR. In March, OHCHR signed an accord with the Togolese network of NGOs, FETAPH (*Fédération Togolaise des Associations de Personnes Handicapées*), which delegated the core work of the project to them. FETAPH is in charge of determining the compliance of Togolese legal texts and policies with the international conventions ratified by Togo, such as with regard to the protection of persons with disabilities, in particular children. The final report with recommendations submitted by NGOs and national stakeholders in November is too general and will be further refined in 2014.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by the Government with the UN human rights mechanisms, particularly with the UPR, the Committee against Torture (CAT), the Committee on Civil and Political Rights (Human Rights Committee), the Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers.*

The submission rate to treaty bodies increased in part due to the Office's financial support and training provided to the ad-hoc Interministerial Committee on Treaty Body Reporting. Upon receipt of the list of issues from the CESCR, the Office organized workshops on economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs) for representatives from various ministries to enhance their awareness about these rights. A mission by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers was not undertaken in 2013 due to the full schedule of the Special Rapporteur. With the agreement of the Minister of Justice, OHCHR suggested that a visit be undertaken by the Special Rapporteur to support the justice modernization programme.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: The NGOs network and the CNDH make increased use of United Nations and regional human rights mechanisms.*

A total of 32 civil society organizations, grouped into two different networks, submitted alternative reports to several treaty bodies. This increased

their credibility vis-à-vis the Ministry of Human Rights and led to their participation in workshops that were organized as a follow-up to the issuance of the committees' concluding observations. These activities were made possible as a result of OHCHR's training programmes, guidance, funding and coordination support.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).*

The new UNDAF (2014-2018) was developed on the basis of a human rights-based approach. The recommendations of the UPR and the CVJR have been integrated in the form of indicators to measure progress in different sections of the UNDAF. OHCHR conducted training programmes for project officers in the UN agencies in Togo and for relevant government staff. It also participated in the preparatory sessions and workshops on the UNDAF and the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper II (PRSP II) for 2013-2017. In the context of the UNDAF, OHCHR is responsible for coordinating the working group on governance and human rights. The PRSP II was officially signed into law in August 2013 and, in November, the UNDAF was signed by the Government and the Head of UN agencies in Togo.

Togo: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	795,252
Consultants	-	50,505
Official travel	-	49,282
Contractual services	-	40,246
General operating expenses	-	122,829
Supplies & materials	-	44,476
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	183,154
Subtotal	-	1,285,744
Programme support costs		167,147
GRAND TOTAL	-	1,452,891

Uganda

Year established	2005
Staff as of 31 December 2013	31
Expenditure in 2013	US\$2,938,101

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF), Uganda Police Force (UPF), auxiliary security forces and the Uganda Prisons Service increasingly comply with international human rights standards in the execution of their mandates.*

Two manuals on human rights topics (*Human Rights, Gender-Based Violence, Child Protection - A trainer's Guide for UPF* and the *Human Rights Training of Trainers' Manual for Local Defence Forces in Karamoja*), are being implemented by the UPF and UPDF, respectively. The manuals were elaborated with the assistance of OHCHR. Through continued work with the police and the military, the positive response from authorities to cases raised by OHCHR has exceeded the planned targets in Kampala and Karamoja.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards in legislation, policies, programmes and budgets at the national and local levels in relation to law enforcement; non-discrimination; and economic and social rights.*

A number of laws were enacted. More specifically, the Petroleum bills were enacted with human rights considerations partially reflected; the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act is fully compliant with CAT provisions; and the Public Order Management Act incorporated



Human Rights Day celebration in Kampala, Uganda.



Training on human rights monitoring for civil society organizations in Uganda, October 2013.

provisions reflecting human rights standards on freedom of assembly and association. OHCHR, the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) and other partners provided legal advice and analysis.

- ▶ *National EA: The UHRC increasingly implements its constitutional mandate according to the Paris Principles.*

The Uganda Human Rights Commission's 'A' status was renewed by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the International Coordinating Committee for NHRIs (ICC-NHRI) in May 2013. The Commission enhanced its performance in the areas of human rights monitoring, reporting, advisory functions and human rights promotion. OHCHR undertook a joint assessment with the UHRC on gaps in its work and provided financial support for promotional and staff training activities. Several of the recommendations outlined in the report, including on reporting and cooperation with NGOs and CSOs, were adopted.

- ▶ *National EA: The Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS) of Uganda, increasingly applies human rights standards in transitional justice mechanisms, legislation and policies.*
- In May 2013, the Parliament revised Uganda's Amnesty Act to reinstate blanket amnesty, yet it has not been adopted. OHCHR engaged in a dialogue with parliamentarians, shared a policy briefing which highlighted the human rights implications of blanket amnesty and provided recommendations on alternative wording for the revised text. These efforts influenced the inclusion of appropriate provisions on amnesty into the draft national transitional justice policy.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Justice and accountability mechanisms in the judiciary, UPF and UPDF are reinforced and increasingly compliant with their oversight, investigative and redress functions, in accordance with international standards.*

The number of civilians being tried by court martial has decreased due to OHCHR's routine monitoring of court martial proceedings and its advocacy with the UPDF Division Court Martial. Following OHCHR's advocacy and expert advice, the case backlog rate in Karamoja dropped to less than 35 per cent and in Kitgum, the judiciary increased the number of high court sessions held and of magistrates posted to the region.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders increasingly participate in decision-making processes and claim their rights, particularly the rights to health, an adequate standard of living and non-discrimination.*

A total of 75 civil society organizations began using a human rights case database, developed by OHCHR, to support their case monitoring and advocacy. The newly created National Coalition of Human Rights Defenders and over 30 civil society organizations increased their knowledge on human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, and their capacity to engage with international human rights mechanisms. As consequence, some of these organizations are now producing periodic reports on the human rights situation in relation to their areas of work. In addition, CSOs brought cases of violations of the right to health before the Constitutional Court, the High Court and the UHRC. The Office provided capacity-building to the National Coalition and CSOs.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement by the Government with international and regional human rights mechanisms.*

The Government submitted State Party reports to CESC and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in December 2012 and is in the final stage of preparing its midterm report to CEDAW. The Office supported the Government with the preparation of its State Party reports and advocated for the completion of overdue reports.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement by rights-holders with international and regional human rights mechanisms.*

Civil society organizations prepared reports for the CESCER and the CRPD. OHCHR supported civil society organizations in the drafting of the reports.

Responsiveness of the international community (EA 10)

- ▶ *National EA: International community represented in the Partner Group for Democracy and Good Governance (PDG), the Human Rights Working Group, the Local Development Partner Group and the Justice, Law and Order Sector, is increasingly responsive to human rights situations and issues.*

The PDG is comprised of 16 ambassadors/high commissioners/development partners from the international community based in Uganda. OHCHR supported PDG's advocacy efforts to: integrate human rights standards related to the freedom of peaceful assembly and association into the Public Order Management Bill; strengthen the capacity of human rights defenders and the political opposition to develop their work; and implement UPR recommendations and develop a national human rights action plan.

Uganda: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	1,736,327
Consultants	-	30,646
Official travel	-	39,880
Contractual services	-	86,090
General operating expenses	-	554,162
Supplies & materials	-	70,689
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	82,295
Subtotal	-	2,600,089
Programme support costs		338,012
GRAND TOTAL	-	2,938,101

Regional Offices and Centres

United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa/OHCHR Central Africa Regional Office (Yaoundé, Cameroon)

Year established	2001
Staff as of 31 December 2013	10
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,521,638

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Significant improvement in the compliance with international human rights standards of legislation/policies in one of five human rights areas (disabilities, migrants, indigenous peoples, women and victims of trafficking), including from a gender perspective, in Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tomé and Príncipe.*

The Government of Cameroon approved guidelines for the construction of public buildings which take into consideration accessibility for persons with disabilities. OHCHR contributed to this result and advocated for the right of persons with disabilities to political participation through the implementation of a project, in collaboration with Sightsavers, to reach out to and train civil society organizations working on the rights of persons with disabilities. Cameroon also made significant progress towards developing policies for ensuring the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples. With OHCHR's lead, national consultations were organized to validate a study on the identification of indigenous peoples and communities in Cameroon and another workshop was held to examine the degree to which treaty body recommendations regarding indigenous peoples have been implemented. The Republic of the Congo made important strides in implementing its 2011 law on indigenous peoples by undertaking, with the support of OHCHR, a number of awareness-raising activities and the sensitization of communities about the content of the law.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with the Paris Principles by national human rights institutions in Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Sao Tomé and Príncipe.*

The NHRI of Cameroon increased its compliance with the Paris Principles by opening a new regional office in the south to expand the scope of its activities and improving its reporting



Training on human rights and rule of law for police officers of Sao Tome and Principe, January 2013.

capacities. OHCHR contributed to this result by carrying out capacity-building activities for different national actors, including the NHRI, and liaising with the institution to review received complaints. OHCHR also facilitated training sessions for members of the NHRIs in the Republic of the Congo and Gabon and carried out joint activities with the NHRI in Gabon in order to enhance their capacities to promote, protect and monitor human rights.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased capacity of election management bodies, parliaments, civil society organizations and the media in Cameroon and the Republic of the Congo to apply international and regional human rights standards, including regarding non-discrimination in political participation, in electoral processes.*

Civil society organizations and the media in Cameroon increasingly used international human rights standards in their advocacy for the promotion and protection of the rights of marginalized groups, especially in relation to political participation. The actions of these stakeholders resulted in changes to the electoral law which now includes provisions for the representation of women in elective positions and the political participation of persons with disabilities. The Office's support to and training of civil society organizations working in the area

of democracy and human rights enabled CSOs to advocate for the right of women to political participation. In addition, the Office contributed to the increased effectiveness of election observers through the publication and distribution of a guide on the observation of elections from a human rights perspective.

- ▶ *National EA: A significant level of institutionalized training in human rights has been established in one area (human rights for law enforcement, justice professionals or prison administration staff) in Cameroon, Republic of the Congo and Equatorial Guinea.*

In Cameroon, a series of human rights training sessions for prison guards were implemented by the Ministry of Justice and OHCHR in all 10 regions of the country. Furthermore, a code of conduct for prison administration staff, in conformity with international human rights standards, was elaborated with the support of OHCHR and is awaiting promulgation by the Head of State. In addition, training on human rights standards was institutionalized for judicial police officers, magistrates and lawyers.

- ▶ *National EA: A significant level of compliance of legislation/policy in one area (transitional justice) has been achieved in at least one country.* Following the regional conference organized by OHCHR in Yaoundé in April 2013, countries of

the region, including CAR, Chad and DRC, began elaborating action plans to launch transitional justice processes. These plans will form the basis for national follow-up activities and are expected to contribute to the effective implementation of transitional justice mechanisms. Moreover, a number of follow-up activities have been carried out in Burundi and Guinea, focusing on memory and the integration of gender considerations in transitional justice processes.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, at least five countries increasingly report to treaty bodies, engage with special procedures and follow-up on recommendations issued by the international and regional human rights mechanisms, particularly the UPR.*

Cameroon's second cycle review by the UPR took place in May 2013. OHCHR helped the Government prepare for the review and supported the assessment of the recommendations to ensure their effective implementation and follow-up. The Independent Expert on minority issues visited the country in September 2013 and the Regional Office organized meetings with local authorities and civil society organizations and provided further logistical support.

United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa/OHCHR Central Africa Regional Office: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	710,089	96,413
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	26,092	53,865
Contractual services	10,856	7,400
General operating expenses	131,927	47,783
Supplies & materials	29,179	7,599
Seminars, grants & contributions	100,879	240,582
Subtotal	1,009,022	453,642
Programme support costs	-	58,974
GRAND TOTAL	1,009,022	512,616

Regional Office for East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

Year established	2002
Staff as of 31 December 2013	8
Expenditure in 2013	US\$993,536

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Police and prison officials in Djibouti and the United Republic of Tanzania increasingly comply with human rights standards.* In Djibouti, under the supervision of the NHRI, a manual is being prepared for the police on respect for human rights. The draft that was shared with the Regional Office was considered unsatisfactory and its revision is underway. In the United Republic of Tanzania, awareness increased among judges and magistrates about international human right standards and growing interest among the judiciary was registered following trainings provided by the Regional Office. Yet, there has been no significant improvement in the judicial investigations related to human rights violations.
- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, the investigation units of NHRIs in Djibouti, Ethiopia and the United Republic of Tanzania are strengthened in order to handle complaints about violations of civil and political, as well as economic, social and cultural rights.*

In Djibouti, the NHRI is more active in handling investigation of cases, however, the results are weak and do not reflect assessments made by NGOs. The capacity of the NHRI to carry out its mandate was hampered by limited human and financial resources. OHCHR provided training on the monitoring of economic, social and cultural rights and followed the development of some of the NHRI's monitoring activities. Although the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has not yet published an annual report on its assessment of the human rights situation in the country, it has provided positive statistics on its monitoring activities and the number of cases resolved due to its investigations. Nevertheless, no public information has been released on the content of these cases or the measures taken by public authorities to address the findings of the investigations. The Regional Office facilitated training on the monitoring of economic, social and cultural rights to the EHRC, but has not been informed about the outcomes of its monitoring work. Similarly, in the United Republic of Tanzania, no significant progress was noted in the

NHRI's handling of investigations of human rights violations. While OHCHR provided the NHRI with training on monitoring economic, social and cultural rights, it was not informed of any particular outcome of its monitoring activities.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: The United Republic of Tanzania and Djibouti increasingly ratify international and regional human rights instruments (CAT, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (OP-ICCPR) for the United Republic of Tanzania and the ICRMW, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED), OP-CAT, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (OP-CEDAW) and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) for Djibouti.*

The Regional Office advocated for the ratification by Djibouti of the Optional Protocols to CAT, CEDAW and ICESCR and the ratification of the ICRMW and the ICPPED during seminars with national partners and bilateral meetings of the Regional Representatives with high-level authorities. Some progress was noted in the level of awareness of national partners regarding the ratification of human rights treaties, but no concrete steps have been taken. In the United Republic of Tanzania, the Office advocated for the ratification of the Optional Protocols to CAT and ICCPR and ratification of the ICRMW during seminars with national partners and bilateral meetings of the High Commissioner and the Regional Representative with high-level authorities. Although the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP), which will be officially launched at the beginning of 2014, stipulates that the ratification of remaining human rights conventions should be considered by relevant national stakeholders, no new ratifications were registered during the biennium.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, the Governments of Djibouti and Ethiopia increasingly comply and engage with the UN and AU human rights mechanisms and bodies in terms of preparing and submitting relevant reports.*
The Government of Djibouti submitted overdue reports to the Human Rights Committee in

compliance with the reporting guidelines and a report to the African Commission of Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR). OHCHR noted, however, that the report did not reflect certain human rights issues such as freedom of expression, political participation and the ill-treatment of detainees that were previously identified by UN human rights mechanisms. The Government of Ethiopia submitted a request for support to the Regional Office for the preparation of its report to the ACHPR. Due to the high cost of the Government's proposal, the Office could not provide the requested financial support.

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, recommendations issued by the UN human rights treaty bodies and the UPR process are increasingly considered and followed up on in Ethiopia and the United Republic of Tanzania.*

As the result of consultations between the Office and the Ethiopian NHRAP Task Force, some of the recommendations of the UPR and treaty bodies have been incorporated in the NHRAP, while others are not yet covered by national human rights mechanisms such as: the detention of journalists and political opponents on the basis of anti-terrorism legislation; the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the human rights violations that occur in the context of ethnic conflicts; the conditions of the resettlement of communities in the context of development projects; and the protection of freedom of assembly. In the United Republic of Tanzania, the final version of the NHRAP did not include some international human rights recommendations such as the protection of persons with albinism; lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender and intersex (LGBTI) victims of discrimination; refugees; child victims of sexual abuse and conflict; labour unions; and minorities. OHCHR provided training for national officers and the UNCT and advocated for the inclusion of recommendations issued by the treaty bodies and the UPR in the NHRAP.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, an increased number of Djiboutian, Ethiopian and Tanzanian civil society organizations and NHRIs make use of UN and regional human rights mechanisms and bodies.*
In compliance with reporting guidelines, the NHRI of Djibouti contributed to the State Party report to CESCR which was submitted in November 2012. The Regional Office contributed to this initiative by providing training on the monitoring of economic, social and cultural rights provided to members of the NHRI in July 2012. As

the result of similar training organized by OHCHR for the NHRIs of Djibouti, Ethiopia and the United Republic of Tanzania, the NHRI of Tanzania produced a report for CESCR.

International and regional laws and institutions (EA 8)

- ▶ *National EA: The African Union Commission and the AU human rights institutions are progressively strengthened to promote and protect human rights and to enforce their human rights-related decisions and recommendations.*

The Regional Office supported various initiatives to implement the Addis Ababa Roadmap on cooperation between the special procedures of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and of the Human Rights Council, including: organizing a number of conferences and seminars in which representatives from both systems participated; producing a visual directory of the special procedures of the ACHPR; organizing the mission of the Chairperson of the ACHPR and another member of the Joint Working Group to Geneva in March 2012 to become familiar with the wider UN system on human rights; and supporting the participation of a few members of the UN special procedures to attend the 52nd and 54th sessions of the ACHPR. The UN special procedures mandate-holders highlighted the added value of their interactions and cooperation with the African human rights mechanisms and indicated the importance of continuing this framework of cooperation which should be considered as a model for other cooperation initiatives.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles, including the right to development, into the policies and programmes of the Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).*

UNECA, in close partnership with the African Union, hosts regular, high-level conferences on themes, including gender, development, statistics, trade, finance and justice. The Regional Office participated in side events of these conferences to highlight the value of integrating the right to development and a human rights-based approach in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and strategies in different fields. The Office is in the process of re-establishing its entry points with the UNECA in light of the major transformation and restructuring it has been undergoing since late 2012.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles, including the right to development, into the policies and programmes of the UNCTs in Djibouti, Ethiopia and the United Republic of Tanzania.*

In the United Republic of Tanzania, human rights mainstreaming was ensured through an effective functioning of the Governance and Human Rights Working Group, although the focal person in the Resident Coordinator's Office left in the middle of 2013. Regular meetings of the Working Group allowed for the implementation of their annual workplan, including common activities among UN agencies. OHCHR provided technical support.

National human rights institutions (NHRIs) in Eastern Africa have had limited success in implementing their protection mandates. To share experiences and discuss potential solutions, OHCHR organized a subregional consultation in Kampala on 26-27 November 2013 for representatives of the NHRIs of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somaliland (Somalia), South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. The 26 participants discussed the role of NHRIs in the protection of minorities and human rights defenders and, at the end of the consultation, agreed to set up a network of NHRIs in Eastern Africa to promote the compliance of their respective institutions with the Paris Principles.

Regional Office for East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia): Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	768,464
Consultants	-	8,999
Official travel	-	20,509
Contractual services	-	(258)
General operating expenses	-	74,521
Supplies & materials	-	1,102
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	5,898
Subtotal	-	879,235
Programme support costs		114,301
GRAND TOTAL	-	993,536

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments



The High Commissioner visits settlement sites at the outskirts of Luanda during her mission to Angola, April 2013.

Regional Office for Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa)

Year established	1998
Staff as of 31 December 2013	6
Expenditure in 2013	US\$835,272

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of NHRIs and their increased compliance with the Paris Principles.* The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of Malawi is due to be reviewed by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the ICC-NHRI in early 2014. OHCHR worked to build the capacity of the NHRC by conducting induction trainings for the Commissioners who were appointed in 2012 and providing relevant materials to increase the NHRC's compliance with the Paris Principles. The NHRI in Mozambique was established by law and its commissioners were nominated in 2012. OHCHR facilitated a training session in 2013 for the commissioners and representatives of the Ministries of Justice and of the Interior on the role of the NHRI as a NPM. In Zimbabwe, although the NHRI has been established by law, it is not yet functioning as the process for selecting the commissioners has not been finalized. OHCHR met with the NHRI and the Ministry of Justice,

Legal and Parliamentary Affairs to advocate for the compliance of the institution with the Paris Principles and to provide advice on how to bring the NHRI into operation.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of national laws, policies and programmes with international norms and standards on economic, social and cultural rights.*

The Southern Africa region has been at the forefront of recognizing the justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights and comprehensively reflecting these rights in laws and policies. OHCHR contributed to raising the awareness of stakeholders in the region on these rights by undertaking different activities, including the organization of a subregional seminar on the promotion and implementation of economic, social and cultural rights, particularly the right to food, which brought together 99 representatives of governments, NHRIs and CSOs from 10 countries in the region. Furthermore, OHCHR promoted the inclusion of economic, social and cultural rights in the constitutional review process in Zambia. The Office also participated in a joint OHCHR-UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs capacity-building mission to South Africa aimed at supporting Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa and Zambia in implementing their obligations under the CRPD. The Office also conducted a workshop on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights which contributed to the signing of a Memorandum of

Understanding on business and human rights between the Mozambique Ministry of Justice and the Mozambican League of Human Rights.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased ratification of international human rights instruments, with a focus on the ICESCR and the CRPD.*

The Government of Mozambique ratified the CRPD in 2012 and the ICRMW and the OP-CAT in 2013. The Government of Zimbabwe ratified the CRPD in 2013. OHCHR's advocacy contributed to the ratification of these instruments.

International and regional laws and institutions (EA 8)

- ▶ *National EA: Human rights institutions within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) are progressively established and strengthened.*

OHCHR worked steadily with the SADC Gender Unit for the development of a gender-based policy. In 2012, the Office participated in a SADC conference for the drafting of a gender strategy which resulted in an agreement among participants to formulate a gender strategy that is anchored in relevant international human rights norms and principles and takes into account relevant recommendations by international human rights mechanisms, including the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of all human rights standards and principles into UN system development policies and programmes with an emphasis on human rights mechanisms, gender and non-discrimination.*

In Angola, the UNCT commenced discussions with the Government on preparations for the next UN Partnership Framework (UNPAF). OHCHR's input, particularly with regard to the pillar on human rights and access to justice has been incorporated into the draft UNPAF. It will be finalized in 2014. In Mozambique, although the UNCT did not develop a new UNDAF during the reporting period, the midterm review of the UPR and the Office's collaboration with UNDP to support the NHRI served to strengthen the human rights-based approach of the UNDAF. Furthermore, in South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe, the recommendations issued by the UPR were integrated into some of the outcomes identified in the respective UNDAFs, following support provided by the Office to the inter-agency teams dealing with the UNDAFs.

Mr. Leonard Kipkemoi Mindore, a member of the Ogiek indigenous community in Kenya, participated in OHCHR's Indigenous Fellowship Programme in 2013 to gain knowledge about the international human rights mechanisms dealing with indigenous issues in order to assist his community in promoting and protecting its rights. As a follow-up to the Fellowship Programme, Mr. Mindore was offered an opportunity to join the OHCHR Regional Office for Southern Africa for three months to continue his learning process. During this period, he contributed to the mapping of indigenous communities in the subregion and the most pertinent human rights issues they face and to the development of a concept note on the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples' rights in Southern Africa.

Regional Office for Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa): Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	633,808
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	-	70,106
Contractual services	-	11,679
General operating expenses	-	76,697
Supplies & materials	-	9,408
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	(62,520)
Subtotal	-	739,178
Programme support costs		96,094
GRAND TOTAL	-	835,272

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments



Human Rights Day celebration in Pretoria, South Africa.

Regional Office for West Africa (Dakar, Senegal)

Year established	2007
Staff as of 31 December 2013	11
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,020,639

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of State institutions (Parliament; Ministry of Women, Children and Family and the National Observatory on Gender Parity) in Senegal and of law and policies in Senegal (nationality law) and Burkina Faso and Gambia (National Action Plan (NAP)) for the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820.*

Burkina Faso adopted a NAP in conformity with international human rights standards for the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820. The Regional Office conducted advocacy and awareness-raising activities, participated in all stages of the preparation of the NAP and contributed to building the capacities of stakeholders to implement the Plan. The Gambia adopted a NAP in conformity with international human rights standards for the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820. OHCHR conducted advocacy and awareness-raising activities; provided financial and technical support to stakeholders for the development, validation and publication of the NAP; and contributed to building local capacities to ensure its implementation. In Senegal, the Regional Office cooperated with other partners to provide technical support to civil society organizations for the full implementation of the 2012 Gender Parity Law during the electoral processes. As an encouraging result, following the 2012 legislative elections, 43 per cent of the elected members of the Parliament in Senegal are women. Additionally, the capacities of women parliamentarians continued to increase on how to achieve parity in all internal procedures at the National Assembly, largely as a result of advice provided by OHCHR to the Working Group on gender and the fight against discrimination. In addition, compliance of national policies and legislation with the CRPD increased after the adoption in 2013 of a law that provides the framework to facilitate this compliance. The Regional Office, in partnership with Handicap International and the programme “DECISIPH,”

provided technical advice and facilitated training sessions for Senegal authorities in relation to the CRPD and its Optional Protocol.

Following the downgrading of the Senegalese Human Rights Committee from ‘A’ to ‘B’ status, the country prepared a draft law to establish a national institution that is compliant with international human rights standards. OHCHR provided inputs and comments to the draft and hosted the pre-validation workshops of the working group established by the Senegalese Human Rights Committee. In addition, Senegal established a NPM against torture which began functioning in 2012 after the adoption of relevant legislation in 2009. OHCHR supported the work of the new mechanism, including by providing financial support for a study trip to Geneva and accompanying its staff on visits to places of detention. In collaboration with the International Committee for the Red Cross, the Regional Office supported the publication of the annual report of the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture and contributed to its dissemination to the general public.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of international human rights instruments, with a focus on the OP-ICESCR, OP-CAT and the Second OP-ICCPR in Burkina Faso, Cape Verde and Mali.*

Following a regional conference in Dakar in September 2012, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mali and Senegal agreed to a detailed roadmap for the creation of a NPM against torture. In 2013, OHCHR continued to increase awareness about the need for such a mechanism among national authorities who agreed to work on its creation. In September 2012, a regional conference held in Dakar facilitated the development of roadmaps related to the ratification of the OP-ICESCR for Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mali and Senegal. As a result of advocacy activities by OHCHR, Burkina Faso signed the OP-ICESCR on 24 September 2012 and the Parliament of Cape Verde ratified the OP-ICESCR in August 2012.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ Result for which no National EA was set: The Steering Committee of the African Extraordinary Chambers of Senegal admitted the Regional Office as an observer member. The Regional Office will provide technical support to magistrates on international human rights law and criminal law, on monitoring of the trial against former Chadian President Hissène Habré.



Training on human rights for journalists in West Africa.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement to meet reporting obligations and implement recommendations from the human rights mechanisms in Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Mali and Senegal.*

Senegal presented its overdue report to CEDAW in 2013, in conformity with reporting guidelines. OHCHR technically and financially supported the process from the report's elaboration to its validation and submission and shared the reporting guidelines with the national team responsible for its preparation. OHCHR contributed to Senegal's national report to the UPR by technically and financially supporting the national validation workshop in June 2013. The report is in conformity with reporting guidelines. Additionally, by the end of 2012, Burkina Faso submitted the following reports to the human rights treaty bodies, all of which were in compliance with reporting guidelines: the common core document, the periodic reports to CESCR and the Human Rights Committee, the initial reports to CMW and CAT and its twelfth periodic report to CERD. OHCHR engaged in a variety of advocacy activities in this regard.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into UN system development policies and programmes in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Mali and Senegal.*

OHCHR mainstreamed human rights standards and principles by participating in the Regional Humanitarian Coordination Mechanism. As a result, the Working Group on Governance defined elections and reform of the justice system as priority areas. In the Working Group on Security, each of the three priority actions defined underline the importance of taking human rights standards into account in their implementation. Moreover, in the Working Group on Resilience, the Regional Office participated in the discussions on resilience in the framework of the Sahel region and the humanitarian crisis, with a presentation on integrating a human rights-based approach into building resilience activities. In cooperation with UN Women, the Regional Office also reviewed the nine concept notes of the Working Group and ensured the integration of human rights and gender approaches. In the framework of implementing the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel, the Regional Office coordinated the production of a matrix by OHCHR field presences in the

subregion, including in Chad and Mauritania, to identify existing OHCHR strategic actions with a view to better coordinating the Office's interventions in relation to emerging priorities. Most of OHCHR's interventions, both nationally and regionally, are in Goal 1 of the UN Integrated Strategy (Governance). In Burkina Faso, human rights standards and principles have been fully integrated into the joint programme to fight against violence against women and girls, which was drafted with the participation of UN agencies and members of the Government. OHCHR provided technical support. The integration of human rights standards in UN policies and programmes in Cape Verde has been realized through the elaboration and implementation of joint activities with other UN agencies in the framework of the Human Rights/Gender Thematic Group, co-led by OHCHR and UN Women. Examples of joint activities with UN Women include: providing assistance to the Government of Cape Verde for the integration of human rights and gender standards in the National Action Plan against Gender-Based Violence; dissemination of the recommendations of CEDAW; and the gathering of data on gender-based violence. Furthermore, a human rights-based approach has been implemented in the processes of elaborating the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and the UNDAF in Benin and Senegal and the UNCT programme in the Gambia is in compliance with this approach. The Regional Office provided technical assistance and contributed to capacity-building initiatives to include human rights in these frameworks.

Regional Office for West Africa (Dakar, Senegal): Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	754,288	76,250
Consultants	-	-
Official travel	6,671	23,830
Contractual services	8,700	-
General operating expenses	29,018	(12,922)
Supplies & materials	19,170	6,095
Seminars, grants & contributions	14,071	73,757
Subtotal	831,918	167,010
Programme support costs	-	21,711
GRAND TOTAL	831,918	188,721

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Human Rights Components in UN Peace Missions

United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi

Year established	1995 (since 2006 as part of the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi)
Staff as of 31 December 2013	20

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Independent National Human Rights Commission (INHRC) works in compliance with international standards to a partial extent.*
In 2013, the INHRC was granted 'A' status by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the ICC-NHRI, which is valid until 2017. The INHRC extended its coverage by establishing three regional offices in Ngozi, Gitega and Makamba and increased the number of cases being investigated. The Human Rights and Justice Section (HRJS) of the United Nations Office in Burundi supported the INHRC through capacity-building workshops and by promoting the engagement of the INHRC's regional offices with civil society and local authorities.
- ▶ *National EA: Development of a National Human Rights Action Plan through a participative process.*
A NHRAP for 2012-2017 was drafted by two consultants, who were hired by UNDP and technically assisted by the HRJS, in consultation with government institutions, civil society and international actors. The draft was validated through a workshop, during which the HRJS had the opportunity to provide comments, and was submitted to the Ministry of Human Rights in February 2013. It has not yet been adopted.
- ▶ *National EA: Incorporation of human rights education in school curricula.*
With the assistance of the HRJS, two national consultants were recruited to develop human rights modules to be integrated in the school curricula. These were not yet integrated, however, due to the absence of a coordination mechanism between the involved ministries.
- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance by State institutions (particularly the judiciary and the security sector) with international human rights standards in relation to prevention and an effective response to individual human rights violations at the provincial level.*

The number of human rights violation cases that were raised by OHCHR and subsequently addressed by the Government remained relatively low. In 2012, the HRJS documented 30 cases of extrajudicial executions, only 15 of which were investigated by the judiciary. In 2013, 39 cases were documented and 25 are still under investigation. HRJS held bimonthly meetings with government authorities to present and discuss human rights cases which made consistent judicial monitoring of the cases possible.

- ▶ *National EA: Steps taken to enhance the accountability and independence of the judiciary.* A national conference on justice (*Etats Généraux de la justice*) took place in Gitega and involved 350 participants, including representatives of the Presidency, the Ministry of Justice, Members of Parliament and civil society organizations. The national conference, jointly supported by the HRJS and UNDP, provided for the opportunity to discuss the difficulties faced by the judicial system, including the independence of the judiciary. Furthermore, the HRJS is an active member of an anti-corruption committee established by the Minister of Justice, which is currently developing an anti-corruption strategic plan for the justice sector. In addition, the HRJS supported the development of a strategic plan for the provision of training to magistrates, in partnership with the Judicial Training Center, and initiated the development of a continuous learning programme.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Steps taken for the ratification of or accession to the regional and international treaties to which Burundi is not yet a Party.* Burundi acceded to the OP-CAT. The HRJS advocated for the ratification of human rights treaties to which Burundi is not yet a Party, especially those which empower the monitoring body to receive and consider individual complaints and providing a potential further remedy for victims of human rights violations.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Concrete progress made towards the establishment of legal and other guarantees for universal and free primary education, universal social security coverage and access to certain types of health care for all.* Due in part to HRJS's advocacy, some legislation and policies were established to ensure access of women and certain discriminated groups to justice and basic services. For instance, primary education is now free of charge.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Discriminated groups, including the Batwa, albinos, persons with disabilities and victims of sexual and gender-based violence, increasingly use existing national protection systems, as well as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and participate in decision-making processes and the development and monitoring of public policies.*

Three representatives from the Batwa community were appointed to the National Assembly. During the celebration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, the HRJS organized activities to sensitize the population on the discrimination faced by the Batwa and advocate for their rights.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Submission of the State Party reports to the CRC, CEDAW and CERD.*

The reports to the CRC, CEDAW and CERD were drafted. The report to CEDAW has been submitted while the other two are awaiting clearance from the Government. The HRJS advocated for the creation of an ad-hoc committee for the drafting of reports and trained its members on the preparation of reports.

United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Central African Republic

Year established	2000
Staff as of 31 December 2013	22

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of the National Human Rights Commission in compliance with the Paris Principles.*

The law for the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission was drafted and submitted to the Parliament in December 2012, however, its adoption was delayed due to the ongoing crisis in the country. The HRJS of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Central African Republic (BINUCA) provided advice to the Government on the draft and assistance in the development of a strategy for establishing an independent National Human Rights Commission in accordance with the Paris Principles.



The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights visits a destroyed courtroom in Bambari, Central African Republic, July 2013.

- ▶ *National EA: Adoption and promulgation of the Organic Law on Prisons and of the Military Justice Code in compliance with international human rights standards.*

Despite advocacy undertaken by the Office, the prevailing instability in the Central African Republic prevented the transitional authorities from drafting and/or adopting a law on prisons or military justice.

- ▶ *National EA: Human rights violations cases followed-up by the Government.*

Séléka members were arrested and detained by the Government in Boyrabe and Bangassou as a response to cases raised by the HRJS. As part of its regular activities, the HRJS produced monthly reports on its monitoring visits throughout the country; conducted monitoring of trials and monthly meetings with representatives of the judiciary and security forces to address issues of impunity; and followed up with national authorities on cases of human rights violations.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of successful prosecutions and percentage of victims of sexual violence that receive reparations in accordance with international standards.*

In a public hearing held on 11 September 2013, 20 ex-Séléka members were each sentenced to eight years of imprisonment for looting and exaction. This was the first national case in which international human rights law has been applied. Through regular reports on human rights violations, the HRJS advocated with national authorities for the prosecution of alleged perpetrators. In addition, the HRJS carried out a number of activities and seminars to sensitize

political leaders and members of civil society on the role of women in the consolidation of peace, their right to political participation, and the need to implement CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.

United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

Year established	2004
Staff as of 31 December 2013	73

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Adoption of a law to combat trafficking and of a national strategy to end sexual and gender-based violence.*

The Government adopted and implemented the 2012-2014 National Action Plan on Child Labour and Trafficking but, despite advocacy undertaken by the Human Rights Division (HRD) of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), legislation to criminalize all forms of trafficking was not adopted. The Ministry of Solidarity, Family, Women and Children developed a five-year National Strategy to Combat Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Côte d'Ivoire which includes legislative reform, capacity-building, outreach activities and improvement of multisectoral support for victims. The document is awaiting approval by the Government. The HRD regularly participated in the coordination mechanisms, such as the Steering Technical Committee and the thematic working group on justice and fight against impunity, and provided strategic, technical and policy advice.

- ▶ *National EA: National capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights have been strengthened.*

The mandate of the *Commission Nationale des droits de l'homme de Côte d'Ivoire* (CNDHCI) was re-established by law, albeit not in full compliance with the Paris Principles. The HRD actively participated in the process by organizing technical briefings for civil society groups and the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights and making recommendations on the draft. Relatively peaceful and fair municipal and regional elections took place in 2013. The HRD monitored human rights incidents related to the electoral process and organized capacity-building

activities targeting security forces and civil society actors, including journalists.

A decree was adopted on integrating a course on human rights and civic education in school curricula, however, there is still a need for a comprehensive human rights education policy. The HRD provided technical and financial support related to the decree as well as human rights training for teachers.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased ratification of regional human rights instruments.*

The National Assembly voted for the ratification of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention). The HRD, in coordination with other institutions, contributed to the initiation of the ratification process through sensitization campaigns, the dissemination of booklets and posters and public conferences. Furthermore, the HRD sent a letter to the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Public Liberties, urging the Government to ratify a series of Conventions, including the CRPD and the Rome Statute which was ratified in February 2013.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Fully functioning Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (DTRC) in conformity with international human rights standards.*

The DTRC implemented its work plan, made its work known to the public at large and launched national consultations. The Commission did not issue a final report at the end of its mandate,

however, as a number of key activities had not been conducted due to, inter alia, insufficient funding. Pending the publication of a final report, the Commission submitted an interim report to the Head of State who will subsequently decide on the extension of its mandate. The HRD provided technical support and training sessions to the DTRC.

- ▶ *National EA: Presumed perpetrators of serious human rights violations are identified and brought to the attention of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and competent civilian and/or military judicial authorities.*

Fifty out of a total of 80 alleged perpetrators identified by the HRD were brought to the attention of the competent judicial authorities. In order to encourage victims and witnesses of human rights violations to file complaints or testify against alleged perpetrators, the HRD, in cooperation with other UNOCI sections, conducted human rights training for 4,508 military personnel, police and gendarmerie officers, 138 judicial personnel, 1,673 civil society activists, 186 journalists and sensitized at least 23,000 civilians on human rights. Furthermore, 355 staff members of local NGOs were trained on human rights investigation, documentation techniques and human rights report writing, which enabled them to issue reports and papers on the human rights situation in the country.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of women and children have access to justice and basic services, especially victims of sexual and gender-based violence.*

Access to justice by the local population was improved and increased support was provided



UNOCI staff conduct a training session on human rights for NGOs in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, October 2013.

to survivors to seek redress. UNOCI collaborated with international organizations and a local NGO to launch the *Projet d'Appui de l'Amélioration à l'Accès au Droit et à la Justice (PALAJ)* in different districts and regions. Through its 13 field offices, the HRD supported the creation of six legal clinics that provided approximately 2,000 legal consultations, primarily on birth registration, land issues and sexual violence. The reform of the Penal and Criminal Procedure Code is underway. The HRD encouraged the Government to review the existing Codes to bring them in line with international human rights standards and continued to provide technical advice to the committees in charge of the reform process.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: The Government submits reports in a timely fashion to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR in compliance with reporting guidelines and fully cooperates with the implementation of the special procedures mandates in the country; especially the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Côte d'Ivoire.*

Following the recommendations issued by the UN human rights mechanisms, several laws were enacted in conformity with international human rights standards. For instance, the 2012-2014 National Action Plan on Child Labour and Trafficking was implemented and an interministerial committee for the fight against child labour and trafficking was established. The HRD contributed by providing technical advice, advocacy and training workshops and launched public campaigns regarding the implementation of some of the UPR recommendations.

Following training sessions organized by the HRD for the human rights focal points within relevant ministries, the Ministry of Human Rights created a timetable for the preparation of reports to treaty bodies.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of NGOs submitting information on human rights, including women's rights and the rights of the child, to the treaty bodies and the special procedures.*

Ivorian NGOs actively participated in the proceedings of the 52nd Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and submitted written contributions to OHCHR in the framework of the review of Côte d'Ivoire by the UPR. This is partially due to the

training activities provided by the HRD on the international and regional human rights system, in particular on the work of the human rights treaty bodies.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased mainstreaming of human rights in the operations of UNOCI and the UNCT.* The UNDAF 2013-2015 is grounded in human rights-based language. The HRD actively participated in the drafting process. The capacities of the UNCT human rights focal points to use human rights indicators were strengthened and the human rights perspective of the annual plans of action improved as a result of the HRD's technical advice. More than 80 per cent of UNOCI staff (civilian, military and police personnel) were trained on human rights through regular briefing sessions by the HRD.
- ▶ Result for which no National EA was set: The Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) in Côte d'Ivoire was implemented and a standard operating procedure outlining the implementation framework of the policy was adopted by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Côte d'Ivoire. In addition, an HRDDP Subcommittee was created to provide advice to the UNOCI Senior Management Group on requests for support from non-UN security forces. The HRD provided technical and substantive assistance and serves as the Secretariat of the Subcommittee.

African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

Year established	2008
Staff as of 31 December 2013	169

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: An enabling environment conducive to dialogue, respect for human rights and the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) and any subsequent agreements.* Compliance with international human rights standards improved in relation to detention centres and State institutions/programmes dealing with SGBV. The Human Rights Section (HRS) did not observe incidences of torture in detention



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Primary school at the IDP camp in Forobaranga, West Darfur.

centres nor indications of detention-related deaths. Nevertheless, HRS continued advocating for the protection of the rights of detainees, including by ensuring minimum standards for their treatment. Even though cooperation with law enforcement officials on the issue of sexual violence was not always easy, significant progress was noted with regard to SGBV: (i) In South Darfur state, in September 2013, the Governor issued a new decree for the operationalization of the Joint Committee for Combating GBV, which was tasked to analyse GBV, ensure that all victims can access health facilities and follow-up on trials of alleged perpetrators of GBV; and (ii) the Government endorsed the Five-Year National Strategic Plan to Combat Violence against Women (2012-2016) in August 2013. Policy decisions undertaken at the federal level called for the full implementation of the five-year plan across Sudan, including Darfur. The HRS in South Darfur state spearheaded two workshops targeting members of the Women's Mechanism and the state Committee for Combating GBV aimed at addressing gender-based violations such as rape, killing, threats, arbitrary detentions and limited access to justice. A Justice, Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established by the Federal Government in March 2013, following extensive advocacy by HRS. The Commission will, inter alia, address issues of impunity and

work to build a culture of confidence, peace and reconciliation. Sub-offices are not yet established in the Darfur states and most of the 25 appointed commissioners are judges, lawyers and legal advisers.

The HRS continued to organize trainings, awareness-raising and capacity-building programmes on international human rights and humanitarian law and on human rights violations, including GBV, gender and child protection issues, protection of civilians and human rights in the DDPD targeting government officials, armed movements, IDP leaders and various other key stakeholders. The HRS also continued to carry out monitoring visits to IDP camps to assess security and human rights situations, including in return areas.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Effective investigation and prosecution of cases by the Special Prosecutor for Darfur crimes.*

The Special Court for Darfur, to prosecute crimes committed in Darfur since February 2003, continued to undertake investigations. In total, 66 cases have been considered by the Office of the General Prosecutor of the Court since he took office in January 2012. Of those cases, 32 are currently being tried and seven have been

completed and have had sentences handed down. The HRS continued to monitor the work of the Court and is part of the team of experts of the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) that is to be established to monitor the proceedings of the Special Court.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Measures taken to improve access to justice of women and discriminated groups, in particular internally displaced persons and ensure their enjoyment of basic economic, social and cultural rights.*

Some institutional progress was noted such as in West Darfur state, where Family and Child Protection helpdesks were established in police stations in the Foro Baranga locality in February 2013, to improve women and children's access to justice. As part of its quick impact projects (QIPs), the HRS handed over a renovated foster home to the West Darfur Ministry of Social Affairs. In Central Darfur state, the HRS initiated a QIP for the repair and reconstruction of the Rural Court in Zalingei town. In South Darfur state, the HRS completed construction and opened a Women's Centre in Manawashe town aimed at supporting vulnerable women in the community and providing a location for the community and IDP women's groups to carry out and/or develop activities related to health, psychosocial, social and legal protection, women's empowerment, skills development and income generating activities. The HRS continued advocating for the protection of the rights of detainees and ensuring minimum standards for the treatment of prisoners. In coordination with the state judiciary and local ministries, four training sessions were organized for rural court judges in Central Darfur state, Native Administration members from four localities of West Darfur state and tribal women from South Darfur state. The beneficiaries were trained on local legislation that was relevant to their work and international human rights standards relating to the rights of women and of the child.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Measures taken to ensure the participation of vulnerable groups in decision-making processes and the development and monitoring of public policies.*

Some progress was achieved in relation to legislative reform with the adoption of the South Darfur Child Act by the Legislative Council. The HRS continued to interact with state parliaments to raise awareness about human rights concerns and corresponding legal provisions and to inform

legislators about a human rights-based approach to legislative reforms and the fundamental role of parliaments in the promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law. In partnership with the Ministry of Education and the North Darfur Wali's Advisor on Women and Children Affairs, the HRS conducted an intensive advocacy campaign on the CRPD with an emphasis on the experience of children. In Central Darfur state, the HRS provided financial and technical support to the Association of Disabled Persons to celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities and in West Darfur state, the HRS held a two-day workshop on international and national laws protecting the rights of disabled persons.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Steps taken by the Government to implement at least 10 per cent of the recommendations issued by the UPR and the Group of Experts on Darfur, including through the establishment of a follow-up mechanism for UPR recommendations.*

The National Human Rights Commission established in January 2012 continued working towards conforming to the Paris Principles. The Human Rights Subcommittees provided for in the DDPD, however, are yet to be established, primarily due to a lack of resources. The HRS continued providing technical and logistical assistance to the NHRC, including throughout visits undertaken in May 2013. Numerous awareness-raising activities and promotional work with human rights stakeholders took place throughout the year to encourage engagement with the human rights mechanisms.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased cooperation of the Government with the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan.*

The Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan visited the country from 3 to 10 February 2013, including to North and South Darfur from 6 to 9 February 2013. The visit was facilitated by the HRS with support from the UNCT and UNAMID.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of a human rights-based approach, with a particular emphasis on the right to development, into the policies and programmes of the UNCT in Darfur, as well as UNAMID, with respect to development, humanitarian action, early recovery and security. Human rights are duly reflected in humanitarian protection planning mechanisms (humanitarian*

appeal and the Cluster approach) and the UNDAF 2013-2016. Throughout the year, the HRS carried out several activities in coordination with the UNCT and provided technical support. The HRS participated in the Darfur Protection Cluster Working Group and its Sub-Clusters (Protection, Child Protection, SGBV and Return) which are platforms for shared vision, programmes and policies with the UNCT in various activities relating to the protection of civilians, development, humanitarian action, early recovery and security. The HRS also jointly carried out capacity-building activities with UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNDP in several locations.

The HRS actively cooperates with UNAMID's Gender Advisory, Civil Affairs, Humanitarian Protection, Political Affairs, Child Protection, Rule of Law, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration, Police and Military sections. The 2011 Joint UN Policy on the Integration of Human Rights in UN Peace and Political Operations has been disseminated throughout the Mission and has consequently strengthened human rights integration. The HRS focused particular attention on mainstreaming human rights, especially ESCRs, as part of the UNCT's programmes and priorities. As the Mission's focal point on the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on UN support to non-UN security forces, the HRS reviewed all of the Mission's projects (QIPs and Community Labour Intensive Projects (CLIPS)) directed at local communities, against the standards set out in the HRDDP in order to identify those entities that should be prevented from receiving UN support. The projects target the reinforcement of the rule of law, peacebuilding, education, vocational and skills training, livelihood and construction work. The HRS has thus far reviewed 116 projects (100 QIPs and 16 CLIPs) and will continue to carry out this activity.

Efforts were made to strengthen cooperation between UNAMID, UN agencies, civil society organizations and the Government on the protection of civilians (PoC). The UNCT and UNAMID revised the Joint Comprehensive PoC Strategy, which is based on five pillars: Protection through Political Engagement; Physical Protection; Protection of and Respect for international human rights law and international humanitarian law; Support to Humanitarian Action; and Early Recovery and Social Empowerment. The Strategy is multidimensional and grounded on community-based, Cluster-based, rights-based and gender-based approaches. An early warning and response mechanism was also established with indicators that are clearly defined at an operational level. Nevertheless, substantial gaps and challenges remain, for example, in

mainstreaming and coordinating a human rights-based approach to protection issues and in being granted timely humanitarian access to provide adequate assistance in conflict-affected areas and spaces controlled by armed movements as well as in areas where the Government of Sudan is conducting military operations.

United Nations Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Year established	1996 (as a stand-alone office) and 2008 (integration with the Human Rights Division of DPKO)
Staff as of 31 December 2013	110

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- *National EA: A legal framework is adopted to empower State and civil society organizations in the area of human rights.*

After several years of delay, legislation was adopted and promulgated in 2013 to establish a NHRI in the DRC. Members of the NHRI are yet to be selected. The United Nations Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO) is facilitating capacity-building for government and non-governmental officials to prepare for their candidature and providing technical advice to NGOs on the functioning of a NHRI that is compliant with the Paris Principles.



The Deputy High Commissioner visits a prison in Ituri, Democratic Republic of the Congo, August 2013.



The Deputy High Commissioner meets with local authorities in Kitchanga, Democratic Republic of the Congo, August 2013.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: A national process for transitional justice is developed and implemented.*

The establishment of a national consultative process on transitional justice is ongoing and the draft bill to establish specialized chambers to prosecute international crimes is being revised. The UNJHRO is closely monitoring both processes. Additionally, the database supporting the HRDDP, which contains the profiles of military and police commanders suspected of human rights violations, is fully functional and already includes 1,136 profiles. The establishment of the database will assist authorities to bring perpetrators of human rights violations to justice and has been supported by OHCHR.

- ▶ *National EA: Victims of sexual violence have access to justice and reparations.*

In 2013, clinics and offices established or supported by the UNJHRO helped 1,625 victims of sexual violence to bring their cases to court, out of which 406 received judgments on the merits of the case. The UNJHRO also provided training for advocates, financial support for court and lawyer fees and operating costs and facilitated the training of doctors in medico-legal issues relating to sexual violence. Furthermore, magistrates of the *Cour d'Appel, Parquet General, l'auditorat Militaire Superieur* and *Cour Militaire* improved the management of sexual violence cases and demonstrated an increased sensitivity to victims. Data collection related to sexual violence cases also improved as a result of training of clerks and *parquet* secretaries.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Victims of sexual violence have access to justice and reparations.*

While a draft law was presented by the Minister of Justice and Human Rights for the creation of a reparation fund for victims of sexual violence, the legislation was not introduced in the Parliament. The UNJHRO continued to advocate for the adoption of policies on reparations.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: A legal framework is adopted to empower the State and civil society organizations in the area of human rights.*

The Government undertook awareness-raising about a law criminalizing torture, which was adopted in 2011, and subsequently applied by the judiciary in relevant cases. Technical and logistical support was provided by the Office in relation to a nationwide sensitization campaign that was organized by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. Furthermore, UNJHRO worked with national and international partners to organize awareness-raising activities for different target groups, focusing on national legislation and progress made to bring it in line with international standards.

Responsiveness of the international community (EA 10)

- ▶ *National EA: Human rights are integrated into international peace and security policies on the DRC.*

In its resolution 2098 (March 2013), the Security Council strengthened the mechanisms available to MONUSCO to protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence. Furthermore, its forces increased their compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and accountability was promoted. Human rights concerns raised by the UNJHRO in its internal and

public reports were a key factor in the decision by the Mission to review its position with regard to the protection of civilians.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: The UN Peacekeeping Mission, the Government and local communities, protect civilians in conflict-affected provinces of the DRC.* After participation in trainings on human rights that were led by the UNJHRO, MONUSCO military who participated in Joint Protection Team missions were able to provide a better analysis of the security situation and the identification of protection needs.

United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau

Year established	1999 (as the Human Rights Section of UNOGBIS; as an integrated mission since 2010)
Staff as of 31 December 2013	13

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of law enforcement institutions and the Parliament with international standards.* The Human Rights Section (HRS) of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) and the Director of the Centre for Judicial Training launched a training on human rights in the administration of justice for lawyers, prosecutors, judges, judiciary police investigators and representatives of the Access to Justice Centres which contributed to their increased knowledge about international human rights standards.
- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of a NHRI in compliance with the Paris Principles.* The revision of the Statute of the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH) to bring it in line with the Paris Principles continued with the guidance of the HRS. Furthermore, the CNDH organized a validation workshop during which members of civil society organizations and government stakeholders had the opportunity to make further recommendations on the draft. Critical issues that need to be resolved include the membership of the CNDH and its sources of funding.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of relevant legal frameworks with international human rights standards, particularly the Law against Domestic Violence and the National Policy on Human Rights and the Action Plan for its implementation.* The Law against Domestic Violence was adopted by the National Assembly on 18 July 2013 and is awaiting promulgation. OHCHR provided technical support to the specialized Parliamentary Committee on Women and Children during the drafting process. Furthermore, with the support of UNIOGBIS and the UNCT, the National Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (2014-2017) was drafted and adopted.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of core international and regional human rights instruments.* The National Popular Assembly ratified CAT and both Optional Protocols to the ICCPR. The HRS undertook extensive advocacy efforts and provided information to Members of Parliament and other government representatives on the importance of the ratification of these instruments and on the functioning of the treaty bodies.

Responsiveness of the international community (EA 10)

- ▶ Result for which no National EA was set: Following the mission of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and his participation in the National Conference on Impunity, Justice and Human Rights, organized by national authorities with the support of UNIOGBIS, UNDP and ECOWAS, key recommendations were reflected in the Bissau Declaration, including the establishment of an international commission of inquiry to conduct credible and transparent investigations into drug trafficking, political assassinations and other politically motivated crimes.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased mainstreaming of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) in UN peace building and development programmes.* Following the publication of a report on human rights violations, related to land expropriation, pollution of water sources and physical aggression against activists stemming from activities such as illegal logging, fishing and mining, a Human Rights and Environment Working Group was established in cooperation with UNDP.



Participants at an OHCHR workshop on the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders in Maryland County, Liberia.

United Nations Mission in Liberia

Year established	2003
Staff as of 31 December 2013	45

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Review of existing discriminatory laws and policies.*

Although the Decent Work Bill was passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives, its final adoption remains pending. The Human Rights and Protection Section (HRPS) of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), together with ILO, provided technical advice to the Ministry of Labour on the development of the Labour Information Management System and facilitated the engagement of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) with key national stakeholders on the adoption of the Bill. On 15 January 2013, the Ministry of Internal Affairs issued General Circular No. 12 against harmful traditional practices. HRPS actively engaged with the Ministry on issuing the Circular. The Legislative Staff Human Rights Association (LSHRA) initiated activities to enhance awareness of and respect for human rights in the Legislature, including letters to the leadership of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding Liberia's obligations to respect international human rights instruments and human rights promotional initiatives for elected members of the legislature and other staff. The technical support provided by the HRPS to the LSHRA included the distribution and discussion of the *Human Rights Handbook for Parliamentarians* and the holding of

working sessions on international human rights instruments. Human rights training has been incorporated into standard police training at the Police Academy and has become part of the training for the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL). The HRPS trained Liberian National Police human rights instructors and used OHCHR's *Police Trainer's Guide* as part of the training material.

- ▶ *National EA: Development and implementation of the National Strategy for the Implementation of the CRPD, including the establishment of a National Commission on Disabilities.*

Liberia ratified the CRPD in July 2012. In September 2013, the National Strategy for the Implementation of the CRPD was validated and included in the National Human Rights Action Plan for implementation. The Strategy was elaborated by government agencies, civil society organizations and international partners, with technical assistance provided by HRPS. Awareness-raising and advocacy about the CRPD undertaken by the Human Rights and Disability Task Force contributed to a paradigm shift in understanding and addressing disability; from the charity or medical perspective to a human rights-based approach. An Issues Paper on the conditions of persons with disabilities in Liberia was developed by representatives of disabled people's organizations under the Human Rights and Disability Task Force. HRPS organized working sessions for the Task Force and provided technical assistance and field support in the development and implementation of follow-up projects.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights with the Paris Principles.*
- The INCHR increased its outreach activities and gained more visibility and confidence. Among

other things, it undertook human rights awareness and monitoring tours at health facilities, schools, work places and prisons in 14 out of the 15 counties across the country; monitored issues of concern with respect to concession agreements and private corporations; deployed monitors in three counties; and increased engagement with civil society. It also finalized a Human Rights Report covering the period from January to July 2013. The HRPS provides technical support to the Commission. In early 2013, it reviewed its approach to working with the Commission, with a renewed focus on strengthening the implementation of INCHR's mandate in compliance with the Paris Principles and concrete activities and deliverables. This change of approach helped bring about a number of INCHR's activities in the year.

- ▶ *National EA: Development and implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan.* The NHRAP was developed and is to be implemented by the Steering Committee and its Subcommittees. The HRPS provided technical advice and financial support.
- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into national and local development plans, including through the use of participatory approaches and human rights indicators (particularly in the areas of gender, education and health).*

The Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs and the Civil Society Agenda for Transformation Monitoring Platform jointly endorsed the standards and principles of human rights as the normative framework for monitoring the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper II - the Agenda for Transformation (2013-2017). Civil society produced a third briefing paper analyzing the national budget using a human rights-based approach with technical and financial support from HRPS.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: The Government completes the ratification process for a number of international human rights treaties.*

The Government initiated the drafting of a national strategy to meet its international human rights obligations, including the ratification of international conventions. The HRPS provided technical support for the drafting.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement with human rights mechanisms, especially in relation to the submission of overdue reports to treaty bodies*

and follow-up to the recommendations of the mechanisms through a participatory process.

The Ministry of Justice initiated the development of a national strategy to meet its international human rights obligations and improve the coordination of its reporting to the treaty bodies. The workshop on the development of the national strategy was financially supported by HRPS. A NHRAP was also adopted which included commitments to fulfil treaty reporting requirements and establish a follow-up mechanism to track implementation of recommendations issued by the treaty bodies and the UPR. Relevant OHCHR material was used to promote the Action Plan and funding supported its establishment.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Adoption by UNMIL and the UNCT of a human rights-based approach to their programmes and projects, in particular in relation to the rule of law, economic, social and cultural rights and child rights.*

The UN One Programme (2013-2017) applies a human rights-based approach to programming and national development frameworks and focuses on enhancing government and civil society capacities to evaluate, measure and monitor progress with a human rights perspective. A groundbreaking initiative was the introduction of human rights statistics in national household surveys. The resulting database of the National Human Rights Survey (2010) will provide a baseline for national development frameworks, policies and plans and UN programming. OHCHR and UNMIL initiatives and capacity-development workshops on advocacy, policy and budget monitoring contributed to the acknowledgement of the value added and adoption of Human Rights and Disabled and Disadvantaged as two new cross-cutting themes in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper II (2013-2017) - the Agenda for Transformation. In addition, the monitoring and evaluation framework of the UN One Programme (2013-2017) requires that agencies indicate the extent to which key actions incorporated a HRBA and gender cross-cutting considerations. To further strengthen the application of a HRBA, gender equality and women's empowerment approaches, an integrated checklist was created, reaffirming clearly defined human rights principles and standards pertinent to key actions, based on recommendations issued by the UPR and treaty bodies and advice from OHCHR and HRPS.

United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

Year established	2013
Staff as of 31 December 2013	68

Following the conflict that erupted in Mali in 2012, the Security Council adopted resolution 2085 in December 2012, establishing the United Nations Office in Mali (UNOM) and requesting the deployment of human rights observers to northern Mali. In February 2013, OHCHR deployed a team of four human rights officers for two weeks to document human rights violations and assist UNOM with monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation in the country. The information gathered served as the basis for developing the human rights strategy of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), which was established by Security Council resolution 2100 of 25 April 2013.

In 2013, the Human Rights Division (HRD) of MINUSMA supported the Government of Mali in

implementing its obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law and in preventing and addressing human rights violations. The HRD also conducted monitoring activities, including at detention facilities, with a particular focus on arbitrary detention, detention of vulnerable groups and conflict-related detainees. On the basis of its monitoring activities, the HRD identified gaps in the area of protection and provided support to the Malian authorities, such as armed forces, police, gendarmerie and judiciary, through technical advice and capacity-building activities. The HRD also supported the implementation of the UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.

United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone

Year established	1998
Staff as of 31 December 2013	8

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with human rights standards by entities in Sierra Leone, including the NHRI and the judiciary, as well as domestic laws, policies and programmes.*

The mandate of the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) was implemented and is functioning in conformity with international human rights standards. The Office of the Ombudsman generated a database on the handling of complaints and provided logistical support for the resource library of the institution. It also developed a brochure on its work to increase the public visibility of the Office, its mandate and functions. The Human Rights Section (HRS) of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Mission in Sierra Leone contributed to these achievements by providing financial and technical support. The *Access to Information Act 2013* was adopted. The HRS provided financial and technical support to the process and cooperated and advocated with the HRCSL and civil society organizations to promote adoption of the Law. Human rights are now part of the curriculum at the Police Academy. It is anticipated that respect for human rights standards and principles among police recruits will improve as a result. The HRS provided financial and technical support.



The UN flag is hoisted during a ceremony in Bamako, Mali, marking the opening of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).



Child rights posters in a school in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of measures undertaken to improve access of women and discriminated groups, in particular persons with disabilities, to justice and basic services, including through the application of the Gender Bills and the Disability Act.*

The National Commission of Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) was established and developed a three-year strategic plan. HRS supported this process and conducted trainings and workshops to improve the capacity of the NCPD. Two sexual and gender-based information desks increased the access of victims of sexual and gender-based violence to advisory services. The HRS provided the desk officers with logistical support. Awareness-raising activities on the Sexual Offences Act were undertaken by the HRS in collaboration with the HRCSL and NGOs and resulted in an increased number of complaints filed by victims of sexual violence.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of Sierra Leone with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies through the timely submission of reports and follow-up to the recommendations emanating from the UPR.*

The Treaty Reporting Secretariat drafted State Party reports to several international human rights

mechanisms, including the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. The HRS provided financial and technical support to the process. A national conference was held to review the implementation of the UPR recommendations. The conference led to the development of a UPR implementation action plan and the establishment of a National UPR Coordination Working Group. The HRS assisted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the organization of the conference. In addition, financial support was provided to the HRCSL to enable dissemination of the UPR recommendations in Freetown.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles, including the right to development, into the United Nations system, policies and programmes with respect to development, humanitarian action, peace and security and economic and social issues.*

A Human Rights Adviser was deployed, further strengthening the capacities of the HRCSL, civil society organizations and the Government on human rights-related issues and raising awareness about the human rights situation in Sierra Leone. The HRS provided financial and technical support to the deployment and supported the integration of human rights standards and principles into the UNDAF.

United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia

Year established	2008
Staff as of 31 December 2013	11

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Integration of international human rights standards and principles in the activities directed towards ending the transition (constitution, outreach and reconciliation).*
The Provisional Constitution of Somalia guarantees fundamental human rights. The Human Rights Unit (HRU) of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), in cooperation with the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs and Reconciliation, advocated for the inclusion of international human rights standards into the Constitution and provided legal advice on human rights provisions.
- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the Somali security, justice and correction sectors with human rights.*
Through advocacy and collaboration with other components of the Mission, the HRU contributed to mainstreaming human rights during the

security and justice sectors reforms, resulting in the adoption of the Somali Justice Sector Plan 2013-2015. In addition, the knowledge of judges, prosecutors and lawyers on international human rights norms was increased through training activities. The HRU also monitored the functioning of the military court and worked with military judges to bring the military justice system into compliance with international standards. In Somaliland, the HRU contributed to the revision of the Prisons Act and the Intelligence Act. Furthermore, following the United Nations assessment of the Mogadishu Central Prison, in which the HRU participated, awareness was raised about human rights shortcomings and assistance was mobilized.

- ▶ *National EA: Completion of preparatory phase for setting up a NHRI.*
The Cabinet formally endorsed the Post-Transitional Human Rights Roadmap for 2013-2015 and announced the establishment of a Ministry of Gender and Human Rights. Furthermore, the Government adopted a draft bill for the establishment of a NHRI. The HRU provided comments to parliamentarians on the draft's compliance with the Paris Principles and recommended the convening of consultations with the various regions and civil society. The adopted bill complies to a minimum extent with the Paris Principles.



People arrive at an IDP camp near Jowhar, Somalia.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of key international human rights instruments: CRC and its Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OP-CRC) and CEDAW.*

Although the Government did not ratify any international human rights instruments during the period under review, capacity-building and advocacy efforts undertaken by the HRU contributed to an increased awareness about the importance of ratifying the core human rights instruments and a public commitment by the Government to ratify the CRC. In addition, the Government, the Parliament and civil society organizations conducted a joint review of the status of implementation of treaties already in force (ICERD, ICCPR, ICESCR and CAT).

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement by Somalia with the human rights mechanisms through the adoption of a participatory action plan on the implementation of the UPR recommendations and by hosting the visits of at least two mandate-holders.*

Somalia increased its engagement with the human rights mechanisms through constructive cooperation with the Independent Expert on the situation of Somalia. With the support of the Independent Expert, Somalia adopted the Human Rights Post-Transitional Roadmap which took into consideration the key findings of the reports of the Independent Expert and the key recommendations issued by the UPR. Furthermore, Somalia received visits from other mandate-holders such as the Working Group on mercenaries and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children in Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. As a result of this last visit, the Government and the United Nations signed a Joint Communiqué on key commitments with regard to the prevention of sexual violence. The HRU facilitated these visits and followed up on their findings and recommendations.

Responsiveness of the international community (EA 10)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased responsiveness by the international community to human rights issues, including in the context of the humanitarian intervention in Somalia.*

Somalia was at the center of a number of debates at the Security Council and the Human Rights Council (HRC). In 2013, the HRC adopted

one resolution and one decision on technical assistance and capacity-building in Somalia and the UNSC adopted four resolutions on the situation in Somalia. Furthermore, the Secretary-General submitted quarterly reports on Somalia to the Security Council and the country received regular visits of UN senior officials. The HRU mainstreamed human rights into these documents and regularly provided human rights inputs for press releases, including those issued by the Secretary-General, the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, the Independent Expert and the High Commissioner.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into action undertaken by the United Nations Political Office for Somalia and other humanitarian actions, with special attention to vulnerable groups such as IDPs and to violence.*

The Federal Government of Somalia, in collaboration with the HRU and UNHCR, adopted a standard operating procedure on the relocation of IDPs based on international humanitarian law and human rights standards. In addition, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Early Warning Reports included human rights language following HRU's advocacy.

United Nations Mission in South Sudan

Year established	2011
Staff as of 31 December 2013	107

Results**National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)**

- ▶ *National EA: Revision of the Constitution and the Family Law to comply with applicable international human rights provisions.*

Numerous laws were enacted during the 2012-2013 parliamentary session, with implications for human rights. Technical support was provided by the Human Rights Division (HRD) of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). The adoption of the South Sudan Media Authority Bill and the South Sudan Access to Information Bill in June and July 2013 was noted as a potentially positive development for the promotion and protection of the freedom of expression and access to information in the context of widening



Civilians seeking protection at the UNMISS compound in Juba, South Sudan.

democratic space. The HRD collaborated with other partners to undertake capacity-building and advocacy activities for law enforcement authorities, security forces, government officials, civil society and journalists to support the implementation of the Media Acts.

The National Review Commission implemented a civic education programme on the constitutional review process which included awareness-raising in all 10 state capitals. In September, the Commission's five subcommittees completed their article-by-article review of the Transitional Constitution. Their recommendations are being considered by the Commission. With the technical and financial support of the Human Rights Division, civil society organizations held a series of public consultations on the Constitutional Bill of Rights to identify gaps and areas for improvement. Legislation has not been enacted in relation to national civil society and the national intelligence services.

Despite the continued support of UNMISS, progress has been slow in developing a national security sector reform strategy, which adversely impacts on human rights in South Sudan. UNMISS and other relevant partners have strongly advocated for the adoption of a National Security Service Bill.

Adherence to traditional practices, such as early and forced marriage, wife inheritance and the denial of property inheritance by women, which contravene provisions of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan (TCSS), hindered the process of reaching consensus for adoption of a national family law. In collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and Social Welfare and CSOs, the HRD reviewed

existing legislation to identify discriminatory gaps and provisions that need to be addressed through legislative, policy and institutional reforms.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the South Sudan Human Rights Commission (SSHRC) with the Paris Principles.*

The SSHRC put in place a strategic plan for 2012-2015 and prepared a work plan for 2013 with the support of the HRD. In collaboration with civil society organizations, the Commission organized and co-chaired three meetings of the Human Rights Forum under the patronage of the Vice President. The HRD advocated for the SSHRC to apply for accreditation to the ICC-NHRI in order to review its compliance with the Paris Principles.

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of oversight bodies for the police, the army, the judiciary and the penitentiary and of an anti-corruption watchdog.* Steps were taken towards accountability within the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), including arrests, trials and the suspension and dismissal of senior officers. Since May 2013, the SPLA has tried 115 cases in Jonglei, 39 of which are related to serious human rights violations. To date, there have been 61 convictions. These include cases of violations against civilians and disciplinary offences. Nevertheless, there have been encouraging statements issued by high-level officials indicating a commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. As part of its development of a strategic framework for strengthening its engagement with SPLA, the HRD conducted a number of training events for officers on international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including children in armed conflict and principles of peacekeeping. Training programmes were also conducted for law enforcement personnel.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of key international and regional human rights conventions, including the ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW, CRC, CAT, ICRMW, ICERD and ACHPR and their related protocols without reservations.*

South Sudan acceded to the Geneva Conventions and enacted statutory legislation in July 2012 for the harmonization of these instruments with national law. South Sudan signed the ACHPR and the National Legislative Assembly passed bills for the ratification of the CRC and its protocols (November 2013) and CAT (December 2013) without reservations. The HRD supported the ratification process by providing technical support to the Ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs and the Human Rights Committee of the National Assembly on the drafting of legal opinions for the

ratification of key human rights treaties. It also trained representatives of the national and state legislative assemblies on human rights principles, the international human rights legal framework and ratification processes.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of a legal and institutional framework conducive to improved access of women, children and persons with disabilities to justice and basic services.*

The Government of South Sudan undertook some steps towards addressing discrimination and violence against women, including measures to support girls' education and ensure a greater participation of women in Government. Much remains to be done, however, notably with regard to human rights education and awareness-raising. The Government established a high-level policy panel to improve access to justice and launched a review of the criminal justice system and an initiative on mobile courts. Twenty-five prosecutors, prison officials, police and court officials/clerks and 101 traditional court members attended a workshop on arbitrary and prolonged detention. In addition, a large number of training activities were provided for judiciary, law enforcement authorities, the SPLA, prison officers and traditional courts. The HRD provided technical advice to judges, lawyers and prosecutors on mechanisms to address cases of arbitrary and prolonged detention.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased participation, including through the use of protection mechanisms, of discriminated groups.*

Representatives of political parties and civil society organizations, including women's groups, took part in the formation of the National Elections Commission and conducted a series of public consultations on the Constitutional Bill of Rights to identify gaps and areas for improvement. The HRD provided technical and financial support. Civil society organizations addressed concerns regarding the compliance with international human rights standards of the Voluntary and Humanitarian Organizations Bill, regulating the operations of NGOs. In December 2013, the National Legislative Assembly received recommendations from civil society organizations and the HRD, which will be considered before final adoption of the bill. Awareness was raised among NGOs, the Government and other stakeholders on the crucial role NGOs can play in the democratic and economic development of South Sudan. The HRD, in collaboration with

the South Sudan Human Rights Commission and other international counterparts, mobilized civil society organizations through technical and financial support.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement with human rights mechanisms by extending invitations to special procedures mandate-holders, submitting initial reports under ratified human rights treaties and implementing the recommendations of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan and of the UPR.*

The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons visited South Sudan in November 2013. In collaboration with UNHCR, the HRD technically supported the visit. The Government did not issue a standing invitation to the special procedure and no treaty body reports have been submitted due to its failure to ratify the key human rights conventions.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Submission of shadow reports to treaty bodies and other human rights mechanisms by the SSHRC, civil society organizations, women's groups and human rights defenders.*

No State party or alternative report was submitted to the treaty bodies since no international human rights instruments were ratified.



Women of South Sudan's Murle tribe wait to register for food distribution.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Incorporation of rights-sensitive elements/measures in all United Nations policies, humanitarian and development programmes.* The UNDAF and the South Sudan Consolidated Appeal 2014-2016 identified human rights and gender equality as cross-cutting issues to be integrated into all development and State-building priorities. The HRD collaborated with all other agencies in the drafting of the documents. In addition, a three-year framework for mutual accountability and dialogue between the Government and its international partners, which included human rights as cross-cutting issue, was endorsed by the Council of Ministers. The HRD chaired the sub-working group on human rights and the protection of civilians.

Human Rights Advisers in UN Country Teams

Chad

Year established	2011
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the NHRI with the Paris Principles.* The draft law on the reform of the statutes of the NHRI is still being discussed by the Government. The Human Rights Adviser provided legal advice and financial support to national authorities on the draft law, continued to advocate for its adoption and encouraged civil society organizations to engage in dialogue with national authorities on this reform.
- ▶ *National EA: An action plan for the operation of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Human Rights is developed and implemented.* While validated in 2012 by the Government, the action plan was neither adopted nor implemented because its operating budget was not provided. The draft plan contains some progressive developments, including legislative and institutional reforms in the field of human rights. The HRA advised the Government and provided technical assistance for the formulation of the draft and its adoption by the National Human Rights Forum.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased use of international human rights mechanisms by national human rights institutions as well as governmental entities and civil society.*

The HRA organized training and information sessions on the use of international and regional mechanisms and provided technical support to national NGOs to submit alternative reports to the treaty bodies and the UPR.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of a human rights-based approach in the UNCT's development programming and implementation.* The UNCT Operational Programme in support to the National Development Plan for 2012-2013 included a rights-based approach and recommendations issued by the human rights mechanisms. At the beginning of 2013, the UNCT extended the mandate of the Gender Theme Group to include human rights and asked the HRA to co-lead the thematic group with UNFPA. Since that time, the Group on Gender and Human Rights has been working to ensure that commitments undertaken on gender and human rights form part of the policy mainstream. The HRA also actively participated in the Child Protection Sub-Cluster. Joint activities involving UNDP, UNICEF and the HRA's Unit were implemented during the reporting period, including on the demobilization of child soldiers from the national army and trainings. The HRA's Unit works closely with the Resident Coordinator.



People waiting for food distribution in Chad.

Kenya

Year established	2008
Staff as of 31 December 2013	3

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the Medium Term Plan II (MTP II) and the Article 59 Commissions with international human rights standards.*

The Government's MTP II (2013-2017), which seeks to provide a roadmap for development, including through the inclusion of economic, social and cultural rights in the Constitution, incorporated a human rights-based approach following the inputs and recommendations provided from OHCHR. In addition, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution approved the Prosecution Policy and Guidelines and a code of ethics, both of which were in compliance with human rights standards.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the judiciary with international human rights standards in the area of economic, social and cultural rights.*

A human rights perspective was included in the Judiciary Transformation Framework for 2013-2016 to ensure that judges have the knowledge and capacity to apply international human rights standards, particularly in the area of economic, social and cultural rights. The HRA contributed to this result by providing technical assistance and advice to the judiciary.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Follow-up mechanism established in accordance with international human rights standards to deal with recommendations issued by the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission.* The HRA advocated with the Parliament for the establishment of an Implementation Committee to oversee the implementation of the recommendations issued by the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission. The Committee has not been established.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased use of the UN and regional human rights mechanisms by civil society organizations and the NHRI.* The knowledge and capacity of civil society organizations to interact with human rights



The UN Resident Coordinator and the Vice Chancellor of Laikipia University in Kenya launch the human rights course in the University.

mechanisms and to submit alternative reports to human rights mechanisms, including to the ACHPR, was enhanced through their engagement with OHCHR. Through the HRA's cooperation with these organizations and with the Government, recommendations from human rights mechanisms were widely disseminated.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into the UNCT and individual agencies policies and programmes.* The UNDAF for 2014-2018, not yet adopted, fully mainstreamed human rights in all of its outcome areas. The HRA provided technical support to the UNCT in the development of the UNDAF.

Madagascar

Year established	2011
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Improving prison conditions in line with Madagascar's international obligations.* By providing technical expertise to the elaboration and implementation of training curricula and guidelines for trainers on human rights, OHCHR contributed to the increased awareness of law enforcement officials on international human rights standards and principles, especially those related to ill-treatment and torture.

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of the National Human Rights Council in compliance with the Paris Principles.*

The bill establishing a National Human Rights Council was drafted with the technical support of OHCHR and submitted to the Government in 2012. The bill has yet to be promulgated and the HRA has undertaken advocacy activities with the Governing Council to promote its adoption.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: During elections, civil society organizations monitor and report on political and civil rights violations.*

Civil society organizations worked closely with the Independent National Electoral Commission of the Transition to ensure a peaceful electoral period and monitored and reported on political and civil rights. OHCHR organized capacity-building workshops for CSOs to enhance their expertise on human rights monitoring during electoral processes. The Office also conducted training sessions on human rights and the prevention of electoral conflicts for members of the National Electoral Commission of the Transition for law enforcement officials. OHCHR also participated in the Conflict and Violence Watch Committee during the electoral period.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: The UPR and treaty body recommendations are increasingly implemented by the State authorities.*

In collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, the HRA organized a meeting at the Prime Minister's Office to advocate for enhanced protection of the rights of Malagasy migrant workers. Following this advocacy, the Governing Council issued a decree suspending the authorization of sending non-qualified Malagasy workers to high-risk countries such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia or other countries that do not provide sufficient protection. The Law for the ratification of the ICRMW was adopted by the National Assembly and validated by the High Council of the Transition. During the reporting period, the HRA assisted the Intergovernmental Treaty Body Committee with the preparation of reports to CEDAW and the UPR by, inter alia, organizing capacity-building sessions for the Committee and civil society.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: The UN development programme is a rights-based document.*

The UNDAF was developed to cover the period 2008-2011 but as a result of the precarious political context, it has been extended to 2014. The HRA will provide technical assistance in 2014 to ensure that a rights-based approach is applied throughout the programming process.

Niger

Year established	2008
Staff as of 31 December 2013	2

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of a NHRI in compliance with the Paris Principles.*
A NHRI that is compliant with the Paris Principles was established. The HRA, in cooperation with the UNCT, provided training and legal advice on the Paris Principles.
- ▶ *National EA: Integration of human rights standards and a gender dimension in the Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Sectorial Policy of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.*
The Programme for Economic and Social Development and the Sectorial Policy of the Ministry of Justice were adopted, and their implementation is ongoing. The promotion of human rights in the fight against poverty and the promotion of the rule of law in Niger are contained in these two policy documents. The HRA contributed to the drafting processes.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement of the State with the human rights mechanisms through the establishment of mechanisms to follow-up to recommendations issued by the treaty bodies and the UPR and through the submission of reports.*
A matrix of the UPR action plan was developed with the contribution of the HRA. The HRA also co-organized a workshop for its validation and participated in meetings for its implementation. The State showed an increased effort in drafting and submitting reports after members of the Interdepartmental Committee received trainings from the HRA on the techniques of drafting reports in accordance with treaty body requirements.



Members of Niger's National Human Rights Commission at an OHCHR capacity-building activity in Kollo, September 2013.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into the UNDAF.* The UNDAF 2014-2018 identified human rights and gender as cross-cutting issues. The HRA contributed to the drafting of the UNDAF by providing inputs on how to better integrate human rights standards and principles.

Rwanda

Year established	2007
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Relevant national bodies and institutions apply international human rights law.* The National Human Rights Commission maintained its 'A' status and is currently involved in three key issues related to human rights

compliance, namely: the development of the national human rights action plan; a human rights education campaign; and working with the national assembly to provide training, in collaboration with the UN, for senators on drafting legislation from a human rights perspective. The HRA has been involved in training human rights staff in various districts on: how to monitor human rights and periodically report on them; how to work effectively with civil society; and strategies for preparing high-quality human rights reports and assisting the governmental bodies charged with responsibility for their drafting. In addition, OHCHR commented and advised on the process of drafting legislation on the functioning of the NHRC, which was key to the decision by the ICC-NHRI to confer 'A' status on the Commission. Judges are reported to be increasingly using international human rights law, albeit mainly in the proceedings of the case as opposed to in the judgements of the court. The HRA carried out trainings for more than 200 judges on the application of international human rights law in domestic courts. It is expected that the application of international human rights law will become more evident in the judgments of the courts presided over by the beneficiaries of these trainings.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of a human rights-based approach in the UNCT's development programmes.* The new UNDAF for 2013-2018 included a human rights-based approach. The HRA advocated for this inclusion and worked closely with the Resident Coordinator to prepare and launch a handbook on a human rights-based approach which will be used when the new UNDAF is implemented. All UNCT Heads of Agencies in Rwanda endorsed the handbook and planned to make it a key element of the Delivering as One initiative in the coming five years.

OHCHR in the field: Americas



Type of presence	Location
Country offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bolivia ● Colombia ● Guatemala ● Mexico
Regional offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Central America (Panama City, Panama) ● South America (Santiago de Chile, Chile)
Human rights component in UN Peace Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Haiti
Human rights advisers in UN Country Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ecuador ● Honduras ● Paraguay

OHCHR continued to engage with countries in the American continent from headquarters in Geneva, the New York Office, and its 10 field presences: two regional offices (Panama City and Santiago de Chile); four country offices (Bolivia, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico); three Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) (Ecuador, Honduras and Paraguay); and one human rights component in a peace mission (Haiti), where OHCHR continued its leadership of the Protection Cluster in the context of the humanitarian response. In addition, a human rights officer in Barbados provided support to the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), the Government and civil society on the implementation of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations.

The work of OHCHR in the Americas continued against a backdrop of consolidated democracies, solid legal frameworks and engaged civil society. The past biennium also showed a tendency towards a shrinking of democratic spaces and the weakening of key democratic institutions in several countries. Significant progress has been made, particularly in South American countries, in the reduction of extreme poverty, hunger, malnutrition and infant mortality, and some economies have registered important growth rates. Yet high inequality persisted and a significant percentage of the population – especially indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants – remained vulnerable to economic turmoil. A growing social movement demanding more from their democracies – greater participation, transparency and access to rights, especially economic, social and cultural rights – also emerged. The boom in extractive industries and manufacturing continued to raise human rights concerns, especially in relation to indigenous peoples, and led to violence and human rights violations in a number of cases in several countries.

Impunity and strengthening the rule of law remained as priorities for OHCHR in the Americas, with a particular focus on transitional justice, freedom of expression and situations of violence, conflict and insecurity. The Office continued its work on protection mechanisms for journalists and human rights defenders, especially in Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico, ensuring that laws and policies relating to public security adhere to human rights standards and that there are no setbacks in the protection of human rights in the name of security. Close work also continued with sub-regional organizations, such as the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) and the Central American Integration System (SICA).

Transitional justice continued to register gains, as evidenced by the first ever genocide conviction of a former Head of State in a national court - in Guatemala. Nevertheless, the overturning of the verdict on procedural grounds and similar decisions demonstrated the extent to which judiciaries throughout the region are in need of strengthening. Thus, most field presences, supported by headquarters, devoted a significant amount of time and energy on strengthening justice and the rule of law with an emphasis on transitional justice, impunity, the functioning of the justice system and harmonization of legislation and jurisprudence with human rights standards.

Throughout 2013, building on its work undertaken in 2012, OHCHR promoted wider use of and engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms throughout Latin America, in the Caribbean and the United States where ratification rates are lower and few national human rights institutions operate in compliance with the Paris Principles. The partnerships established in recent years with UNCTs in the Caribbean were strengthened and resulted in greater collaboration on human rights-related issues, especially in Jamaica.

In addition, during the reporting period, the Americas Section, made up of 13 staff members, continued to provide administrative, programmatic and substantive support and advice to the 10 presences and the human rights officer in Barbados. The Americas Section also supported the new Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti, who took office in mid-2013. Furthermore, to advance human rights in the region, the Section maintained close contacts with regional organizations, especially with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, as well as with UN departments and agencies, governmental institutions, national human rights institutions, members of parliament, civil society organizations, academia and human rights activists.

Country Offices

Bolivia

Year established	2007
Staff as of 31 December 2013	22
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,213,673

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- *National EA: Increased compliance with human rights standards by the judiciary, the Ministry of Justice and the General Prosecutor's Office.* The Comprehensive Law on Guaranteeing Women a Life Free from Violence in Bolivia (Law 348) was promulgated in March 2013. The Law broadens protection of women against various forms of violence, makes femicide a criminal offence and establishes the eradication of violence against women as a priority of the State. OHCHR provided technical assistance



OHCHR workshop on the right to prior consultation in Alto Parapeti, Bolivia.

during the drafting process; contributed to the increased capacity of the judiciary to implement the Law; and has been working with judiciary partners on the creation of special courts and prosecutor's offices to deal with cases of violence against women. Regarding the Plurinational Constitutional Court, the Office has undertaken a number of activities which contributed to: the elaboration of the manual on procedural management; the increased transparency of the Court through the development of institutional communication policies and the design of a communication campaign; and the establishment of a coordination structure with indigenous authorities. These activities resulted in the Court's increased compliance with international human rights standards. In relation to the General Prosecutor's Office and the Ministry of Justice, their capacity to implement policies on criminal justice was strengthened through the revision of the Criminal Procedural Code and the elaboration of an institutional strategic plan for the General Prosecutor's Office. The Office also provided technical assistance to the School of Judges for the review of the training curriculum for judges and prosecutors. As a result, human rights approaches and specific subjects on international and regional human rights protection systems were incorporated into the curricula.

- ▶ *National EA: The Criminal Code, the Criminal Procedural Code and legislation on women and indigenous peoples are increasingly compliant with international human rights standards.* In 2013, the Comprehensive Law Guaranteeing Women a Life Free from Violence was adopted, in line with the Constitution and recommendations from the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Office provided technical assistance to the

Alliance for the Legislative Agenda for Women in the drafting and revision of the Law. The Office also supported the implementation of the Law in its first phase by training 592 judges and prosecutors to enable them to provide immediate assistance to victims of violence. In addition, OHCHR met on several occasions with the Reviewing Commission of the Criminal Procedural Code and provided comments on the different versions of the proposed bill to increase its compliance with international standards. The new Criminal Procedural Code is expected to be promulgated in 2014.

A large majority of the Bolivian population are members of indigenous communities. Yet indigenous peoples and Afro-Bolivians have historically been the victims of deeply entrenched discrimination and racism. The Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance visited Bolivia in September 2012. While he welcomed the Government's legal and institutional efforts to combat racial discrimination, including through the adoption of the Law against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination, he also drew the attention of the authorities to the State's insufficient capacity and resources to effectively implement the existing legislation.

As part of the Bolivian Government's efforts to combat discrimination, a new Master's Programme on the Prevention of Racism and Discrimination has been developed by the National Committee against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination, the Vice-Ministry of Decolonization and OHCHR. The Programme aims at raising the awareness of civil servants on discrimination issues and improving their skills in the development and implementation of public policies to prevent and fight racism and all forms of discrimination. Sixty civil servants from different branches of the Bolivian Government are taking part in the first edition of the Master's Programme which will be institutionalized and made available to all civil servants in Bolivia.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased participation of women, indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and persons with disabilities in the elaboration and implementation of selected public policies.* Indigenous peoples' organizations actively participated in the preparation of the draft laws on prior consultation and on protection of highly vulnerable indigenous peoples, contributing to the increased compliance of both drafts with

human rights standards. The Office also produced three legal opinions regarding the proposed law on the right to prior consultation intended to improve its compliance with international standards. In relation to the draft bill to protect indigenous peoples in situations of voluntary isolation, OHCHR formulated two legal opinions stressing the need for the State to guarantee the human rights of indigenous peoples and respect the principle of non-contact. The bill has been enacted and the new legal framework, including the protection mechanisms put in place, safeguards the individual and collective forms of life of indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation. Civil society organizations have also revitalized the Network against Racism, which is used to exchange information on public policies and discuss issues of concern in this area, and have enhanced its engagement with the Afro-Bolivian National Council to claim their rights and fight discrimination.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased use of national protection system by indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants.*

Throughout 2013, in the context of its monitoring missions, the Office provided indigenous peoples and Afro-descendant organizations with information on existing national protection mechanisms. An informative session on the judicial system and the Ombudsman mechanisms was conducted with the leaders of the Isiboro Secure National Park and Indigenous Territory (TIPNIS), which resulted in the use of the Constitutional Court by these leaders to resolve a conflict on judicial competence. In the Alto Parapeti case, the Office provided information to the Guarani's representatives about the possibility of requesting an injunction after a private oil company had started land demarcation and fencing in the indigenous territory without previous consultation. The indigenous community, however, did not make any administrative or judicial request in this regard. In Takovo Mora, during a prior consultation process, the Ministry withdrew the initial agreement. The indigenous authorities have not made use of any national mechanisms to protect their rights in this situation.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: The executive and legislative branches implement selected prioritized UN recommendations, in particular relating to violence against children, social rights, racism and discrimination.*

A number of recommendations issued by the



OHCHR workshop on the right to prior consultation in Alto Parapeti, Bolivia.

UPR, treaty bodies and special procedures in relation to Bolivia flagged the limited quantitative information on the country's human rights situation in their country reports and stressed the need to develop indicators to better track progress of national-level human rights implementation. Consequently, in 2012, OHCHR worked in close cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and the National Institute of Statistics to develop a project to identify approximately 315 human rights indicators on six prioritized rights: food, education, health, employment, housing and the right of women to live a life free of violence. In 2013, the proposed indicators were reviewed and shared with stakeholders through the Government's webpage and in workshops held in Santa Cruz and Cochabamba. In addition, the right to water was identified as a priority area and the development of the relevant indicators started in November 2013. In terms of the National Human Rights Action Plan 2014-2018, OHCHR supported the Vice Ministry of Justice in the elaboration of the draft plan which is based on five strategic areas: civil and political rights; economic, social and cultural rights; indigenous peoples, native nations and Afro-Bolivian peasant rights; rights of persons in situations of vulnerability; and management rights. The draft plan has been shared with stakeholders through the webpage of the Ministry of Justice and it is expected to be approved in 2014. In March 2013, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Vice Ministry of Justice and Fundamental Rights, with the support of OHCHR, defined a schedule of activities for the preparation of the State report in the framework of the second cycle of the UPR. In July, a meeting was organized with the participation of 150 State representatives to take

stock of the human rights situation in accordance with the 78 recommendations issued to Bolivia during its first review in 2010. Thereafter, the Vice Ministry of Justice and Fundamental Rights developed a draft report which was discussed with stakeholders at two events held in Cochabamba and Santa Cruz that were organized with the support of the Office. The State report will be finalized during the first quarter of 2014 and will be presented to the Human Rights Council in October.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of civil society organizations making use of international human rights protection mechanisms.*

During the reporting period, a total of 30 alternative reports were submitted by civil society organizations, the national human rights institution and individuals to the following committees: CEDAW, the Human Rights Committee, the Committee against Torture (CAT) and the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Regarding the UPR, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Coalition of Human Rights Institutions, composed of nearly 300 organizations working on the promotion of human rights in Bolivia, to support the preparation of a civil society report for Bolivia's second cycle of the UPR, which will be submitted in early 2014.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Human rights principles and standards incorporated in the work of the UNCT and selected UN joint programmes.*

The Office has coordinated with other UN agencies on the promotion of indigenous peoples' rights by regularly attending the meetings of the UN Thematic Group on Intercultural Issues and providing human rights inputs to the work of the Thematic Group. As a result, human rights norms and principles have been integrated into the work of the UNCT, in particular with regard to international standards for the right to prior consultation. Joint activities that aimed at enhancing the participation of indigenous communities in policy discussions at the national level were also carried out in cooperation with the ILO.

Bolivia: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	859,468
Consultants	-	38,691
Official travel	-	25,209
Contractual services	-	20,252
General operating expenses	-	144,463
Supplies & materials	-	4,858
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	(18,894)
Subtotal	-	1,074,047
Programme support costs		139,626
GRAND TOTAL	-	1,213,673

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Colombia

Year established	1997
Staff as of 31 December 2013	63
Expenditure in 2013	US\$8,134,105

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: The Colombian State has increased its responsiveness and accountability on international humanitarian law and human rights violations.*

National institutions showed an improvement in their response to the cases of human rights violations raised by OHCHR at the national and regional levels, in particular the National Protection Unit, the national police, the armed forces, the Ministry of Defence, the Attorney General's Office, the Victims Unit, the Land Restitution Unit, municipal governments and local ombudspersons. In a great majority of cases, action was undertaken by these institutions to address concerns raised by OHCHR. For example, law enforcement entities in the department of Antioquia dealt with all cases brought to their attention by OHCHR, most of which related to protection measures in favour of human rights defenders. In addition, all cases relating to children at risk of being recruited by armed groups in the municipality of Itüango were positively addressed by the Colombian Institute for Family Issues. During national and regional

advocacy, OHCHR raised concerns with the National Protection Unit concerning risks faced by human rights defenders. In a number of cases, the Unit adopted urgent protection measures and initiated individual and collective risk assessments for human rights defenders and civil society organizations. OHCHR and the National Protection Unit have now established a mechanism through which both entities meet on a monthly basis to specifically follow-up on cases raised by the Office. OHCHR also regularly meets with the National Human Rights Directorate within the Ministry of Defence; the Inspector General of the General Command of the Armed Forces; the Inspector General of the National Army; and the Inspector General of the Navy. While this interaction has resulted in the initiation of a number of internal investigations by relevant authorities, the cases were often closed without relevant findings or the adoption of disciplinary or preventive measures. With regard to the Attorney-General's Office, cases raised by OHCHR were often prioritized and a follow-up mechanism was established for their review on a regional basis.

► *National EA: The Ombudsman's Office increases compliance with the Paris Principles.*

Since the appointment of an Ombudsman in September 2012, his Office was reorganized to better respond to the new tasks outlined in the Victims' and Land Restitution Law. The Ombudsman's Office also began providing assistance to all victims, including those who were not defined as such by the Victims' Law. These changes were instituted following the

2012 presentation to the Ombudsman of a set of recommendations that were formulated by OHCHR on the basis of a joint assessment undertaken during 2010 and 2011. OHCHR and the Ombudsman's Office also carried out joint missions to the field aimed at strengthening the advocacy capacity of the Ombudsman and establishing homogeneous protocols and procedures.

► *National EA: Significantly improved compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights standards in prioritized areas.*

Regarding human rights public policy, the National System of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law was established to design public policy in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. During the reporting period, the National System established seven specialized sub-systems, under the leadership of different Ministries, to work on the following themes: citizenship; culture and human rights education; civil and political rights; international humanitarian law and armed conflict; economic, social and cultural rights; justice, equality, non-discrimination and respect for identities; and foreign affairs and communication as cross-cutting priorities. OHCHR contributed to the formulation of the Law that created the National System, designed the methodology and participated in 31 of the 33 departmental fora carried out to collect the views and ideas of social organizations on the design of human rights public policy. These were compiled in a document entitled, "A proposal on Human Rights Policy 2014-2034," which was presented to the President on 10 December 2013.



The OHCHR Representative in Colombia during a monitoring mission in Valle del Cauca.

With regards to law enforcement, the Inspector General of the National Police issued specific directives to all police units to make the protection of human rights defenders one of their priorities. As part of its engagement with the police, OHCHR carried out visits to 12 departmental police stations to monitor, inter alia, the implementation of five oversight mechanisms, accountability and prevention of human rights violations, with the aim of identifying good practices and challenges in their implementation of human rights standards. In addition, the National Protection Unit became operational in 2012 and, with the assistance of OHCHR, increasingly complied with the right to protection and security for human rights defenders. Regarding the right to prior consultation, OHCHR advocated with the Heads of relevant departments within the Ministry of Interior to promote the adoption of protocols that foresee suitable procedures for engaging in consultations with indigenous communities. Despite an improvement in terms of the number of consultation processes that were undertaken, advances in policy and institutional compliance with human rights standards remained limited.

While relevant internal mechanisms to investigate alleged human rights violations in the armed forces were created in 2008, concerns remain regarding their effectiveness in establishing the truth and imposing sanctions for violations. In 2012, a specialized human rights group within the Attorney-General's Office was established, due in part to OHCHR's continued engagement with this institution. The group will provide advice to individual prosecutors throughout the country on human rights issues, particularly regarding the design and implementation of an investigation plan for specific cases, which were previously identified with OHCHR and other stakeholders. While the human rights group has proved to be a key mechanism to strengthen the response of the Attorney-General's Office to cases raised by OHCHR, progress has been limited in the investigation of human rights violations. OHCHR continued to engage with the Constitutional Court to ensure that human rights standards are adequately incorporated in the Court's decisions and, during 2012 and 2013, the Court issued a number of decisions that had a positive impact on human rights. On the proposed constitutional reform that would have expanded the scope of military justice, the Office fulfilled the Court's request for a brief and presented its observations that such a reform violated Colombia's human rights obligations under international human rights law and international humanitarian law. The Court issued its final decision in August

2013 and resolved to strike down the constitutional reform on procedural grounds. The Office also engaged with the Superior Council of the Judiciary, which is the competent judicial organ to resolve conflicts of jurisdiction between ordinary and military jurisdictions. The Office expressed concern about the increasing tendency of the Council to transfer human rights-related criminal cases to military courts, in clear contradiction with the Constitutional Court's jurisprudence and international human rights standards. Since that time, some of the Council's magistrates have begun issuing dissenting opinions and opposing the transfer of such cases.

- ▶ *National EA: A national human rights entity created to support government institutions to comply with their obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law.*

As previously explained, the National System of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law was created with the specific responsibility to design a human rights public policy in a comprehensive and coordinated manner in accordance with international standards.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Prioritized human rights treaties are ratified and adequately incorporated into national legislation and public policies.*

The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance was ratified by Colombia in 2010 and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2011. Concerning the issue of enforced disappearances, the Colombian State adopted Law 1408 in 2010, which regulates, inter alia, issues related to the search and analysis of human remains, as well as some aspects of historical memory. OHCHR provided technical advice to an inter-sectorial task force, comprised of State representatives and civil society organizations, which developed the regulation of Law 1408 currently being reviewed by the Minister of Interior. With regard to the Convention on the Rights Persons with Disabilities, the Colombian State adopted Law 1618 in February 2013, which provides certain guarantees for the realization of the human rights of persons with disabilities.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Transitional justice mechanisms progressively established and functioning in accordance with international human rights standards and best practices.*

The Victim's Law (1448/2011) provides for comprehensive reparations for victims of human rights abuses committed in the context of the

armed conflict. Regulatory decrees have been adopted during 2012 and 2013 and specific guidelines and institutional procedures related to individual and collective reparation mechanisms have been put in place. During the two years of implementation of the Law, advances have been made with regard to the functioning of reparation mechanisms due to new jurisprudence of the Constitutional Court that recognizes all victims of forced displacement, regardless of the perpetrator, for their inclusion in the official registry in the framework of the Law, thereby enabling them to access reparation mechanisms. OHCHR has also been contributing to the increased legitimacy and effectiveness of reparation measures, ensuring their link with peace and reconciliation processes and improving their sustainability and comprehensiveness. For instance, at the national level, a joint results-based mechanism is being designed with the Victims' Attention and Comprehensive Reparation Unit to implement OHCHR's recommendations. At the departmental and municipal level, OHCHR's advocacy in the municipality of Buenos Aires contributed to the decision of municipal authorities to provide the ethnic community undergoing internal forced displacement with water and sanitation supplies as well as emergency assistance as a reparation measure. In another example, the City Council of Cúcuta agreed on the cancellation of debts of families whose lands have been restituted as a reparation measure, as a result of OHCHR's direct advocacy with the Council. Additionally, due to systematic advocacy undertaken by the Office, the Government of Santander allocated financial resources in its 2014 work plan and financial projections in order to outline specific projects for the collective reparation of the community of Riachuelo. Despite these advances, OHCHR has observed an overall low level of awareness among local authorities, institutional capacities and understanding of victims' rights to humanitarian assistance, comprehensive reparation and restitution.

A number of mechanisms are now in place and functioning as reflected by the 277 rulings ordering land restitution that have been adopted from December 2011 to October 2013. Important rulings were adopted in the Municipalities of Zulia and Trujillo wherein State authorities were ordered for the first time to recognize the right to land restitution of those who were displaced by post-paramilitary demobilization groups. Their recognition as victims of the internal armed conflict enabled them to be recognized for reparation purposes and, more importantly, to be protected under the principle of non-discrimination of

victims. OHCHR also implemented a monitoring strategy on the implementation of the Law 1448/2011 within the framework of the bilateral cooperation agreement with the Land Restitution Unit. In December 2013, OHCHR shared two reports with the Unit, which incorporated a number of important suggestions, in particular regarding the implementation of Law Decrees 4633, 4634 and 4635 related to the reparation and restitution to ethnic peoples. Additionally, in order to support judges in applying the Law, OHCHR, in collaboration with the Judiciary School, elaborated a "Module on international standards applicable to Victims' Rights and Land Restitution Law" which has been included in the general curricula of the judges and magistrates in charge of land restitution processes. By the end of 2013, OHCHR was finishing a complementary module on international standards on gender and women human rights for the judges and magistrates in charge of land restitution processes. OHCHR has also contributed to enhancing coordination between regional and national institutions with a view to supporting the sustainability of land restitution and the effective exercise of economic, social and cultural rights of returned communities. For example, income generating projects have been approved for returning families in Tulapas, Santa Paula and Los Cedros, Mutatá as a result of OHCHR's targeted advocacy with relevant institutions to ensure the sustainability of the return process.

Carmen⁵ is a woman living with disabilities as a result of injuries she sustained in 2006 during an armed confrontation between two armed groups in a rural area of Colombia. As a victim of conflict-related violations of human rights, she is entitled to receive reparations. She is a single mother with three children, whose life considerably improved after OHCHR informed her of her rights and facilitated her inclusion in the Families in Action welfare programme through which she gained access to a subsidy. The Office further advised her on how to change her health insurance company and garnered the support of the Municipal Ombudsman and the Mayor of her town. OHCHR also worked with responsible duty-bearers to ensure that Carmen was appropriately treated as a rights-holder. In this respect, the Office requested the intervention of the Regional Ombudsman to ensure that she would receive a lifetime disability pension. The Regional Ombudsman is supporting her in the fulfilment of the necessary legal processes that will result in the receipt of her pension.

⁵ Name has been modified to protect the identity of the individual.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders, especially groups at risk, and particularly women, increasingly use national protection systems.*

The Government's decision to regulate the right of ethnic peoples to prior, free and informed consultation was considered by indigenous, Afro-Colombian, Palenquero, Raizal and Rrom peoples as a result of 82 regional dialogues, organized and facilitated by OHCHR, which were attended by approximately 3,000 delegates from across the country. A national consensus on prior consultation was achieved and documented in OHCHR's publication, "Voices and major words on the right to consultation, and the free, prior and informed consent." Based on this document and the resulting policy recommendations, OHCHR engaged in an advocacy strategy with the Heads of relevant departments within the Ministry of Interior to encourage the adoption of protocols that foresee culturally and suitable procedures for prior consultation. Yet advances in terms of policy and institutional compliance with human rights standards remained limited. In terms of capacity-building on prior consultation, some specific ethnic groups in prioritized communities, including the indigenous Wayuu and Arhuaco peoples and the Afro-descendant communities of La Toma, were provided with technical advice and, as a result, their capacity to claim their rights was strengthened. OHCHR also supported the training on the right to prior consultation of 200 Public Ministry staff members and the municipal and regional administrations within the Caribbean, Orinoco and Pacific regions.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ Result for which no National EA was set: In the context of the second cycle of the UPR for Colombia that took place in April 2013, the Office fostered and facilitated meetings between the Government and civil society organizations to give the latter an opportunity to express their views and encourage the Government to reflect on them in the national report. OHCHR also continued to engage with relevant authorities to promote the establishment of a UPR follow-up mechanism and, as a result, the Government of Colombia requested OHCHR to assist in the elaboration of human rights indicators and plans to measure Colombia's progress on human rights issues, including in the implementation of recommendations of UPR and other human rights mechanisms.

Maria⁶ is a teacher and the principal of a school in northern Colombia. She received threats in 2006 due to her fight against the recruitment of children and adolescents by the guerrilla and against drug trafficking at the school. She was instrumental in the implementation of food assistance programmes at the school, the establishment of new curricula and the initiation of a community-based learning approach. As a result of these actions, student enrolment and attendance nearly doubled from 670 to 1,170. Continued threats forced her to request a leave of absence in 2009. Upon her return in 2012, she found that both child recruitment and drug trafficking had worsened. She resumed her programmes with positive results, leading to new threats in January 2013, when the guerrilla ordered her killing. At that point, Maria had no other option but to request a transfer to a new school. Nevertheless, Maria faced many obstacles from local authorities who opposed her transfer, despite the fact that the National Protection Unit deemed her risk to be extraordinary and that her immediate transfer was ordered by the Risk Evaluation Committee. OHCHR advocated with the competent authorities to ensure that these decisions were implemented and, as a result, the National Civil Service Commission granted her an assignment as a principal in a school in another city, along with her husband, who is also a teacher.

Colombia: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	5,581,623
Consultants	-	656,821
Official travel	-	327,443
Contractual services	-	67,928
General operating expenses	-	480,650
Supplies & materials	-	101,629
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	(17,771)
Subtotal	-	7,198,323
Programme support costs		935,782
GRAND TOTAL	-	8,134,105

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

⁶ Name has been modified to protect the identity of the individual.

Guatemala

Year established	2005
Staff as of 31 December 2013	26
Expenditure in 2013	US\$3,391,176

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- *National EA: By 2013, the judiciary, the Attorney-General's Office and key entities within the Executive have increased compliance of key administrative, regulatory and educational measures and decisions with international human rights standards.*

The Attorney-General's Office, the judiciary and the Constitutional Court improved in the application of international human rights standards in legal proceedings and court decisions, in particular in cases related to transitional justice and the rights of indigenous peoples. Moreover, a number of key decisions have made direct reference to international instruments ratified by Guatemala and have been informed by recommendations issued by international and regional human rights bodies. For example, during the reporting period, the Constitutional Court issued a number of rulings regarding indigenous peoples' right to consultation which were based on the Convention Concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (ILO Convention No. 169) and on the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on rights of indigenous peoples. The Office has been instrumental in the achievement of these results by combining monitoring with technical assistance to and the facilitation of training sessions for the Attorney-General's Office, the judiciary and the Constitutional Court. OHCHR also contributed to the development of a human rights curriculum

for all prosecutors, as well as a protocol for the investigation of cases related to human rights violations committed during the internal armed conflict. OHCHR also provided essential support for the development of a database of international standards and recommendations issued by human rights mechanisms, launched by the Constitutional Court in 2012, which has allowed easier access to international human rights standards and encouraged their incorporation in the Court's decisions. The training activities of OHCHR were also influential in relation to "high-risk" courts (which deal with cases involving, inter alia, corruption, gang-related killings, drug-trafficking and genocide). In 2013, for instance, two weeks after a seminar organized by OHCHR, a high-risk court issued a decision in a case concerning extrajudicial executions in accordance with international standards. Furthermore, the historical decision reached by a high-risk court regarding the trial of the former Head of State, Efraín Ríos Montt, and the former chief of military intelligence, José Mauricio Rodríguez Sánchez, on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity, was substantially grounded on international human rights and criminal law standards. The verdict was later overturned on procedural grounds.

- *National EA: By 2013, there are no major setbacks in compliance with international human rights standards in public security policies and programmes adopted by key institutions.* Most of the Government's public security policies and strategies in a number of relevant areas were not compliant with international human rights standards, particularly regarding the increased role of the military in citizen security tasks. The continuous engagement of OHCHR with the Government, however, guaranteed that no major setbacks took place during the biennium concerning the respect for human rights standards



OHCHR staff meet with local communities in Quiché, northern Guatemala.

in public policies and decisions. For instance, in relation to the Covenant for Security, Justice, and Peace, which defines the Government's policy with regards to the reduction of violence and the promotion of a culture of peace, OHCHR provided substantive inputs to the draft to ensure its compliance with international human rights standards. The Office's recommendations contributed to the definition of the conceptual framework of the Covenant, which incorporates notions of citizen security and prevention. OHCHR further contributed to its implementation, including by supporting the actions of the newly created Vice Ministry on the prevention of violence. The events of Totonicapán in October 2012, during which six demonstrators were killed by military forces performing public security functions, marked a turning point in the Government's security policy. In response to these events, OHCHR recommended the separation of the military from public security activities and the strengthening of the national civil police. While the first recommendation was not implemented, a number of positive steps towards the reform of the national police were undertaken. For instance, the Government established two regional offices of the Police Academy as well as a new school for police officers, leading to the incorporation of approximately 3,000 new police members in 2013. The Office provided technical recommendations to the Ministries of Interior and Defence with regard to the Government's declaration of a state of emergency to guarantee that these measures were of an exceptional nature and fully compliant with human rights standards. Following this intervention, states of emergency were proclaimed in Barillas in 2012 and in Jalapa and Santa Rosa in 2013 in the context of social opposition to development projects. These exceptional measures were not recurrent and their use was restricted when compared with previous years.

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, key laws related to discrimination, economic, social and cultural rights, security and justice recommended by international human rights mechanisms are consistent with international human rights standards; and key initiatives that have inconsistencies with international standards are not adopted.*

Changes in the composition of various congressional commissions hindered the work of the Congress throughout 2013 which in turn limited the achievement of substantive progress with regard to the legislative agenda. Nevertheless, the Office was able to positively influence Congressional debates on a number of laws. In the case of the reform of the

Migration Law, OHCHR worked closely with the Commission on Migrants, government authorities and civil society to ensure the Law was in conformity with international standards. The inputs provided by the Office were substantially incorporated into the draft bill and included the recommendations issued by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. The Office also contributed to halting the adoption of a reform to the Civil Code that would have lowered the age of criminal responsibility for minors, contrary to international human rights standards.

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, key State institutions strengthen their supervision of actions taken by non-State actors that affect the full enjoyment of the rights related to labour and the rights of indigenous peoples.*

The Ministry of Labour strengthened its capacity to monitor the working conditions of agriculture workers in compliance with international labour standards by increasing the number of inspections of agricultural enterprises and developing a handbook for agricultural labour inspectors with the support of OHCHR. The Office also continued monitoring the human rights situation of agricultural workers, including women and indigenous peoples. OHCHR focused particularly on the living and working conditions of agricultural workers and on economic and social rights more broadly and brought various cases of alleged human rights violations to the attention of relevant authorities. While not all the cases raised received a positive response from the authorities, the Office's intervention, in cooperation with civil society organizations, led to encouraging changes in a number of them.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, key indigenous authorities, civil society organizations, women and human rights defenders increase the use of human rights standards to strengthen their participation in key public policies and decision-making processes and develop capacities for consistent monitoring of indigenous peoples' rights, economic, social and cultural rights, security and access to justice.*

The enhanced capacity of civil society organizations to monitor the implementation of public policies and promote policy and institutional changes has been particularly noticeable in relation to economic, social and cultural rights. OHCHR supported the 2012 establishment of a national economic, social and cultural rights civil society network which exchanges information on and

analyses relevant to the Government's budget, public policies and development strategies. Within the framework of the network, OHCHR promoted an analysis of the Government's poverty reduction strategies; the implementation of the Zero Hunger Pact; and proposed legal reforms to promote private investment in rural areas. Moreover, the Office provided technical assistance to the network on international standards, including on the UN Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights; the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights; and litigation on cases related to economic, social and cultural rights. As a result of this support, the network played an influential role in advocating for Guatemala's ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which led to the Government's submission of a legislative initiative to ratify the instrument. The network has also been involved, together with government authorities, in the elaboration of a protocol on emergency attention for children under conditions of chronic malnutrition. During this period, OHCHR also monitored the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in coordination with UNDP and a Guatemalan member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Through a participatory process that involved indigenous organizations in various regions of the country, OHCHR contributed to the preparation and publication of a report, to be submitted to the Permanent Forum, which provided a systematic analysis of the situation of indigenous peoples' rights in the country. Little progress can be reported, however, on the regulation of the right to prior consultation. While no legislation or guidelines on the subject have been approved by the Government to date, OHCHR managed to participate in a number of high-level roundtables organized by the Executive regarding specific conflicts related to development projects in indigenous territories. The participation of OHCHR in these processes is perceived as a positive sign, demonstrating that it continues to be regarded as a relevant actor.

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, civil society organizations increase human rights legal claims to promote key changes within the national protection system, particularly regarding indigenous peoples, women and economic, social and cultural rights.* Civil society organizations, especially those representing indigenous peoples, improved their use of national protection systems as reflected, for instance, in the increased number of "amparos" (injunctions) filed by indigenous organizations during the biennium, many of which relate to the



OHCHR staff monitor the living conditions in a resettlement site in the outskirts of Guatemala City.

State's failure to consult indigenous peoples before the approval of mining operations. This increase is partly due to the implementation of the Maya Programme, through which OHCHR strengthened the technical capacity of indigenous organizations to undertake strategic litigation on cases related to their rights. By the end of 2012, for instance, 18 organizations out of the 20 that were originally supported by the Programme had initiated cases. On two occasions, cases were brought before the Inter-American human rights system. The Maya Programme also played an important role in the establishment and functioning of a support network for organizations that work on cases of indigenous peoples' rights nationwide. Further, the Ombudsman's Office was more involved in relation to specific cases brought by indigenous organizations. With the technical assistance of OHCHR, the Ombudsman's Office filed three amicus curiae briefs with the Constitutional Court in cases related to energy projects that were adopted without prior consultation with local indigenous communities.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, relevant State institutions have increased compliance with human rights mechanisms and rights-holders have increased their engagement with these mechanisms.* The Government of Guatemala submitted all pending periodic reports to treaty bodies in 2013, in full compliance with the reporting guidelines, including the reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, the national report for the second cycle of the UPR was prepared in 2012 in consultation with civil society organizations. The Office engaged with authorities and civil

society throughout the cycle, providing technical assistance on the elaboration of the UPR report, as well as on the preparation of individual and joint submissions from civil society and the Ombudsman's Office.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- *National EA: By 2013, relevant State institutions have increased compliance with human rights mechanisms and rights-holders have increased their engagement with these mechanisms.*
During 2012 and 2013, civil society organizations and individuals submitted, with the support of OHCHR, over 50 communications to special procedures, including to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence; and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. OHCHR also facilitated the increased engagement of civil society with treaty bodies, as a result of which at least three substantive submissions to treaty bodies were jointly produced by civil society networks, including two shadow reports to the Human Rights Committee and one to the Committee Against Torture. In addition, OHCHR provided assistance in the preparation of a submission by civil society actors to the CEDAW Committee in the context of the follow-up communication with the Government under CEDAW's 2009 concluding observations to the country. In the context of the second cycle of the UPR, 28 submissions were sent by civil society organizations with the technical assistance of the Office.

Guatemala: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	2,322,913
Consultants	-	160,727
Official travel	-	77,547
Contractual services	-	31,017
General operating expenses	-	266,317
Supplies & materials	-	28,217
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	114,303
Subtotal	-	3,001,041
Programme support costs		390,135
GRAND TOTAL	-	3,391,176

Mexico

Year established	2002
Staff as of 31 December 2013	21
Expenditure in 2013	US\$2,345,679

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- *National EA: By 2013, the federal and specific states' legal framework incorporates international human rights standards in specific areas.*
The OHCHR Office in Mexico has been following up on the drafting and/or review of a number of federal and State laws, policies and procedures, including: the Victim's Rights Law; the Law for the Protection of Journalists and Human Rights Defenders; a bill on military jurisdiction; the law for the "federalization" of crimes against journalists; the decriminalization of crimes against freedom of expression; laws on enforced disappearances; the procedures for pre-charge detention ("arraigo"); and legislation related to torture, asylum, states of emergency and expulsion of foreigners. Significant progress has been achieved in a number of these areas, as seven of the above laws/policies or procedures have incorporated international human rights standards and, in certain cases, recommendations have been issued by international human rights mechanisms. Four of these laws also included a gender perspective. OHCHR contributed to these results by following up on the parliamentary process; reviewing the proposed bills; submitting legal briefs to promote the incorporation of international human rights standards; advocating for the approval of legislation; promoting communication between special procedures mandate-holders and treaty bodies members and key legislators; providing technical advice; and supporting the engagement of civil society.
- *National EA: By 2013, specific human rights training programmes are formalized based on international human rights standards.*
Two human rights training programmes, one on basic human rights principles and another on combating torture, have been institutionalized by the judiciary at the local and federal levels. For the first course, an e-learning tool called "reformaDH" was developed by the Supreme Court of Justice and the Human Rights Commission of Mexico City with the support of OHCHR. The Federal Institute of Public Defence, the Federal Judicial School and the Judiciary Power of the state of Oaxaca have integrated the tool into their regular training programmes.



The OHCHR Representative in Mexico participates in a forum on the National Human Rights Programme.

Regarding the training activities on combating torture, the Office collaborated with the Supreme Court of Justice and the Federal Judicial Council to deliver four courses on the subject in Jalisco, Chiapas, Mexico City and Chihuahua. The Office also established a mechanism to evaluate the impact of human rights training, including through the development of a set of indicators. OHCHR also collaborated with the Government of Mexico City to evaluate the impact and quality of human rights training delivered to civil servants, which contributed to the strengthening of Mexico City's Human Rights Programme.

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, there is increased responsiveness to and accountability on human rights violations at international and national levels through monitoring, proactive presence and reporting.*

An increased openness and responsiveness from authorities to cases raised by OHCHR was witnessed during the biennium. In 2013, for instance, the Office collected information on alleged human rights violations, including to the right to life, the right to personal integrity and aggressions against human rights defenders and journalists, through 41 field missions it conducted in 18 states. The Office presented all documented cases to the Ombudsperson and to law enforcement authorities at the federal or local levels and met them when there was a need to discuss specific cases. These efforts allowed OHCHR to establish relationships of trust with authorities. In 2013, OHCHR held a series of bilateral meetings with the Ministry of Defence to strengthen their institutional relationship and during which OHCHR began discussions on paradigmatic cases.

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, the National Human Rights Commission increases its capacity to comply with UN human rights mechanisms, including those*

related to the prevention of torture.

The National Human Rights Commission has increased its capacity to comply and engage with international human rights bodies over the biennium. For instance, it submitted inputs to a number of them and actively participated in Mexico's reporting to the UPR in October 2013. OHCHR supported the Commission on various issues, including in relation to torture and the protection of human rights defenders and journalists, through a variety of training activities, the development of indicators and collaboration in fora on human rights issues with the overall objective of strengthening its capacities.

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, federal and local authorities incorporate human rights standards into policies and programmes, engaging civil society actors.*

The National Human Rights Programme (NHRP) for 2013-2018 will be launched in mid-2014 and outlines public policies, actions and measures to implement human rights standards in line with Mexico's international commitments. The Office reviewed the draft Programme and its inputs to ensure that the final text reflected a human rights-based approach, included the use of human rights indicators, highlighted the need to improve federal and local governmental coordination for the adequate implementation of the NHRP and stressed the importance of human rights training. At the local level, with OHCHR's assistance, a human rights assessment in the state of Oaxaca and a human rights programme in the state of Coahuila were completed.

- ▶ *National EA: Judicial authorities increasingly incorporate human rights standards in their rulings.*

Judicial authorities have increasingly incorporated international human rights standards in their rulings following the 2011 constitutional reforms

on human rights and “amparo” and seminal rulings by the National Supreme Court of Justice. OHCHR played a key role in this development by submitting eight compilations of international norms and standards to the National Supreme Court of Justice on relevant issues, including: the scope of military jurisdiction; the obligation of the State to effectively investigate and punish violence against women; temporary special measures; and liberty and the presumption of innocence. The submitted compilations informed the debate and have been subsequently incorporated in a number of judicial rulings. OHCHR has promoted the application of human rights standards in different fora, such as one jointly organized with the National Supreme Court of Justice in November 2012 which was attended by the Presidents, or their representatives, of the International Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights and the Courts and Constitutional Courts of 24 countries from different regions. The Office and the National Supreme Court of Justice also published a compilation of international instruments on human rights and humanitarian law, criminal law, labour law, refugee law and environmental law, in order to facilitate the application of international standards.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Federal authorities include in their agenda discussions on the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.* OHCHR has actively advocated for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, not yet ratified by the Government of Mexico, by undertaking several actions such as providing technical assistance to the Senate; partnering with academia and civil society organizations under the framework of a permanent campaign for ratification; and organizing a forum on access to justice on economic, social and cultural rights, together with the Supreme Court of Justice, the Judiciary Council, the Civil Society Coalition on economic, social and cultural rights and two academic institutions.
- ▶ *National EA: Federal authorities remove reservations and interpretative declarations to international treaties.* The Government of Mexico has withdrawn its interpretative declarations regarding the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the

involvement of children in armed conflict. In October 2013, the Executive Branch submitted a number of bills to the Senate regarding the withdrawal of reservations to seven international treaties, including in relation to the expulsion of foreigners and the scope of military jurisdiction on cases of enforced disappearances. OHCHR sent official letters to the Senate committees involved in the withdrawal process and has met with key Senators to further advocate for this result. In addition, the Office has mapped the status of all reservations and interpretative declarations to international treaties made by Mexico and has presented the results of this exercise to the Government and the Senate to promote the withdrawal of reservations.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Federal and state authorities increasingly institutionalize the elaboration of indicators for the measurement of human rights and their experience is used as a reference in other countries.*

OHCHR’s indicators framework has been formally adopted in 32 Justice Tribunals at the local level, including by the Superior Tribunal of Justice of Mexico City which collaborated with OHCHR to produce two new sets of indicators on the right to a fair trial. Additionally, the Tribunals of Justice in the states of Tamaulipas, Michoacan and Nayarit have published their respective sets of indicators. The implementation of indicators on the right to a fair trial has also been made compulsory at the federal level by the Supreme Court of Justice of Mexico and the Federal Judicial Council. In parallel, the General Prosecutor’s Office of Mexico City has formally adopted fair trial indicators at the stage of prosecution, which also include measures related to the rights to life, liberty and security of the person, and the right not to be subjected to torture. Two other local level Prosecutor’s Offices, in the states of Tamaulipas and Coahuila, have formally adopted indicators on the right to a fair trial. In addition, the Public Security Ministry of Mexico City has applied OHCHR’s methodology to define indicators in order to evaluate the degree of implementation of the rights to life, liberty, security, personal integrity, non-discrimination and not to be subjected to torture. During 2012, the Ministry of Interior developed and adopted 111 indicators, based on OHCHR’s methodology, to measure violence against women in Mexico. Responding to a petition of the Government Board of the Mechanism for the Protection of Journalists and Human Rights Defenders,

OHCHR drafted a proposal that was validated during a process of consultation with academics, civil society organizations, public human rights institutions and governmental bodies, on a system of indicators to measure the impact of the Mechanism. The Office has also been working with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the National Commission for Water and a civil society organization named the Mexican Centre for Environmental Rights to develop indicators to measure the level of implementation of the rights to water and to a healthy environment. Indicators on the right to health that were published in 2009 are also under development in collaboration with the Ombudsman of Mexico City and will be contextualized for the Federal District. The tangible results and impact achieved by the Office in Mexico have enabled it to spearhead the development of indicators in five other countries in the region. This experience has been summarized in a book entitled, "Generating Human Rights Indicators: Regional experiences."

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Women's civil society organizations enhance coordination amongst themselves in order to increase their level of participation and incidence in public policy decision-making processes.*

During the biennium, women's civil society organizations, with the support of the Office, increased their level of participation in the debate on certain laws, including the Victim's Rights Law and the Law for the Protection of Journalists and Human Rights Defenders.

- ▶ *National EA: Human rights defenders and journalists participate in and benefit from official protection mechanisms.*

In June 2012, the Law for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists entered into force. The Law created a National Mechanism that offers, among other elements, protective measures to guarantee the life, integrity, security and freedom of human rights defenders and journalists and provided the Mechanism with a governance structure and a budget to undertake its activities. OHCHR contributed technical advice to the drafting of the Law and its regulations and participates without a vote at the meetings of the Board. The Office has undertaken a series of training activities to strengthen the capacities of the staff of the Mechanism in areas such as risk analysis and security plans. As of December 2013, the Mechanism had received 128 requests and protective measures were approved for 35 cases. At the local level, the first protection mechanism for human rights defenders and journalists has

been established in Mexico City and OHCHR attends its monthly meetings as permanent guest.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: The State increases compliance with international human rights recommendations and rulings and decisions of the Inter-American system.*

The Inter-American Court on Human Rights has recommended the adoption of appropriate legislative reforms in order to bring military jurisdiction in line with international standards and to allow individuals subject to the jurisdiction of military courts to challenge their jurisdiction in relation to human rights cases. In April 2012, the Senate committees in charge of the scope of military jurisdiction proposed a draft bill which would have removed all cases related to human rights violations from military jurisdiction. The draft bill was not approved by the coordinators of the political parties in the Senate and therefore was not discussed by the plenary. In 2013, five committees proposed a new bill on military jurisdiction and opened public hearings on the premise that the legislation would reflect the Inter-American Court's criteria. OHCHR, academics and representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) submitted observations on the draft and raised several issues to amend the Military Justice Code. OHCHR's advice and proposals were incorporated into the text. Regarding the possibility of challenging military jurisdiction, a new "amparo" law entered into force in April 2013 entitling individuals subject to the intervention of military courts to effectively challenge their jurisdiction.

Mexico: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	1,716,530
Consultants	-	65,386
Official travel	-	114,110
Contractual services	-	12,866
General operating expenses	-	139,391
Supplies & materials	-	26,107
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	1,432
Subtotal	-	2,075,822
Programme support costs		269,857
GRAND TOTAL	-	2,345,679

Regional Offices

Regional Office for Central America (Panama City, Panama)

Year established	2007
Staff as of 31 December 2013	9
Expenditure in 2013	US\$882,654

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, the National Human Rights Institution in Panama has improved the monitoring of the human rights situation of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants.*
The monitoring capacity of the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) with regard to the situation of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants was strengthened during the year. The Regional Office supported the NHRI by elaborating guidelines to address cases of racial and ethnic discrimination against these groups and training its staff on the application of the guidelines.
- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, judicial authorities in the Dominican Republic have taken steps to use human rights standards in judicial decisions.*
A training course on human rights for judges and prosecutors was institutionalized by the Dominican Republic's Judicial Academy with the support of OHCHR. In total, 21 judicial operators were trained as trainers and the human rights course was replicated for other judges and prosecutors on two occasions in 2013. In addition, a permanent discussion group comprised of judges and prosecutors was established in the Judicial Academy as a mechanism to monitor the use of human rights standards in the decisions of the judiciary.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, an increased number of measures have been undertaken in El Salvador to improve the investigation, prosecution and reparation of cases of "femicide."*
Following the Regional Office's advocacy and advice to the General Prosecutor's Office, the El Salvador Protocol for the Investigation of Femicide has been included in the regular training curriculum of Salvadorian prosecutors and is being integrated into the internal audit system of the General Prosecutor's Office to ensure the follow-up of its application.

- ▶ Result for which no National EA was set:
By the end of 2013, OHCHR, with the collaboration of UN Women, finalized the drafting of the Latin American Model Protocol for the investigation of gender-related killings of women. The Protocol provides guidance on the integration of a gender perspective in the investigation and prosecution of cases of gender-related killings of women and provides detailed guidance concerning the rights of victims. The content and structure of the Protocol were defined through expert consultations with judges, prosecutors, lawyers, forensic specialists, representatives of police institutions, academics and civil society organizations from Latin America. The Protocol was validated during two regional workshops (one in Central America and one in South America) with the participation of high-level authorities from the region, and national workshops in Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Panama. OHCHR has engaged in discussions with its partners concerning the rollout of the Protocol in the region.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, participatory mechanisms to report and/or follow-up on treaty bodies, special procedures and UPR recommendations are established and functioning in Costa Rica, El Salvador and Panama.*
In Costa Rica, the Regional Office continued to advise the inter-institutional commission in charge of follow-up on the recommendations provided by international human rights mechanisms and promote its interaction with civil society groups. The Plan against Racial Discrimination and Racism, which was developed by the inter-institutional commission with the technical support of OHCHR, was launched. In El Salvador, OHCHR organized a meeting with Salvadorian institutions to analyse gaps in existing mechanisms to tackle gender-based violence. The solutions found were taken into account by the Special Technical Commission established to follow-up on the implementation of the Comprehensive Law for a Life Free of Violence for Women which was approved in 2012. In Panama, with the Regional Office's support, the inter-institutional commission charged with following-up on the recommendations formulated by international human rights mechanisms initiated consultative processes with civil society organizations, in particular on the implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture.



OHCHR staff hands out training material to representatives of an indigenous women organization in Panama.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, indigenous and Afro-descendant organizations in Belize, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama have increasingly used UN protection mechanisms (treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR).*

In Belize, the Regional Office supported relevant civil society actors to enhance their engagement with treaty bodies, the second cycle of the UPR and special procedures. Following the 2012 mission to Costa Rica by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the Regional Office disseminated his recommendations on the Diquis hydroelectric project to indigenous peoples' organizations, which contributed to the latter's increased knowledge about the Special Rapporteur's mandate and possibilities for engagement. OHCHR also supported dialogue between the Government and indigenous peoples from the south of the country on issues related to the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur. In Panama, OHCHR supported indigenous and Afro-descendant organizations to engage with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, which visited the country in 2013.

Responsiveness of the international community (EA 10)

- ▶ *National EA: The Central American Integration System (SICA) has taken steps to include human rights concerns in the implementation of the new regional security strategy.*

Following the XXXIX Summit of Heads of States and Governments of SICA and its collaboration

with OHCHR in the preparation of its Plan of Action, the Regional Office started supporting SICA's regional security strategy by engaging with the Council of Central American Ministers for Women's Affairs in specific areas, such as violence against women and the investigation of femicide.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, increased integration of human rights standards and principles in the work of REDLAC (UN-civil society regional humanitarian network) and UNCT programmes in the region.*

A training package on protection which integrates human rights standards was drafted by the Risk Emergency Disaster Working Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLAC), with the contribution of OHCHR, to standardize the way in which UN agencies provide training to UNCTs in humanitarian contexts. The Regional Office also participated in the regional inter-agency working groups of the UN Development Group in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNDG-LAC) in order to strengthen the integration of human rights standards and principles in the work of the UN at the regional level. The Regional Office advised the UNDG-LAC in the elaboration of a request to the UNDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism (UNDG-HRM) for the deployment of an HRA, which was approved and will further strengthen human rights mainstreaming in development initiatives at the regional level.

Regional Office for Central America (Panama City, Panama): Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	569,334	83,792
Consultants	-	1,506
Official travel	48,893	7,241
Contractual services	1,726	304
General operating expenses	66,259	20,049
Supplies & materials	6,580	-
Seminars, grants & contributions	15,871	41,082
Subtotal	708,663	153,974
Programme support costs	-	20,017
GRAND TOTAL	708,663	173,991

Regional Office for South America (Santiago, Chile)

Year established	2009
Staff as of 31 December 2013	11
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,342,154

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: The national human rights institution of Uruguay is functioning according to the Paris Principles.*

The Uruguayan NHRI was established in full compliance with the Paris Principles. The Regional Office for South America provided technical assistance to the institution through various capacity-building activities; funded the work of a consultant who drafted the NHRI's internal regulations; and facilitated the strategic collaboration between the Uruguayan NHRI with similar institutions in the region to promote the exchange of best practices.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the judiciary in Chile, Peru and Uruguay with international human rights treaties and standards.*

The Judicial Academy in Chile incorporated a human rights course, delivered by the Regional Office, as part of its regular mandatory curricula. In Peru, following the good working relations between the Regional Office and the Judicial Academy and several joint training courses carried out for judges and prosecutors, the Judicial Academy is considering the inclusion of a human rights module in its regular training programmes. In Uruguay, however, activities related to human rights training had to be postponed to 2014 due to the unavailability of the Judicial Academy to work on this issue in 2013.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards through the establishment of new institutions including a Truth Commission in Brazil and a Vice Ministry for Human Rights in Chile and Peru.*

Brazil's Truth Commission was established in 2012 and is conducting mandated investigations in an independent and autonomous manner. The Regional Office contributed to this result by providing technical support and promoting the sharing of best practices among truth commissions in the region. The Office also advocated for the participation of civil society in the work of the Commission.

The draft Law establishing the Vice Ministry for Human Rights in Chile is pending its final adoption by Parliament. The final text makes references to international human rights standards following recommendations provided by the Regional Office during public hearings of the Parliament's Commission on Human Rights, on the Constitution and on Budget.

The Vice Ministry for Human Rights in Peru was established in 2012 with the active support of the Regional Office, including through the provision of legal advice and the undertaking of capacity-building activities, such as the facilitation of a regional seminar gathering together governmental representatives from the region to exchange best practices in human rights institution building.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in countries covered by the Regional Office and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in Peru and Venezuela.*

The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights



The OHCHR Regional Representative for South America delivers a speech at the 2013 World Forum on Human Rights in Brazil.

was ratified by Uruguay on 5 February 2013; Venezuela ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol on 24 September 2013; and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance was ratified by Peru in 2012. OHCHR contributed to these ratifications through advocacy, public information and meetings with representatives of the concerned governments.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, National Preventive Mechanisms are established in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Paris Principles in Argentina, Chile, Peru and Uruguay.*

In Argentina, the Law establishing a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), which is largely compliant with the standards of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT), was adopted in November 2012. The Government is currently discussing regulations of the Law. In Brazil, a law establishing a system for the prevention of torture, which includes a NPM but is not fully compliant with international human rights standards, was adopted at the federal level in 2013. In December, the regulations of the Law were sanctioned by the President. In Chile, a working group, composed of the NHRI, the Justice Ministry and the Penitentiary Authority, was designated in early 2013 to work on a proposal for the establishment of the NPM. While the group reached an agreement on the proposed NPM, no further progress could be achieved due to the presidential elections that were held at the end of 2013. In Peru, a draft law establishing a NPM, largely compliant with the OP-CAT, is being considered by the Parliament. In Uruguay, although the Law establishing the NHRI assigns the future NPM to this institution, the fact that the NHRI is only recently active has delayed progress in the development of draft legislation to create the NPM. In all these cases, the Regional Office has advocated, through regular contacts and meetings with relevant authorities, for the development and adoption of laws that are compliant with international human rights standards and, when requested, has provided legal advice.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru and Uruguay have submitted their second reports to the UPR in accordance with the reporting guidelines and have implemented*



Workshop on the rights of indigenous people facilitated by OHCHR in Argentina.

priority recommendations.

With the assistance of the Regional Office, through capacity-building activities, training sessions and the appointment of focal points to provide technical support to concerned governments, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru and Uruguay submitted their UPR reports in due time and in accordance with the reporting guidelines. In terms of the implementation of recommendations, the Government of Argentina established a NPM and amended its Criminal Code to include femicide; Brazil decided to make public the report of the 2011 visit by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, as requested in one of the UPR recommendations; and Peru ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and adopted a law on the right to prior consultation to continue its efforts in the area of the rights of indigenous peoples, as recommended by the UPR.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Key civil society organizations, indigenous organizations and NHRIs (when relevant) in Argentina, Chile and Peru make increased use of the UN human rights instruments and mechanisms.*

In Argentina, four civil society organizations submitted alternative reports to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances; five reports were sent to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and 37 individual and/or joint submissions from civil society organizations and the NHRI were sent for consideration in relation to Argentina's second cycle of the UPR. With regard to Chile, seven alternative reports were presented by civil

society organizations to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; nine reports were submitted by civil society organizations to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; seven reports were sent by civil society organizations to the Human Rights Committee; and 26 individual and/or joint contributions prepared by civil society organizations and the NHRI were submitted in anticipation of Chile's second cycle of the UPR. In the case of Peru, civil society organizations sent 21 individual or joint reports to the Human Rights Committee; 11 reports were submitted to the Committee Against Torture; eight reports were presented to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR); and 25 individual and/or joint submissions from civil society organizations and the NHRI were submitted in relation to Peru's second cycle of the UPR. In all of these cases, OHCHR contributed through advocacy, awareness-raising, training on reporting requirements, dissemination of reporting guidelines and providing technical advice to civil society organizations.

Responsiveness of the international community (EA 10)

- ▶ *National EA: MERCOSUR and UNASUR have adopted policies and other measures and decisions which comply with international and regional human rights standards.*

During 2013, MERCOSUR, through its Human Rights Public Policies Institute, worked on a report related to policies on the prevention of torture and began implementing a project aimed at building an infrastructure for the promotion and protection of human rights in the subregion. The Regional Office did not engage with UNASUR in 2013.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2012, increased integration of a human rights-based approach in the CCA/UNDAF by the UNCT in Brazil.*

In December 2012, the Brazilian United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2012-2015 was approved by the Government. A human rights-based approach was partially applied in the document regarding citizen security and other public policies particularly addressed to vulnerable groups. The Regional Office commented on the draft Common Country Assessment (CCA)/UNDAF and has provided technical assistance to the UNCT since 2010 to enhance the knowledge of UN staff in Brazil on human rights principles and standards and the human rights-based approach.

Regional Office for South America (Santiago, Chile): Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	711,390	223,825
Consultants	13,900	83,694
Official travel	5,472	78,803
Contractual services	-	2,670
General operating expenses	117,406	23,852
Supplies & materials	4,458	7,579
Seminars, grants & contributions	13,782	591
Subtotal	866,408	421,014
Programme support costs	-	54,732
GRAND TOTAL	866,408	475,746

Human Rights Component in a UN Peace Mission

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

Year established	2004
Staff as of 31 December 2013	49

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards by State entities, including the national human rights institution, responsible for respecting and promoting the rights to justice, education, health, adequate housing, water and sanitation, in their respective policies and programmes.*

The organic Law on the *Office de la Protection du Citoyen* (OPC), Haiti's Ombudsperson, was published in July 2012 and in December 2013, the International Coordinating Committee for National Human Rights Institutions (ICC-NHRI) accorded it 'A' status. The OPC has a presence in every region of the country and its budget has increased over the years. OHCHR has supported, both financially and technically, the capacity-building of the OPC by, for instance, covering the salaries of two OPC field agents; providing assistance to develop the institution's reporting capacity; and conducting training sessions on monitoring methodologies.



Visitors collect poster at an event to celebrate International Peace Day held by MINUSTAH.

As of November 2013, according to the Ministry of Education, approximately 1.3 million children had benefited from the Government's Programme of Universal Free Education which has, despite some challenges in its implementation, enabled a larger number of poor children to attend school than ever before. OHCHR monitored the programme's rollout in one region of the country and has built the capacity of civil society actors to monitor and advocate for the right to education. Furthermore, a bill on the national fund for education, which included OHCHR's comments, was developed and has been voted on by the Chamber of Deputies. It is currently on the agenda of the Senate for adoption. The Law on International Adoption, compliant with the Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption, was published on 15 November 2013 and the instrument of ratification of the Hague Convention was deposited at the Hague. A draft law on trafficking of children was voted on by the Chamber of Deputies in August 2013 and is awaiting a vote from the Senate. OHCHR contributed comments to both pieces of legislation and has advocated for the ratification of the Hague Convention. OHCHR has also supported the Institute for Social Welfare and Research (IBESR), enabling the agency to increase its surveillance of orphanages and adoption practices, which has led to the closing of substandard centres and greater societal awareness of children's rights.

The Law on Persons with Disabilities was published on 13 March 2012 and, with support from OHCHR, the State Secretary on Integration of Disabled Persons has developed a work plan for its implementation.

The executive summary of the national policy on housing, to which OHCHR provided comments, was released in October 2013. It provides a broad preliminary framework and reinforces the 7 August 2013 decree which provided directives to guide private sector investment in housing, including public housing.

In 2013, the Police Academy incorporated human rights into the curriculum of its basic training programme. OHCHR contributed to the development of the human rights curricula, produced teaching tools such as short videos and trained a group of trainers in charge of delivering the human rights module. Regarding the Magistrates School, OHCHR developed and delivered a module on the implementation of international law by national judicial organs, with an emphasis on human rights, which has yet to be fully integrated into the Academy's regular curriculum.

In terms of OHCHR's monitoring work, approximately 500 cases of human rights violations were brought to the attention of authorities in 2013, the majority of which concerned prolonged pre-trial detention, police custody exceeding the legal limit and an excessive use of force by law enforcement agents. Of all these cases

followed up on by OHCHR with local authorities, approximately 61 per cent obtained a positive response and appropriate actions were taken.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.* The Government of Haiti published the act of ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the Official Gazette on 3 July 2013 and deposited the instrument of accession on 10 October 2013. OHCHR has provided the Government with technical assistance related to the Covenant and has also supported civil society's advocacy efforts for the ratification of the treaty.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Justice and accountability mechanisms established and functioning in compliance with international human rights standards to monitor, investigate and redress civil and political human rights violations.*

According to its own reporting, the General Inspectorate of the National Police received 454 complaints until 31 October, 181 of which were allegations of human rights violations. During the same period, the General Inspectorate processed only 34 complaints, including 11 related to human rights violations. While an increase in transparency is a welcome development, the failure to adequately deal with the case load, mainly due to the frequent replacement of the Chief General Inspector, the lack of an adequate budget and weak internal organization, is a major concern. OHCHR has regularly brought the General Inspectorate's problems to the attention of the UNPOL Police Commissioner and has met with the Chief General Inspector to discuss issues of concern. Although both the Police Commissioner and the Chief General Inspector have had a positive attitude towards OHCHR's comments, this has not been translated into concrete actions aimed at improving the General Inspectorate's performance.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased involvement of rights-holders, including women, in the monitoring of the national budget and the development and monitoring of public policies at the communal and departmental level.* OHCHR has supported the Ministry of Planning and the active participation of local civil society organizations in six departments in the review

of public policy, which applied a human rights-based approach and resulted in the drafting of priority assessment reports. The review recommended that all stakeholders collaborate closely for the implementation of municipal development plans in accordance with refined priorities, including the right to food, health, education, drinking water, a healthy environment and an adequate standard of living. Reviews were validated and submitted to the Government in the North-East, Artibonite, South-East and Grande-Anse regions, while those of the West and South departments will be presented in 2014. OHCHR has also ensured that at least 30 per cent of the participants in the reviews were women.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies, in particular regarding implementation of recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council.*

Approximately 10 per cent of the accepted UPR recommendations were implemented, primarily in the area of police and public appointments in the justice sector. OHCHR has provided significant support and advocated for the implementation of, among others, recommendations related to the ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption; the reform of the national law on adoption; the drafting and submission of initial and periodic reports to human rights treaty bodies (including the periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child submitted in November); the nomination of the judges and president of the *Cour de Cassation*; the visits of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti; the provision of human rights training for police, magistrates and parliamentarians; and the reinforcement of the national human rights institution.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles in MINUSTAH's police component; and utilization of the human rights-based approach in the UN Integrated Strategic Framework for Haiti.* UNPOL has been extremely responsive to protection concerns raised by OHCHR with regard

to their patrolling and interventions in the IDP camps and cases of forced evictions. In addition, as part of the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy, OHCHR questioned MINUSTAH regarding its support to the Haitian National Police's security operations during which police staff violate national and international standards on the legitimate and proportional use of force, arbitrary arrest, detention and search. Partly as a result of OHCHR's advocacy, night-time arrests, which are illegal under Haitian law, have significantly diminished.

Human rights have been mainstreamed across the UN Integrated Strategic Framework (ISF) for Haiti for 2013-2016 and human rights language and activities have been included in all four pillars of the document. The Office actively participated in the drafting of the ISF, which will be reviewed by the UNCT in 2014.

Human Rights Advisers in UN Country Teams

Ecuador

Year established	2007
Staff as of 31 December 2013	3

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of human rights standards by public policies, including an improved monitoring system of State human rights obligations.*

The National Development Plan 2013-2017 and a policy related to free, prior and informed consent were developed and are to a large extent compliant with human rights standards in the framework of the UN REDD+ programme (the United Nations collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation). The HRA provided technical assistance during the drafting of the National Development Plan, including on the integration of a human rights-based approach. As for the policy on the right to free, prior and informed consent, the HRA provided advice to the Ministry of Environment on relevant international standards and promoted the consultation with stakeholders during the process of drafting the guidelines for the implementation of the policy, which were approved by Ministerial Decree. In addition, during 2013, a tool called the "Atlas of Inequalities" was developed under the leadership of the HRA to map out gaps in the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights in order to contribute to the development of more coherent and targeted public policies. The Atlas was used as the baseline for the National Development Plan 2013-2017.

- ▶ *National EA: The National Human Rights Institution increases compliance with the Paris Principles in the areas of human rights protection and interaction with the universal human rights protection system.*

The NHRI has partially increased its compliance with the Paris Principles as a result of the streamlining of internal processes and institutional capacities for the protection of human rights which were spearheaded by the new Ombudsman who was appointed in December 2011. The HRA supported this process by developing two training courses on human rights addressed to the NHRI; providing guidance on the international human rights mechanisms during the early stages of the streamlining of the NHRI and providing technical assistance to improve the information system used by the national institution to monitor its cases.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international standards by the Ministry of Interior (citizen security strategy and plan and policies on detention and use of force) and by the Ministry of Defence (institutionalization of human rights training).*

A number of coordination meetings between the HRA, UNDP and the Ministry of Interior took place during the year to reach an agreement on the work to be undertaken in the area of citizen security. By the end of the reporting period, the parties had not yet agreed on a



Launch of the Free & Equal campaign in Ecuador, November 2013.

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cooperation framework on the subject. In terms of the work for the institutionalization of human rights training, two courses that had been developed and implemented with the technical support of the HRA were institutionalized by the armed forces in 2013: a course on basic human rights principles addressed to the armed forces operating in the northern border of Ecuador and another on collective rights. In addition, the HRA advised the Human Rights Unit of the Ministry of Defence during the development and implementation of a protocol for documenting cases of human rights violations allegedly committed by armed forces personnel.

- ▶ *National EA: Police, armed forces, the NHRI and the judiciary perform their functions in compliance with international standards on collective rights of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants.*

During 2013, the national police, the armed forces and the NHRI increased their efforts to train their officials on collective rights. Overall, 120 officials from the armed forces, 3,160 from the police and 500 from the NHRI benefitted from this training. The HRA led the participatory development of the training module, printed and distributed 3,500 copies of the training manual and advocated with the NHRI, the national police, the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Religions and the Ministry of Culture for the implementation and sustainability of the training. With relation to the compliance of these institutions with human rights standards in the area of collective rights, the measurement of this compliance was not carried out due to methodological challenges. Nonetheless, the national police, the armed forces and the NHRI have taken full ownership of the training modules on collective rights by including them into their regular training programmes for their staff. It is expected that the increased knowledge on collective rights will help these institutions protect these rights.

- ▶ Result for which no National EA was set: The HRA launched the campaign “Free and Equal” in Ecuador and led a task force, composed of several UN agencies, government institutions and non-governmental organizations, to advocate for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons and influence public policies on the subject. During the launch of the campaign, the Ministries of Health and of Justice, the NHRI, the Municipality of Quito, the UN Resident Coordinator and a number of NGOs signed a joint declaration committing to eradicate violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons. A related plan of action will be implemented during 2014.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with treaty bodies, special procedures and UPR recommendations in the area of indigenous justice by the government, National Assembly and the judiciary.*

Ecuador received a number of key recommendations on indigenous justice from the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 2012, from the Committee Against Torture in 2012 and from the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples in 2010. One of these, provided by the CESCR, relates to the approval of the draft Bill on Coordination and Cooperation between ordinary and indigenous justice systems. In May 2012, the National Assembly held the first debate regarding the draft which duly incorporated international human rights standards on indigenous justice. In addition, in 2013, civil society organizations and indigenous leaders carried out a number of public debates on indigenous justice. The HRA contributed to these initiatives by providing technical assistance to and maintaining an open dialogue with key actors, including State authorities, indigenous leaders and civil society organizations. Despite these efforts, the delay in the application of an indigenous justice system continued to hinder other attempts to advance the implementation of relevant recommendations from international human rights mechanisms.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with treaty bodies, special procedures and UPR recommendations in the administration of justice, particularly in the framework of the judicial reform.*

One of the recurring recommendations addressed to Ecuador in the area of the administration of justice relates to strengthening the capacities of judges, prosecutors and other officials to protect human rights. In particular, one of the recommendations emanating from the UPR requested the State to undertake human rights training for the judiciary. In this context, in November 2013, the Judiciary Council agreed with the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Religions to implement a training module on collective rights, produced by OHCHR, as part of the annual training programme delivered to all members of the judiciary.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with the UPR recommendations issued to Ecuador in the first and second rounds.*

In 2013, the design and development of a web-based information system (SIDERECHOS), which will support the Ecuadorian State’s

efforts in following up on and complying with recommendations from international human rights mechanisms, was completed. The initiative, hosted by the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Religions, was supported technically and financially by the HRA and has helped the Government to comply with two of its voluntary pledges made during the country's UPR in 2012.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased knowledge by civil society organizations of human rights standards and the UN and regional human rights mechanisms related to freedom of expression.*

At least 27 civil society organizations have submitted reports to the treaty bodies, in particular to CESCR and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The HRA has continuously kept these organizations informed of their reporting periods and deadlines and has also organized a number of workshops to increase their capacities for the preparation of alternative reports.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into UN system policies and programmes with respect to governance, education, multiculturalism and gender areas.*

The UN inter-agency thematic group on governance and human rights did not function during the reporting period, thereby limiting the HRA's capacity to promote the integration of a human rights-based approach into other UN agencies' programmes. As a result, the HRA focused its efforts on ensuring that Ecuador's CCA/UNDAF 2014-2017 integrates a human rights-based approach. To this end, the HRA prepared guidelines and facilitated training sessions.

The "Atlas of Inequalities" produced by the Ecuadorian National Secretariat for Planning and Development (SENPLADES), with the technical support of OHCHR, was officially launched on 24 October 2013. The Atlas maps persisting gaps in the enjoyment of economic and social rights in different regions of Ecuador and presents disaggregated information based on gender, ethnicity and geographical location. The Atlas has also served as the baseline for the recently launched National Development Plan and the National Strategy for the eradication of poverty and intends to contribute to the development of more coherent and targeted public policies as well as to a more efficient distribution of public resources.

Honduras

Year established	2010
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: A national plan of action against discrimination is finalized and begins to be implemented.*

The Ministry of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Hondurans (SEDINAFROH) prepared a first draft of the National Plan against Racism and Racial Discrimination which fully complies with international human rights standards. OHCHR contributed to this result by providing technical advice, having a dedicated consultant drafting the document and supporting SEDINAFROH in the design and implementation of a consultation process which included all of the nine indigenous and Afro-descendant communities of the country.

- ▶ *National EA: A national human rights plan of action is finalized and begins to be implemented.*

In January 2013, the Government of Honduras approved its first National Action Plan on Human Rights (PNADH) which is compliant with international human rights standards. The PNADH includes information on and recommendations from international and regional human rights mechanisms, presents a diagnosis of national public policies from a human rights perspective and outlines the actions that need to be undertaken in order to respond to the demands of national rights-holders. The HRA supported the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights in the development of the Plan by providing methodological advice. In the context of a joint human rights project, UNDP funded the work of national and international consultants in charge of drafting the document. After the approval of the Plan, the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights and the HRA focused their efforts on the socialization of the Plan and its inclusion in the national planning for 2014. These efforts led to the signing of a National Pact on Human Rights between the candidates to the Presidency of Honduras through which they committed to implement the PNADH if victorious in the November 2013 elections.

- ▶ *National EA: The national budget and social policies increasingly incorporate a human rights-based approach and human rights-based indicators.*

The National Policy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has been approved in compliance



The Human Rights Adviser in Honduras delivers a speech at the occasion of the UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, June 2013.

with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The HRA advised the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the drafting of the Policy and the related Strategic Plan.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Incorporation by the administration of justice system of international human rights standards in their decisions.*

An independent unit in charge of the implementation and follow-up to the recommendations of the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission has been created, due in part to OHCHR's advocacy. The HRA also provided technical and substantive support to the activities of the Unit and UNDP provided financial assistance. In addition to this, a bill for the creation of a protection mechanism for human rights defenders and journalists has been drafted by the Ministry for Justice and Human Rights. OHCHR revised the proposed bill to ensure its compliance with international human rights standards.

- ▶ *National EA: Effective transitional justice mechanisms are functioning.*
The unit in charge of the follow-up to the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was the only transitional justice mechanism established by the Government in 2013.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased level of participation by civil society organizations, in particular those representing women, indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants, and LGBTI persons, in the drafting*

of anti-discrimination policies and in making use of accountability mechanisms of State bodies, such as the National Congress and the Executive Power. The National Plan against Racism and Racial Discrimination was drafted in consultation with over 200 members of nine indigenous and Afro-Honduran communities. OHCHR supported the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Hondurans in the design and implementation of the consultation process. The drafting and approval of the National Human Rights Plan of Action also received OHCHR's support and technical advice.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Measures taken by the Secretary of Justice and Human Rights to follow-up on and implement recommendations issued by treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.*

Four UPR recommendations were implemented and the implementation of a fifth is ongoing with the technical support of OHCHR. All the recommendations contained in the High Commissioner's reports and those provided by treaty bodies and special procedures mandate-holders have been included in the National Action Plan on Human Rights. In addition to this, reports to the Committee against Torture, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights were submitted in accordance with the reporting guidelines. The HRA provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights in the drafting of the reports.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased use by civil society organizations, in particular those representing women, indigenous peoples, Afro-descendant, and LGBTI persons, and by individuals of international and regional protection mechanisms.*

In 2013, the HRA trained 100 members of 15 civil society organizations of women, LGBTI persons, indigenous peoples and Afro-Hondurans, who improved their knowledge on strategic litigation and the use of national and international human rights protection mechanisms.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Integration by the UNCT of a human rights-based approach into its programmes and activities.*

The HRA, in cooperation with UNDP, designed and delivered a course on the human rights-based approach to 32 UN staff in Honduras. It is expected that human rights standards will be increasingly incorporated in their respective agencies' programmes and plans from 2014 onwards.

Paraguay

Year established	2010
Staff as of 31 December 2013	3

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards in the areas of human rights policies (National Human Rights Action Plan), human rights education (National Plan on Human Rights Education), legislation (torture and economic, social and cultural rights) and the judiciary (human rights indicators regarding access to justice).*

The level of compliance of policies with human rights standards has considerably improved in selected thematic areas during the reporting period. Institutional capacities were strengthened with the support of the HRA to follow-up on the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan, which was approved by the Government in June. In terms of the National Plan on Human Rights Education, the new authorities of the Ministry of Education and Culture restarted the implementation of some of the activities included in the Plan, which was approved in 2012, with the technical support of the HRA. The implementation of the Plan and the impact of other actions related to education will be better monitored, thanks in part to the adoption by the Government of indicators on the right to education, which were developed using OHCHR's methodology. Indicators on the right to a fair trial were also developed, with technical assistance from OHCHR, and implemented by the judiciary and the General Prosecutor's Office, thereby improving their capacity to monitor

and report on the human rights situation in the country. Regarding torture, the Parliament approved changes to the legislation introducing a definition of torture which is in compliance with international standards. It also approved the law creating the National Preventive Mechanism. As a result of technical cooperation provided by the HRA, the capacities to follow up and report on cases of torture were strengthened

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased participation by rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in decision-making processes and the development and monitoring of public policies in the areas of human rights (National Human Rights Action Plan) and human rights education (National Plan on Human Rights Education and cultural rights).*

Rights-holders were consulted to a considerable extent by the Government for the development of the National Human Rights Action Plan, which was approved in 2013, and the National Plan on Human Rights Education, which was approved in 2012. Civil society organizations also increased their participation in human rights debates and the promotion of a human rights culture in the country. Most notably, their capacity to monitor and report on the human rights situation was strengthened through coordinated actions and technical assistance provided by the HRA. One of the results of this enhanced capacity was the launch of the annual report on the human rights situation in Paraguay produced by CODEHUPY (a network of local human rights NGOs), which also included information on the monitoring done by CODEHUPY on the implementation of public policies related to human rights, such as the National Human Rights Action Plan. Additionally, as a result of technical advice provided by the HRA in coordination with UNDP and the National Institute for Indigenous Issues, indigenous peoples' organizations strengthened their capacities and agreed on a common list of priorities in relation to prior consultation and land issues.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by Paraguay with treaty bodies and the UPR.*

Approximately 15 per cent of the recommendations accepted by the Government of Paraguay in the context of the UPR were implemented during the biennium including, for instance, the approval of the National

On the occasion of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of OHCHR, the Human Rights Adviser (HRA) in Paraguay produced a publication which compiled the testimonies of civil society and State representatives related to national human rights issues of concern and their views on the UN human rights programme.

Yrén Rotela, Head of an NGO defending the rights of transgender persons, shared the following testimony: “It is not easy to be a transgender person in Paraguay, which is why it is more than necessary to organize ourselves and fight for our rights. Our association was founded in 2006 and since 2010, following the deployment of the HRA to Paraguay, we started

receiving technical cooperation for institutional and communication strengthening. The presence of the HRA was key to empowering us, but her support went far beyond technical cooperation. It was human support. One of the most significant results from our cooperation was our participation in the OHCHR campaign, entitled “You are a person, you have rights,” which helped make it clear to the Paraguayan society that we are people who have the right to be respected and the right not to hide our sexual orientation or gender identity. By being part of this campaign, we were portrayed with so much dignity and as equals to the rest of the society. It also made us realize that we were ready to share our problems and ideas. Furthermore,



Yrén Rotela, Head of an NGO defending the rights of transgender persons in Paraguay.

the OHCHR campaign encouraged us to create our own communication campaign, which was launched in 2013. Our campaign, supported by OHCHR and other organizations, is accomplishing its objective of raising awareness about the impunity and the lack of justice for crimes against transgender people.”

Human Rights Action Plan and strengthening the capacities of the National Institute for Indigenous Issues to better promote and protect the rights of indigenous populations. At the request of the Government of Paraguay, the HRA provided technical advice for the establishment of a permanent mechanism responsible for coordinating the State’s efforts to implement the country’s human rights obligations and commitments. As a result, the State’s capacities to follow-up on the recommendations from international human rights mechanisms, and identify priorities and related responsibilities, were strengthened. In terms of recommendations related to economic, social and cultural rights, the Social Action Secretariat recently announced the Government’s intention to develop a National Development Plan with a human rights-based approach. The capacities of the Secretariat to implement this approach, and to follow up on the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on poverty and human rights after her visit to the country in 2012, were strengthened in part as a result of technical assistance provided by the HRA.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of civil society actors, acting on their behalf, making use of UN human rights mechanisms (Human Rights*

Committee, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, CESCR).

Civil society organizations and NGOs continued to submit cases to the attention of selected special procedures mandates, including the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers. Shadow reports were also submitted to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The HRA provided support and advice to these organizations on the reporting procedures of international human rights bodies.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: The UN Common Country Programme/UNDAF has satisfactorily integrated international human rights standards and principles into its 2013-2018 strategy.* The UNCT reinforced its capacities to include a human rights-based approach in the UNDAF with the technical assistance of the HRA. As a result, the UNDAF, currently being reviewed by the Government, includes sections related to civil and political rights, economic, social and cultural rights and environmental rights and incorporates relevant human rights indicators.
- ▶ *National EA: UN guidelines on incorporating rights-based approaches have been used in*



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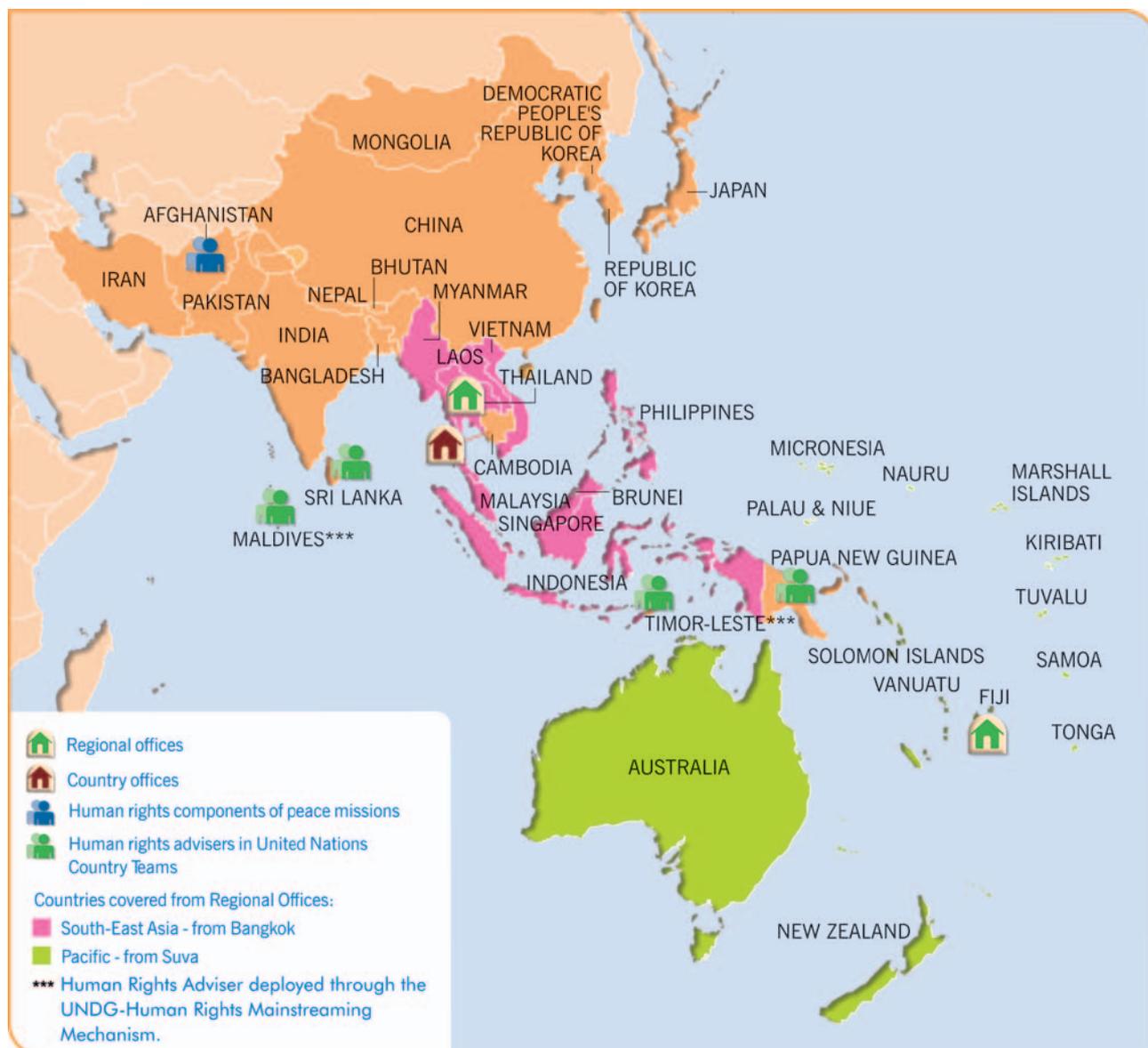
The Human Rights Adviser in Paraguay participates at an event on the right to prior consultation.

UN policies on human development, indigenous peoples and women's rights.

The capacity of UN agencies in Paraguay to integrate a human rights-based approach into their programmes was enhanced, particularly regarding social policies, the fight against poverty and the rights of indigenous peoples, as a result of technical cooperation provided by the HRA and her participation in a number of inter-agency working groups of the UNCT. The HRA,

together with UN Women, also advocated with other UN agencies for follow-up to international recommendations related to women's rights, including through the launch of a joint publication on the issue. Additionally, the HRA joined with UN agencies in the context of the April 2013 elections for President and Congress to engage with candidates to promote the sustainability of the progress achieved in previous years on relevant human rights and social issues.

OHCHR in the field: Asia and the Pacific



Type of presence	Location
Country office	● Cambodia
Regional offices	● South-East Asia (Bangkok, Thailand) ● Pacific (Suva, Fiji)
Human rights components in UN Peace Missions	● Afghanistan
Human rights advisers in UN Country Teams	● Maldives*** ● Papua New Guinea ● Sri Lanka ● Timor-Leste***

*** Human Rights Adviser deployed through the UNDG-Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism.

In 2013, the Asia Pacific region faced a variety of challenges, but also reported numerous progressive developments. Political transitions continued to take place in Fiji, Myanmar and Nepal, although election processes in Bangladesh, Cambodia and the Maldives were fiercely contested. Conflict re-intensified in Afghanistan and the discrimination and communal violence in Rakhine State, Myanmar, caused widespread suffering and displacement. Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) caused serious destruction in Palau and the Philippines in November, affecting over 13 million people. In Bangladesh, Nepal,

Sri Lanka and Thailand, active debates continued in relation to transitional justice and accountability for past crimes. In China, new legal and policy reforms were announced and in Iran, the President took steps to release political prisoners. Several countries introduced restrictions to the application of the death penalty, but the number of executions increased in other countries. A high profile rape case in Delhi sparked new social movements against the unacceptably high rate of violence against women in the region. Also in India, new legislation was passed to address manual scavenging. The cross-regional movement of irregular migrants and asylum-seekers increased and was in many cases met with refoulement and mandatory detention. The deaths of migrant workers in the Gulf States focused attention on their working conditions.

By the end of 2013, OHCHR had eight field presences in Asia and the Pacific: two regional offices (South-East Asia, Pacific), one component in a peace mission (Afghanistan), one country office (Cambodia) and four human rights advisers (HRAs) (Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste). In 2013, A new Human Rights Adviser post was established in Timor-Leste following the 2012 closure of the UN Mission in Timor-Leste.

OHCHR engaged with partners at the national, regional and international levels to ensure that human rights concerns were integrated into responses to the deteriorating situation in Rakhine State, Myanmar, including the situation of the Rohingya community. This included the rapid deployment of OHCHR staff in mid-February to support the mainstreaming of human rights into the UN's humanitarian response. In addition, OHCHR's Regional Office in Bangkok was strengthened and supported a range of technical cooperation activities in the country. OHCHR continued to discuss the opening of a country office in Myanmar at the invitation of the Government, although an agreement was still pending at the end of 2013. OHCHR staff members were deployed to the Philippines at the end of the year to support the UN's humanitarian response to Typhoon Haiyan.

Building on the work of the Special Rapporteur on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), and following advocacy undertaken by the High Commissioner, the Human Rights Council established a Commission of Inquiry (CoI) on

human rights in the DPRK in order to investigate the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights in the country, with a view to ensuring full accountability, in particular for violations which may amount to crimes against humanity. OHCHR is providing support to the Commission and will be actively engaged in follow-up.

As a result of the High Commissioner's visit to Sri Lanka in August 2013, sustained advocacy and reports to the Human Rights Council, the international community paid increased attention to long-standing human rights issues in the country and supported victims of human rights abuses and their families seeking justice and redress. In 2013, the High Commissioner also visited Afghanistan, at a critical juncture with the ongoing political, security and economic transition concluding in 2014.

OHCHR continued its cooperation with Nepal by supporting the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and national partners. This included interventions related to transitional justice in Nepal, such as providing a commentary on an ordinance to establish the promised Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which did not comply with international standards, and sharing regional good practices to combat caste-based discrimination.

OHCHR also significantly increased its cooperation with Bangladesh by conducting three country missions to support the UNCT and the National Human Rights Commission, hosting high-level Bangladeshi delegations in Geneva and supporting engagement by thematic special procedures. The United Nations Development Group (UNDG) is planning to deploy a human rights adviser to support the UNCT in Bangladesh and a regional human rights adviser to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in 2014.

A team of nine professional and three administrative staff cover the region from headquarters. The staff members follow regional developments and guide the Office's interventions related to priority human rights issues. OHCHR continued to support the work of the special procedures mandate-holders on Cambodia, DPRK, Iran and Myanmar and of the thematic mandate-holders who visited the region. OHCHR was also mandated by the Human Rights Council to report on accountability issues in Sri Lanka.

Country Office

Cambodia

Year established	1993
Staff as of 31 December 2013	29
Expenditure in 2013	US\$2,176,686

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Cambodia adopted or revised legislation, sub-legislation and policies in the areas of the administration of justice, legal professionals, access to information and land and housing, which are more compliant with international human rights standards.*

The Ministry of Environment led a consultation process related to a bill on environmental impact assessments. OHCHR provided substantive comments on the draft and ensured that a large number of civil society organizations (CSOs) participated in the process. The bill has not been adopted, however, the latest draft is largely in compliance with international standards. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) approved a new pre-trial detention system which requires judges to demonstrate they have considered the facts of the case, including the personal circumstances of the charged person, and provide written justification as to why pre-trial detention is considered necessary. OHCHR advocated for the reform of this process and organized numerous judicial round-tables with judges, prosecutors and lawyers, drawing examples from the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). OHCHR also worked with senior judges, including ECCC judges, and MoJ officials to design the new court form/template which was formally confirmed by the MoJ in January 2014. The Government announced a 50 per cent increase in the 2014 national budget for legal aid. OHCHR contributed to this result by encouraging the Bar Association to focus on legal aid services and advocate for an increased budget. OHCHR also cooperated with the Ministry of Justice, the Bar Association and UNICEF to organize a national legal aid conference in November 2013, where the announcement was made. Revisions to the 1995 Law on the Bar Association began in 2013 but were not yet finalized. OHCHR supported the work of the dedicated Working Group on the revision of the Law on the Bar Association by providing advice on international

standards as well as good practices from other countries. To date, the Working Group has revised a number of articles, including one which makes reference to human rights as part of the mission of the Bar Association.

Steps were also taken to improve social affairs, youth and drug rehabilitation centres in the country. The Minister of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation officially endorsed a set of recommendations issued by a 2011 independent assessment that was jointly commissioned by OHCHR and UNICEF. Some centres criticized in the report were closed down or changed purposes and the Minister announced the creation of a working group to address the report's recommendations. OHCHR and UNICEF advocated for the adoption of the recommendations during meetings with the Ministry and will provide support to the Working Group.

In August 2013, a Royal Decree on the Separate Statute of Prison Staff was adopted to improve compliance with international norms and replace a 2000 statute which separated prisons from police. According to the Royal Decree, all staff under the General Director are considered prison staff with a specific mission that is distinct from the police. The Decree outlines a career path for prison staff which enhances the status of the profession through professional training and by increasing educational requirements, remuneration and its equivalence with the wider civil service. OHCHR initiated the momentum for this reform in 2010 by providing legal analysis and drafting the first text. It also provided regular comments on subsequent versions. One important limitation of the Decree is a provision that enables new recruits, who have had one year of service as trainees, to be confirmed as permanent staff, without initial formal training, where there is a lack of resources.

The General Department of Prisons (GDP) adopted a strategic plan for 2014-2018 which provides a framework for prison management and the treatment of prisoners and is largely compliant with human rights norms. Since 2012, OHCHR has been closely engaging with the GDP on these issues and in 2013, submitted a detailed analyses and commentary on the draft plan. A number of OHCHR's recommendations were reflected in the final text, sometimes in their entirety, regarding education, health, access to legal aid and cooperation with outside partners, including NGOs.

The Government has not yet adopted legislation on an independent National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). In this regard, OHCHR



OHCHR staff monitor the general elections in Cambodia, July 2013.

commissioned a comparative legislative study and organized a high-level workshop on legislation relating to the NPM in December 2013, which included the participation of the Chair of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT). The Government acknowledged the gaps between the NPM and the requirements of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT). No further steps have been taken to address the gaps.

- ▶ *National EA: The functioning and practices of the prisons, the judiciary, the police/gendarmerie, the Bar Association and the institutions that are relevant to fundamental freedoms and the sustainable and equitable use of land at the national and subnational levels, are increasingly compliant with international human rights standards.*

The Ministry of Land Management increased targets for the issuing of communal land titles to indigenous communities for 2014 and 2015 and committed to at least 10 per year. OHCHR and its development partners consistently advocated for increased targets and the allocation of adequate State funds to achieving those targets.

The Prosecutor-General working with the Court of Appeal and other provincial prosecutors paid more visits to the prisons to check the prison legal registry and monitor excessive detention. Some prosecutors also began visiting police stations for the first time and an increasing number of prosecutors are convening regular Police-Court-Prison (PCP) meetings at the provincial level. OHCHR supported this result by organizing a national conference of prosecutors, accompanying prosecutors on their visits to

police stations at the district level and providing technical advice and participating in PCP meetings across the country. Following the national conference of prosecutors, the Prosecutor-General issued instructions in August 2013 to all chief prosecutors regarding the organization of regular PCP meetings.

The practices of lawyers have not yet substantially improved, however, several lawyers have begun using international human rights law in bail requests and/or in their defence strategies. OHCHR contributed to an increased understanding among lawyers of fair trial rights by organizing workshops for trainee lawyers. Prison practices have significantly improved in a number of areas, including in relation to respect for basic rights to clean water and sanitation, access to reading opportunities, disaster prevention and general treatment of prisoners. OHCHR is contributing to this result through monitoring and technical cooperation with the prison authorities and engagement with NGOs and other partners. Nevertheless, ill-treatment resulting from overcrowding and instances of physical violence continue to be reported.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Cambodia ratifies the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (OP-ICCPR) and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW).*

The CRPD was ratified on 20 December 2012. OHCHR provided technical advice throughout the ratification process.

The ICRMW has not yet been ratified, however, the relevant Ministries indicated the Government's intention to ratify the Convention in the near future. OHCHR and UN Women contributed to an increased understanding of its provisions and the benefits of ratification through a series of briefings for the interministerial working group formed to study the Convention.

The Second OP-ICCPR has not yet been ratified. The Office organized various briefings for relevant ministries and the Cambodia Human Rights Committee, including in cooperation with the European Union delegation in Cambodia. OHCHR and the European Union Ambassador also published a joint opinion editorial in 2013 to advocate for ratification.

Cambodia ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in June 2013. OHCHR translated and published a Khmer version of the Convention



OHCHR staff monitor the living conditions in a resettlement site in Cambodia.

and circulated it broadly as a bilingual English/Khmer publication.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders (including indigenous peoples, urban and rural communities and human rights defenders) increasingly access national systems and procedures for protection of their human rights and meaningfully participate in decisions that affect them.*

Human rights defenders and civil society organizations improved their advocacy work on the granting of economic land concessions (ELC) and a number of communities have submitted their claims to international mechanisms.

OHCHR supported this result by providing data and analysis on ELCs which was then shared with development partners and NGOs and communicated to the Government during the ELC coordination meeting, which was chaired by OHCHR. The Office provided financial support for a non-governmental open database which provides access to information on land concessions by province and company.

NGOs, community-based organizations and trade unions have an increased understanding of the Law on Peaceful Demonstrations and its implementation guide as well as international standards on the rights to freedom of expression and assembly. OHCHR contributed to this result by providing five trainings on the Peaceful Demonstration Law in five provinces for a total of 163 participants.

A laminated card outlining the respective roles and responsibilities of organizers of demonstrations and local authorities was co-produced by OHCHR and the Ministry of Interior (MoI). The card will be disseminated among government officials, members of civil society

and members of the general public along with the Khmer/English publication of the Law on Peaceful Demonstrations and its Implementation Guide, which was developed with the MoI in the previous biennium.

Indigenous communities increased their awareness of their rights, in particular regarding the freedoms of assembly and expression and land and housing rights. OHCHR supported this result by monitoring 12 ongoing and unresolved disputes between indigenous communities occupying land, authorities and businesses and facilitating dialogue, court monitoring and providing legal and procedural advice.

Civil society organizations are increasingly aware of national systems and procedures for the protection of their human rights in relation to economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs) and business and human rights. This followed a series of OHCHR training sessions on the monitoring of and reporting on ESCRs, the promotion of business and human rights, including implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, with the staff of the Government's Anti-Corruption Unit, donors, businesses and professional associations.

Legal aid was provided in 81 priority appeal cases by the International Bridges to Bridges and in 268 priority appeal cases by Legal Aid of Cambodia, both of which are NGOs that received funding from OHCHR.

The capacity of trade unions, community-based organizations and individual human rights defenders, including human rights defenders working to promote and protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people, to monitor human rights and collect information about violations, was enhanced. OHCHR contributed to this result by providing four trainings on monitoring human rights and fact-finding.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Cambodia submits quality reports in conformity with reporting guidelines under ICCPR and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and engages in a meaningful dialogue with the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).*

The second periodic report of Cambodia under the ICCPR (which was due in 2002) was submitted on 28 December 2012. OHCHR provided technical assistance throughout the drafting process, which lasted several years,

and the submission process. The report partially complies with the reporting guidelines. The Government delegation engaged in a meaningful dialogue with the CEDAW Committee on 8 October 2013. OHCHR supported this result by collaborating with UN Women to host a mock session on 18 September, which helped the Government delegation and civil society organizations to prepare for the session in Geneva.

- ▶ *National EA: Cambodia substantially replies to special procedures communications, actively engages with the country rapporteur and increasingly implements recommendations issued by the treaty bodies, special procedures and Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process.* During the reporting period 2012-2013, 10 communications were sent to the Cambodian Government by special procedures (seven joint urgent actions or allegation letters in 2012; two joint urgent actions in September and October 2013; as well as Opinion 24/2013 by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention sent on 28 June 2013). In 2012, the Government replied to two out of the seven communications sent in 2012 (28 per cent) and sent two replies in 2012 to a 2011 communication. In 2013, no response was received to the 2013 (or earlier) communications. The Government actively engaged with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia during his visit in May 2013 and submitted official comments on his 2012 and 2013 reports to the Human Rights Council.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders and civil society actors (NGOs, trade unions, grassroot associations, human rights defenders and communities) make increased use of special procedures, treaty bodies (i.e., ICCPR, CEDAW, ICESCR, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)) and the UPR process.* In 2013, NGOs submitted eight shadow reports to the CEDAW Committee. OHCHR and UN Women supported this result by providing briefings on the CEDAW Convention. In addition, 37 stakeholder inputs were submitted for the upcoming second UPR cycle. OHCHR co-organized two workshops (30 April and 4 June) with the Cambodian Human

Rights Action Committee and the NGO Forum, involving over 70 individuals from Cambodian civil society organizations, on how to make submissions for the UPR. The special procedures received approximately 200 communications relating to Cambodia, including nearly 75 for the country mandate, from NGOs, CSOs and individuals. OHCHR supported this result by providing advice to NGOs, communities and individuals wishing to submit complaints or information.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: UNCT increasingly incorporates human rights standards and principles into their work, including the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).* In preparing for the elaboration of the next UNDAF 2016-2018, the UNCT decided to create a Human Rights Theme Group and take advantage of OHCHR training on the application of a rights-based approach to development. The UNCT also has a Gender Theme Group, of which OHCHR is an active member, to assist with coordination among agencies, including the preparation of joint advocacy initiatives. UNCT worked with the Group to prepare and submit its report to the CEDAW Committee.

Cambodia: Expenditure in 2013		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	1,143,400	264,260
Consultants	-	86,387
Official travel	26,945	81,970
Contractual services	(27)	84,247
General operating expenses	113,777	7,935
Supplies & materials	53,270	52,733
Seminars, grants & contributions	2,353	163,148
Subtotal	1,339,718	740,680
Programme support costs	-	96,288
GRAND TOTAL	1,339,718	836,968

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Regional Offices

Regional Office for South-East Asia (Bangkok, Thailand)

Year established	2002
Staff as of 31 December 2013	8
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,593,899

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Establishment of a national human rights institution (NHRI) in Myanmar in compliance with the Paris Principles and increased compliance with the Paris Principles of the NHRI in Thailand.*

Legislation to establish the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) as an independent NHRI in accordance with international standards passed one of the houses of Parliament in August 2013 and is currently pending in the other house. Over the past year, the Commission spoke out about ill-treatment and torture, visited some prisons and issued a number of statements highlighting the findings of its visits to ethnic minority areas. The Regional Office engaged with the MNHRC to ensure the development of the above-mentioned legislation, the ongoing promotion of human rights instruments and engagement with international mechanisms.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of legislation and policies in line with international human rights standards in Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.*

In Lao PDR, OHCHR's advocacy regarding the case of Sombath Somphone raised international awareness about the state of human rights in Lao PDR. There has been no progress in Sombath's case.

Government representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand exchanged experiences on developing national human rights action plans. The Regional Office contributed to this exchange and, based on its suggestion, Malaysian officials visited Thailand to learn about its experiences. At the end of 2013, in Myanmar, charges and criminal cases pending against peaceful protestors were dropped in accordance with a presidential pardon. In addition, a parliamentarian submitted a motion for debate on the amendment of the Peaceful Assembly Law. The Regional Office and



The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar during his visit to the country in August 2013.

the Special Rapporteur continued to engage and advocate for changes to the Law. The Regional Office also supported a review of the Citizenship Law, in particular regarding the exclusion from citizenship and statelessness of the discriminated minority, Rohingya, in Rakhine State. Though no legislative measures have been undertaken, it is hoped that the Government will take practical steps to address these concerns. A partially revised fifth draft of a piece of legislation on the registration of associations was under consideration by the Parliament at the end of the year. The Regional Office engaged with government, civil society and development partners to encourage the adoption of a draft that is in compliance with international standards. As a result of local NGO engagement, the recent draft was a substantial improvement over the initial draft and the Regional Office advocated for the revision of the remaining flawed provisions. The law is pending before Parliament. In Singapore, the Regional Office engaged in a dialogue with the Government on the need to amend legislation, including legislation concerning the death penalty and the Internal Security Act. The Regional Office also requested the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention to review the Internal Security Act and issue a communication. The need to amend the burden of proof in death penalty cases was raised during a regional expert meeting on the death penalty, which was organized by the Regional Office. In Thailand, two prisoners charged under article 112 of the Criminal Code (*lèse majesté*) were released after being pardoned. The Office met with the two prisoners during its visit to areas of detention and conveyed its concerns to the relevant government agencies.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Justice and accountability mechanisms are established in the Philippines.* The Regional Office continued to monitor ongoing discussions about the establishment of a NPM. The Inter-Agency Committee on Extra-Legal Killings, Enforced Disappearances, Torture and other Grave Violations of the Right to Life, Liberty and Security of Persons, set up by the Government in 2012, as pledged during its UPR review, addressed a number of serious cases. The Regional Office continued to advocate for improved functioning of the mechanism.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement by States with the UN human rights mechanisms (treaty bodies, special procedures, UPR), especially in relation to discrimination, torture, impunity and the freedoms of expression, association and religion.* In Myanmar, the Government responded to 10 out of 15 communications from the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar. Among the issues advocated for by the Special Rapporteur and taken up by the Government were: six Presidential amnesties which led to the release of 320 prisoners of conscience (some of which were cases that the Special Rapporteur had taken up in communications); the repeal of the Law Protecting the Peaceful and Systematic Transfer of State Responsibility and the Successful Performance of the Functions of the National Convention against Disturbances and Oppositions (1986); a motion submitted regarding the consideration of amendments to the Peaceful Assembly and

Peaceful Procession Act; the parliamentary establishment of a 109-member committee to review the Constitution; and the disbanding of the Nasaka border security force in July. Parliament also began reviewing the Printers and Publishers Registration Act (1962); the Law Relating to the Formation of Organizations (1988); articles 143, 145, 152, 505, 505 (b) and 295A of the Penal Code; the Code of Criminal Procedure; the Official Secrets Act (1923); the State Protection Act (1975); the Emergency Provisions Act (1950); and the Electronic Transactions Act (2004). The Government of Lao PDR extended a visit invitation to the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, which could take place in 2014. The Special Rapporteur on trafficking visited the Philippines in November 2013.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of civil society actors making use of human rights mechanisms, especially those working on discrimination, migration and trafficking, torture and impunity and the freedoms of expression and religion.* Four communications were sent to special procedures from Indonesia. From January to October 2013, the Regional Office worked with civil society members to document 50 incidents of violence that resulted in 79 killings and 59 cases of torture. While a joint communication by special procedures is pending on these cases, three public statements have been issued by special procedures regarding capital punishment, freedom of expression and the right to adequate housing. As of the end of 2013, at least eight communications requests had been submitted to the special procedures by civil society in



Mass devastation in the Philippines after the Typhoon Haiyan hit the country in November 2013. The OHCHR Regional Office for South-East Asia deployed staff to the Philippines in the aftermath of the natural disaster to support the UN relief efforts.

Singapore and one communication had been issued by a special procedure. The Regional Office contributed to the increase in submissions from civil society by conducting information sessions on human rights mechanisms and following up on particular issues with civil society.

International and regional laws and institutions (EA 8)

- ▶ *National EA: Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) regional human rights system is progressively strengthened, especially in relation to the Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR).*

In partnership with other regional UN offices and CSOs, the Regional Office advocated for the revision of the AICHR terms of reference and encouraged the AICHR to prioritize the development of protection mechanisms over further legislative initiatives. The Regional Office also encouraged the AICHR to operate in compliance with international human rights standards.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into the UN programmes in the region.*

The UNCT in Indonesia prepared contributions to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) with support from the Regional Office. Under the UNDG's Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism (UNDG-HRM), the UN human rights thematic group began implementing a project on mainstreaming human rights into the national development plan. The Regional Office provided advice to the thematic group.

The Resident Coordinator's Office in Malaysia provided regular updates to OHCHR on cases and encouraged special procedures to take action. This contributed to a significant increase in communications sent by the special procedures (12 in 2013). Furthermore, the UN thematic group produced a high-quality stakeholder report for the 2013 UPR which was extensively quoted in OHCHR's compilation document.

In Myanmar, at the request of the Resident Coordinator, the Regional Office drafted a human rights mainstreaming project that was agreed upon by all UNCT members in January 2013. The project received funding from the UNDG Multi-Donor Trust Fund and was initiated in July 2013.

In the Philippines, the UNDAF Justice Innovation Fund and its work plan were informed by the

2012 UPR recommendations.

The UNCT of Viet Nam submitted a stakeholder's report in anticipation of its second UPR review scheduled for 2015. The Regional Office assisted in the preparation of the report, including by collecting reference materials, and compiled submissions from different UNCTs to be used as a model.

Asia is one of the regions of the world where the death penalty still exists in a large number of States. In recent years, joint advocacy efforts undertaken by OHCHR and the international human rights mechanisms have led to important initiatives related to the abolition of the death penalty. For example, in 2012, Singapore abolished the mandatory death penalty; Malaysia announced its intention to abolish it; and the President of Myanmar pardoned 150 death row prisoners. In October 2013, representatives from several South-East Asian governments met at a conference in Bangkok, hosted by OHCHR and Thailand's Ministry of Justice, to discuss prospects for the abolition of the death penalty. During the opening statement, the representative of the Thai Ministry of Justice announced that national legislation would soon be proposed to abolish the death penalty. Furthermore, Myanmar maintains a moratorium on the death penalty while it is deciding whether or not to move towards abolition; and in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which ratified the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in 2012, a de facto moratorium has been in place for over 20 years.

Regional Office for South-East Asia (Bangkok, Thailand): Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	763,559	453,355
Consultants	2,750	39,493
Official travel	31,484	49,375
Contractual services	111	3,486
General operating expenses	54,310	27,089
Supplies & materials	13,043	10,951
Seminars, grants & contributions	3,821	57,685
Subtotal	869,078	641,434
Programme support costs	-	83,387
GRAND TOTAL	869,078	724,821

Regional Office for the Pacific (Suva, Fiji)

Year established	2005
Staff as of 31 December 2013	4
Expenditure in 2013	US\$678,817

Results

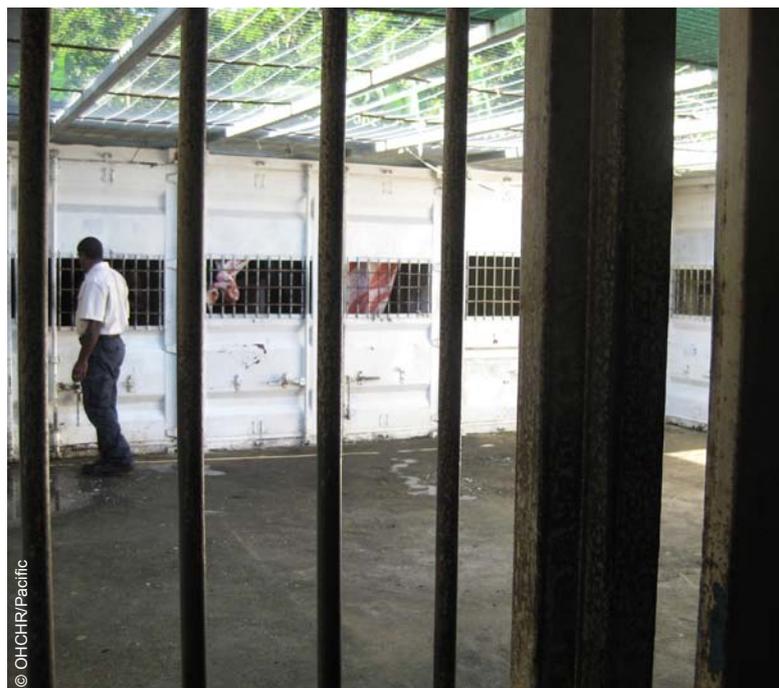
National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: National Disaster Management Offices and relevant ministries dealing with disaster preparedness and response in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu increasingly comply with international human rights standards.*

The National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs) in Fiji created a dedicated framework for protection work and developed tools on protection for evacuation centres. Although it is too early to determine whether this has resulted in compliance with international standards, the framework has had a positive effect on the work of NDMOs and relevant ministries, as indicated by additional requests for OHCHR's support in this area. As co-lead of the Pacific Humanitarian Protection Cluster, OHCHR, the Global Protection Cluster and UNHCR provided technical assistance, tools and briefings/trainings to NDMOs and relevant ministries which contributed to enhancing their knowledge about protection issues and ensured a stronger understanding of how to integrate human rights in preparedness and response to natural disasters.

NDMOs and relevant ministries in the Solomon Islands strengthened their preparedness procedures, including by updating assessment forms, and enhanced their knowledge about protection across sectors/Clusters. This has positively impacted on the work of NDMOs and relevant ministries and has resulted in additional requests for OHCHR support. At the request of the NDMO in Solomon Islands, and in cooperation with UNICEF and UNFPA, OHCHR co-organized and delivered a protection mainstreaming workshop in November 2013 for 25 participants from the Government and other stakeholders.

In Vanuatu, progress was made towards the establishment of a national-level 'Protection Cluster' with a governmental lead, which has the potential to contribute to the strengthening of preparedness procedures and enhancing knowledge about protection across sectors/Clusters in Vanuatu.



View from inside a cell at a high-risk prison in Port Vila, Vanuatu.

- ▶ *National EA: At least one NHRI that is in compliance with the Paris Principles is established in a Pacific Island country.*

Samoa adopted enabling legislation for the establishment of a NHRI in June 2013 (Samoa Ombudsman Act). The Regional Office for the Pacific also received a request for support to the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission. In 2012-2013, OHCHR provided technical assistance for the establishment of NHRIs to authorities and relevant stakeholders in Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu. This work was undertaken in partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum (of NHRIs) and the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat. OHCHR supported scoping missions to Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau and Vanuatu and prepared reports with proposals for next steps.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Two Pacific Island countries ratify CAT.*

Nauru and Vanuatu ratified CAT in 2011 and 2012, respectively. This may be perceived as a sign of growing interest in the Pacific to consider CAT ratification. Palau has now signed all human rights conventions, including CAT. OHCHR has offered to undertake legislative reviews in Palau and Tonga and is continuing its advocacy efforts in a number of other countries, including Fiji.

Regional Office for the Pacific (Suva, Fiji): Expenditure in 2013		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	461,754
Consultants	-	(2,323)
Official travel	-	80,918
Contractual services	-	3,271
General operating expenses	-	31,668
Supplies & materials	-	11,990
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	13,445
Subtotal	-	600,723
Programme support costs		78,094
GRAND TOTAL	-	678,817

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Human Rights Components in UN Peace Missions

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

Year established	2002
Staff as of 31 December 2013	92

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards of applicable laws relating to women's rights and of institutions in applying the law on the elimination of violence against women.*

A Government regulation on women's protection shelters complied with international human rights standards and satisfied advocates for the regulatory reform of women's shelters as well as advocates who wanted NGO-run shelters to be empowered to operate independent of Government control. The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) helped to coordinate an international response to early drafts of the regulation, which would have significantly inhibited the effective functionality and focus of the shelters. This response included legal analysis of the initially proposed

amendments that in turn informed the advocacy efforts of civil society and women's rights activists.

Other landmark protections for women, including the Law on Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW Law), came under threat with the adoption of an election law, which reduced the quota of seats for women in provincial councils from 30 to 20 per cent and altogether eliminated the quota in district councils, and the drafting of a criminal procedure code which would prohibit witnesses from testifying in criminal cases against their relatives. UNAMA continues to be actively engaged with the Afghan Government, civil society and the international community to: monitor legislative reforms that impact on women's rights; provide technical support wherever possible to identify proposed amendments or initiatives that would have a detrimental impact on women's rights and their protection; and develop advocacy tools for a coordinated UN, international and civil society response.

UNAMA released a report on 8 December, entitled *A Way to Go: An Update on Implementation of the Law on Elimination of Violence against Women in Afghanistan*, in which it reported limited results in the implementation of the Law. In 2013, while Afghan authorities noted an increase of 28 per cent in reported incidents of violence against women under the Law, very few prosecutors and courts used the Law as a basis for filing indictments and obtaining convictions. Guidelines and terms of reference for the provincial Commissions on Prevention of Violence against Women have been developed and Commissions have been established in thirty-two provinces, as per the provisions of the EVAW Law. Procedures for the Commissions have yet to be developed. In conjunction with the international community, the Government developed a monitoring framework related to commitments outlined in the Tokyo Declaration and Presidential Decree No. 45 that are specific to gender equality, women's empowerment and the effective implementation of the EVAW Law. Information about the EVAW Law is now included in the two-year training to become a judge and basic police training includes sensitization to the issue of violence against women and the role of the police in responding to the needs of victims, in accordance with the EVAW Law. These developments are partially due to the advocacy efforts and reporting of UNAMA.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) with the Paris Principles in the fulfilment of its mandate.*

On 16 June 2013, the President of Afghanistan appointed five new AIHRC Commissioners and re-appointed four serving Commissioners. The re-appointments took place 18 months after the terms of office of the previous Commissioners had expired in December 2011. Afghan civil society, donors and UNAMA stressed that the selection process for the new Commissioners failed to meet international standards enshrined in the Paris Principles. On 18 November, the Commission underwent its accreditation review with the International Coordinating Committee's (ICC-NHRI) Sub-Committee on Accreditation, which recommended a deferral of the decision on accreditation for one year. It also indicated that if a list of its concerns were left un-addressed, the AIHRC would be downgraded from 'A' to 'B' status.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights and humanitarian law by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) and anti-Government elements (AGEs) in relation to their ability to protect and reduce the impact of combat operations on civilians.* There has been a notable and deeply concerning increase in the number of civilian casualties in the country, demonstrating that the insurgency's impact on the civilian population has not abated in any significant way. In the first 11 months of 2013, civilian deaths and injuries had increased by 10 per cent compared to the same period in 2012. The rise in civilian casualties reflects a return to the numbers of civilian deaths and injuries recorded in 2011, the year in which the highest figures for civilian casualties were recorded by UNAMA. Causes include an increase in the indiscriminate use of improvised explosive devices and expanded levels of ground engagements between Afghan forces and AGEs, particularly in civilian populated areas. Ground engagements were the second leading cause of civilian deaths and injuries; a new and troubling trend in 2013.
- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards protecting fair trial guarantees and protection against torture, cruel, degrading and inhuman treatment.* Allegations of torture and ill-treatment of conflict-related detainees while in the custody of the National Directorate of Security (NDS) and Afghan National Police (ANP) continues to be documented and reported by UNAMA. On 20 January 2013, UNAMA released its second major report on human rights concerns in places of detention, entitled *Treatment of Conflict-Related Detainees in Afghan Custody: One*



Year On. The use of torture was found to be prevalent in several ANP and NDS detention facilities, primarily to obtain a confession or information. In response to UNAMA's report, the President of Afghanistan established a fact-finding presidential delegation in January to investigate the documented allegations of torture and ill-treatment. In February 2013, the delegation reported that 48 per cent of the interviewed detainees had experienced torture and ill-treatment at the time of their arrest and during interrogations undertaken by ANP and NDS officials. After receiving the delegation's report, on 16 February 2013, the President endorsed its recommendations and issued Presidential Decree No. 129. This decree ordered the NDS, the Attorney-General's Office, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Court to investigate allegations of torture, prosecute alleged perpetrators, release detainees and prisoners in arbitrary detention and increase access of defence lawyers and medical personnel to detainees. The Supreme Court took action to implement Presidential Decree No. 129, including by issuing instructions to judges reminding them to reject confessions gained through torture and to dismiss cases that rely solely on evidence gained through torture. Additionally, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General's Office and the Ministry of Justice conducted joint visits to several provincial prisons to review cases of individuals who had been held in arbitrary detention. As a result, more than 400 detainees were released, although very few were being held for conflict-related offences. Furthermore, in response to UNAMA's findings in its 20 January



2013 report, the International Security Assistance Force suspended the transfer of detainees it had captured to 35 Afghan detention facilities. Instead, it redesigned its detainee certification review process to include inspections, provided training and capacity-building for all ANP and NDS interrogators and detention staff on human rights principles and non-coercive interrogation techniques and offered mentoring.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Human rights, especially victims' rights, and accountability become integral parts of the peace, reconciliation and reintegration processes and mechanisms are established and functioning to this end.*

During 2013, UNAMA's support to the Afghan People's Dialogue on Peace initiative continued. By the end of 2013, approximately 6,500 ordinary Afghans from across the country have been consulted. The project is designed to promote a rights-based approach whereby ordinary Afghans, including women, men, youth and minority groups can express their view on prospects for peace, reconciliation, security, economic development, human rights, justice and the rule of law. The project is being progressively implemented in two phases; Phase I took place from October to December 2011 and Phase II began in June 2013 and will be completed in mid-2014.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Civil society organizations and human rights defenders increasingly advocate for human rights.*

Civil society institutions have made some achievements since the 2012 Tokyo conference,

such as the creation of a Civil Society Joint Working Group. Civil society is also actively engaging in the New Deal initiative that is focused on finding a general consensus between the State and civil society on joint priorities. During 2013, civil society organizations also stressed that peace processes should be inclusive and based on human rights principles. UNAMA's support to civil society organizations continued.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased participation and representation of those who have been traditionally marginalized in governance and political processes, including women and victims of the conflict.*

Afghanistan ratified CEDAW in 2003 and in 2004, enacted a Constitution that recognizes women's equality and basic rights, including to engage in political activity. The Constitution reserves at least 25 per cent of the seats in the Parliament for women. While 28 per cent of Parliamentarians are women, in August 2013, the Parliament adopted an election law which reduced the quota of seats for women in provincial councils from 30 to 20 per cent and altogether eliminated the quota in district councils.

The amendments to the election law which reduced women's parliamentary seat quotas are concerning as parliamentarians initially tried to remove all quotas for women at the local level and only included the lower 20 per cent quota for provincial councils following intense advocacy efforts undertaken by women's rights groups. UNAMA worked closely with civil society and the Parliamentary Commission on Women's Affairs to advocate for leaving the quota of seats for women in provincial councils at 30 per cent and to leave the quota in district councils unchanged.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased engagement with human rights mechanisms through the submission of all overdue reports to treaty bodies, the acceptance of visit requests by special procedures mandate-holders and follow-up to key UPR recommendations.*

Following the 2012 adoption of the National Action Plan, prepared by the Human Rights Support Unit in the Ministry of Justice, a number of recommendations issued by the UPR, CRC and CESCR were implemented in 2013. The Human Rights Support Unit maintained and updated its database on recommendations and their implementation status. The Government indicated its intention to create a matrix for tracking government actions to fulfil or respond to specific recommendations and is anticipated to be operational in 2014.

Afghanistan appeared before CEDAW in July 2013. Its State Party report substantially conformed to the Committee's reporting guidelines. In November 2013, the Government submitted its second report to the UPR. The report partially conformed to the reporting guidelines. As a result of various delays, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began the preparation process five weeks before the report was due, thereby limiting the scope of the consultative process, the depth of its analysis and the degree to which it could realistically evaluate the potential for implementation. UNAMA provided advice and advocated for the implementation of recommendations issued by the UPR and the human rights treaty bodies and advised the Government on ensuring broad consultation with civil society in its preparation of the CEDAW report.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: A human rights-based approach is used for the definition of UNDAF indicators and human rights issues are included in the Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP).*

As part of the planning process for the drafting of the 2014-2017 Afghanistan UNDAF, the Human Rights Unit conducted a training session in November 2013 for all members of the UNCT on the application of a human rights-based approach in programming. The Human Rights Unit of UNAMA provided significant input on the structure and substance of critical areas for the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and UNDAF and contributed to the preparation of a human rights-based CCA and UNDAF.

Human Rights Advisers to UN Country Teams

Republic of the Maldives

Year established	2012
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards by law enforcement personnel and by the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives in relation to peaceful protest.*

The Human Rights Commission of the Maldives (HRCM) increased its visibility and displayed greater confidence in publicly speaking out about international human rights standards, especially in the context of elections. Steps need to be taken to further strengthen the voice of the Commission. The HRA worked with the HRCM, including by sharing information, reports and other resources. Incidents of violence during protests and allegations of the excessive use of force by the police were significantly lower in 2013, despite the fact it was a difficult election year. The Maldives Police Service (MPS) oversaw a number of peaceful protests. The HRA contributed to this result by consistently underlining the importance of compliance with international human rights standards, providing lectures to MPS personnel, sharing information, particularly on good practices related to freedom of assembly and peaceful protest and regular engagement on issues of concern. Inspired by good practices in Nepal, the HRA communicated with the political parties about international standards of political advocacy during elections, including regarding non-violence during protests, damage to property and incitement to violence. These standards were translated into Dhivehi, widely shared throughout the country and used by others, indicating an overall increase in awareness.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Withdrawal of reservations to article 21 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.*

The Maldives did not withdraw its reservations to the CRC or to other human rights treaties, despite extensive advocacy undertaken by the HRA. Nevertheless, the HRA increased awareness about the UN's position vis-à-vis reservations to the

human rights treaties, as well as of the practice of reservations among other Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) countries and the benefits of reservation withdrawal.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Women increasingly participate in decision-making processes and the development and monitoring of public policies.*

Following engagement by OHCHR and other UN partners in 2013, women in the Maldives have increased knowledge about international human rights standards and a greater awareness about the potential for realization of gender equality within an Islamic framework. More specifically, following collaborative advocacy undertaken by the HRA, UNFPA and UN Women, working through the Gender Advocacy Working Group, many participants to a workshop on gender issues reported on their evaluation forms that they felt more confident about challenging men, on the basis of Islam, to reclaim their rights to participate within the family and in public spaces. The HRA encouraged the UNCT to take the lead in creating the space for discussions around gender equality and Islam, based on examples of similar backgrounds and situations around the world. The HRA also developed linkages with the Government, facilitated the creation of networks with expert regional NGOs and Maldivian organizations and invested in tools and materials for wide dissemination.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by the State with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies (UPR, treaty bodies and special procedures).*

Acting on the encouragement of the HRA, the Government decided to reverse its decision to delay the submission of two State Party reports pending the updating of its common core document. Reports were therefore submitted to CEDAW in December 2012 and CRC in April 2013. The HRA also organized meetings for stakeholders and supported the drafting of other reports, notably for the CRPD and CAT (the latter of which was seven years overdue). In the fall of 2013, the Government submitted its UPR midterm assessment matrix, supported by the HRA. Nevertheless, due to poor coordination and a high turnover in leadership, the report preparation process suffered from an absence of resources and the limited capacities of staff. The Government consequently hired international consultants to draft some of the reports; a practice which the



The Human Rights Adviser in the Maldives visits the Thinadoo Police Station which was burned down during violent protests.

HRA strongly discouraged as it undermined the building of national capacities to prepare these reports. The HRA took steps to mentor and closely engage with government staff members during the drafting process. The experiences of drafting the report to CAT and the UPR midterm reports demonstrated that the Government is fully capable of producing quality reports on the implementation of its human rights obligations.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Civil society actors increasingly participate (i.e., contribute information) in the UN human rights mechanisms and utilize their outputs in their own work at the national level.* In the latter part of 2013, there was a significant increase in CSO interest in engaging with the human rights mechanisms. Civil society actors contacted OHCHR with a greater number of queries and a larger number attended briefings. In the last three months of the year, civil society actors sent three submissions for consideration by special procedures regarding threats to human rights defenders, freedom of expression and the independence of judges and lawyers. The HRA undertook numerous briefings and shared extensive resources, including examples of past communications of special procedures, to encourage continued CSO engagement.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Selected programmes of UN agencies integrate a human rights-based approach.* During the year, the UNCT integrated a human rights-based approach in activities related to communication, participation and the protection of human rights. The HRA supported this result by demonstrating the value and relevance of utilizing international human rights standards and mechanisms in their activities and the potential

results (i.e., increased credibility and legitimacy, improved public perception and the promotion of dialogue on issues of concern). Furthermore, the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers reignited the debate on judicial reform, which reinforced the importance of UNDP's governance activities. Presentations on the UN human rights system were organized for UNDP and UNICEF colleagues and UN Women and UNFPA reported that their trainings now contain a component on human rights.

The arrival of the Human Rights Adviser (HRA) to the United Nations Country Team in the Maldives provided it with a renewed impetus to address human rights concerns in the country, such as judicial independence, gender equality, flogging and corporal punishment and the death penalty. Previous inaction of the UNCT on these and other human rights-related issues had undermined its ability to exercise influence on these issues and subsequently weakened its credibility vis-à-vis the local population. The HRA helped the UNCT to recuperate its "voice" and reinvigorated its human rights work by, for instance, disseminating UN standards, public statements, concluding observations and reports by UN human mechanisms and by issuing public positions on matters of concern based on international commitments of the country.

Papua New Guinea

Year established	2008
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: A national human rights commission established in accordance with the Paris Principles.*

In 2013, the enabling legislation for the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission, which consists of Constitutional amendments and the organic law, was submitted for review by the Office of the State Solicitor and the Office of First Legislative Counsel. The Constitutional amendments were approved and finalized, however, the review of the organic law is ongoing. The enabling legislation was developed in conformity with the Paris Principles and approved by the National Executive Council in 2012. Technical assistance was provided

by OHCHR, the Asia Pacific Forum and other members of the drafting team in 2010 and 2011 to ensure its conformity with international standards.

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of law enforcement institutions with international human rights standards relating to the use of force and the prevention of torture.*

In 2011, OHCHR commissioned two consultants to undertake a human rights assessment of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary. The report was completed in 2012 and discussions were held in 2013 to consider and implement the recommendations related to training for police officers. It is anticipated that further progress will be made in 2014.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of the CRPD and CAT.* On 26 September 2013, the Government of Papua New Guinea ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Activities directed towards its implementation and integration at the national level will begin in 2014.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Justice and accountability mechanisms are in place for effective monitoring, investigation and the attainment of redress in relation to civil and political rights, in particular torture.*

In 2012, the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary launched a revised edition of the *Guide for Police Conduct and Behaviour*, a handbook for police officers on their responsibilities and obligations, in the context of widespread concerns about police misconduct and abuse, in particular killings and torture. The initiative was led by the International Committee of the Red Cross and supported by OHCHR.



A victim of sorcery-related attack in Papua New Guinea.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ Result for which no National EA was set: Sixty members of marginalized settlements from around Port Moresby participated in consultations, facilitated by the HRA, to provide their perspectives on development goals and priorities for their communities in the context of the post-2015 development framework submission from Papua New Guinea. The submission was compiled by the Department of National Planning and the Institute of National Affairs, with support from the UNCT, and presented to the Office of the Secretary-General in June 2013.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased implementation of recommendations from CEDAW, the UPR and the Special Rapporteur on torture and increased responsiveness to requests from special procedures.* In 2013, two legislative developments addressed key recommendations by special procedures and treaty bodies. On 28 May 2013, the Sorcery Act of 1971 was abolished by the Parliament, yet in an effort to deter sorcery-related killings, the Parliament adopted legislation that classifies sorcery-related killing as wilful murder that is punishable by death. A letter to the Prime Minister and a media statement were issued by the UNCT

in Papua New Guinea advocating for the abolition of the death penalty. Both documents were drafted by the HRA. In another development, on 19 September 2013, the Family Protection Bill was adopted by the Parliament which made domestic violence an offence and provided legislative support for the issuance of interim protection orders by District Courts for victims of domestic violence. The Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary, or arbitrary executions sent an official request to the Government of Papua New Guinea in April 2013. While the Government accepted the request and extended an invitation to the Special Rapporteur, an official date was not agreed upon and the visit was postponed until 2014.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: UNDAF satisfactorily integrated international human rights standards and principles.* The HRA continued to advocate for human rights issues through the UNCT, the Development Partners Roundtable and other fora. Advocacy conducted by the UNCT resulted in the release of three media releases, two of which focused on extrajudicial killings related to sorcery accusations and another which advocated for the abolition of the death penalty and was sent to the Office of

The Papua New Guinea Human Rights Film Festival has been organized annually since 2010 and is used as an awareness-raising tool to promote dialogue on human rights issues in the country. Since its inception, OHCHR has provided technical assistance to the planning committee regarding the selection of human rights themes and the organization of panel discussions with experts.

In 2013, the Film Festival showcased films and panel discussions related to the following six themes: asylum-seekers; gender and identity; discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons; housing rights and forced evictions; sorcery-related violence and killings; and the death



Human rights activists speaking during the film festival.

penalty. To maximize the reach of the festival, the panel discussions were broadcast on national radio and later summarized in a report; three screenings took place in an outdoor park in Port Moresby that was accessible to 150 settlement residents and low-income communities; and the festival travelled from Port Moresby to Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province and across five locations in the

Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

Each year, the Human Rights Film Festival seeks to extend the scope of discussions on human rights issues affecting Papua New Guineans. In 2014, it will aim to expand this focus to include the Government, civil society and other stakeholders and enhance the understanding of basic human rights among rights-holders in Papua New Guinea.

the Prime Minister. The HRA also chaired the UN Human Rights Task Team in 2013, facilitated bimonthly meetings between eight UN agencies and coordinated all human rights work being implemented through the UN-Government Joint Annual Work Plan 2013.

Sri Lanka

Year established	2004
Staff as of 31 December 2013	4

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka with the Paris Principles.*

Following the 2012 capacity assessment of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) undertaken by the Asia Pacific Forum and UNDP, with the participation of OHCHR, the Commission adopted a number of recommendations related to its administrative functions. Other more critical recommendations have yet to be addressed. Through a UN Joint Programme, OHCHR supported the HRCSL to: enhance its engagement with civil society; strengthen the legal capacity of a number of its regional offices; and strengthen its capacity to engage with UN human rights mechanisms. These activities address some of the recommendations issued by the ICC-NHRI to the HRCSL in 2009 to improve its compliance with the Paris Principles.

- ▶ *National EA: Legislation adopted related to disappearances, the right to information and witness and victim protection in compliance with international human rights standards.*
No legislation on disappearances, the right to information or witness and victim protection was adopted during the period under review.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: A transitional justice process is established in compliance with human rights standards.*

In accordance with the March 2012 and 2013 Human Rights Council resolutions on Sri Lanka, OHCHR provided substantive technical assistance to the Government on implementing the recommendations issued by the Lessons Learned and Reconciliation Commission. Although the



The High Commissioner meets relatives of missing or disappeared persons in Sri Lanka, August 2013.

High Commissioner formally extended offers of technical assistance regarding transitional justice in 2012 and 2013, by the end of the year, the Government had not responded to the offers and no transitional justice process had been initiated.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by the Government of Sri Lanka with the special procedures.*

Only one special procedure mandate-holder was invited to visit Sri Lanka during the period under review. The Special Rapporteur on human rights and internally displaced persons travelled to Sri Lanka in December 2013. Invitations were extended to the Special Rapporteurs on education and on the human rights of migrants to undertake visits to Sri Lanka in 2014. The nine outstanding requests for country visits by other mandates-holders have not yet been accepted.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased use of the outputs of the UPR, treaty bodies and special procedures by the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka and civil society actors.*

OHCHR continued its work in support of civil society's engagement with all the UN human rights mechanisms. It is worth noting that the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka submitted its first report in the context of the second cycle of the UPR on Sri Lanka in November 2012.

Responsiveness of the international community (EA 10)

- ▶ *National EA: The international community is alert and responsive to ongoing to human rights violations in Sri Lanka.*

The international community continued to be attentive to the situation in Sri Lanka as reflected by

the Human Rights Council resolutions on Promoting Reconciliation and Accountability in Sri Lanka, adopted at its March 2012 and 2013 sessions. The two resolutions called on the Government to implement the constructive recommendations emanating from the Lessons Learned and Reconciliation Commission; encouraged OHCHR to provide support through technical assistance; and requested the High Commissioner to report any progress made to the Council at its in March 2013, September 2013 and March 2014 sessions.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into the work of the UNCT.*

The Government signed off on the current UNDAF in late 2012. The HRA participated in the activities of the pillar on Governance, Human Rights, Gender Equality, Social Inclusion and Protection, contributed to the mapping of UN agencies and programmes related to these areas and to the definition of priorities for 2014.

Timor-Leste

Year established	2013
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards by all State entities, including the national human rights institution and the judiciary, as well as domestic laws, policies and programmes.*

In 2013, the Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice (PDHJ) reported the enhanced cooperation of the police in investigations against members of the police force. An increasing number of recommendations issued by the PDHJ to the police were implemented, although PDHJ could not provide exact numbers. The PDHJ Human Rights Directorate was regularly requested by government institutions to conduct human rights training for community leaders and police officers. The HRA provided technical support to the PDHJ for its programme of human rights training for the police. It also provided financial support for a joint UNDP/OHCHR project on capacity development for staff of the PDHJ's human rights directorate.

Human rights are now included in the National Police Training Centre's standard training programme for new recruits. The National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL) increased their understanding and application of human rights in their daily work through trainings conducted by the HRA and the UN mission. In 2013, 248 police recruits were trained by PDHJ, with the support of the HRA, on human rights standards and their relevance to their work.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Justice and accountability mechanisms established and functioning in compliance with international human rights standards to monitor, investigate and redress violations of civil and political as well as economic, social and cultural rights.*

Activities related to this EA were focused on supporting the Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice, the results of which are reported under national laws, policies and institutions (EA 1).

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, increasingly use existing national protection systems and participate in decision-making processes and the development and monitoring of public policies.*

Civil society organizations representing discriminated groups expressed a strong interest in receiving capacity-building training on human rights standards and how to work with the mechanisms at the national and international levels. A programme of support for civil society will commence in 2014.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by the State with United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms (treaty bodies, special procedures, Human Rights Council/UPR).*

Some progress was made in implementing priority recommendations, particularly on: (a) the inclusion of human rights in school curricula; (b) training of the police; and (c) promoting gender equality. While human rights education is being offered in both primary and secondary schools, the Ministry of Education initiated a process in September 2013 to improve the quality of the primary school curricula, including regarding human rights education. The HRA provided technical advice to the Ministry, shared its experiences on human rights education during

the UN peace mission and shared its human rights education materials, including a manual on human rights in the national language that was produced by the UN mission's Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section. Training for police in Timor-Leste continued in order to strengthen their knowledge on protecting and respecting human rights. The Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice reported a decrease in the number of complaints received from the public against police. This was attributed, inter alia, to the training it conducted in collaboration with the HRA. The Government, supported by the UN and civil society, continued carrying out programmes and activities directed towards guaranteeing gender equality.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles, including the right to development, into UN system policies and programmes with respect to development, humanitarian action, peace and security and economic and social issues.*

By the end of 2013, the UNDP Poverty Reduction and Environment Unit had begun drafting guidelines on integrating human rights in the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of its projects. The HRA provided training on the application of human rights-based approach and shared materials and information on relevant standards.

The draft UNDAF for 2015-2020 has a focus on providing assistance to discriminated groups and the realization of their rights. The document assesses pertinent human rights issues in relation to social, economic, civil and political rights. It refers to various recommendations issued by UN human rights mechanisms and includes a specific indicator on ensuring increased reporting under human rights treaties in accordance with the respective reporting guidelines. The HRA provided technical advice to sector working groups that were drafting the UNDAF situational analysis and matrix, conducted training on the application of a human rights-based approach for 39 UNCT staff members (including 21 women) and shared relevant materials and information on standards related to human rights mainstreaming.

More than 100 high school students expressed their views on sustainable development and its linkages with human rights through art works and speeches in the presence of approximately 300 people, including Timor-Leste's Vice Prime Minister and other government officials. The students were part of so-called "human rights clubs," which were established and supported by the Human Rights Component of the former United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste to encourage individuals and groups to become human rights defenders who would promote human rights values in their communities and beyond. Between 2010 and 2012, bi-weekly interactive training and discussion sessions, which used games and art, were facilitated for club members. The clubs then organized campaigns in their schools to raise issues of concern, including quality of education, corporal punishment

in schools and the environment. In October 2013, the Human Rights Adviser, in close collaboration with UN Volunteers (UNVs) and the NGO "Na Terra," trained 53 high school students (35 of whom were female) from three districts. The focus of the training was on human rights and sustainable development and the importance of making the voices of youth heard in ongoing discussions related to the post-2015 development agenda. As part of a competition supported by UNV, the students wrote letters and produced paintings, poetry, music and theatre performances, calling for improved access to quality education, health services and water and sanitation, which were displayed in front of the Government's Palace on International Volunteers Day on 5 December 2013. One of the club members from Dili District addressed the gathered audience and called on the youth of Timor-Leste to demand their



Letters drafted by high school students to claim their rights.

rights and fulfil their obligations to contribute to national development. She felt "proud to stand in front of the crowd and it is because of the human rights club activities I was involved in, supported by the UN's Human Rights Office, that I feel confident to share my views with all of you."

projects on the ground, are also key to OHCHR's country-engagement work. OHCHR supported the office-wide approach of thematically clustering the recommendations from the human rights mechanisms and worked with national partners and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) to review these compendiums and establish priorities and benchmarks, with a view to ensuring their effective implementation, including through the development of national action plans.

In 2012-2013, OHCHR pursued its work in the context of protracted conflicts in Europe, including through participation in the Geneva International Discussions on the conflict in Georgia. The Office continued reporting on an annual basis to the Human Rights Council on the question of human rights in Cyprus, stressing that the persisting division of the island constitutes an obstacle to the full enjoyment in mutual confidence by the whole population of Cyprus of all human rights and fundamental freedoms. OHCHR also supported the engagement of the UN's Senior Expert on Human Rights, Thomas Hammarberg, in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova, with a view to strengthening human rights. This is in line with the High Commissioner's general mandate to protect all human rights for all, including by seeking access to and working with de facto authorities to ensure that there are no human rights protection gaps in areas under their effective control. The Office also supported the work of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, whose mandate has been extended by the Human Rights Council resolution 23/15 of 24 June 2013.

In the course of the year, OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights standards and principles into the UN system's development programmes through trainings for the UNCTs and briefings and technical support provided to the Resident Coordinators. OHCHR also provided inputs and briefings to the ICC-NHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. OHCHR increased the effectiveness of its support to the international human rights mechanisms through numerous trainings, consultations, information sessions and by organizing orientation/familiarization visits for various stakeholders (governments, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), civil society, lawyers, academia, students, UNCT members, etc.) from a number of countries in the ECA region.

In the reporting period, OHCHR also enhanced its cooperation with regional partner organizations, namely the Council of Europe and the OSCE. On 26 September 2013, the High Commissioner and

the Secretary General of the Council of Europe signed the Joint Declaration on the reinforcement of cooperation between the Council of Europe Secretariat and OHCHR. The High Commissioner and OHCHR staff held meetings and regular exchanges with OSCE that were targeted towards the Organization's further engagement with the UN, including the UPR process.

In 2013, OHCHR supported the visits of the High Commissioner to the Netherlands (16-17 May); Belgium (21 May); Spain (13-15 June); Serbia and Kosovo (16-20 June); Austria (26-28 June); Slovenia (3 September); Poland (13-14 October); the UK and Ireland (5-8 November); France (13 November) and Germany (6 December). OHCHR also supported the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights during his visit to Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan (18-29 May); and the Deputy High Commissioner's visit to Brussels (25-27 November).

Stand-alone Office

Kosovo⁷

Year established	1998
Staff as of 31 December 2013	8
Expenditure in 2013	US\$733,424

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- *National EA: Increased compliance of the Ombudsperson Institution with the Paris Principles.*

In 2013, the Ombudsperson Institution opened two new regional offices, increased its staff and enhanced its capacities in handling cases and promoting human rights in close collaboration with civil society organizations. OHCHR supported the Institution through: capacity-building activities, technical support and joint initiatives that were mainly focused on strengthening cooperation between the Ombudsperson Institution and human rights defenders and civil society organizations; strengthening its capacity to deal with cases

⁷ All references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

related to the Constitutional Court; and by providing comments to the draft amendment to the law on the Ombudsperson Institution.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Effective functioning of the National Mechanism to Prevent Torture, as per the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT).*

A task force that functions as Kosovo's National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), which is comprised of the Ombudsperson Institution and two NGOs, has been active since 2011 and is in charge of visiting all places of detention. Partly through the support of OHCHR, the task force has increased its capacity in performing its duties, leading to improved protection of detainees and the provision of recommendations to the police and correctional services to increase their compliance with human rights standards that are applicable to persons deprived of their liberty. Among the various activities carried out to support the taskforce, OHCHR facilitated annual roundtables with its staff and representatives of the correctional services to address gaps in meeting human rights standards.

- ▶ *National EA: Steps taken to establish a transitional justice mechanism relating to serious human rights violations committed during the wars in the former Yugoslavia.*

In June 2012, Kosovo authorities established an Interministerial Working Group on Dealing with the Past and Reconciliation and on 25 March 2013, the President appointed her legal adviser as her personal envoy to the Coalition for Reconciliation Commission (RECOM), a regional network of NGOs that works to promote reconciliation following the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. While Kosovo authorities have demonstrated their commitment to consider the RECOM initiative, they have yet to endorse its statutes. During the reporting period, OHCHR provided comments to the draft decision to establish the Interministerial Working Group and to the Working Group's rules of procedure and work plan. The Office also provided support for the selection of civil society representatives that will serve as members of the Working Group. Moreover, the Office drafted a three-year project, together with UNDP, to support the work of the Interministerial Working Group on Dealing with the Past and Reconciliation, which is anticipated to begin in 2014. Finally, OHCHR supported the drafting process of the Action Plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325, which was finalized at the end of 2013.



A woman casting her ballot during elections in four northern Kosovo municipalities, November 2013.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased effectiveness by government institutions, such as the Legal Aid Commission and line ministries, in implementing the Anti-Discrimination Law and related legislation.*

After nine years of inadequate implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law, Kosovo authorities decided to propose an amendment to include the establishment of an implementing mechanism. OHCHR has consistently advocated for the amendment of this Law, notably through comments provided on the Action Plan on the Implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law 2012-2015; a series of workshops for key Assembly Committees in collaboration with civil society organizations; and continuous advocacy initiatives undertaken in partnership with the OSCE and the Council of Europe. In close cooperation with the Council of Europe and the European Office in Kosovo, OHCHR provided technical advice during the drafting of the amendment. During this process, it became clear that the Law on the Ombudsperson Institution and the Gender Equality Law also required a thorough review, taking into account the interrelationship between these three laws. The Executive must finalize the revision of the laws before they are submitted to the Assembly.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of claims by rights-holders and their representatives with regards to the right to non-discrimination.* During the biennium under review, OHCHR provided technical assistance and funding to more than five NGOs, enabling them to advocate for legislative change and monitor

the implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law. In addition, OHCHR helped to enhance the capacity of NGOs representing vulnerable groups to engage in strategic litigation, notably in discrimination cases, through the sharing of experiences and good practices. Furthermore, OHCHR supported the development of two publications which analyzed discrimination cases in Kosovo and contributed to a better understanding of the reasons underlying the inadequate implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Sustained engagement by the Government (or international actors, where relevant) with the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the special procedures, within the legal and political constraints of the situation in Kosovo.* A number of selected recommendations from human rights mechanisms were partially implemented. With regard to the reform of the national human rights framework, OHCHR ensured that relevant actors worked in cooperation to address the issue with Kosovo authorities, leading to the adoption of a concerted approach and the advisory involvement of the Council of Europe. In addition, OHCHR continuously advocated for the strengthening of the Ombudsperson Institution, which eventually led to a significant increase in its budget. In terms of Kosovo's engagement with special procedures mandate-holders, the Kosovo authorities substantially responded to all submitted communications. For instance, on 10 January 2013, four special rapporteurs sent an allegation letter in relation to incidents in December 2012 that affected the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) community. Kosovo authorities responded on 26 March 2013 and, in September 2013, indictments were filed against three persons in relation to this case.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased use of treaty bodies and special procedures by the Ombudsperson, civil society and individuals.* In terms of treaty body reporting, since its 2008 declaration of independence, Kosovo's authorities have been reluctant to report to the treaty bodies through the United Nations Interim Administration

Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). In 2013, however, UNMIK submitted a report to CEDAW which was sent back because it did not adhere to the reporting guidelines. The report has not yet been revised. Regarding the special procedures, while no communications have been submitted by the Ombudsperson Institution, NGOs or individuals, OHCHR continued to advocate for the use of special procedures and organized workshops for the Ombudsperson Institution and civil society organizations.

Kosovo: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	576,262
Consultants	-	3,120
Official travel	-	3,068
Contractual services	-	8,624
General operating expenses	-	52,338
Supplies & materials	-	6,924
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	(1,288)
Subtotal	-	649,048
Programme support costs		84,376
GRAND TOTAL	-	733,424

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Regional Offices

Regional Office for Central Asia (Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic)

Year established	2008
Staff as of 31 December 2013	18
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,187,673

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Promotion of ratification of the OP-CAT and establishment of effective National Preventive Mechanisms in Central Asia.* In Kazakhstan, the Law on the National Preventive Mechanism was adopted on 3 July 2013. The NPM will be headed by the Ombudsman and will consist of NGOs and



Participants of a roundtable discussion on gender-based violence in Kyrgyzstan, June 2013.

independent experts guided by a Coordination Council. In compliance with the OP-CAT, it will be mandated to monitor prisons, pre-trial, police and military detention facilities and facilities for compulsory medical and psychiatric treatment. This follows years of advocacy undertaken by the Regional Office, as well as technical advice provided in follow-up to recommendations made to Kazakhstan by the Special Rapporteur on torture, the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, the Committee Against Torture (CAT) and the UPR. The Regional Office also provided inputs during the drafting of the Law to ensure its compliance with international standards.

In Kyrgyzstan, after the enactment of the Law establishing the NPM in June 2012, the Mechanism began to function in August 2013 with the adoption of its rules of procedure and the election of a Director, Chair, members and executive body. OHCHR provided support for this process, along with civil society and international partners, by advocating for its establishment for more than four years and providing advice during the drafting of the Law, the selection process of the Director and other staff and the initial phase of strategic planning.

Tajikistan rejected a 2011 UPR recommendation to ratify the OP-CAT. Nevertheless, following sustained advocacy by OHCHR, an Ombudsman Decree of August 2013 established a working group that will act as the pilot NPM's policy-level body. Its membership will consist of representatives from NGOs and national authorities, including the Presidential Administration, the Supreme Court, the Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Interior and the penitentiary system. The pilot NPM's legal basis, its monitoring plan and strategies were

finalized in November 2013 and it is anticipated that it will begin monitoring places of detention in 2014. OHCHR supported the establishment of the pilot NPM, along with other international organizations, by providing technical advice and building the capacity of authorities regarding international standards related to torture.

- ▶ *National EA: Adoption of national legislation and development of policies that are compliant with international standards on the right to adequate housing.*

In recent years, Kazakhstan has taken some significant steps to strengthen the implementation of the right to adequate housing. In 2011, the Government introduced an Action Plan for the period 2011-2015 to implement recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing. In 2012, the Government adopted a housing construction programme with a view to promoting the construction of affordable housing units for middle class and young families. The Regional Office advocated for the implementation of the recommendations issued by the Special Rapporteur, raised the awareness of relevant duty-bearers on international standards and enhanced the capacity of civil society organizations to monitor alleged violations. On 9 July 2013, the President of Kyrgyzstan signed the new Housing Code which, compared to its predecessor, significantly improves the legislative framework's compliance with international standards through the inclusion of provisions related to evictions; security of tenure; the granting of compensation to affected individuals and residents in connection to the seizure of land; mortgage loans; and the identification of groups in need of special support. Despite these provisions, some improvements are needed to make the Code fully compliant with international standards. The Regional Office supported the drafting of the Code by providing technical advice to the Government, parliamentarians and civil society and encouraged the Working Group on the Elaboration of the Draft Housing Code to hold public hearings to facilitate civil society's participation.

While legislation improving the enjoyment of housing rights has yet to be adopted in Tajikistan, significant progress has been made with the drafting of a new Housing Code that is in compliance with international standards. The two-year drafting process, undertaken by parliamentarians, government representatives and civil society, was completed in June 2013 and a first draft was submitted to the Government for its adoption. OHCHR provided technical

advice to the drafting group during 15 of its sessions and provided financial support for the organization of public hearings to solicit the views and opinions of rights-holders. OHCHR also supported an analysis of the draft Code's compliance with international standards and promoted an increased understanding among Government officials and other actors regarding the importance of bringing legislation in line with international standards through the dissemination of the findings of a thematic study on the right to adequate housing.

► *National EA: Policies adopted in line with international standards on minority rights in Central Asia.*

To bring legislation and policy in line with international standards relating to minorities in Kazakhstan, OHCHR increased its advocacy with State officials, parliamentarians, civil society, ethnic communities, the media, academia and the Ombudsman to raise their awareness about Kazakhstan's obligations under international human rights law. The Regional Office undertook a study on the situation of minority rights in Kazakhstan and another on minority rights from across the subregion in relation to the media, education and public participation. The results were presented at events in May and October 2013. These events contributed to a better understanding among participants of international minority rights standards and of the situation of minority rights in their respective countries.

On April 2013, the Government of Kyrgyzstan adopted a policy, entitled Strengthening the Unity of People and Inter-Ethnic Relations, which promotes the State language (Kyrgyz) as integral to Kyrgyzstani society. The policy also includes provisions which aim to promote minority representation in State bodies and protect minority languages, bringing it in closer compliance with international human rights standards. The Regional Office contributed to this result by providing technical advice and policy suggestions to the Presidential Administration during the drafting process and carrying out informed advocacy using statistics and research on minority issues produced by the Office. Civil society and ethnic minorities participated in the development of the policy with the support of OHCHR. In addition, the National Strategy on Sustainable Development 2013-2017 was approved by the President of Kyrgyzstan in January 2013. The section of the National Strategy that focuses on inter-ethnic issues is in close compliance with international standards as it stresses respect for the rights of ethnic communities, guarantees their rights and envisages the adoption of a balanced approach in promoting



Public hearing of the draft housing code at the Ombudsman's Office in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

common values and respecting differences.

The section incorporates the majority of the Regional Office's suggestions to bring the National Strategy in closer compliance with international standards on the protection of minority rights.

► *National EA: Ombudsman institutions in Central Asia increasingly work in conformity with the Paris Principles.*

The Regional Office advocated for the Kazakhstan Ombudsman Institution to apply to the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC-NHRI) for accreditation and provided support and advice during the application process. The Office also advocated for the implementation of all recommendations issued by the ICC-NHRI to bring the Institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles and offered capacity-building support in this respect. In March 2012, the ICC-NHRI's Sub-Committee on Accreditation awarded the Institution with 'B' status, as the legislative framework regarding the NHRI is not in full compliance with the Paris Principles. The Regional Office, together with other UN agencies, has identified priority areas to enhance the capacity of the Institution, including by bringing its legislation in line with international standards and building its capacity to monitor, investigate, document and report on human rights violations. In this regard, OHCHR involved representatives of the Institution in the majority of its capacity-building initiatives in 2012 and 2013, which led to their improved understanding of international human rights standards and monitoring techniques. The Office, in collaboration with other UN partners, also provided technical advice during the revision of the Law on the Ombudsman which resulted in the inclusion of international standards.

In March 2012, the ICC-NHRI awarded the Tajikistan Ombudsman Institution with 'B' status. The Regional Office provided support and advice to the NHRI during the application process. In December 2012, the Government adopted a programme on human rights education and the Ombudsman serves as the coordinator of this programme. In this context, OHCHR facilitated training-of-trainers sessions on human rights education for the staff of the Ombudsman and developed a manual for secondary school teachers on human rights for further use by the trainers. It is expected that these activities will assist the Ombudsman in ensuring the implementation of the Government's human rights education programme.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by countries of Central Asia with UN human rights mechanisms and other human rights bodies, including on follow-up to their recommendations, in particular in the area of the rule of law.*

During 2012 and 2013, Kazakhstan continued to take action to implement a number of the recommendations issued by the UN human rights mechanisms. For instance, the Government of Kazakhstan revised the Criminal, Criminal Justice and Criminal Procedural Codes and the draft laws were submitted for parliamentary review in November 2013. The Regional Office provided technical advice on the draft legislation and advocated, along with international partners, for the incorporation of changes in accordance with UPR recommendations. Additionally, a law on free legal aid, that is partially compliant with recommendations issued by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, was adopted in July 2013. During the drafting process, OHCHR provided expert advice on the draft, raised awareness regarding relevant international standards and facilitated discussion among parliamentarians and lawyers on the key provisions. The Government of Kyrgyzstan continued to deploy efforts to implement recommendations received from international human rights mechanisms. A study, produced by the Regional Office and presented to the State in November 2013, analyzed all recommendations related to the rule of law and mapped the progress made in their implementation. It assessed that out of 124 recommendations issued, 17 were fully implemented, 16 were implemented at the legislative level, 35 were partially implemented and 56 were not yet implemented.

The Government welcomed the study and committed to use it as a reference tool to develop a strategy for the implementation of the remaining recommendations. In November 2013, the Government of Kyrgyzstan established an inter-agency body, the Coordination Council on Human Rights, to facilitate a comprehensive and coordinated approach to interaction with the human rights mechanisms, including implementation of their recommendations and the submission of State reports.

Over the reporting cycle, the Government of Tajikistan deployed significant efforts to implement recommendations emanating from the human rights mechanisms. Following recommendations issued by the Committee against Torture and the Special Rapporteur on torture, the Code of Execution of Criminal Punishments was amended in October 2013, thereby improving the legal framework governing the treatment of prisoners serving life sentences. In addition, a coalition of NGOs undertook joint discussions with the Government on a UPR implementation action plan which was subsequently approved by the Government. The Regional Office assisted the coalition to identify precise objectives to facilitate future results-based monitoring. In line with OHCHR's suggestions, the coalition proposed that the Government link UPR recommendations with those from other human rights mechanisms. This recommendation has not yet been taken up and the Regional Office will continue advocating for a holistic and coordinated approach to the implementation of recommendations.

Regional Office for Central Asia (Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic): Expenditure in 2013		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	554,128	125,129
Consultants	(1,492)	11,346
Official travel	7,940	23,064
Contractual services	2,838	(258)
General operating expenses	60,128	72,151
Supplies & materials	1,125	1,427
Seminars, grants & contributions	22,198	245,732
Subtotal	646,865	478,591
Programme support costs	-	62,217
GRAND TOTAL	646,865	540,808

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Regional Office for Europe (Brussels, Belgium)

Year established	2009
Staff as of 31 December 2013	6
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,119,952

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance by EU policies with existing international human rights obligations, especially with regards to migration, persons with disabilities, rights of the child and procedural rights.*

The European Structural Funds Regulations, adopted in November 2013 by the European Parliament, represent a significant achievement in terms of increased compliance by the EU with international human rights standards, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the CRC and the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children. With a view to promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and the rights of the child, the regulations contain specific language on the promotion of transition to community-based care and include an ex-ante conditionality that will serve as a strong basis for continued advocacy to ensure effective implementation and respect for international standards at the national level. As a member of the European Expert Group on Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care, the OHCHR Regional Office for Europe actively advocated for these changes and provided technical assistance to relevant EU officials. On business-related issues, the European Commission adopted human rights guidelines in June 2013 for three industry sectors (oil and gas; information and communication technology; and employment and recruitment companies). OHCHR contributed to the elaboration of the guidelines regarding employment and recruitment companies to ensure the reflection of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other relevant international standards.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Implementation of the obligations stemming from CRPD by several countries of the region.*

In June 2013, jointly with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, the Regional Office organized an event, entitled



The Deputy High Commissioner delivers a speech during the European Development Days in Brussels, November 2013.

Preventing Abuse and Neglect of Older Persons in Europe, gathering together over 100 participants from EU Member States, NHRIs, academia, care workers, civil society and international organizations. The event provided a platform for discussions on the human rights of older persons and raised the awareness of participants regarding relevant international human rights standards.

- ▶ *National EA: Adoption of human rights-based policies related to inclusion of Roma by several countries in the region.*

Through interactions with government representatives, Ombudsman institutions and civil society, the Regional Office advocated for the application of international norms and standards in forced evictions in France and Slovakia. At the regional level, on February 2013, the European Commission adopted its Social Investment Package consisting of, inter alia, a recommendation on investing in children, as well as on Roma and migrant children, to which OHCHR contributed.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by EU institutions and States in the region with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies, including visits to the EU by relevant special procedures mandate-holders in relation to issues where it has shared responsibilities with EU Member States.*

In April 2013, an OHCHR event on the implementation of recommendations of human rights mechanisms in relation to the rights of migrants gathered together representatives of EU Member States, national human rights institutions and UN agencies in order to raise awareness about the existing obligations of EU Member States regarding the rights of migrants,



OHCHR's stand at the European Development Days in Brussels, November 2013.

despite the fact that none of the Member States have ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. In terms of recommendations issued by human rights mechanisms to European States, the Regional Office used every opportunity, including field missions, to advocate for their effective implementation. For instance, during a visit to Albania in November, OHCHR followed up with relevant authorities on the recommendations of the CRC and the Human Rights Committee regarding issues of concern, including detention of irregular migrants, children in alternative care, trafficking in persons, rights of persons with disabilities and discrimination against Roma. During a mission to Greece in November, OHCHR followed up on the recommendations of the CRC and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

► *National EA: Increased integration of a human rights-based approach into the substantive policy submission of the UN Brussels Team to the EU.* A political document on combating female genital mutilation in the EU, largely reflecting a human rights-based approach, was presented by the European Commission in November. The Regional Office ensured that human rights standards were included in a submission for the EU that was prepared with other UN agencies on the issue. The Regional Office continued to advocate for the implementation by EU Member States of the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive by drawing on the *Joint UN Commentary on the EU Directive*, which was launched in 2012. The Office also continued to participate, together with UNHCR and IOM, on the training team on anti-trafficking for Frontex border guards and ensured the inclusion of a human rights-based approach

In June 2013, a large-scale raid was undertaken by masked police in a poor and remote Roma shantytown in Slovakia. According to witnesses, the episode involved the excessive use of force by police, including against children, allegations of torture in a police station, intimidation of witnesses and other violations. OHCHR, represented by the Office's Regional Representative for Europe, visited the country and met with the victims of the police violence in the shantytown, Slovakia's police commander, the Chair of the parliamentary Human Rights and Minorities Committee, the Government Plenipotentiary on Roma Affairs, community workers and other civil society actors. OHCHR also supported local civil society organizations to communicate with two special procedures mandate-holders who subsequently submitted an allegation letter to the Slovak Government. In addition, during her speech to the September 2013 session of the Human Rights Council, the High Commissioner expressed her support for the independent investigation being conducted by the Slovak Ombudsperson and urged the Government to pay attention to its findings. At the same time, OHCHR continued its advocacy through diplomatic channels and the national and international media. Finally, on 16 December 2013, the national media reported that the Office of the Prosecutor-General was bringing charges against the police who had participated in the raid.

in training sessions. Two such trainings took place in 2013 and OHCHR's involvement in these capacity-building activities will continue in 2014.

Regional Office for Europe (Brussels, Belgium): Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	741,951	31
Consultants	-	16,406
Official travel	10,100	5,205
Contractual services	-	(12,325)
General operating expenses	84,400	42,555
Supplies & materials	4,500	(3,698)
Seminars, grants & contributions	40,000	163,331
Subtotal	880,951	211,505
Programme support costs	-	27,496
GRAND TOTAL	880,951	239,001

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Human Rights Advisers in United Nations Country Teams

Republic of Moldova

Year established	2008
Staff as of 31 December 2013	2

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Domestic legal framework in the field of anti-discrimination improved.*

Several key laws in the area of discrimination, substantially in line with human rights standards, were adopted during 2012 and 2013, including: the Law on the Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, which incorporates the CRPD into the domestic legislation; the Law on Ensuring Equality and the Law on the Regulation of the Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensuring Equality; a Law amending various aspects of the Criminal and Contraventional Codes related to discrimination and bias-crimes which, inter alia, provide for the Republic of Moldova's acceptance of the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) to review individual complaints and petitions; and the Law on Roma Community Mediators which outlines measures to ensure Roma inclusion. The passage of these key pieces of legislation follows more than five years of advocacy and engagement by OHCHR and the provision of guidance and inputs to the Government, civil society and parliamentarians. In addition, OHCHR trained public authorities and civil society on anti-discrimination standards, including by providing training sessions for lawyers and members of the Equality Council within the framework of the National Institute for Justice. Following these capacity-building sessions, 13 complaints were adjudicated by courts in cases related to gender equality criteria, disability, domestic violence and sexual orientation.

- ▶ *National EA: The legal basis of the national human rights institution is amended to better conform to the Paris Principles.*

OHCHR worked closely with the Ministry of Justice, civil society and international partners to support the elaboration of a draft bill to reform the Moldovan Centre on Human Rights to function in conformity with the Paris Principles. In December 2013, the Parliament adopted the bill, however, in doing so, it significantly altered

key elements that were originally included by the drafting working group that may lead to non-transparent appointment procedures and anti-torture provisions in contravention of the OP-CAT, among other issues of concern.

Under the pressure of the local non-Roma population in Otaci, Republic of Moldova, school officials created separate classes for Roma and non-Roma children. After being appraised of the situation in 2012, OHCHR documented the case and supported multiple joint missions with civil society, the Ombudsman Institution, the Ministry of Education and the Prime Minister's Adviser on Social Issues. Following the July 2013 mission by Ministry of Education officials and the Prime Minister's Adviser on Social Issues to Otaci, and responding to requests by Roma and non-Roma parents, school officials and the Otaci municipality, the Ministry of Education undertook a series of measures to support desegregation of the school, including by providing preparatory language classes. As a result, the school year 2013-2014 began with the dissolution of ethnically divided classes and the establishment of integrated classes, with a series of support measures from the Ministry.



Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of at least one new international human rights instrument, either the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) or the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and of Their Families.*

As stipulated in the National Human Rights Action Plan for 2011-2014, a study was carried out in 2013 on the possibility of ratifying the OP-ICESCR. The first draft of the Feasibility Study, prepared by experts engaged by OHCHR in consultation with the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection, was submitted in May and presented to an interministerial round-table discussion in July. In October, the Government posted a draft decision on its website regarding the approval of the draft law on ratification of the Optional Protocol. The draft law is pending before the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Implementation of recommendations issued by international human rights bodies relating to Roma, health and human rights, the rights of persons with disabilities and freedom of religion or belief.*

Substantive progress was achieved in the implementation of a number of recommendations addressed to the Republic of Moldova by human rights bodies. To this end, OHCHR played a leading role in facilitating national debates around international law standards. For instance, in relation to Roma inclusion, the Government appointed an adviser to the Prime Minister on Roma community issues, the first position of its kind in Moldova, and in March, the Parliament adopted a Law on Roma Community Mediators. In October, it was reported that the post of the Ombudsman for Psychiatry would be formalized and receive financial support from the State budget of 2014, largely as a result of OHCHR's efforts to promote enhanced access to justice for persons with disabilities on the basis of the 2011 recommendations of the CESCR. In another example, an interministerial working group completed a draft law on the reform of the institution of guardianship, which is pending submission for official consultation. Concerning health-related issues, the Ministry of Health issued a decision in November that indicated that over the next 18 months, the Republic of Moldova's mental health care services are to be shifted from large institutional care centres to in-community services in an attempt to deinstitutionalize adult care. In all these areas, OHCHR worked closely with relevant authorities to discuss the recommendations concerned and their respective normative and legal implications.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of women from vulnerable or marginalized communities, as well*



The LGBTI community holding a public event in the Republic of Moldova, May 2013.

as civil society organizations and the national human rights institution, engaging with the international human rights machinery.

Five shadow reports, including one from a NGO from the Transnistrian region (which is not under the effective control of the State), were submitted to the CEDAW Committee for its review in October 2013. OHCHR worked with UN Women and UNDP to organize multiple training courses and workshops on CEDAW for civil society organizations, focusing in particular on women from marginalized groups, such as Roma, women living with HIV/AIDS, women with disabilities and women from the Transnistrian region. Moreover, at OHCHR's initiative and in cooperation with UNDP and the Soros Foundation, a civil society delegation of approximately 15 women attended the CEDAW review in Geneva.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: The United Nations Country Team incorporates a human rights-based approach into the UN Partnership Framework (UNPF 2013-2017), as well as into particular areas of programming.*

The UNPF 2013-2017 includes extensive commitments to work towards the implementation of recommendations from international human rights mechanisms to the Republic of Moldova and brings extensive human rights elements into various policy and programming areas. The UNPF was developed through extensive consultations, with OHCHR co-chairing the UNPF Pillar 1 on Democratic Governance, Justice, Equality and Human Rights and taking part in efforts to develop Pillar 2 on Human Development and Social Inclusion. In a range of other areas, from Roma inclusion to the rights of persons with disabilities, gender equality and the human rights situation in the Transnistrian region, OHCHR's engagement with the UNCT in the Republic of Moldova was paramount in ensuring that human rights concerns and approaches remained high on its agenda.

Russian Federation

Year established	2008, following the adoption of cooperation framework in August 2007.
Staff as of 31 December 2013	6

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards of anti-discrimination and migration policies, judicial practices and human rights education programmes.*

In 2012, the Concept of the State Migration Policy of the Russian Federation was adopted by presidential decree and included relevant recommendations related to the integration and protection of migrants. To contribute to this result, OHCHR provided ad hoc advice on international standards on migration to NGOs and members of the Public Chamber and shared relevant materials with national actors, including reports from the special procedures, resolutions from the Human Rights Council and outputs from the Committee on Migrant Workers.

Regarding judicial practices, a national strategy for action in the interest of children for 2012-2017, which makes reference to the main provisions of the CRC and other relevant UN guidelines in the field of juvenile justice, was adopted by Presidential decree. To support national efforts to adopt a comprehensive policy on juvenile justice in accordance with international standards, OHCHR facilitated the adaptation to the Russian context of the UNICEF-UNODC Manual for the measurement of juvenile justice indicators and shared it with the judiciary, governmental institutions and civil society actors. In addition, the first working version of the Network of Judges website, including information on UN human rights mechanisms and other UN documentation, was created and approved by the Supreme Court's Judicial Department and will be launched in 2014. The Network will be an important tool for strengthening judicial practices in accordance with international standards.

On human rights education, the Human Rights Master's Programme, which was developed and has been in place for three years with the support of OHCHR and a consortium of Russian universities, is compliant with the standards of the Russian Ministry of Education and has been accredited as a specialized discipline within

the Master of Law programme. Modalities were recently established for the participation of European lecturers and a strategy was adopted for 2013-2016 to strengthen the institutionalization of the Programme and promote its implementation in other regions of the country.

- ▶ *National EA: Three regional national human rights institutions comply with international human rights standards in the area of non-discrimination.*

OHCHR continued to support regional human rights institutions to strengthen their capacity to effectively deal with cases of discrimination raised by vulnerable groups. A number of workshops were hosted by the Office in 2013, including in Kazan, St. Petersburg and Khanty-Mansiysk (North Siberia), to increase the knowledge of NHRIs regarding international human rights standards on non-discrimination, particularly related to indigenous peoples, and on their role vis-à-vis international human rights mechanisms.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is ratified.*

On 3 May 2012, the President of the Russian Federation signed a federal law on the ratification of the CRPD. OHCHR contributed to this result by conducting a number of advocacy activities, including meetings and discussions held with parliamentarians, NHRIs and civil society organizations to promote ratification.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of measures taken to improve access of discriminated groups to justice.*

The Russian Federation's federal Law on Education was revised to include provisions on the right to equal access to education for all, in particular persons with disabilities, requiring regional and municipal governments to create the necessary conditions to promote and guarantee an inclusive education. By the end of 2013, more than 5,000 inclusive schools were providing conditions for the education of children with disabilities. In order to promote the required legislative amendments, OHCHR supported Perspektiva, the regional organization of persons with disabilities, and its partners to increase awareness among government officials, educational workers, legislators, journalists, students and people with disabilities about the CRPD. In particular, it focused on article 24 regarding the right of persons with disabilities to education.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders, especially discriminated groups, increasingly use existing national protection systems.*

Following the participation of indigenous representatives from the Russian Federation in the OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme, which focuses on the UN system and mechanisms dealing with human rights, in general, and indigenous issues, in particular, the participants were better equipped to assist their organizations and communities in promoting and protecting their rights. According to a survey conducted by a national fellow with OHCHR support, the participants that completed the Fellowship Programme are currently actively involved in advocacy and promotional activities at local and federal levels addressing issues such as access to natural resources and free, prior and informed consent.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the Russian Federation with selected recommendations of the Committee Against Torture, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child.*
- The Government adopted a national action strategy in the interest of children for 2012-2017, making reference to the main provisions

of the CRC in the field of juvenile justice.

A draft law on countering domestic violence was submitted to the Parliament by a working group and is expected to be available for public feedback in 2014. OHCHR and the National Centre to Counter Violence, "ANNA," conducted an expert consultation on the protection of victims of violence in the Russian Federation following a CEDAW recommendation to adopt a comprehensive law on violence against women, including domestic violence. The National Centre was also a member of the working group charged with producing the draft law.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased use of human rights mechanisms by national human rights institutions and civil society actors.*

The Federal Ombudsman's Office submitted the Russian Federation's report in anticipation of the UPR's second cycle review of the country in May 2013. On the occasion of the consideration of periodic reports of the Russian Federation by CAT and CERD, substantive inputs and alternative reports were submitted by civil society organizations. The workshops, seminars and advisory services provided by OHCHR enabled civil society organizations and NHRIs to have a better understanding of the work of international human rights bodies and to engage with them.

In June 2013, a workshop on Business and Indigenous Peoples' Rights was facilitated by OHCHR in Khanty-Mansiysk, a region of the Russian Federation. The workshop was attended by businesspeople and members of indigenous communities from the region, representatives of the Government and of the Human Rights Commissioners from twenty regions of the North, Siberia, Urals and the Far East. The indigenous

communities had the opportunity to raise their concerns with government authorities, national human rights institutions and business corporations that attended the event. Representatives of business and the Commissioner for Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the Krasnoyarsk region also shared their experiences related to their work with indigenous peoples. OHCHR took the opportunity to train the participants

on the international mechanisms and standards concerning indigenous peoples' rights and business responsibilities, including the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. At the end of the event, the participants openly discussed issues of common interest and requested that OHCHR follows up on the conclusions of the workshop and organize similar events in the future.



Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into UN system policies and programmes.*

During the reported period, human rights considerations were included in specific programmes of UN agencies and joint activities were developed to promote the implementation of recommendations from human rights mechanisms. For instance, OHCHR worked in cooperation with UNICEF and UNODC to adapt juvenile justice indicators to the Russian context and joined efforts with UN Women in programmes related to women's rights in the framework of OHCHR's chairing of the UNCT gender thematic group.

Serbia

Year established	Office in 1996 and Human Rights Adviser in 2007
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of measures and policies to fight discrimination and ensure access to justice and basic services to Roma, in compliance with international standards, including the implementation of the deinstitutionalization strategy for adults.*

In December 2013, the Ombudsman of the Republic of Serbia submitted a report on the implementation of the National Strategy for the Advancement of the Position of Roma which will be reviewed by the Parliament in 2014. The report highlights the main obstacles to the enjoyment of their rights to education, employment, health and housing and provides specific recommendations to address these obstacles. OHCHR supported the Ombudsman in the design of the research methodology and provided thematic expertise. In addition, OHCHR provided the Ombudsman with technical assistance in identifying relevant human rights indicators to monitor progress achieved.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the State with its obligations under the human rights mechanisms and bodies, especially in terms of reporting and putting in place efficient*



Commemoration of Human Rights Day in Serbia.

mechanisms to ensure follow-up to their recommendations.

In December 2013, the Government launched a proposal for the establishment of a national mechanism, to be chaired by the Ministry of Justice, to follow up on the recommendations from UN human rights mechanisms. This national mechanism is the result of five years of advocacy and advisory activities carried out by the Human Rights Adviser, in cooperation with other actors such as the OSCE and UNDP, which included the provision of technical advice on the draft proposal for its establishment. In addition, and partly as a result of the joint support provided by OHCHR and OSCE, a Communications Plan was prepared by the Human and Minority Rights Office to outline the process for drafting State reports to the human rights mechanisms. The Plan makes specific reference to the inclusion of civil society organizations in the drafting process. As a result, these organizations are now invited to participate by the Government's working group which drafts the reports.

International and regional laws and institutions (EA 8)

- ▶ *National EA: Advances in the progressive development of international and regional human rights law in selected areas of focus.*

At an international expert seminar on the relationship between NHRIs and parliaments, co-organized by OHCHR and held in Belgrade on February 2012, a set of principles, named the "Belgrade Principles," were adopted by consensus and later presented to the Human Rights Council. The Principles define six areas for framing and strengthening cooperation between parliaments and national institutions with a view to complying with the Paris Principles. The seminar brought together representatives of NHRIs, parliaments and academia from around the world.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights, equality and non-discrimination standards and principles in UN policies and programmes and in other key areas, including at the country level.*

An increasing number of joint projects and programmes implemented by UN agencies in Serbia include human rights considerations. For instance, the Roma housing project implemented by UNOPS includes relevant international human rights standards related to durable housing solutions as a result of OHCHR's guidance provided during the drafting of the project.

After more than five years of continued support and advocacy provided by OHCHR, the OSCE, UNDP and other organizations, the Government of Serbia made a public commitment at the 2013 Human Rights Day to establish a national mechanism to follow-up on the recommendations issued by the human rights bodies. During her June 2013 visit to Serbia, the High Commissioner advocated for the creation of such a mechanism to assist the country in improving its human rights record. Although the discussions on the structure, membership and functioning of the mechanism are ongoing, it is expected that it will ensure a coordinated and sustainable follow-up to the recommendations and, ultimately, contribute to a stronger national human rights protection system.

South Caucasus (based in Tbilisi, covering Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia)

Year established	2007
Staff as of 31 December 2013	4

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Improved functioning of the selected components of the justice system (Bar Association, judiciary, penitentiary) in compliance with international human rights standards.*

In Azerbaijan, the draft law on legal aid was developed and finalized by a working group comprised of law scholars, the Bar Association, independent legal experts and representatives of international organizations and civil society

members and was added to the 2014 agenda of the Parliamentary Committee on Legal Policy and State Building. The draft law included references to international human rights standards on the right to a fair trial as a result of guidance provided by OHCHR to members of the Working Group during the drafting process. In addition, judges of courts of the first instance have increased their knowledge on this issue through a series of training sessions delivered by OHCHR in cooperation with the Azerbaijani Lawyers Confederation. Moreover, training tools on human rights in the administration of justice have been translated into the Azerbaijani language as a result of cooperation between OHCHR, the Ombudsman and the OSCE.

In Georgia, the Georgian Bar Association decided to develop a human rights course for its training centre based on the facilitator's guide to the OHCHR training manuals on human rights in the administration of justice. In 2013, OHCHR translated the guide and conducted a training seminar for lawyers. The Office also revised the human rights curricula of the High School of Justice of Georgia at its request.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol by Georgia and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by Azerbaijan and Georgia.*
- In December 2013, the Georgian Parliament ratified the CRPD and its Optional Protocol. OHCHR, in collaboration with civil society actors, undertook a number of advocacy and awareness-raising activities to promote the ratification of these instruments, including during meetings with the Head of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee and by organizing a regional conference for practitioners and lawmakers from the South Caucasus and the Republic of Moldova to discuss and evaluate the steps made by these countries to ratify and/or implement the CRPD. In Azerbaijan, while ratification of the OP-ICESCR was not expected during the biennium under review, awareness of relevant actors has been raised by OHCHR in cooperation with civil society.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by the three countries of the South Caucasus with UN human rights mechanisms.*
- In Azerbaijan, a number of the recommendations accepted by the Government under the first cycle

of the UPR have been implemented, including extending a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate-holders in 2012. During the reporting period, Azerbaijan received the visits of two special procedures mandate-holders, namely the Special Rapporteurs on violence against women and on the right to health. The second cycle UPR national report was submitted by the Government of Azerbaijan, in accordance with guidelines, in January 2013. The report was prepared under the guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with the Office of the President, the Ministries of Internal Affairs, Justice, Economic Development, Labour and Social Protection of the Population, Education and Health, and other relevant State actors. The draft report was posted on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for review and to solicit inputs from civil society organizations.

The Government of Georgia implemented, in part or in full, a number of the recommendations received from UN human rights mechanisms. For instance, the CRPD was ratified and, at the request of the Ministry of Justice, OHCHR provided comments on the draft law on combating discrimination, which is yet to be adopted. The Government is in the process of preparing a National Human Rights Action Plan, with the assistance of OHCHR. In terms of reporting, the Government is also creating a mechanism to coordinate the drafting of reports to human rights mechanisms, which would replace the piecemeal approach currently in place. OHCHR, the EU and UNDP have advocated for the creation of such a mechanism. Regarding the special procedures, the Special Rapporteurs on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and on the human rights of internally displaced persons visited Georgia in 2012 and 2013, respectively. OHCHR prepared the programme for these visits and provided logistical and substantial support during the missions.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of civil society organizations and individuals submit alternative reports to treaty bodies and special procedures.* OHCHR's support to and training on international human rights instruments and reporting methodologies for civil society organizations contributed to the submission of 16 alternative reports to the treaty bodies from civil society organizations and the NHRI and 16 submissions to the second cycle UPR on Azerbaijan from NGOs and their coalitions. In Georgia, OHCHR



Launch of the consultations on the National Human Rights Action Plan in Georgia, December 2013.

cooperated with UNDP to undertake a number of training and awareness-raising activities with civil society organizations, including a videoconference with the Secretariat of the Human Rights Committee, to encourage the submission of alternative reports and inform them about related procedures. As a result, a coalition of NGOs submitted a report to the Human Rights Committee in relation to Georgia.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of a human rights-based approach into UN assessments, policy programming and development planning documents and activities in the three South Caucasus countries.*

Human rights considerations are incorporated in all main programmes of UN agencies operating in Azerbaijan and a human rights-based approach is well reflected in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) document. OHCHR contributed to this result by participating in the work of UNDAF implementation working groups, including the Governance, Gender and Communication groups, and by providing inputs to the development of annual work plans of these groups, with a special focus on the development of a matrix to follow up on the recommendations of the second cycle UPR. In Georgia, through its participation in the work of the UN Human Rights Coordination Group, OHCHR provided advice to various UN agencies on the human rights implications of their programmes, focusing particular attention on applicable recommendations from international human rights mechanisms with a view to incorporating them into their programming.

The Georgian Government, after the 2012 parliamentary elections, declared that respect for human rights would be a priority for the country. In this context, OHCHR, in cooperation with the EU Special Adviser on Constitutional and Legal Reform and Human Rights in Georgia, Mr. Thomas Hammarberg, advocated for the application of a systematic approach to human rights challenges facing the country, based on the recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms. Furthermore, OHCHR advocated for the establishment of a national mechanism to coordinate the Government's actions on the implementation of the recommendations as well as for the development of a National Human Rights Action Plan. Since the Government publicly announced its intention to develop the Plan in December 2013, national consultations have been established and OHCHR is leading one of the working groups. While it is too soon to assess the results of this process, the initiation of consultations is an encouraging step towards the creation of a strong national protection system.

In 2013, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy undertook an assessment of the implementation of the 2010 Anti-Discrimination Law in accordance with a governmental requirement that each ministry assess the implementation of two laws within their responsibility per year. The draft assessment report presented at the end of 2013 proposed 15 recommendations directed towards the Ministry, the Anti-Discrimination Commission, civil society and legislators, including an amendment of the Law to establish an accountability mechanism for the Commission and the adoption of an action plan for the effective implementation of the Law. OHCHR carried out advocacy activities with key national and international actors to raise awareness about the shortcomings of the legislation.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: The submissions to the treaty bodies and the UPR are in conformity with reporting guidelines.*

In 2012, the Government established the Inter-sectorial Human Rights Body to coordinate reporting to international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of issued recommendations. As a result, in 2013, the Government submitted its Common Core Document and three other due and overdue reports. It also drafted the national report for the country's second cycle UPR in compliance with reporting guidelines. OHCHR supported the Human Rights Body and civil society with a series of workshops to increase their capacity to prepare reports in line with reporting guidelines. National stakeholders submitted 11 joint and individual submissions for the UPR review, including the first submission by the Ombudsman.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Year established	2007
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: The Law on Anti-Discrimination is revised in compliance with international standards.*



Children from a multi-ethnic primary school in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: The UNCT has increased the application of rights-based approaches in social inclusion and local governance programmes.* The 2013 UNDAF mid-term review provided an overview of progress achieved in the enjoyment of human rights by marginalized groups. OHCHR contributed by sharing human rights indicators for the adjustment of the UNDAF's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. OHCHR also supported a number of activities of the UNCT's Theme Group on Human Rights and Gender which was led by UN Women. For instance, OHCHR contributed to a greater understanding among UN agencies of the requirements of CEDAW which in turn resulted in the Theme Group's commitment to advocate for and support national actors working to implement recommendations issued by CEDAW. UN Women and OHCHR also ensured fulfilment of the Parliament's commitment to organize a public debate to present the recommendations and discuss their implementation. Following OHCHR's participation in the UNCT's Theme Group on HIV/AIDS, the Office was asked by the Theme Group to liaise with the self-help group of persons living with HIV/AIDS which contributed to strengthening the group's advocacy efforts for access to anti-retroviral treatment by incorporating a human rights perspective. Regarding OHCHR's cooperation with UNDP, and following the Office's advocacy for the implementation of the CRPD, UNDP developed an accessible evacuation plan for a school for children with visual impairment. In another example, UNDP and OHCHR engaged the Independent Expert on minority issues in a project for strengthening the capacities of the Parliamentary Committee on Inter-ethnic Relations.

Ukraine

Year established	2011
Staff as of 31 December 2013	1

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: The Ombudsman Institution works in conformity with international standards in the implementation of its functions.* In 2012 and 2013, the Ombudsman's Office increased its efforts to engage with civil society organizations. OHCHR supported

the institutionalization of the cooperation between these two parties by facilitating the establishment of an Advisory Council of NGOs to the Ombudsman's Office, which is tasked with assisting the Ombudsman in developing its strategies and activities. The Advisory Council also plays a monitoring role, which contributes to increased transparency and accountability of the work of the Ombudsman. In 2013, the Ombudsman's Office adopted a four-year Strategic Plan (2014-2017) which included, among others, a reference to its role in advocating for the implementation of recommendations issued by UN human rights mechanisms.

- ▶ *National EA: The anti-discrimination legislative framework is amended to better comply with corresponding international human rights norms and standards.*

In 2012, Ukraine adopted its first anti-discrimination legislation in accordance with multiple recommendations issued by human rights mechanisms. The Law, however, does not fully conform to international standards and during 2013, OHCHR advocated for its revision. Several draft amendments were elaborated, partly addressing comments from OHCHR and international experts, but by the end of 2013, the Law had not been amended.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: A National Preventive Mechanism under the OP-CAT is established and functioning.*

In 2012, Ukraine established a National Preventive Mechanism in compliance with the OP-CAT. The NPM function was assigned to the Ombudsman's Office and the Law on the Ombudsman was amended to that effect. This development can partly be attributed to awareness-raising work and advocacy undertaken by the Council of Europe, the OSCE, OHCHR and UNDP. OHCHR also supported, jointly with the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and UNDP, capacity-building of the NPM's staff to conduct monitoring visits and cooperation with civil society in the performance of its functions.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Ukraine engages fully with the UPR process.*

Ukraine's national report to the second cycle UPR was prepared in line with the reporting guidelines and the support of OHCHR. The Office advocated for a participatory approach

in the elaboration of the report. As a result, the Government engaged in consultations with several NGOs, which provided inputs to the national report, creating the conditions for an open dialogue on a full range of human rights issues.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: The Ombudsman's Office and civil society actors regularly submit reports to UN human rights mechanisms.*

In 2012, the number of reports prepared by civil society organizations for Ukraine's second cycle UPR largely exceeded the number of submissions made during the first cycle in 2008. In 2013, a total of 20 alternative reports, prepared by 34 Ukrainian NGOs, and a report

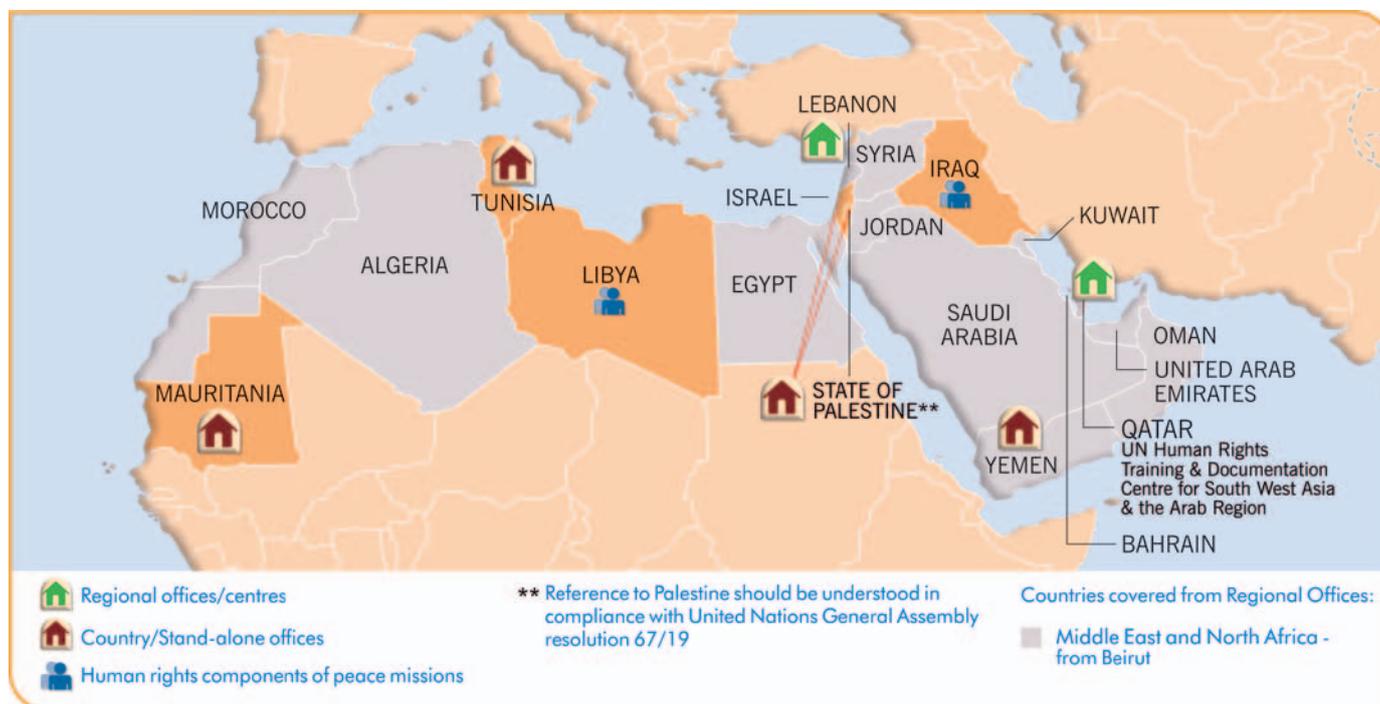
by the Ombudsman's Office were submitted to the Human Rights Committee on the occasion of the consideration of Ukraine's State Party report. OHCHR and UNDP cooperated to inform non-State actors about the procedure and timeline for submissions and carried out awareness-raising and training activities.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: The UNCT integrates human rights standards and principles into its programming.*

As a result of two training workshops organized by OHCHR in 2012 and 2013, members of the UNCT, including UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, IOM, UNAIDS and WHO, enhanced their capacities to apply human rights-based approaches to their programmes and activities.

OHCHR in the field: Middle East and North Africa



Type of presence	Location
Country offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mauritania State of Palestine** Tunisia Yemen
Regional offices and centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle East (Beirut, Lebanon) North Africa (operates on a temporary basis from Beirut, Lebanon) UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha, Qatar)
Human rights components in UN Peace Missions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iraq Libya

** Reference to Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

The effect of uprisings in the Arab region, which began in 2011 in Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, continued to be felt across the region, with unrest and instability evident on the political, social and security fronts. People in different countries of the region continued to voice their demands for social justice, human rights and basic freedoms and for inclusive participation in constitutional, institutional and legal reforms.

Throughout the year, OHCHR consistently responded to ongoing developments to assist people in the

region in their quest for the realization of human rights and fundamental liberties. The Office closely followed national efforts related to political, legal and institutional reforms and the establishment of democratic societies. It remained fully engaged with the transition processes in Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Yemen and paid careful attention to the situation of human rights in Bahrain and Syria.

The ongoing conflict in Syria continued to inflict heavy losses on the civilian population. As of June 2013, at least 93,000 people had been killed. Violations of international human rights and humanitarian law continue to be committed on an alarming scale in Syria. The Independent International Commission of Inquiry (CoI) on the Syrian Arab Republic, mandated by the Human Rights Council, found that Government forces and pro-Government militia committed crimes against humanity and war crimes and armed opposition groups committed war crimes. While the Syrian authorities continue to deny access to the country to OHCHR and the CoI, the Office strengthened its monitoring and advocacy work through the deployment of a monitoring team to neighbouring countries in March 2013 and provided ongoing support to the CoI.

The civilian population in Iraq continued to suffer from internal conflicts, with high numbers of civilian casualties. OHCHR supported the human rights component within the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq. In Yemen, the transition remains precarious and OHCHR's new country office supported the integration of human rights considerations in the transition process and efforts to address human rights violations. In October 2013, OHCHR and the UN Support Mission in Libya issued a report on torture and deaths in detention in Libya and recommended swift action be taken to transfer detainees held by armed brigades to State control and renew efforts to build the capacity of the criminal justice system. In Tunisia, the Office assumed a leading advocacy role within the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) to entrench human rights in the draft constitution and develop a comprehensive and participatory approach to transitional justice which culminated in the adoption in December 2013 of the Law on Transitional Justice and the establishment of an Independent Commission on Truth and Dignity.

The Office also continued to engage on human rights issues affecting Israel and the State of Palestine, including through information gathering, advocacy and reporting in support of the High Commissioner's mandate. OHCHR served as the Secretariat for the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 and supported the General Assembly's Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, as well as the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. The Office also continued to lead the Protection Cluster Working Group in Palestine and in Mauritania.

In 2013, the Middle East and North Africa Section supported nine field presences in the region: the Regional Office for the Middle East in Beirut; the UN Centre for Documentation and Training for South-West Asia and the Arab Region in Doha; country offices in Mauritania, the State of Palestine, Tunisia and Yemen; the Human Rights Components of peace missions in Iraq and Libya, in addition to the Regional Office for North Africa, which is temporarily co-located with the Regional Office for the Middle East in Beirut.

Country Offices

Mauritania

Year established	2010
Staff as of 31 December 2013	8
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,225,894

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: A national plan of action against discrimination is developed.*

In February 2013, a study on the status of racial discrimination in Mauritania was finalized and a draft national plan of action against discrimination was presented. Notwithstanding the technical support provided by OHCHR to the consultant drafting the documents, the study and the draft plan of action did not fully reflect OHCHR's practical guide on the development of such plans. Consequently, the Office collaborated with the Commissariat for Human Rights to organize three regional fora with government authorities, civil society and the National Human Rights Commission in order to collect recommendations related to the 2014 revision of the draft national plan of action.

- ▶ *National EA: The child labour law is reviewed to reflect international standards and a more protective law on civil society is adopted.*

A draft law on private associations was drafted in 2012 but was not submitted to the Parliament. OHCHR advocated with the Ministry of Justice, the Parliament and the Commissariat for Human Rights for the compliance of the draft law with international human rights standards.

- ▶ *National EA: Reform of the criminal justice system to conform with international norms.*

In 2012, the Ministry of Justice collaborated with the European Union to publish a report on discussions held with different professional groups related to the justice sector, as well as three studies related to the prison system. Since that time, no further actions have been taken by the Ministry. Based on the findings and recommendations of the report, OHCHR and the Ministry of Justice undertook activities to promote the compliance of the criminal justice system with international standards.

- ▶ *National EA: Issuance by the Government of a roadmap to fight slavery.*

The roadmap on the implementation of the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on

slavery, which was developed in a participatory manner after her visit in 2009 and with the involvement of the Office, was neither adopted as policy nor published by the Government in 2013. Nevertheless, a presidential decree to create the National Agency to Fight against the Vestiges of Slavery was presented by members of the Government as the implementation of one of the recommendations of the roadmap.

- ▶ *National EA: Official discussions are initiated during the Etats Generaux de l'Education leading to a progressive integration of human rights in the school curriculum.*

In February 2013, OHCHR held a working meeting with the President of the *Etats Generaux de l'Education* and indicated that a recommendation was made during the meeting of the *Etats Generaux de l'Education* to include human rights in the revised curriculum and was subsequently mentioned in the final report prepared for the President of the Republic.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) and removal of general reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).*

The Government of Mauritania ratified the OP-CAT on 3 October 2012 and prepared a letter to the Secretary-General in order to replace its general reservation to CEDAW with one that is limited to articles 13 and 16. OHCHR advocated for the ratification of OP-CAT and consistently raised the issue of the withdrawal of the general reservation to CEDAW with government officials and during workshops and seminars with civil society and the National Human Rights Commission.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: A national mechanism ensuring the right of Mauritians who suffered under the "Passif humanitaire" is set up according to international human rights standards.*

In April 2013, the Office organized the first public debate on transitional justice mechanisms that could potentially be adapted to the Mauritanian context. Following the debate, OHCHR held regular informal meetings with civil society and victims' rights organizations to increase their knowledge about transitional justice issues. Despite the fact that there is an increased awareness of this issue among civil society, a national transitional justice mechanism has not been established.



OHCHR staff visit an IDP camp in Mauritania.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Submission of outstanding reports to the Committee against Torture, the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers (CMW) and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).*

In 2012, Mauritania submitted its State Party reports to the Human Rights Committee and CAT, and to CEDAW in 2013. OHCHR provided training on treaty body reporting to government officials and civil society prior to the finalization of these reports.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number of NGOs submit information on slavery, women's rights and other human rights issues to the treaty bodies and special procedures.*

Following technical support provided by the Office on the procedures related to reporting, three consortia of NGOs submitted alternative reports to the Human Rights Committee and CAT in the context of their review of Mauritania's national reports.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Integration of human rights principles and standards and recommendations of the human rights mechanisms into United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) programmes.*

UNDP and UNICEF integrated human rights principles into their activities related to conflict prevention and juvenile justice, respectively, following support provided by OHCHR. The Office also collaborated on the implementation of these activities.

Mauritania: Expenditure in 2013		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	586,820
Consultants	-	19,650
Official travel	-	36,690
Contractual services	-	39,042
General operating expenses	-	132,937
Supplies & materials	-	124,488
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	145,235
Subtotal	-	1,084,862
Programme support costs		141,032
GRAND TOTAL	-	1,225,894

State of Palestine⁸

Year established	1996
Staff as of 31 December 2013	22
Expenditure in 2013	US\$3,165,053

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards by the Ministry of Interior of the Government of the State of Palestine in the areas of detention and freedom of assembly and expression; by the judiciary in relation to the death penalty and honour killings; and by the Israeli authorities with regard to violations relating to the occupation.*

OHCHR has made some progress regarding issues of arbitrary detention and ill-treatment with the Government of the State of Palestine. The Government recognized that issues remain in these areas and agreed to work with OHCHR on the revision of the Codes of Conduct for some security agencies. During the reporting period, a general drop in allegations of arbitrary detention was noted. The national human rights institution (NHRI) received 789 allegations in 2012, as opposed to 1,026 in 2011 and 1,880 in 2010. The Office conducted regular monitoring of detention centres, which may have had

⁸ Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

a preventive impact. The Government also announced it would stop requiring “security clearances” for positions in the civil service, in particular for teachers in State schools. The Office prepared a study focusing on the protection of the right to life of women in court judgments, which will form the basis for capacity-building activities for the judiciary during the next reporting cycle.

Ratification (EA 2)

- *National EA: Ratification of international human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).*

The State of Palestine was recognized as a non-Member Observer State by the General Assembly in November 2012 and has been a full member of UNESCO since late 2011, enabling Palestine to become a party to international human rights conventions. At the request of the Government, the Office provided advice on the ratification of treaties and technical cooperation to strengthen the Government’s capacity to fulfil its obligations under the ratified treaties. The Office also conducted and published a comprehensive study on the compliance of Palestinian legislation with the two international covenants. In addition, OHCHR worked closely with the Government to prepare a guidance document identifying human rights targets to be incorporated in the forthcoming Palestinian National Development Plan and will work with partners on monitoring implementation of the current and future development plans from a human rights perspective.



Commemoration of Human Rights Day in the State of Palestine.



OHCHR staff during a monitoring mission to Hebron.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into the work of the Humanitarian Country Team, including the Protection Cluster Working Group, and the UNCT.* The 2012 and 2013 Consolidated Appeal Processes included protection as one of its two main priorities. Human rights were consistently integrated into the humanitarian response and the Humanitarian Country Team adopted advocacy strategies with clear human rights messaging, largely due to the efforts of the Office and its leadership within the Protection Cluster. The UNCT Medium Term Response Plan initiated in 2009 was replaced with the first UNDAF which was developed in 2013. The Office was involved in the preparation of the document, including through active participation in the Task Force. This enabled the Office to steer its preparation and as a result, human rights are prominently integrated in the UNDAF.

State of Palestine: Expenditure in 2013		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	2,164,958
Consultants	-	64,135
Official travel	-	43,467
Contractual services	-	145,698
General operating expenses	-	326,314
Supplies & materials	-	70,480
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	(14,115)
Subtotal	-	2,800,937
Programme support costs		364,116
GRAND TOTAL	-	3,165,053

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Tunisia

Year established	2011
Staff as of 31 December 2013	17
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,022,786

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of the justice system, law enforcement, correction and prison administration with international human rights standards.*

The drafting of the Code of Conduct of Human Rights and Law Enforcement was finalized by the Ministry of Interior, with the technical support of OHCHR. Its adoption is anticipated in early 2014. In addition, a draft text of the standard operating procedures on the use of force and firearms, in compliance with international human rights standards, was developed and is before the National Constituent Assembly (NCA), pending adoption. The Office contributed to the development of the standard operating procedures in collaboration with a technical committee that represented different branches and units of the Ministry of Interior. Moreover, legislation establishing a provisional body for the supervision of the judiciary was enacted as a major step towards the establishment of a permanent judicial body. OHCHR also conducted advocacy and provided technical support to the Government which contributed to the adoption of legislation on the establishment of a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) to fight torture. In terms of the capacity of government institutions to promote and protect human rights, a module on human rights has been institutionalized in the Ministry of Interior's training programme which is based on OHCHR's methodology and manuals. Since its establishment in 2011, the Office in

Tunisia has facilitated training and training-of-trainers courses for law enforcement officials, both from the police and the National Guard, as part of the compulsory human rights training included in induction courses.

The final draft of the new Constitution, which guarantees constitutional protection in areas such as elections, justice, human rights and the media, in accordance with international standards, was released by the NCA's Constitution Commission. Its adoption is expected for 2014. The Office provided comments and recommendations on the various drafts which were taken into consideration by the drafting Commission.

- ▶ *National EA: The legal basis of the Tunisian national human rights institution is in compliance with the Paris Principles.*

In 2013, the Higher Committee for Human Rights and Fundamental Liberties of Tunisia began working on draft legislation with the assistance of OHCHR and other partners to ensure that the NHRI is in compliance with the Paris Principles.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: A transitional justice mechanism is established by law, in accordance with international human rights standards, to monitor, investigate and redress civil and political, as well as economic, social and cultural human rights violations.*

On 15 December 2013, the NCA adopted the organic Law on transitional justice which established the Truth and Dignity Commission. OHCHR supported the drafting of this legislation through advocacy campaigns and by providing extensive comments on the latest draft, in particular regarding the composition and mandate of the vetting committee and the limitations of arbitration and reconciliation when dealing with gross human rights violations. These comments were taken into account in the adopted legislation.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, such as youth and migrants, increasingly use the existing national protection system and participate in decision-making processes and the development and monitoring of public policies.*

Seven human rights clubs were set up in basic education schools as a result of collaboration between OHCHR, other UN Agencies and the Arab Institute for Human Rights. Through a participatory approach, the clubs raised awareness and provided students with a better understanding of human rights principles, concepts and frameworks. Civil society organizations working on economic,

social and cultural rights and particularly focused on those facing discrimination, such as women and youth, increased their knowledge about monitoring and advocacy tools through a series of training sessions conducted by OHCHR and Amnesty International. The sessions targeted 300 human rights defenders and representatives of civil society across the country. Subsequently, four civil society coalitions were established in the North-West, Centre, South-East and Mining Basin regions and a campaign for Tunisia's ratification of the OP-ICESCR was launched. Additionally, two human rights assessments of the local budgets of Jendouba and Gabes were carried out by these coalitions, with the participation of local mayors.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by Tunisia with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies (UPR, treaty bodies, and special procedures).*

Following Tunisia's ratification of the OP-CAT in 2011, the Law establishing the National Authority for the Prevention of Torture, Tunisia's National Preventive Mechanism, was adopted by the NCA in October 2013. The Office supported this process by promoting national consultations between State and non-State actors and convening a drafting committee in charge of its preparation. On the UPR, OHCHR provided State and non-State actors with training and capacity-building on reporting to and the functioning of the UPR in anticipation of Tunisia's second cycle review in 2012. The Government of Tunisia successfully submitted its report to the UPR and accepted most of the issued recommendations.

Tunisia: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	812,276
Consultants	-	(50,801)
Official travel	-	5,055
Contractual services	-	2,940
General operating expenses	-	35,798
Supplies & materials	-	8,894
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	90,958
Subtotal	-	905,120
Programme support costs		117,666
GRAND TOTAL	-	1,022,786

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Yemen

Year established	2012
Staff as of 31 December 2013	11
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,688,920

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

► *National EA: Increased compliance with international human rights standards by State entities in Yemen, including national human rights institutions and the judiciary, as well as with domestic laws, policies and programmes.*

The Cabinet of Yemen approved the draft law on the establishment of the national human rights institution on 13 September 2013 and referred the project to the Parliament. Since 2012, the OHCHR Office in Yemen was involved in various capacity-building and advocacy activities to support the development of the draft. Six workshops were organized with national actors, including one with members of the Parliament which focused on the Paris Principles. The Office also provided technical advice on international human rights standards and compliance with the Paris Principles to the Ministry of Human Rights and the Ministry of Legal Affairs before the draft was submitted to the Cabinet of the Prime Minister. The last version was not fully compliant with international standards. As a result, OHCHR will continue providing technical advice to the Government to improve the draft. The draft law on Transitional Justice is currently pending approval by the Parliament. OHCHR provided technical advice to the Ministry of Legal Affairs on the draft which was substantially compliant with international human rights standards and subsequently approved by Cabinet. Upon submission to the Parliament, however, the draft underwent changes which conflicted with these standards. The main concern relates to the absence of any accountability mechanisms for past human rights violations. OHCHR worked closely with UNDP by organizing workshops to generate public debate over transitional justice issues and will continue advocating for the compliance of the draft with international human rights standards.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

► *National EA: Justice and accountability mechanisms are established and functioning in accordance with international human rights standards to monitor, investigate and redress civil and political, as well as economic, social and cultural human rights violations.*



The Deputy High Commissioner at a press conference at the end of her visit to Yemen, October 2013.

The National Commission of Inquiry, mandated to investigate the violations committed in 2011, was established by presidential decree in September 2012. Prior to its adoption, the Office advocated for the establishment of the Commission through a high-level workshop in 2012 with Government representatives. Although the Commissioners have been nominated, the President has not yet formally appointed the nominees. During her visit to Yemen in October 2013, the Deputy High Commissioner urged the President to appoint the Commissioners as soon as possible. The UN Human Rights Council similarly recommended the establishment of the Commission by early 2014. Another important mechanism which is expected to provide redress for past human rights violations is the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which will be established once the Transitional Justice Law is approved by the Parliament. In addition, both the Commission to Consider and Address Land Issues and the Commission on Forcibly Dismissed Employees were established and are functioning in accordance with international human rights standards. OHCHR, in collaboration with UNDP, provided technical advice to the Commissions, including by engaging two international experts who are working closely with the Commissioners to process the caseload. More than 100,000 complaints were registered by the two Commissions and are currently under review.



Image of Zinjibar, Yemen, after the 2012 fighting between government forces and rebels.

Participation (EA 5)

► *National EA: Rights-holders, particularly women and discriminated groups, increasingly use existing national protection systems and participate in decision-making processes and the development and monitoring of public policies.* The National Dialogue Conference in Yemen was initiated in March 2013 and is facilitated by the UN Department of Political Affairs. The conference is part of the Gulf Cooperation Council's plan for the negotiated transition in Yemen that was expected to last six months. Out of over 500 participants in the nine working groups, 30 per cent are women. In addition, the Rights and Freedoms Working Group included substantive interventions regarding the enhancement of women's rights, with a special focus on participation. OHCHR supported the Conference by providing technical advice to the Working Group regarding international human rights law and international human rights mechanisms. At the end of 2013, the Working Group drafted a report with comprehensive recommendations for the inclusion of a range of human rights provisions into the new Constitution. These recommendations will serve as a platform for the constitutional review process which is planned to begin in 2014.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

► *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into the work of the Humanitarian Country Team, including the Protection Cluster Working Group and of the UNCT.*

During 2013, the Humanitarian Country Team in Yemen developed the Humanitarian Strategic Response Plan. OHCHR provided substantive inputs related to human rights and gender mainstreaming through its active participation in the drafting process. In addition, the UNCT worked on a Peacebuilding Priority Plan for Yemen and the Office provided substantial advice on mainstreaming human rights and gender into the Plan. OHCHR also chaired the Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform Working Group, in the context of the Peacebuilding Fund coordination mechanism, which resulted in a better understanding of the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.

Yemen: Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	756,269
Consultants	-	5,927
Official travel	-	50,139
Contractual services	-	39,620
General operating expenses	-	167,144
Supplies & materials	-	387,153
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	88,367
Subtotal	-	1,494,619
Programme support costs		194,301
GRAND TOTAL	-	1,688,920

Regional Offices and Centres

Regional Office for the Middle East (Beirut, Lebanon)

Year established	2002
Staff as of 31 December 2013	10
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,204,420

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of laws with international human rights standards in the area of the protection of migrant domestic workers.*

A Code of Conduct for the Syndicate of the Owners of Recruitment Agencies was jointly prepared by the Syndicate and the Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre and launched in June 2013. The Code of Conduct provides guidance for recruitment agencies in Lebanon on adopting practices that are respectful of the rights of migrant domestic workers. OHCHR provided technical advice during its development to ensure its compliance with international human rights standards. The discussion and adoption of the Lebanese draft law on Migrant Domestic Workers have been deferred as a result of the ongoing challenges related to the formation of a government in Lebanon.

- ▶ *National EA: Legislation and policies in the region allow stateless persons a higher degree of enjoyment of human rights.*
By participating in meetings and conferences and undertaking studies jointly with UNHCR and NGOs, the OHCHR Regional Office for the Middle East contributed to the increased awareness of the human rights of stateless persons in the region. In particular, the Istanbul Conference on Good Practices in Addressing Statelessness, organized by UNHCR, served as an opportunity for OHCHR to engage with representatives of the Gulf Cooperation Council in examining the causes and consequences of statelessness, reviewing its scope, highlighting the regional norms and identifying the best practices to address the issue. Nevertheless, no significant changes can be reported in relation to legislation or policies in targeted countries.
- ▶ *National EA: In Lebanon, a National Human Rights Action Plan is adopted in compliance with international human rights standards.*
In December 2012, a National Human Rights Action Plan was adopted by the Parliamentary

Human Rights Committee. The vote on the Plan in Parliament is pending due to delays in the formation of a government. The Plan was prepared with the technical support of OHCHR. Once approved and implemented, it will provide a comprehensive framework for translating Lebanon's international commitments into concrete actions for the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

- ▶ *National EA: National Human Rights Institutions are established in Lebanon, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates and are working increasingly in compliance with the Paris Principles in Bahrain, Jordan, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.*

The NHRI in Bahrain began working in 2013 and its establishing legislation is partly in compliance with the Paris Principles. In Lebanon, the draft law to establish the NHRI was developed in 2012 but its adoption has been postponed due to delays in the formation of a new government. The Saudi Human Rights Commission is not in conformity with the Paris Principles. A NHRI was not established in the United Arab Emirates during the reporting period. OHCHR has advocated for the establishment of NHRIs in countries of the region in compliance with international standards and has offered technical advice when requested.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance of Lebanese Internal Security Forces with international human rights standards.*

The Code of Conduct for Lebanon's Internal Security Forces was launched in 2012 and outlined professional and ethical standards of behaviour of security forces to guarantee respect for human rights and protection of public freedoms. It was expected that the Code of Conduct would be complemented by anti-torture legislation, which is pending adoption by the Parliament. OHCHR, jointly with the Beirut Bar Association and the Lebanese American University, facilitated training sessions for the Internal Security Forces and provided technical advice for the incorporation of international human rights standards into both the Code of Conduct and the Anti-Torture Law.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders participate in decision-making processes, development and monitoring of economic, social and cultural rights policies within the right to development framework.*

Technical advice provided by OHCHR to a regional NGO resulted in the development of a

manual for monitoring economic and social rights. In addition, civil society organizations enhanced their capacity to advocate for the realization of economic and social rights following capacity-building activities carried out by the Regional Office.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased integration of human rights standards and principles into UN system policies and programmes at the national level.* The Strategy for the Protection of Civilians of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) integrated a human rights perspective as a result of the Regional Office's engagement with and technical support to UNIFIL. Furthermore, OHCHR's engagement with the UNCT in Lebanon contributed to the increased integration of human rights perspectives in the work of the UNCT, particularly in relation to Outcome 2 of the UNDAF on enhanced monitoring and accountability for the effective implementation and enjoyment of human rights. The integration of human rights standards and principles into programmes and policies of UN agencies in other countries of the region, such as Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Syria, remain inadequate due to limited engagement with their respective UNCTs.

Regional Office for Middle East (Beirut, Lebanon): Expenditure in 2013		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	887,041
Consultants	-	(8,080)
Official travel	-	24,272
Contractual services	-	(1,474)
General operating expenses	-	213,885
Supplies & materials	-	(5,445)
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	(44,340)
Subtotal	-	1,065,859
Programme support costs		138,561
GRAND TOTAL	-	1,204,420

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Regional Office for North Africa (operating on a temporary basis from Beirut)

Year established	2012
Staff as of 31 December 2013	4
Expenditure in 2013	US\$529,072

Results

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms established and functioning in Egypt and Tunisia, in accordance with international human rights standards to monitor, investigate and redress violations of civil and political, as well as economic, social and cultural rights.*

In December 2013, the OHCHR Regional Office for North Africa organized a regional seminar on transitional justice with the participation of parliamentarians from Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen to promote the exchange of experiences and good practices and discuss challenges regarding legislative processes in their respective contexts. The seminar provided an opportunity to highlight the role of parliamentarians in transitional justice processes and advocate for the adoption of laws to establish transparent, participatory and strong truth-seeking bodies, in compliance with international standards. In Egypt, a Minister for Transitional Justice has been appointed and there is increasing discussion at the national level regarding a potential transitional justice law and the establishment of an independent commission on transitional justice. In Tunisia, the organic law on transitional justice establishing the Truth and Dignity Commission was passed by the National Constituent Assembly on 15 December 2013.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by countries of the region with UN human rights mechanisms and bodies (UPR, treaty bodies and special procedures).* Regarding treaty body reporting, the Government of Algeria submitted its overdue periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), in compliance with the reporting guidelines, which were reviewed by the Committee in 2013. Periodic reports were also submitted to the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and CEDAW, but they were not in full compliance with the reporting guidelines of

the Committees. In the case of Egypt, it submitted its overdue second, third and fourth periodic reports to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), which were examined in November 2013. Morocco submitted its first periodic report to the CMW in 2013. Concerning the UPR, the second cycle reports of Algeria and Morocco were submitted in conformity with the reporting guidelines and were examined in 2012.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders in North African countries, especially women and discriminated groups such as children, youth, migrants and refugees, increasingly use international protection mechanisms in relation to the administration of justice.*

Civil society organizations in North Africa increasingly engaged with international human rights mechanisms to raise human rights issues of concern. This was reflected in a high number of alternative reports submitted to the mechanisms. For instance, 11 submissions were presented to the CESCR in the context of the Committee's review of Egypt's periodic report; six documents were submitted to the CMW prior to its review of Morocco's periodic report; and five alternative reports were presented by civil society organizations from Algeria in anticipation of the country's review by CEDAW.

Regional Office for North Africa (Beirut, Lebanon): Expenditure in 2013

	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	206,593
Consultants	-	8,953
Official travel	-	117,539
Contractual services	-	4,713
General operating expenses	-	35,083
Supplies & materials	-	(16,185)
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	111,509
Subtotal	-	468,205
Programme support costs		60,867
GRAND TOTAL	-	529,072

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

United Nations Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha, Qatar)

Year established	2009
Staff as of 31 December 2013	4
Expenditure in 2013	US\$1,448,092

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Increase compliance with international human rights standards by the police.*

The first activities of the UN Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (hereinafter Centre) on police training were conducted in Qatar. From 9 to 13 December 2012, in cooperation with the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Interior of Qatar, the Centre organized a training programme on human rights issues which was attended by 26 police officers from various departments covering functions such as human rights, drug prevention, criminal evidence and information. The event contributed to increasing the awareness of participants about human rights issues relating to law enforcement activities.

Civil society engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 7)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased number and diversity of rights-holders and NHRIs and civil society actors in the States under the Centre's mandate make use of the international and regional human rights mechanisms and bodies.*

The Centre has contributed to an increased understanding by civil society actors of the work of the human rights mechanisms and how to engage with them, including by carrying out a number of training activities on the treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR. In particular, following a workshop attended by 23 participants, a checklist of issues that needed to be addressed prior to the UPR was developed to facilitate their engagement with that mechanism.

United Nations Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha, Qatar): Expenditure in 2013		
	Regular budget expenditure in US\$	Extrabudgetary expenditure in US\$
Personnel & related costs	-	735,420
Consultants	-	174,415
Official travel	-	298,150
Contractual services	-	25,502
General operating expenses	-	37,012
Supplies & materials	-	(5,808)
Seminars, grants & contributions	-	16,806
Subtotal	-	1,281,497
Programme support costs		166,595
GRAND TOTAL	-	1,448,092

Note: negative figures resulting from prior year adjustments

Human Rights Components in UN Peace Missions

United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

Year established	2004
Staff as of 31 December 2013	42

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

► *National EA: By 2013, the Iraqi National Human Rights Commission (INHRC) is established and complying with the Paris Principles and the national action plan is approved and under implementation. The judiciary, domestic laws, policies and programmes are in increased compliance with international standards.*

The Iraqi National Human Rights Commission was formally established with the appointment of 14 commissioners in April 2012. The law establishing the INHRC is in compliance with international standards and establishes it as an independent body with a mandate to monitor, report on and investigate individual cases and make recommendations to the Parliament and the Government on ways to improve the protection of and respect for human rights in accordance with Iraq's international obligations. The Human Rights Office of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), together with UNDP, has worked to build the capacity of commissioners and staff to ensure they implement the mandate of the Commission according to its establishing legislation (Law 54 of 2008), the Constitution of Iraq and in conformity with international law. The Commission has commenced its monitoring work based on individual complaints it has received regarding human rights violations and its work on thematic human rights priorities. Despite these positive developments, the Commission has not yet elected a President as required by Law 54. Regarding the National Action Plan on Human Rights adopted in December 2011, the



Syrians streaming into Kurdistan, Iraq.

Government appointed an interdepartmental committee in 2012 to oversee the implementation of the Plan. UNAMI holds a seat on the committee and offers technical advice and support. The committee met on two occasions in 2013 following the receipt of reports from relevant government departments on progress achieved in implementing the Plan. According to the Government, 33 of the 135 UPR recommendations accepted by Iraq have been fully implemented, a further 99 recommendations have been partially implemented and another three remain to be implemented.

Ratification (EA 2)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, the Iraqi Government has signed and ratified at least one more treaty.* Iraq ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in March 2013. The Human Rights Office of UNAMI undertook extensive advocacy with the Government of Iraq, in partnership with civil society organizations and international actors, to ensure that the ratification of the Convention was part of the National Action Plan on Human Rights adopted by the Government. The Law enacting the provisions of the Convention at the national level was passed by the Iraqi Council of Representatives on 7 September 2013, yet it failed to fully adhere to the provisions of the Convention, particularly in relation to the requirement for an independent mechanism to oversee and monitor the implementation of the Convention and make recommendations to the Government on how to enhance the protection and respect for the rights of persons with disabilities.

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, human rights violations, in general, and violence against civilians, in particular, are increasingly monitored and investigated by the Government.* The Ministry of Human Rights is proactive in investigating all claims of human rights violations and abuses and the Ministry of Justice is active in investigating allegations of abuse, ill-treatment or torture in prisons and places of detention under its authority. The Government also established a directorate in the Council of Ministers to enhance the access of citizens to goods and services by receiving and forwarding their complaints to responsible Government departments for action. UNAMI undertook monitoring of all prisons and places of detention under the authority of the Ministry of Justice, made recommendations to improve respect for due process and fair trial



Image of a camp for Syrian refugees in Iraq.

standards and collaborated with the Ministry of Human Rights and the Ministry of Justice to facilitate a number of workshops with security forces personnel, judges and prosecutors to build their capacity and enhance their compliance with human rights standards.

Access to justice and basic services (EA 4)

- ▶ *National EA: Increase in the number of laws and policies adopted to ensure access of selected discriminated groups to justice and selected basic services.* The Council of Representatives adopted a number of laws in 2013 to improve access of discriminated groups to justice and basic services. On 7 May, the Council of Representatives enacted the Amendment to the Social Care Law of 1980 to provide enhanced protection and care to children in shelters and orphanages and focus on children who are victims of domestic violence and under the care of the State. In a positive development regarding the rights of persons with disabilities, the Council of Representatives endorsed the Law for the Care of Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs in September. Nevertheless, UNAMI remains concerned that certain aspects of the Law do not fully comply with Iraq's obligations under the CRPD, particularly in relation to the establishment of an independent oversight mechanism. UNAMI, in partnership with the Human Rights Parliamentary Committee and the Iraqi Alliance of Disability Organizations, undertook advocacy with the Government of Iraq and proposed a series of amendments to ensure the conformity of the Law with the Convention. In June, the Kurdistan Region Parliament enacted legislation on access to information for the Kurdistan Region which guarantees the right of citizens of the region to uninhibited access to information held by public authorities, except in instances regulated by law.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: By 2013, the UN in Iraq is increasingly integrating a human rights-based approach to development into its programming and policies.*

UNAMI provided feedback on policy documents of UNCT members and as a result, the policies, programmes and activities of UN agencies are rights-based and promote the protection and respect of human rights in Iraq. Examples include: UNDP programmes aimed at enhancing women's access to justice and capacity-building of the Family Protection Units; UNICEF and UNHCR emergency responses to the influx of Syrian refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) fleeing from armed violence in Iraq; programmes conducted by UNESCO and UNAMI to foster respect for the rights of freedom of assembly and expression; and economic and social rights policies and programmes developed by various UNCT members. The Human Rights Office also provided advice to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq and to Heads of Units within UNAMI to ensure that its policies, programmes and activities are based on human rights. The new UNDAF is being developed by the UNCT in cooperation with the Government of Iraq and civil society organizations. The Human Rights Office of UNAMI participates in the UNDAF Development Committee and offers technical assistance to ensure the process is based in human rights and the final document promotes the protection of and respect for human rights in Iraq.

(HRD) of the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) carried out a number of activities to advocate for the inclusion of human rights standards and considerations in the new Constitution. For example, it advised on provisions related to child rights and co-organized a seminar with the National Council on Civil Liberties and Human Rights and the Ministry of Defence on key constitutional issues involving government officials and civil society.

- ▶ *National EA: Reforms of the justice and security sectors improve compliance with international human rights standards.*

In 2013, the General National Congress, with the support of the HRD, adopted a law withdrawing the jurisdiction of military courts in cases related to civilians and a law criminalizing torture, enforced disappearances, unlawful killings and discrimination. Both pieces of legislation are largely compliant with international standards. Additionally, Law 29 of 2013 on Transitional Justice was promulgated in December 2013 and reflected many of the comments of the HRD, including regarding the establishment of a new truth commission and a separate reparations body. The HRD also advocated for the establishment of an independent commission on missing persons under the previous regime and during the 2011 conflict to reduce the risk of discrimination. A law providing for such a commission was adopted at the end of 2013. In terms of administration of justice, a primary issue in Libya is the number of conflict-related detainees being held without due judicial process. The HRD monitoring activities have focused on these individuals and have paid frequent visits to approximately 30 detention centres during which they raised issues and cases with the authorities which in turn led to some improvements. The HRD has observed increased compliance with international human rights standards in a number of the detention facilities and noted marked improvements in one facility following its handover to the judicial police. To this end, the HRD worked to strengthen the capacity and independence of the judiciary by, inter alia, supporting the reform of the membership of the Supreme Judicial Council and facilitating training courses for judges and prosecutors on a variety of topics, including on investigations, screening of detainees and prosecutorial strategies. The HRD also worked closely with the judicial police to advise on organizational and prison reforms and provide training on treatment of detainees and security of prisons.

United Nations Support Mission in Libya

Year established	2011
Staff as of 31 December 2013	6

Results

National laws, policies and institutions (EA 1)

- ▶ *National EA: Constitutional and electoral reform improve compliance with international human rights standards.*

The drafting of the Constitution suffered significant delays as the election of a Constitution Drafting Assembly was postponed to 2014. Nevertheless, the Human Rights, Transitional Justice and Rule of Law Division

Transitional justice and accountability mechanisms (EA 3)

- ▶ *National EA: Reforms of the justice and security sectors improve compliance with international human rights standards.*

The National Council on Civil Liberties and Human Rights was established in 2011 but effectively began operating in 2013. Throughout the reporting period, the HRD provided advice and training to build the capacity of the Council. Although the Fact-Finding and Reconciliation Commission was established in 2011, it remained largely inactive due in part to the conservative interpretation by the Commissioners of their role. As noted above, the Transitional Justice Law, promulgated in December 2013, includes provisions for an improved truth commission, in line with comments provided by the HRD.

Participation (EA 5)

- ▶ *National EA: Rights-holders in Libya, especially women and discriminated groups, increasingly participate in decision-making processes and the development and monitoring of public policies.* As a result of capacity-building activities carried out by the HRD, civil society organizations, including victims' groups, increased their awareness about their rights to participate in decision-making processes and consequently have a greater capacity to undertake monitoring and advocacy. For instance, in May 2013, the HRD supported the convening of a two-day human rights conference in Al-Baida, with extensive civil society participation, which resulted in the adoption of recommendations for the Government. The HRD has also been in regular contact with the three main minority groups, the Amazigh, Tabu and Tuareg, to support their advocacy efforts for adequate representation in the electoral law and constitutional process. The HRD engaged in advocacy for adequate representation of women and provided advice on a draft law for victims of sexual violence. While women and minority representatives have greater awareness of their rights, their participation in decision-making was hindered by the deteriorating political context and the decision of the minorities, at the end of 2013, to boycott the elections of the Constitution Drafting Assembly.

State engagement with human rights mechanisms (EA 6)

- ▶ *National EA: Increased compliance and engagement by Libya with UN human rights mechanisms.*

Libya has overdue reports to the Committee against Torture; the Human Rights Committee; the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; Committee on the Rights of the Child; and the Committee on Migrant Workers; none of which were submitted during the reporting period. The HRD offered assistance in this area, both to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Council for Civil Liberties and Human Rights, and sought to establish a framework for reporting. In relation to the special procedures, in February 2012, Libya accepted the recommendation made during the UPR to issue a standing invitation, which was subsequently confirmed in January 2013. Since then, visits by the Working Groups on Enforced Disappearances and on the Use of Mercenaries were agreed upon but were postponed because of security concerns. Furthermore, out of three special procedures communications sent to the Libyan Government, the only response received was in relation to the destruction of religious and historical sites.

Human rights mainstreaming within the United Nations (EA 11)

- ▶ *National EA: Integration of human rights standards and principles within UNSMIL.* Through briefings and meetings led by the HRD, the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy and the Joint Policy on Human Rights Components in Peacekeeping or Special Political Missions are better known within UNSMIL. Additionally, HRD contributions are reflected in the Mission's programming in areas such as national dialogue, legislative support, the Constitution, minorities, and sexual and gender-based violence. The HRD also worked closely with the UNCT to ensure that a human rights-based approach, including gender mainstreaming, is adopted in projects and programmes.