## UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA

### TYPE OF PRESENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF PRESENCE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions</strong></td>
<td>Burundi (closed in March 2019), Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Sudan, Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regional Offices/Centres</strong></td>
<td>Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon), East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa), West Africa (Dakar, Senegal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions</strong></td>
<td>Central African Republic (MINUSCA), Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), Mali (MINUSMA), Somalia (UNOSOM), South Sudan (UNMISS), Sudan (Darfur) (UNAMID)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG</strong></td>
<td>Burkina Faso (under recruitment), Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Zimbabwe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other types of field presences</strong></td>
<td>G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project¹, Mozambique</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LEGEND:

- **Spotlights:**
  - Disabilities
  - Youth
  - Women

- **Shifts:**
  - Global constituency
  - Prevention
  - Civic space
  - Climate change
  - Corruption
  - Inequalities
  - New technologies
  - People on the move

- **SDGs:**
  

1 Further to Security Council resolution 2391 (December 2017), OHCHR has been working with the G5 Sahel Joint Force to develop and implement a “Compliance Framework” to ensure that military operations to combat terrorism in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law.
The OHCHR Africa programme covers 49 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and consists of 27 field presences, including four regional offices in Central Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa; six country offices in Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Sudan and Uganda; eight Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) in the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in Burkina Faso (agreement reached in 2019 with the UNCT to deploy an HRA, which is under recruitment at the time of writing this report), Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda and Zimbabwe; and seven human rights presences in UN peace missions in the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan (Darfur).


During 2019, in the horn of Africa, ethnic violence and extreme poverty were major challenges. Weak governance, corruption and marginalization, compounded by the effects of climate change, impaired the enjoyment of basic and fundamental economic and social rights and fuelled discrimination in the subregion. In West and Central Africa, considerable challenges were faced due to an increase in conflict and violence throughout the Sahel region, which was exacerbated by climate change and extreme poverty. Moreover, the African continent experienced widespread restrictions related to political and civic spaces, including limitations on the exercise of freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association that were targeted at political opponents, journalists and human rights defenders (HRDs). Protracted armed conflicts in the CAR, the DRC, South Sudan and Somalia continued to expose the civilian population to extrajudicial executions, abductions, torture and unlawful detention carried out by violent extremist groups, State and non-State actors. A high prevalence of conflict-related sexual violence against civilian populations was also reported.

Violent extremism in the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin continued to be a major challenge for the security situation. Boko Haram and other violent extremist groups remained a threat in Cameroon, Chad, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria, leading to the deaths of civilians and causing a dire humanitarian crisis with millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in need of assistance. Weak justice systems and the absence or limited implementation of transitional justice processes contributed to a high level of impunity for grave human rights violations. On a positive note, some steps were taken regarding the fight against impunity in CAR with the operationalization of the Special Criminal Court, the establishment of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission in Mali and the establishment of a War and Economic Crimes Court in Liberia to enable victims to obtain justice for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

OHCHR field presences continued to support governments, civil society organizations and other actors to strengthen their capacity to engage with the international human rights mechanisms and address human rights concerns at the regional and country levels. Particular areas of focus included issues of violence against civilians, impunity, respect for the rule of law, discrimination and threats against fundamental freedoms and civil society. OHCHR also provided technical advice on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA).

OHCHR established an Enhanced Human Rights Monitoring Team from August to October to research and review information related to alleged human rights violations that were committed during the crackdown on protestors, in Sudan, on 3 June and immediately thereafter. This information guided OHCHR’s strategy for Sudan and led to the establishment of a new OHCHR Country Office. OHCHR is present in Sudan through its Country Office start-up team and the Human Rights Component of the African Union (AU)-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur. On 25 September, the Government of Sudan and OHCHR signed a Host Country Agreement on the creation of the Country Office and a start-up team has been operating in Khartoum since 26 December. The Country Office is working on four key areas that correspond with the Government’s priorities and vision for the transition period and are laid out in a constitutional document, namely, (1) social and economic rights; (2) legal and institutional reform and transitional justice; (3) civic and democratic space; and (4) monitoring and advocacy.
As a follow-up to the High Commissioner’s mission to Cameroon, in May, OHCHR sent a technical team, in September, to prepare an assessment of the current human rights situation in the north-west and south-west regions of Cameroon and to undertake a human rights needs assessment aimed at providing technical support to various State institutions.

As part of United Nations efforts in Burkina Faso, CAR, the DRC, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Nigeria, OHCHR contributed to early warning, prevention and resolution initiatives in collaboration with governments, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and other stakeholders.

In the DRC and Sudan, OHCHR supported the national police in the development of an action plan to fight sexual violence. In CAR, it supported the establishment of a shelter for victims of sexual violence. In South Africa, OHCHR supported the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide. In Liberia, OHCHR strengthened its activities to prevent and address violence against women and girls.

OHCHR worked on enhancing partnerships with regional and subregional organizations, including the AU and its human rights bodies, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States, the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community.

OHCHR also worked on strengthening cooperation with the AU for enhanced human rights integration in to conflict prevention and sustaining peace programmes and activities. OHCHR successfully led the process towards signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights, the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR) and the ICGLR. It also concluded, with the Commission (AUC), the drafting process of the African Union-United Nations Joint Framework on Human Rights that complements the two existing African Union-United Nations frameworks on peace and security and development.

OHCHR provided substantive and programmatic support to further develop the Compliance Framework of the G5 Sahel Joint Force, pursuant to Security Council resolution 2391. The Compliance Framework is a mechanism of the G5 Sahel to prevent, investigate, address and publicly report violations and abuses of human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law related to the Joint Force. It seeks to provide the Joint Force with guidance on planning and conducting its operations in a manner that respects international humanitarian law and international human rights law, thereby minimizing adverse consequences for local communities.
**BURUNDI**

**Population size** 1

11.53 million  

**Surface area** 1

28,000 km²  

**Human Development Index** 2

0.423 (rank: 185/188 in 2018)  

**NHRI (if applicable)** 3

Status B, 2017  

**Type of engagement**

Country Office  

**Year established**

2015 (closed in March 2019)  

**Field office(s)**

Bujumbura  

**UN partnership framework**

United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023  

**Staff as of 31 December 2019**

1  

**Total income**

US$342,332  

**XB requirements 2019**

US$3,543,000  

**Total XB expenditure**

US$2,134,585  

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**Key OMP pillars in 2019**

1. **Accountability (A)**

   **A1** – The justice system and the administration establish and apply laws, policies and practices that address human rights violations effectively, protect victims and others at risk, and ensure that human rights complaints are investigated.

   OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards by building the capacity of lawyers in Burundi.

   In November, OHCHR facilitated a training workshop for a group of 60 Burundian lawyers, including 20 women. As a result of the training, the participants were empowered to ensure the protection of witnesses, victims and other persons at risk in judicial and non-judicial proceedings. During the training, the lawyers committed to using the Law of 27 June 2016 on the protection of witnesses, victims and other persons at risk to claim their right to protection as needed.

   **Participation (P)**

   **P2** – Civil society actors participate freely in public life, including during election periods.

   Through advocacy and outreach, OHCHR contributed to the increased participation of rights-holders, especially women, in selected public processes.

   Within the framework of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, key actors discussed challenges hindering the implementation of the Law on the fight against gender-based violence of 22 September 2016. These actors also developed strategies on how to advocate with authorities and more actively involve them in the fight against gender-based violence. A strong stand was taken and authorities were called upon to ensure the widespread dissemination of the Law, combat impunity and facilitate remedial actions and the reintegration of victims facing intimidation for participating in judicial procedures. During the campaign, printed promotional materials that were developed by the Office were distributed to human rights NGOs, academic institutions, embassies, UN agencies and international organizations.

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**Data sources and notes:**

5. OHCHR, as part of the UN Secretariat, charges 13 per cent of Programme Support Cost (PSC) on all direct costs as per General Assembly resolution 35/217 of December 1980. However, for activities implemented jointly with other UN partners, the related indirect PSC is reduced to 7 per cent. This explains a lower PSC percentage average.
Development (D)

D3 – Civil society is more able to participate in the formation of development policies and in decision-making. Civil society organizations work to promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights. Policies are in place that ensure that all stakeholders enjoy equal participation, access and opportunities with respect to education, health, food, land, and employment.

OHCHR provided technical guidance to stakeholders to support the meaningful participation of rights-holders in public processes.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Human Rights and development partners, a road map was adopted, in September, on the implementation of and follow-up to recommendations issued by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in relation to Burundi. The road map provides details on concrete actions, timelines and the distribution of tasks related to monitoring this implementation. It also outlines actions to be taken to implement the SDGs.

In addition, under the Mechanisms pillar, the Office built the capacity of the members of the Interministerial Committee and other institutions to facilitate their interaction with the international human rights mechanisms and to follow up on the implementation of recommendations issued by the treaty bodies. As a result of these efforts, a road map was adopted that features concrete actions and a defined timeframe.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to ‘leave no one behind’, including by addressing the root causes of inequality.

With OHCHR support, selected anti-discrimination policies were amended to increase their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The Office trained 81 journalists (26 women) from Cameroon on freedom of expression and international human rights law, journalism and ethics; media, conflicts and conflict resolution; media and elections; and media and national legislation. A total of 26 participants established an internal self-regulatory mechanism against hate speech in the form a peer oversight mechanism. The mechanism was entrusted with ensuring that journalists and media organs abide by ethics. More specifically, a journalist or media outlet can be held accountable by peers in case of a failure to comply with journalistic ethics. OHCHR will continue supporting these journalists in the effective operationalization of this mechanism.
by facilitating and hosting their meetings, providing technical advice and reviewing its terms of reference.

Development (D)

D8 – Relevant official institutions and civil society actors systematically collect and analyse data, particularly data that relates to natural resource exploitation and social expenditure.

With OHCHR’s guidance, oversight mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards were established in the region.

In Cameroon, the National Institute of Statistics, which is the cross-sectoral platform for economic, social and cultural rights and other concerned stakeholders, established a mechanism to enhance collaboration on data collection and analysis on economic social and cultural rights, particularly regarding the level of realization of these rights. OHCHR will continue providing technical support for its operationalization and for the establishment of a similar mechanism in Sao Tomé and Principe.

Accountability (A)

A1 – The decisions of judicial actors increasingly reference human rights principles and standards. Law enforcement institutions are taking steps to comply with international human rights norms and standards, notably those that concern torture and ill-treatment and the deprivation of liberty.

In Cameroon and Gabon, selected State institutions improved their compliance with international human rights norms and standards, due in part to technical support provided by OHCHR.

In July, a new law was adopted in Cameroon to strengthen the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission and reinforce its mandate with new functions as the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). OHCHR provided

CAMEROON’S GOVERNMENT SHOWS OPENNESS AFTER OFFICIAL VISIT

“Less than a week after the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, conducted a visit to Cameroon, President Paul Biya requested his Prime Minister to conduct a dialogue mission to the conflict-hit north-west and south-west regions to find a political solution to the escalating violence and the ensuing humanitarian crisis.

The High Commissioner was invited by the Government to visit the country from 1 to 4 May. During meetings and consultations in the capital, Yaoundé, the High Commissioner had an in-depth discussion with the President on the human rights challenges facing the country, the initiatives being taken by the Government and their broader linkages with peace, security and development.

She also met with the Prime Minister, representatives of the Government, the President of the National Assembly and the Vice-President of the Senate, civil society organizations, members of the media, the National Commission of Human Rights and Freedoms, members of the opposition and ruling party, senior leaders of religious communities and the diplomatic community. She engaged with the presidents of two new bodies, which were established by President Biya to tackle issues related to the crisis in the north-west and the south-west, namely, the National Commission for the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism and the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Committee. Following her visit, staff of the Central Africa Regional Office facilitated difficult conversations within the country, including at a High-level Round-Table for political parties and other political actors on their role in the promotion of human rights, peacebuilding and democracy.

The High Commissioner’s statement at the end of her mission underlined the importance of adopting a prevention mindset in order to halt violations and improve security. “I believe,” she said, “that there is a clear – if possibly short – window of opportunity to arrest the crises.”
advice and technical assistance during the drafting of the law to ensure its compliance with international standards. OHCHR will work to strengthen the capacities of the commissioners and staff of the Commission to enable them to effectively discharge their functions. In Gabon, OHCHR facilitated a consultation workshop and contributed with technical inputs for the drafting of amendments to the enabling legislation of the National Human Rights Commission, which will strengthen its institutional and operational capacities and bring it in line with the Paris Principles.

Additionally, under the Mechanisms pillar, OHCHR trained the members of seven national human rights committees on reporting to the international human rights mechanisms. Moreover, the Office provided technical guidance to the interministerial committees of Burundi, Cameroon and Sao Tomé and Principe for the development and adoption of road maps for the drafting of reports to the international human rights mechanisms.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population size</th>
<th>Surface area</th>
<th>Human Development Index</th>
<th>NHRI (if applicable)</th>
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<td>4.75 million</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type of engagement</th>
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<td>Year established</td>
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<td>Field office(s)</td>
<td>Bambari, Bangassou, Bangui, Berberati, Birao, Bossangoa, Bria, Kaga-Bandoro, Ndele, Obo, Paoua</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN partnership framework</td>
<td>United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Staff as of 31 December 2019 | 65 |

| XB requirements 2019 | US$129,000 |

Key OMP pillars in 2019

PILLAR RESULTS:

**Accountability (A)**

A1 – The actions of judicial institutions and defence and security forces increasingly comply with human rights.

The Human Rights Division (HRD) of MINUSCA contributed to the improved compliance of State institutions with international human rights norms and standards by providing technical support and advice on these standards.

The Government continued its efforts to gradually deploy defence and security forces and administrative and judicial authorities beyond the capital, which is expected to enhance the State’s capacity to protect civilians and address impunity. To support these efforts, the HRD applied the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) in response to 132 requests for support from the defence and security forces. This resulted in the production of risk assessments and proposals for mitigating measures to prevent human rights violations. The HRD screened 4,399 members of the defence and security forces who were to benefit from UN support. A total of 74 of those who were screened were excluded when it was determined that they were responsible for human rights violations. The HRD continued to provide technical support for the integration of human rights into security sector reform through trainings, workshops and expert advice. The HRD organized 60 training sessions and 10 workshops on international human rights law and international humanitarian law.
for 1,796 defence and security officers, including 287 women, in Bangui and the regions across the country.

Peace and Security (PS)

PS1 – As a component of CAR’s national infrastructure for peace and human rights, the National Committee on the Prevention of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and Discrimination is fully operational. The Committee’s capacity is strengthened to enable it to implement its road map. A national multifunctional mechanism to protect victims and witnesses is established: it is able to hold accountable those responsible for violations of international humanitarian and human rights law and protect and assist victims of gender-based violence and sexual violence in conflict.

The HRD contributed to the increased compliance of national protection systems with international human rights standards by providing technical support to these mechanisms.

Since the 2018 nomination of the members of the Steering Committee, the HRD has provided technical support to ensure its full operationalization. The Steering Committee is composed of an Executive Board and a Technical Secretariat with 25 members from the Presidency, Government and Parliament of CAR, as well as political parties, CSOs and members of the international community, including MINUSCA and the AU. It is mandated to support the initiation of a truth-seeking process through the preparation of legislation on the organization and functioning of a Truth Commission in CAR. To this end, the HRD facilitated nine meetings of the Steering Committee, which led to the review of policy documents and the adoption of a framework for national consultations on the future Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The HRD continued to support the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on the elaboration of its three-year Plan of Action for the promotion and protection of human rights, a communication strategy, a complaints procedure and the review and adoption of its manual on administrative procedures. In June and July, the HRD supported the NHRC to organize a series of activities in line with the Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation and contributed to the creation of local committees to support the work of the Commission.

The HRD also provided technical assistance to the National Committee on the Prevention of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and Discrimination during its field visits to 17 localities in the country. During these visits, members of the Committee raised awareness about international standards of human rights law and humanitarian law, the exercise of universal jurisdiction for serious international crimes, including genocide, prevention mechanisms and measures to be taken by the State and international partners.

PS4 – A comprehensive national transitional justice strategy is developed and implemented; it is gender-sensitive.

A comprehensive national transitional justice strategy continued to be developed by the Government with the technical support of the HRD.

The national consultative process on the draft law establishing the proposed Truth and Reconciliation Commission in CAR was held in June. The consultation, which is a critical element of applying a human rights-based approach to transitional justice, enabled approximately 3,000 citizens to provide feedback on the design of the draft law, which is being finalized.

Furthermore, following the signing of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, on 6 February, the Government established an Inclusive Commission composed of representatives of signatory armed groups and national authorities. The Inclusive Commission is mandated to develop recommendations on justice for crimes committed in the context of the armed conflict. Those cases will be transmitted to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission once it is established. The HRD supported the work of the Inclusive Commission by providing documentation on human rights, including reports on human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law committed by all parties to the conflict. Moreover, the HRD supported five field missions of the Inclusive Commission to gather information on human rights violations.

PS5 – National institutions and non-State actors increase their capacity to protect and promote human rights more effectively.

The HRD contributed to the increased compliance of State institutions with international human rights standards through its monitoring and reporting and by providing tailored recommendations to relevant authorities.

In 2019, the HRD conducted 164 field missions in all 16 prefectures in CAR to monitor and verify allegations of
violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses. These missions contributed to the protection of civilians through early warning monitoring and reporting, including tailored recommendations targeting perpetrators of human rights violations and abuses. The HRD also conducted 383 visits to detention centres that are controlled by the State and facilities that are controlled by armed groups in order to monitor the human rights situation for persons who are deprived of their liberty. During these visits, the HRD advocated with relevant authorities for compliance with international standards related to arrests and detention.

Finally, in 2019, the HRD documented 1,017 incidents of human rights violations and abuses, including 320 conflict-related civilian deaths, which affected 1,831 victims. In contrast, in 2018, the HRD documented 2,457 incidents against 4,266 victims and 688 civilian deaths. This decrease suggests that despite the grave human rights abuses and violations recorded in 2019, there is evidence of relative improvement of the situation, which can be partially attributed to the signing of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation and the efforts of facilitators related to its implementation.

**CHAD**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Population size¹</th>
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<th>Human Development Index²</th>
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**Staff as of 31 December 2019**

<table>
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<th>Total income</th>
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<td>41%</td>
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<td>$650,792</td>
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<td>$150,232</td>
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**Key OMP pillars in 2019**

1 2 3 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

**PILLAR RESULTS:**

**Accountability (A)**

**A1 – The National Human Rights Commission is established and functions in conformity with the Paris Principles.**

OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in increased conformity with the Paris Principles, including by supporting the process for the selection of commissioners.

Following the approval of the 2018 Law for the functioning of the NHRC, commissioners were nominated in accordance with the Presidential Act of 15 August 2019. During the selection and nomination process, OHCHR provided technical advice on the Paris Principles through participation in relevant meetings and briefings to the Ad Hoc Committee that was established for the selection of commissioners.
Non-discrimination (ND)

ND3 – The Government, civil society organizations, women and other actors have become more familiar with the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and resolution 1325 of the UN Security Council.

OHCHR contributed to the increased participation of rights-holders across the country, especially women, in public processes by raising their awareness about the implementation of relevant international human rights instruments.

Through cooperation with the Women’s Associations Liaison and Information Unit, OHCHR organized workshops and public awareness campaigns on CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325, in Mongo and Banda. The activities brought together approximately 2,680 people, including 1,000 women, from local governments, women’s organizations, youth associations and local NGOs. Participants improved their understanding of the Government’s obligations under these two instruments and local authorities committed to undertaking initiatives to increase respect for women’s rights.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Chad submits six reports to treaty bodies that are due, in compliance with reporting guidelines.

In 2019, the Office provided technical support to the Government to ensure that at least 60 per cent of its reports to the human rights treaty bodies comply with reporting guidelines.

With OHCHR’s guidance, the Government submitted its report under the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), along with its common core document. Furthermore, OHCHR provided technical support to enable the Government to prepare and submit combined reports from 1998 to 2015 under the ACHPR. OHCHR continued to encourage the Government to draft an action plan for the implementation of the recommendations issued by the UPR.

Finally, under the Development pillar, OHCHR-Chad supported the UNCT to mainstream human rights and gender perspectives into strategic documents, such as the workplans of the Gender and Human Rights Cluster and the Protection Cluster.
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE (UNJHRO)

<table>
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**Type of engagement**: Peace Mission

**Year established**: 2008

**Field office(s)**: Bandundu, Beni, Bukavu, Bunia, Butembo, Dungu, Goma, Kalemie, Kananga, Kindu, Kinshasa, Kisangani, Lubumbashi, Matadi, Mbandaka, Mbuji-Mayi, Thsikapa, Uvira

**UN partnership framework**: United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2013-2018

**Staff as of 31 December 2019**: 96

**XB requirements 2019**: US$ 8,746,000

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**:

1. **Participation (P)**
   - The NHRC fulfils its mandate and is in compliance with the Paris Principles. Its mandate includes responding to complaints.

   Due to technical assistance provided by the Office, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) worked to increase conformity with international standards. After being accredited with “A” status by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, in 2018, in recognition of its full compliance with the Paris Principles, the NHRC stepped up its monitoring and awareness-raising activities in 2019. The UNJHRO organized six training sessions for the members of the NHRC to strengthen their skills in relation to human rights. Particular emphasis was placed on human rights and elections; election observation; monitoring and reporting techniques of human rights mechanisms, including with regard to detention centres and monitoring the rights of specific groups, such as refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, victims of sexual violence, witnesses and human rights defenders (HRDs). The NHRC also increased its institutional communication capacities and implemented its strategic communications plan, which was adopted in 2018. Thanks to support from the UNJHRO, the NHRC published five reports, including on visits to detention centres, the investigation of human rights violations in Yumbi and alternative reports to CAT, CEDAW and the UPR.

   Moreover, the UNJHRO provided technical and financial support to the organization of “NHRC Open Days” in five communes of the city of Kinshasa, in September. This increased the visibility of the NHRC mandate for HRDs among the general population. The NHRC received cases on human rights violations and recorded approximately 200 complaints.

   - **P4** – With UNJHRO support, civil society networks assist a larger number of victims of human rights violations.

   Through capacity-building initiatives, the UNJHRO helped to increase the knowledge and skills of civil society actors in relation to protective measures. In 2019, the UNJHRO conducted 76 capacity-building activities for 4,274 participants (945 women, 3,329 men) from CSOs, including HRDs, local protection committees, community leaders and local authorities. The objective was to foster collaboration and effectiveness in protecting and assisting victims of human rights violations, including in Bunia, Goma, Kananga, Kinshasa and Tshikapa.

   As a result of the UNJHRO’s advocacy, the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of the Congo established a Human Rights Commission and its members benefited from an introduction to human rights to develop their skills as human rights advocates. Particular emphasis was placed on supporting the adoption of four pending bills, the protection and responsibilities of HRDs, non-profit associations and public benefit institutions, the freedom of assembly and the right to access to information.
A total of 426 HRDs, victims and witnesses of human rights violations or abuses, 31 of whom were women, benefited from protective measures, compared to 258 in 2018.

P5 – Citizens are able to exercise their rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association. The security forces show more respect for these rights and for human rights standards and principles.

Many human rights violations committed in the context of restrictions on democratic space were documented before, during and after the December 2018 elections. Following commitments made by President Tshisekedi to improve the human rights situation, there was a widening of democratic space. The most visible sign of this positive development was the release of political prisoners, the return of political exiles and the holding of several peaceful demonstrations. In this context, the UNJHRO observed a 26 per cent decrease in the number of human rights violations related to democratic space compared to 2018 (from 1,054 in 2018 to 778 in 2019).

Development (D)

D7 – The next UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2018-2023) integrates relevant human rights standards and principles and references recommendations by the human rights mechanisms.

The UNJHRO contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the Common Country Analysis (CCA), which served as a basis for the development of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). This latter framework was largely informed by reports from the UNJHRO. As a result, its outcomes and outputs are fully aligned with the recommendations issued by the human rights mechanisms that are relevant for the DRC and the SDGs. This key achievement was possible thanks to the UNJHRO’s large dissemination of a comprehensive matrix that set out this information in detail.

Peace and Security (PS)

PS5 – DRC security forces increase the number of mitigation and corrective measures they adopt, on the basis of risk assessments that comply with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.

To strengthen the fight against impunity within the country’s security institutions, the UNJHRO continued its sensitization work and enhanced collaboration and dialogue with entities that provide support. This led to strengthened implementation and ownership of HRDDP clearance decisions. Through its mitigating measures, the HRDDP Secretariat advocated for the provision of support to DRC Defence and Security Forces in order to improve the human rights situation on the ground, encourage efforts to fight against impunity and establish channels of communication between the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and Congolese authorities regarding human rights and the protection of civilian concerns. In 2019, the HRDDP Secretariat conducted 53 comprehensive risk assessments through the screening of 1,117 officers who were to be deployed for air transportation service, joint MONUSCO-Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) military operations and to support the police. In 2019, the UNJHRO created a total of 784 profiles.
PS6 – Decisions made by MONUSCO in support of the political process or on the protection of civilians are guided by relevant human rights standards and principles. This is particularly true of the good offices of the mission leadership and provision of support to the security forces.

The UNJHRO contributed to the increased compliance of MONUSCO interventions with international human rights norms, principles and standards, through the handling of protection incidents during 59 joint civilian protection missions that were undertaken in 2019 (37 joint assessment missions and 22 joint protection missions) alongside Force deployments (rapidly deployable battalions or standing combat deployments) in priority protection areas. In addition, the UNJHRO trained 148 officers to sensitize MONUSCO components on the HRDDP, its main risk assessments, possible mitigation measures to prevent violations and potential leverage to improve cooperation on human rights protection.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – The interministerial committee responsible for coordinating DRC’s reporting to the Treaty Bodies has become permanent and operational.

The UNJHRO contributed to strengthening the capacity of the members of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights to fulfil their mandate. With the UNJHRO’s technical, logistical and financial assistance to the Interministerial Committee, the DRC submitted its combined second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). The Committee also benefited from the UNJHRO’s support to draft and validate the additional report to the fourth periodic report to the Human Rights Committee.

M2 – The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), civil society organizations and human rights defenders submit reports on serious human rights issues in the DRC to the international human rights mechanisms more frequently.

The UNJHRO contributed to the submission of reports by CSOs, including by co-organizing two training sessions with the Carter Centre for the NHRC, CSOs and the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights. The focus of the training was interacting with the UPR and the formulation of targeted recommendations. As a result, the NHRC and civil society submitted nine alternative reports to the international human rights mechanisms (human rights treaty bodies and the UPR) and followed up on several recommendations.

Furthermore, the UNJHRO provided financial and technical support, such as coaching, data collection and advocacy, to human rights NGOs and the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights for the organization of large consultations that were held prior to the drafting of the UPR report. The report was reviewed and adopted in 2019. Out of 267 recommendations made to the DRC, 239 were adopted and 28 were noted. In collaboration with the Carter Centre, the UNJHRO organized a workshop on the implementation of 239 UPR recommendations, which were endorsed by the Government, for new members of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights in order to discuss their role in the implementation of the recommendations.
EASTERN AFRICA

Type of engagement
Regional Office

Countries of engagement
Djibouti, Ethiopia, Tanzania

Year established
2002

Field office(s)
Addis Ababa

Staff as of 31 December 2019
20

Total income
US$2,429,210

XB requirements 2019
US$4,181,000

Total XB expenditure
US$2,815,599

Personnel
55%

$1,555,978

Non-personnel
34%

$948,793

PSC†
11%

$310,827

Total RB expenditure
US$156,971

Personnel
100%

$156,971

Key OMP pillars in 2019

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation (P)

P1 – CSOs, women human rights defenders (WHRDs), and other relevant stakeholders advocate for human rights, and especially women’s rights, more often and more effectively. The African Union’s manuals and guidelines, including those on elections, integrate human rights standards and norms.

Through strengthening the capacities of civil society actors, OHCHR sought to support their meaningful participation in selected public processes. This included support to finalize the terms of reference of the East Africa Network of Women Human Rights Defenders and facilitate their engagement with the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls. The outcome of the consultative meeting will inform the thematic report of the Working Group on sexual reproductive health and rights in conflict settings and women in the workplace. The Office successfully expanded the Network by including young women from South Sudan and Uganda. It also supported women activists from Sudan to draft and present a statement before a session of the African Union Peace and Security Council. In addition, the AU finalized its election observation manual, with guidance from the Office, which integrates regional and international human rights standards. Furthermore, OHCHR supported the Government of Ethiopia to revise its draft legislation on NGOs, which was adopted, in March, by the Ethiopian Parliament. This major achievement led to a significant widening of the space within which civil society can engage in human rights work. For instance, in May, OHCHR convened an unprecedented countrywide gathering of CSOs to discuss, among other issues, efforts to build a strong and effective constituent of human rights CSOs and to identify how the Office can enhance the capacity of CSOs to engage and work on human rights following years of repression of civil space in the country.

Non-discrimination (ND)

ND6 – African Union policies and migration governance measures more fully integrate international human rights standards.

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of international human rights standards into AU policies and migration governance measures and the compliance of protection mechanisms with international human rights standards on migration. In 2019, the Office supported the development of the AU’s three-year Implementation Plan of Action for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in Africa (2020-2022). In collaboration with UN agencies, OHCHR supported the integration of human rights considerations into the Plan of Action. Once adopted, it is expected to provide strategic direction and guidance to AU Member States.
on the implementation of the GCM. Additionally, the Office continued to provide technical support to national human rights institutions in the region, specifically to the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions in the context of its work related to the GCM.

ND3 – In cases that concern women and girls, the decisions of national human rights and justice mechanisms comply with international and regional human rights standards.

OHCHR assisted national justice mechanisms to apply international and regional standards in their decision-making in cases related to women and girls. In October, the Office supported the AU in training women CSOs and WHRDs in post-conflict countries to increase their skills and knowledge about gender equality and women’s rights. In accordance with the recommendations outlined in the AU-OHCHR 2017 joint report on the rights of women in Africa, OHCHR, the AU, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UN Women prepared a groundbreaking report about women refugees, IDPs and returnees and a guidance tool for the AU on the integration of IDPs, including vulnerable groups, and UN Women prepared a ground report about women refugees, IDPs and returnees and a guidance tool for the AU on the integration of IDPs, including vulnerable groups, and WHRDs to tackle issues related to FGM while also establishing a comprehensive multisectoral stakeholder prevention and response strategy to fight the practice.

OHCHR facilitated compliance with international human rights norms by convening judicial dialogues with over 230 judges from supreme courts, courts of appeal, high courts, registrars and magistrates from Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, in partnership with the Centre for Reproductive Rights. The discussions focused on challenging judicial stereotyping and strengthening the capacity of African judges to vote or rule on issues related to reproductive rights.

ND4 – The decisions of national human rights and justice mechanisms increasingly promote gender equality and comply with international and regional human rights standards.

The Office also provided technical support to the AUC of the Department of Social Affairs in the elaboration of a continental draft programme and Plan of Action 2019-2023 on eliminating female genital mutilation (FGM), known as the Seleema Initiative. The draft programme seeks to provide strategic-level policy directives to AU Member States on how to tackle issues related to FGM while also establishing a comprehensive multisectoral stakeholder prevention and response strategy to fight the practice.

Accountability (A)

A1 – Regional human rights mechanisms are increasingly accessible to all. Countries in the region increasingly domesticate and comply with international standards on capital punishment.

The Office contributed to the functioning of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards by training law enforcement agencies and providing advice on related legislation and policies.

In 2019, following the signing of the MoU with the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights, the Office increased its advocacy with national and continental actors to engage with the Court. For instance, OHCHR convened members of the Pan-African Parliament to discuss their role in improving access to the Court for individuals and groups. Following the withdrawal of Tanzania from article 34(6) of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights, which allows individuals and NGOs to directly access the Court, the Office engaged with partners and relevant stakeholders to determine how to secure access to justice for victims of human rights violations in Tanzania. Subsequently, the Court decided to expedite cases filed against Tanzania. OHCHR continues to engage in advocacy with the government to strengthen its domestic judicial system and facilitate access to justice.

In 2019, the Office conducted workshops, meetings, dialogues and sensitization programmes, including through radio transmissions for justice sector officials. OHCHR provided training on the human rights of IDPs and human rights in peace building for: 60 police and public prosecutors in West Guji (three women, 57 men); 60 police and public prosecutors in Gedeo (13 women, 47 men); 49 militia members from West Guji and Gedeo (five women, 44 men); and 36 judges and prosecutors in Jigjiga, Somali region (two women, 34 men). As a result of this training, justice sector officials repeatedly reported an increased level of knowledge and understanding about the rights of IDPs, including vulnerable groups, and their duties and responsibilities as State actors. Furthermore, the training enabled the Office to identify emerging human
rights concerns, such as those arising within the context of displacement. In Ethiopia, the Office consistently referred cases of human rights violations, which primarily related to ethnic clashes and displacement, to the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. The Office strengthened its partnership with the Office of the Attorney General and the Agency for Civil Society Organizations and facilitated their participation in OHCHR activities involving CSOs.

A3 – Governments report, investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more consistently.

OHCHR contributed to the increased reporting, investigation and prosecution of cases of gender-related crimes in the Eastern Africa region. This was accomplished by successfully including women victims in criminal justice processes and integrating a gender perspective into the work of prosecutors, judges and law enforcement officials in Cameroon, Chad, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda and from ECOWAS countries and members of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF). The Office also supported the Women, Peace and Security Programme of the AU Peace and Security Department to help integrate women’s rights and gender into its training for AU troop-contributing countries and assessment missions in post-conflict countries and to improve the efficacy of AU operations related to conflict-related sexual violence.

The Office continued to provide support to the AU, national governments and UNCTs to integrate women’s rights and gender into policies and programmes. The Office supported government authorities to integrate a gender perspective into humanitarian responses and women, peace and security and gender dimensions into criminal justice responses on terrorism. It also supported engagement with the judiciary and actions to ensure women’s access to sexual and reproductive health services, including in conflict settings and in relation to capacity-building for women CSOs. At the regional level, the Office identified new opportunities for mainstreaming women’s rights into the AU’s programmes and projects in areas such as early warning and prevention, comprehensive sexuality education and joint advocacy missions on the ratification and implementation of the Maputo Protocol and in collaborative activities on women, peace and security, including when providing support to the MNJTF. In Sudan, the Office facilitated the participation of women CSOs in the AU peace and security process. Moreover, it partnered with the AU to convene a capacity-building workshop and develop an online training package on how women CSOs can engage with regional and international human rights mechanisms on women, peace and security.

Development (D)

D4 – Sexual and reproductive health policies in the region increasingly comply with international human rights standards.

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacities of civil society and other actors to link human rights norms and apply an HRBA to their work on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNFPA and Ethiopia’s Ministry of Health, OHCHR conducted a national analysis on the application of an HRBA to maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity in Ethiopia. The outcome of the analysis is expected to generate transformative, evidence-based programming that will support the application of an HRBA in sexual and reproductive maternal child health interventions to accelerate the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity rates. The Office also paid particular attention to SRHR in conflict settings and, in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), supported the development of a tool on discrimination between girls and boys related to the age of sexual consent. Specifically, the tool will assist CSOs, governments and the UN to assess the implementation of laws and regulations on adolescent SRHR in East and Southern Africa that promote the full realization of these rights, such as the criminalization of child marriage. Finally, the Office co-organized a panel on SRHR in conflict settings during the November session of the ACHPR. This resulted in a commitment from the ACHPR to begin elaborating a general recommendation on article 11 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol).
D7 – When they implement the SDGs, UN Country Teams and the Governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania take fully into account human rights principles, including the right to development and outcomes of human rights mechanisms in their programmes and strategies. The Office strengthened its engagement with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) regarding trade and the implementation of the SDGs through the joint publication on human rights in digital space by OHCHR, UNECA and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Office. This was partially achieved by unpacking, in collaboration with UNECA, the human rights implications of the Continental Free Trade Agreement, including through a work stream on informal trade focusing on women along the Lagos-Abidjan corridor. In addition, OHCHR built the capacity of the AUC to integrate the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) into its policy framework and roll-out by providing technical support and helping to develop the draft Business and Human Rights Policy Framework.

D8 – State institutions pay increasing attention to discrimination (as defined in international law) when they collect, analyse and disseminate data.

OHCHR contributed to raising the visibility of the role of human rights in the implementation of the SDGs through country-level interventions directed at ensuring the rights-based planning and implementation of SDGs have gained impetus, including through collaborations with UNECA and others at the continental level. For instance, OHCHR and the Danish Institute for Human Rights organized a consultation on a rights-based approach to SDG implementation as a side event at the Fifth Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in April. The activity bolstered the visibility of the Office and opened avenues for further collaboration under this theme. There has been wide recognition by partners of the work of OHCHR, UNECA and others, to integrate human rights considerations into digital trade in Africa. OHCHR and the UNCT in Ethiopia co-organized briefings, which led to improved know-how and understanding among members about how to integrate human rights considerations into the design process and ongoing roll-out of the UNSDCF, including through the preparation of the CCA and strategic prioritization. OHCHR organized subregional trainings for UNCTs from 10 countries in the sub-region, including the three focus countries, namely Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania. More specifically, participants were encouraged to consider innovative ways of forging synergies between the SDGs and the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and link them to their country programming.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – National mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (NMRFs) are established and strengthened in two countries in the sub-region; their mandates are comprehensive and clear. One to two States in the region improve their capacity to implement and follow up on the recommendations of international human rights mechanisms, including by submitting reports to the Treaty Bodies. Three to five outstanding human rights treaties or optional protocols are ratified without reservations.

OHCHR contributed to the increased capacity of NMRFs in Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania to systematically pursue the implementation of recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms and submit timely and quality reports to those mechanisms. Following technical advice from OHCHR and its training workshop on reporting under CAT and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the NMRF in Ethiopia showed improvement in its capacity to prepare reports for the international human rights mechanisms. This was manifested in the submission of the State Party report under ICCPR, the draft report to CAT and the consultative report preparation process in anticipation of the country’s third UPR cycle. The Office advocated for the development of implementation plans, including for recommendations issued by the UPR, as a more efficient conduit for systematizing the follow-up process beyond the National Human Rights Action Plan II (2016-2020) framework. The Office of the Attorney General, which coordinates the NMRF in Ethiopia, officially requested assistance from OHCHR to establish a National
Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) to strengthen its information management capacity. The Office is in the process of identifying the extent of the support that is required. OHCHR will continue providing support to the functioning of the NMRF, including the full set-up of the NRTD, based on an earlier analysis of needs.

In all of the abovementioned capacity-building efforts, the Office systematically advocated for and shared skill sets on leveraging synergies between the review procedures and the implementation of the SDGs and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. To this end, the Office reached out to numerous African countries at the Fifth Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in Morocco, particularly during the speaking slot at the Voluntary National Review (VNR) workshop and at the side event on rights-based implementation of the SDGs.

In addition, in 2019, the Office provided technical support to the AU on the finalization of the road map for the implementation of the AU Transitional Justice Policy.

### GUINEA

**Population size**
12.77 million

**Surface area**
246,000 km²

**Human Development Index**
0.466 (175/188 in 2018)

**NHRI (if applicable)**

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<td><strong>UN partnership framework</strong></td>
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**Staff as of 31 December 2019**
19

| **Total income** | US$2,803,022 |
| **XB requirements 2019** | US$3,244,000 |
| **Total XB expenditure** | US$2,992,575 |

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**Key OMP pillars in 2019**

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<tr>
<th><strong>Accountability (A)</strong></th>
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</table>


**16**

OHCHR contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings through advice and capacity-building sessions.

As a result of eight training sessions, on-the-job coaching and the facilitation of oversight by judicial inspectors and the Parliament, civilian and military magistrates in Guinea are increasingly using human rights standards in their proceedings. The Office monitored six emblematic cases and observed that some rights were upheld in all of the cases. Four training sessions for civil society actors on the administration of justice and trial monitoring contributed to these improvements. In addition, the Office conducted an assessment of public access to justice and the perception of progress achieved. The results corroborated the reported improvements in respect for human rights in court proceedings. Efforts are still required, however, to ensure full respect for all rights in court proceedings, particularly as frequent staff turnover in
the sector demands continuous training and support for newly recruited magistrates and lawyers.

**Participation (P)**

**P1** – A law that protects human rights defenders has been adopted.

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation and policies on gender equality, the rights of women and of the child with international human rights norms and standards, including through advocacy and technical and financial assistance.

With support from the Office, a new civil code was enacted to improve gender equality and human rights for women, the national policy on human rights was updated, a national strategy for conflict prevention was developed and a new Child Code was reviewed by the National Assembly. In cooperation with national NGOs and CSOs, and by providing information on relevant human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR advocated against envisioned amendments to a draft CSO Act that would have negatively impacted on the right of freedom of expression. As a result, the draft was not adopted. The Office also facilitated two working sessions with the NHRI and the Ministry for Human Rights and Public Freedoms and two working sessions with CSOs to advocate for the creation of a legal framework for the protection of HRDs. In December, the Ministry pledged to secure the adoption of a law as soon as possible.

**P6** – By 2021, the participation in public life of discriminated groups, including women, youth, and people living with albinism, has increased. These groups are able to claim their rights.

OHCHR contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders in public processes, especially women and discriminated groups, including persons with disabilities, by raising their awareness about relevant human rights principles and standards.

The Office organized three workshops for youth on human rights and civic participation. The participants subsequently established a coordination group to channel their claims. Women also benefited from the Office’s awareness-raising campaigns. For instance, following outreach activities on human rights and traditional practices that were held in the areas of Kankan, Faranah and Nzérékoré, leaders of local communities realized that most of their traditional practices were contrary to the human rights of women and girls and pledged to abandon these practices.

Furthermore, technical support provided by OHCHR contributed to the enactment, in May, of the Law on Gender Parity in Elective Positions. On the other hand, the expected enactment of the draft Law on the Rights of Persons with Albinism did not take place in 2019.

**Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS1** – National authorities are regularly informed about human rights violations and take appropriate measures to investigate and prosecute them.

Through monitoring and sharing of information, OHCHR contributed to the increased investigation and prosecution, by national authorities, of cases of human rights violations.

The Office systematically referred observed violations to and discussed recurrent issues and potential remedies with the committee that is responsible for following up on these cases. As a result of these activities, 35 persons being held in unlawful detention were released, seven lactating mothers who were being detained in conditions that were harmful for their infants were provisionally released, redress was granted to 15 suspects who were being detained without case files, medical treatment was provided to sick inmates and attention was brought to the cases of 386 inmates being held in prolonged pretrial detention.

**PS6** – The national plan for the security sector has been implemented by 2020.

By providing technical guidance, OHCHR contributed to the increased institutionalization of human rights modules in the academic curricula of defence and security institutions.

During meetings with the army’s Chief of Staff and following an evaluation of the Office’s security sector reform programme, the human rights modules developed by OHCHR were praised
for contributing to building a culture of respect for human rights among security forces. In addition, a decrease in violations accredited to the security forces may be partially attributed to the training sessions facilitated by OHCHR. The Office will train army trainers in 2020 and gradually hand over the training for security forces and other institutions.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Reports are submitted promptly to human rights mechanisms including Treaty Bodies; overdue reports have been submitted.

Following two OHCHR training workshops and a report drafting retreat for members of the interministerial mechanism in charge of integrated reporting, a road map was approved for the drafting and submission of delayed and overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies. The initial report under ICESCR and the report to the third UPR cycle were submitted during the reporting period.

GUINEA-BISSAU: UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED PEACEBUILDING OFFICE IN GUINEA-BISSAU (UNIOGBIS)

<table>
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<th>Surface area</th>
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Staff as of 31 December 2019: 11

Platform requirements 2019: US$97,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019:

M1 – Reports are submitted promptly to human rights mechanisms including treaty bodies; overdue reports have been submitted

Through collaboration with non-traditional actors, the HRS contributed to building networks for the exchange of information and resources while simultaneously building on existing engagements with CSOs and national institutions.

M2 – Civil society provides information to the treaty bodies, special procedures and UPR.

The Human Rights Section (HRS) of UNIOGBIS contributed to the increased capacity of State officials and other stakeholders to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. More specifically, the HRS supported the Government in the elaboration and submission of its State report to the third UPR cycle, which was submitted on 1 October, in anticipation of its scheduled review on 24 January 2020. The HRS also provided technical advice and assistance to the UNCT and CSOs in the preparation of their reports, which included a validation workshop for 50 representatives (18 of whom were women) from 27 CSOs.

Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.
of the media in the application of and respect for human rights. In the context of inflammatory remarks by presidential candidates and their supporters during the pre-electoral period, the HRS held seven advocacy meetings with members of the media, specifically the Monitoring Group, under the auspices of the National Council on Social Communication, Radio Africa FM, Radio Capital FM and Radio Bombolom.

Participation (P)

P5 – OHCHR’s case database is fully functional; national authorities address all cases that OHCHR brings to their attention. A protection mechanism for human rights defenders is in place.

The HRS contributed to the establishment of a protection mechanism for HRDs by producing a draft bill for the protection of witnesses and victims, which is yet to be validated by national stakeholders. This would offer protection to HRDs acting as witnesses. The issue was discussed, in December, at the Second Strategic Retreat of the Human Rights Defenders Network, which was established and formalized in 2017 with the support of UNIOGBIS.

P6 – The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard.

The HRS significantly contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes. Following the mentoring efforts of the HRS, which targeted a core group of 41 HRDs, including 19 women, on human rights monitoring and elections and early warning, the Human Rights Defenders Network monitored the presidential elections in all regions of the country, in November and December, to identify and address threats of human rights violations. In addition, six networks of CSOs were mobilized with the assistance of the European Union, UN Women, UNFPA and UNIOGBIS. The networks received support from the Peacebuilding Fund for the joint development and monitoring of an electoral Code of Conduct for the presidential elections, to establish a situation room to identify and monitor possible risks and provide early warning on threats to the electoral process. The situation room was set up during the first and second rounds of the presidential elections, in November and December. The civil society initiatives were lauded by stakeholders for their significant contribution to a peaceful environment for the presidential elections and the reduction in post-electoral social conflicts. Those capacities were also developed in relation to the legislative elections held in early 2019.

Accountability (A)

A1 – A national human rights institution is established that complies with the Paris Principles. Human rights training and education is institutionalized in the justice, health, education, and defence and security sectors. The Government adopts a national policy on human rights, a strategic plan to combat impunity, and a law that protects victims and witnesses.

The HRS contributed to reducing human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems. Specifically, the HRS carried out regular monitoring and advocacy related to the rights of persons deprived of their liberty. As a result, 194 out a total 338 detainees (all adult men), who were being held in arbitrary/prolonged detention, were released in 2019 and the case files for 64 other detainees were referred to the Office of the Prosecutor General for a decision on pretrial detention.

Regarding the institutionalization of Human Rights Education (HRE) in the Defence Sector, targeted capacity-building efforts were undertaken to strengthen the competencies of armed forces officers. A training of trainers on human rights was held for 30 officers, including 14 female military officers, and trainers from the Ministry of Defence and the National Defence Institute. The Ministry of Defence subsequently committed to the inclusion of HRE in its ongoing training for the armed forces.

Building on the work initiated in 2018 in the Education Sector, various tools were finalized in 2019 for teaching human rights in the educational system, including referential manuals on Education for Citizenship and Human Rights and Peace for education professionals, such as primary school teachers. The HRS also trained six representatives from the National Institute of Education Development and 123 teachers across the country.

Furthermore, the HRS produced a draft bill for a Human Rights Institution that is compliant with the Paris Principles. The draft will be discussed with the Government in order to seek its support prior to its presentation to the Parliament in 2020.
KENYA

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Key OMP pillars in 2019

1 2 3

123 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability (A)

A2 – Kenyan authorities strengthen and enforce measures to prevent human rights violations by police and other security agencies, including sexual and gender-based violence. Those responsible for violations are held accountable and prosecuted.

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) in the collection of SDG indicators.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support to KNCHR for the review of practices, methodologies and challenges in collecting data on SDG indicators 16.1.1, 16.1.3, 16.3.1, 16.10.1 and 16.b.1/10.3.1. In 2017, OHCHR played a key role in facilitating a partnership between the KNBS and the KNCHR on SDG data collection and indicators. In the context of this partnership, a list of population groups that are frequently left behind was identified. OHCHR is the UN system’s custodian agency for four official SDG indicators under SDG 10 and SDG 16. In Kenya, OHCHR focused on making two of these goals a reality, namely, 10.3.1/16.b.1 on the prevalence of discrimination and harassment and 16.10.1 on violence against HRDs. In 2019, OHCHR established a list of action points and outputs to operationalize its Guidance Note on a Human Rights-Based Approach to Data and the 2017 MoU between the KNBS and the KNCHR to mainstream a human rights-based approach to the collection of data. The MoU aimed at improving data collection, disaggregation, dissemination and/or analysis of groups being left behind in relation to national censuses, household surveys and other sources. In this unique partnership, a statistics institution and a human rights institution are collaborating to ensure that a human rights-based approach is being applied to data and statistics.

OHCHR also supported the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) to review its operational capacity, physical structures and resources to deal with cases of serious human rights violations. For the first time, a comprehensive review was undertaken to assess its capacity to prosecute serious human rights violations. The final report was presented to and fully endorsed by the ODPP, in June. The report highlighted the ODPP’s capacity gaps and made recommendations to address structural gaps, develop its expertise with regard to focused prosecutorial strategies and strengthen data collection and crime analysis to enhance its newly established Civil Rights Division. Following the review, the ODPP requested additional support and prosecutorial advice for the Civil Rights Division on landmark cases of unlawful killings, test cases involving serious human rights violations, including the case of extrajudicial killings during the 2017 elections, and to assist with the establishment of standard operating procedures between the ODPP, the police service and the Independent Policing Oversight Authority.
OHCHR contributed to strengthening the protection and empowerment of civil society actors, including journalists. Civic space continued to be a priority for Kenya and the Office conducted extensive advocacy on laws, including by securing a civic space component in the UNCT on civic space, which provides a good overview of how OHCHR worked with other parts of the UN system on this issue.

In 2018, OHCHR provided substantive input to the draft Policy on Public Participation to ensure that it reflects the Human Rights Council’s Guidelines on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs. In 2019, the draft was completed and endorsed by the Attorney General and it is currently awaiting adoption by the Cabinet before it is gazetted for implementation. Once adopted, OHCHR will support its implementation and a baseline survey on the status of public participation in selected counties.

The capacity of the Media Council of Kenya was enhanced following a round-table meeting held with CSOs working on freedom of information. The meeting provided a forum for discussions on practical ways of enhancing the safety of journalists and utilizing the international human rights mechanisms to advocate for the safety of journalists in Kenya. The event was convened by OHCHR in response to unprecedented attacks on freedom of the media that occurred in the electoral period. Participants prepared a position paper geared towards securing the promotion and protection of media freedoms, including the safety and security of journalists, and ensuring that these concerns were adequately reflected in the reports submitted prior to Kenya’s third UPR cycle, in January 2020, and CAT’s review of Kenya’s third periodic report, which is scheduled for April 2020.

D1 – Two landmark litigation cases are successfully completed, and victims receive remedies.

OHCHR helped to ensure that oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are functioning in Kenya.

In 2019, the Centre for Justice Governance and Environmental Action (CJGEA) continued litigating a case on environmental rights. The case involves two companies that are being sued for polluting the environment. Specifically, the two companies were smelting lead as their core business in the Owino Uhuru community where 3,000 residents and 200 former staff members suffered lead poisoning. As part of its mandate to support the implementation of the UNGPs and protect civic space, OHCHR has provided technical and financial support for the case since 2016. In addition to securing a grant, OHCHR worked closely with Kenyan authorities to urge protection for the CJGEA and the members of the Owino Uhuru community when they were threatened for filing and pursuing the case. The Director of Public Prosecution took up the issue of threats and offered witness protection for the duration of the case. The case challenges the responsibility of the State and non-State actors to respect, protect and fulfill the right to a clean and healthy environment as provided by the Kenyan Constitution. The case sought declarations on procedural environmental rights, access to information, public participation and access to effective remedy. The case was concluded in November and the decision is expected to be handed down in 2020.


Through consistent advocacy, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards.

Over the last three years, OHCHR has supported government efforts to put in place a National Action Plan (NAP) and Policy on Business and Human Rights in line with the UNGPs. As a member of the Government Steering Committee, OHCHR provided technical and financial support for the development of the NAP. This is the first of its kind in Africa and once adopted, it will provide a model for other countries in the region. The report of the Working Group on business and human rights, which was submitted to the Human Rights Council in 2019, provided timely recommendations and an impetus to the NAP as it entered its final phase. The NAP has been submitted to the Attorney General’s Office and is awaiting adoption. OHCHR will support its implementation, including with the private sector and business associations.
UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE FIELD

D3 – Kenya implements the decisions of the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights with respect to Endorois and Ogiek rights to land and housing.

OHCHR contributed to the strengthened capacity of State institutions to implement court decisions.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support to a government-established Task Force on the implementation of the decision of the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights issued against the Government of Kenya in respect of the rights of the Ogiek Community of Mau Complex and enhancing the participation of indigenous communities in the sustainable management of forests. OHCHR ensured that the Task Force partnered with experts on indigenous rights, such as Minority Rights Group International. In addition to its engagement with the Task Force, OHCHR partnered with the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) in developing countries. The Programme supports nationally-led REDD+ processes and promotes the informed and meaningful involvement of all stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities.

EXPANDING CIVIC SPACE AND THE SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT IN KENYA

Over the last two years, OHCHR has worked with and supported the 27 social justice centres that have been functioning in informal settlements across Kenya since 2015. The centres are primarily formed by young human rights defenders to establish civic space where they can organize to advocate against human rights violations and promote social justice in their communities. This is done by documenting human rights violations and undertaking participatory action research, community dialogue, advocacy and campaigns on a variety of human rights issues, including police violence, extrajudicial killings and sexual and gender-based violence. They also focus on economic and social rights, such as the rights to water and adequate housing.

All of the centres are networked through the Social Justice Centres Working Group, which is comprised of two representatives from each centre, and functions as a collective voice for the social justice movement. OHCHR supports the engagement of the Working Group with the international human rights mechanisms, forums, donors and the diplomatic community to raise the profile of their work and the human rights issues affecting informal settlements. In 2019, the Working Group made its first submission in anticipation of Kenya’s third UPR cycle. In addition, the Working Group and Wilfred Olal, their national coordinator, received the Human Rights Defender of the Year award for their community activism.

According to Olal, “because of OHCHR, we are now recognized by other players and we are participating in the Working Group on Human Rights Defenders. With the support of OHCHR, we engaged with the UPR process for the first time, which contributed to the capacity-building of our members. Without OHCHR, I don’t know where we would be today.”

As a result of this recognition and support and the tireless activism of their members, the social justice centres movement is flourishing and new centres are opening across the country. OHCHR will continue to support their human rights work, seek out opportunities to promote their efforts and amplify the voices of the communities they serve.
Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Kenya creates a formal national reporting mechanism and a recommendations database.

OHCHR played an instrumental role in setting up an NMRF, the National Committee on International and Regional Human Rights Obligations, which is composed of 17 government ministries, agencies and departments. The establishment of the NMRF follows two years of OHCHR’s technical advice and robust advocacy efforts and represents an important achievement for OHCHR. In addition, it supported the drafting of the NMRF’s terms of reference in compliance with good practices. The mechanism is a game changer for strengthening reporting, data collection and engagement with the international human rights machinery. The Government has indicated it is ready to develop a recommendations database, which has been included in the planned activities for 2020.

M2 – The Government, national human rights institution, civil society organizations and the UN Country Team regularly submit reports to the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR contributed to the increased capacity of the Government and civil society to prepare and submit reports in the context of Kenya’s third UPR cycle. OHCHR worked closely with the Attorney General’s Office, which is the main government entity responsible for engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, and 67 civil society partners, which submitted a joint report to the UPR. A total of 22 CSOs submitted individual reports. For the first time, CSOs working on disabilities, sexual orientation and gender identity and sexual and reproductive health and rights participated in the preparation of the joint report. Other civil society partners included Grace Agenda, a network of survivors of sexual violence and social justice centres in informal urban settlements. Grace Agenda engaged in reporting to the international human rights mechanisms for the first time to highlight issues of extrajudicial executions and economic, social and cultural rights, such as the right to water and sanitation.
Liberia

Population size\(^1\) | Surface area\(^1\) | Human Development Index\(^2\) | NHRI (if applicable)\(^3\) \\
---|---|---|---
4.94 million | 111,000 km\(^2\) | 0.465 (rank: 173/188 in 2018) | Status A, 2017

Type of engagement | Country Office
Year established | 2018
Field office(s) | Monrovia
Staff as of 31 December 2019 | 7

Total income | US$2,416,080
XB requirements 2019 | US$4,734,000
Total XB expenditure | US$3,100,864

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Key OMP pillars in 2019

A5 – The INCHR will implement the 2009 recommendation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia (TRC) to ensure accountability for crimes of the past.

By providing technical support to the INCHR, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms in conformity with international human rights standards.

OHCHR provided technical guidance to the INCHR to support the civil society Transitional Justice Working Group in the development and implementation of an engagement strategy to advocate with relevant ministries, agencies and commissions for the implementation of the TRC’s recommendations. The Office further supported the INCHR to convene a national colloquium that brought together 200 Liberians, including 85 women, from all backgrounds to discuss how the Government should implement the recommendations. The participants produced a communique that requested the Government to take steps to implement the TRC’s recommendations, including the establishment of a War and Economic Crimes Court. The Liberian National Bar Association was mandated to prepare draft legislation for the establishment of the Court, which was finalized and will be submitted to the Parliament for its review and approval.

*Please refer to Data sources and notes on p. 208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability (A)

A4 – The Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) assists and advises members and committees of the Legislature and the Human Rights Legislative Association on human rights to prepare relevant bills, for example bills on domestic violence and on female genital mutilation.

With technical support for and capacity-building of relevant stakeholders, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of selected legislation with international human rights norms and standards.

Following many recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR, the Domestic Violence Bill was adopted, in August. The legislation is a landmark for gender equality in Liberia and seeks to address physical, emotional, verbal and psychological abuse, dowry-related violence, offenses against the family and harassment, among other violations. Due to advocacy from traditional leaders, however, the criminalization of FGM was excluded from the Bill. OHCHR provided technical support to the INCHR during the drafting and consultation process. This support led to the establishment of the Working Group on FGM, which is advocating for the adoption of legislation on FGM that is being reviewed by the Liberian Parliament.
Participation (P)

P1 – Government ministries and the Parliament consult and cooperate with the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and National Civil Society Council of Liberia (INCSCL), including the Civil Society Organization Human Rights Advocacy Platform, when they draft legislation that relates to human rights and act to create a safe and enabling environment for civil society.

OHCHR advocated with relevant stakeholders for the compliance of legislation and policies with international human rights norms and standards.

On 7 June, approximately 20,000 Liberians took to the streets to express their discontent over the economic and social situation of the country. It was the largest protest to have taken place since the end of the civil war. OHCHR and other UN agencies played an important role in ensuring that the Government complied with its commitment to respect the rights of protestors. Despite initial concerns about political instability and the Government’s ability to police the protests while also respecting human rights obligations, the demonstration was peaceful and no serious human rights violations were reported. OHCHR provided technical and financial support to train and deploy 50 monitors from the INCHR and civil society to monitor the protest.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Liberia complies more fully with its international human rights obligations, including by reporting to the treaty bodies and the UPR and implementing their recommendations. To this end, the Government ratifies more human rights instruments, creates a national human rights action plan (NHRAP) and appoints a drafting committee and NHRAP steering committee.

The mechanisms for implementing and reporting on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms improved their functioning with OHCHR’s technical support.

OHCHR provided INCHR with financial and technical guidance to support the preparation of its first UPR submission. To this end, the Office facilitated joint fact-finding missions to six counties, a regional consultation to validate the report and a technical session for the INCHR drafting team to finalize the report, which was submitted, in October. OHCHR also supported the Government of Liberia to draft its report for the third UPR cycle following organized regional consultations and the validation of the document prior to its submission, in March 2020.

Regarding the implementation of recommendations, OHCHR supported the reorganization of the NHRAP Steering Committee and the reactivation of its regular bimonthly meetings.
**PILLAR RESULTS:**

### Accountability (A)

**A1 – The Independent National Human Rights Commission is fully operational by 2020.**

The Office contributed to the functioning of the Independent National Human Rights Commission (INHRC), in compliance with the Paris Principles, by strengthening the capacity of its members and providing technical support for its institution building.

The INHRC was accredited with “A” status by GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation. Following appropriate legislative amendments in 2018, the INHRC was tasked with the role of NPM. Since the swearing-in of the 11 commissioners in October 2016, OHCHR has been providing support to the INHRC to ensure that it is functioning in accordance with the Paris Principles, including by advocating with State authorities on the measures that need to be implemented and the importance of developing an accurate budget. Technical support and guidance from OHCHR enabled the INHRC to establish a database and a manual on the handling of complaints, which are now being systematically used by the Commission.

### Development (D)

**D3 – National legislation and development policies comply more fully with international human rights norms and principles, notably in regard to land and housing.**

By providing technical guidance, OHCHR sought to facilitate the development of policies and legislation in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In December, the Tripartite Charter for sustainable development and respect for human rights in the framework of private investments in Madagascar was finalized. Its signature ceremony will take place in 2020. With support from OHCHR, the Charter was drafted by representatives of civil society, the Government and mining companies to promote the integration of the principles of participation, transparency and accountability into law and policymaking and ensure that the Government’s general policy and sector-based policies incorporate a human rights-based approach.

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The government committee in charge of drafting State reports to the human rights mechanisms is effective. It has established a monitoring mechanism.**

OHCHR supported the establishment and functioning of an NMRF on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In February, at the request of the Minister of Justice and in preparation...
for Madagascar’s participation in the third UPR cycle, which took place in November, OHCHR facilitated two workshops to familiarize government officials, in particular members of the Interministerial Committee, with the UPR process. Participants included 20 staff members, including 12 women, from the Human Rights Directorate of the Ministry of Justice and 54 members, including 32 women, from the Interministerial Committee tasked with drafting State reports and following up on recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms. At the end of the two workshops, the participants developed action plans related to the establishment of a data collection system and report drafting schedules and adopted a road map for the preparation of the UPR report. This led the UNCT to provide financial and technical support for the organization of several workshops that were needed for collecting relevant information and drafting the State report to the UPR.

A joint OHCHR-INHRC Human Rights Centre for Collecting, Compiling and Alerting on Human Rights Violations was set up in the OHCHR Office, in Antananarivo, during legislative elections that were held in May. A total of 15 persons, composed of staff from OHCHR and the INHRC, including its President, were present at the Centre to receive and compile information on human rights violations documented by 220 human rights monitors deployed across the country. The Centre participated in the human rights monitoring strategy for the presidential elections that were held in November and December 2018. The strategy was shared with all key partners within the framework of the Gender and Human Rights Working Group, including CSOs, the INHRC, the National Reconciliation Council, the Bar Association, the Association of Journalists, the donor community and UN agencies. Each entity was solicited to appoint two monitors per region, which resulted in the designation of 220 monitors, including 140 women, across the country.

OHCHR developed a handbook for monitors, which was distributed to the participants during the training sessions that were held in six provinces. Each monitor was also provided with an introduction letter to facilitate their monitoring work and the means to enable them to communicate relevant findings in a timely manner.

OHCHR’s collaborative work with the INHRC increased the visibility and credibility of the INHRC. Focus groups that were organized to assess human rights monitoring in the context of elections revealed that the monitors played a dissuasive role and that the monitoring strategy proved to be an effective tool in preventing electoral fraud and violence. The presence of the monitors also helped to restore the population’s confidence in the electoral process and served to strengthen the credibility of the monitors, primarily those who were members of civil society organizations working in remote areas.

First-hand information provided by the joint OHCHR-INHRC Human Rights Centre for Collecting, Compiling and Alerting on Human Rights Violations contributed to UNCT reports on the electoral process. The only other available information came from the National Independent Electoral Commission.

**Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS4** – Madagascar’s post-crisis reconstruction includes a genuine reconciliation process that complies with international transitional justice principles.

The Office contributed to the increased compliance of transitional justice mechanisms with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR cooperated with the National Reconciliation Council and the INHRC to support the Government in implementing a comprehensive human rights-based monitoring and prevention system during the elections.
Mali: United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA)

Population size: 19.66 million
Surface area: 1,240,000 km²
Human Development Index: 0.427 (rank: 184/188 in 2018)
NHRI (if applicable): Status B, 2012

Type of engagement: Peace Mission
Year established: 2013
Field office(s): Bamako, Gao, Kidal, Ménaka, Mopti, Timbuktu
Staff as of 31 December 2019: 66

XB requirements 2019: US$74,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019: 🔄 🍃

12 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p. 208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability (A)

A1 – The internal oversight mechanisms of Mali’s Defence and Security Forces (MDSF) are operational and comply with international human rights standards.

A2 – Criminal courts increasingly process human rights-related cases promptly and in compliance with international due process standards. Serious violations that occurred after 2012 are prosecuted, whether they involve members of armed groups or members of the MDSF.

Peace and Security (PS)

PS2 – Mali’s defence and security forces and G5 Sahel Joint Force comply with international human rights law and humanitarian law when they conduct counter-terrorism operations.

Specifically, the HRPD monitored the two sessions of the Court of Assizes that were held in 2019 to ensure that international fair trial standards were observed. Out of 244 cases that were before the courts during those sessions, the HRPD monitored and assessed 19 cases of alleged terrorist acts and five cases of trafficking in persons. Although the HRPD reported an improvement in the observance of the three-year time limit for pretrial detention, it noted other human rights concerns regarding these cases.

In December, the Minister of Justice and Human Rights issued a letter to prosecutors in Mali that requested that they take “all necessary measures to engage appropriate criminal proceedings with due diligence and firmness against all persons” involved in any form of violence directed at anyone taking a stand against contemporary forms of slavery. The Minister also instructed prosecutors to regularly update him on actions taken to address this phenomenon, which is particularly prevalent in the Kayes region. This action follows sustained engagement by the HRPD with relevant authorities.

The human rights violation cases to determine if they were conducted in compliance with international standards.

The information-sharing mechanism with the army’s Chief of Staff, initiated
by the HRPD, helped to facilitate significant advances in the protection of human rights and the fight against impunity. As a result of the HRPD’s rigorous work in investigating, documenting and sharing information on human rights violations with the army’s Chief of Staff, the armed forces significantly changed their behaviour with regard to allegations of human rights violations committed by elements of the Malian Army. While it was common for them to deny allegations of human rights violations presumably committed by the Malian Army, the HRPD noted that authorities began to seriously consider cases submitted by the HRPD, initiate investigations and request technical and logistical assistance from MINUSMA.

In June, the HRDP collaborated with United Nations Police (UNPOL), the Justice and Corrections Section of MINUSMA and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to organize a workshop on human rights and detention in relation to terrorism. The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of the personnel of the Pôle Judiciaire Spécialisé (PJS), the leading entity in the fight against terrorism, money laundering and transborder criminality in Mali. The workshop facilitated a debate on illegal detentions in relation to the fight against terrorism, as well as challenges faced by the PJS in handling the cases of persons arrested during counter-terrorism operations. Participants also explored possible avenues to improve detention conditions in compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law. As a result of this workshop and various visits and advocacy meetings that were conducted by the HRPD, 321 detainees who had been illegally detained in facilities under the responsibility of the PJS were released.

**PS4 – The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission fulfils its mandate and issues its final report.** The Malian authorities implement their key recommendations, prioritizing victims’ rights, in accordance with Mali’s international obligations.

With technical support from the HRPD, transitional justice mechanisms in Mali increasingly operate in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) made some progress towards the fulfilment of its mandate, which was extended until December 2021 and expanded to include acts committed between 1960 and 2019. The HRPD provided technical and logistical support to the Commission and was actively involved in the organization of the first public hearing. The hearing was held in Bamako, on 8 December, during which 13 witnesses (two women, 11 men) testified regarding the harm they had endured, including arbitrary detention and abductions. Moreover, the HRPD supported 14 victims’ associations to increase their participation in various activities organized by the TJRC aimed at preparing victims’ associations and other key partners for the hearing. To this end, the HRPD facilitated the participation of 70 persons (23 women, 47 men) in a public hearing workshop that was organized in Bamako, in May, by the TJRC. The workshop gathered together representatives of victims’ associations, representatives of human rights organizations, commissioners of the TJRC, as well as advisers on reparations and reconciliation. The HRPD also contributed to the organization of a workshop on public hearings for women and child victims that was organized by the TJRC, in June, which brought together 62 participants (28 women, 34 men) representing CSOs and associations on the rights of women and of the child.

In addition, under the Mechanisms pillar, the HRPD supported the Interministerial Committee in charge of reporting to the human rights treaty bodies in the drafting of two periodic reports under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.
MAURITANIA

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Type of engagement | Country Office
Year established | 2010
Field office(s) | Nouakchott
UN partnership framework | Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2019 | 10

| Total income | US$1,496,602 |
| XB requirements 2019 | US$1,979,000 |
| Total XB expenditure | US$1,113,321 |
| Personnel | Non-personnel | PSC† |
| 54% | 35% | 11% |
| $601,678 | $392,795 | $118,849 |

Key OMP pillars in 2019

²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p. 208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability (A)

A1 – Prison conditions increasingly comply with international standards due to monitoring and coordination of assistance efforts.

Through monitoring, technical support and advocacy activities, OHCHR contributed to the improvement of detention facilities in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, OHCHR was able to undertake, for the first time, visits to a number of detention facilities, such as Selibali in the south and the women’s prison in Nouakchott. The Office facilitated various trainings, alone or in partnership with governmental institutions, that targeted members of the penitentiary system and magistrates to disseminate knowledge about human rights standards related to the treatment of prisoners. The Office continued engaging on a number of emblematic cases, including that of journalist Mohamed M’Kheitir, who was arrested in 2014, sentenced to death, then received a reduced sentence of two years in prison and a fine, which was followed by administrative detention. Mr. M’Kheitir was released in July. The Office also monitored the trials of nine men and two boys, who were tried in relation to demonstrations during and after the presidential elections. They were ultimately released.

Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 – The host population affected by the presence of Malian refugees and victims of other humanitarian emergencies are increasingly involved in the development and implementation of response strategies.

OHCHR supported the increased participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected processes in order to prevent conflicts between host populations and refugees. This was primarily done through capacity-building and awareness-raising activities.

OHCHR facilitated the creation of a women’s network in host communities in Bassikounou. Furthermore, a number of women and girls in the network were identified and trained to become trainers on human rights. Their awareness was raised on issues such as gender-based violence, legal referrals, early and forced marriage and discrimination and other forms of human rights violations. OHCHR will continue strengthening this network through trainings, regular visits and by facilitating interactions between members of the network with relevant stakeholders at the local and central levels.
Mechanisms (M)

M1 – The Interministerial Committee coordinates the preparation of State reports to human rights mechanisms and follows up on their recommendations, based on a national action plan. It adopts a participatory approach.

Through consistent technical support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the NMRF on the implementation of recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms.

Mauritania prepared its submission to the UPR, which was shared with the Office in 2019. In addition, OHCHR collaborated with the Commission for Human Rights, Humanitarian Action and Civil Society Relations to co-organize a number of trainings and workshops to monitor the implementation of the National Plan of Action to follow up on the UPR recommendations that were issued in 2015. A final assessment on the status of implementation of the recommendations will be made in 2020.

NIGER

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**Type of engagement**

Human Rights Adviser

**Year established**

2008

**Field office(s)**

Niamey

**UN partnership framework**

United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2021

**Staff as of 31 December 2019**

3

**XB requirements 2019**

US$538,000

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**

1 2 3

123 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

**PILLAR RESULTS:**

### Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND3** – Niger fully implements the National Policy on Gender, reduces discrimination against women, and increases the participation of women in public life.

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the enhanced compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR successfully engaged with the National Human Rights Commission and CSOs to advocate for enhancing the participation of women in public space in Niger. OHCHR’s advocacy contributed to the adoption by Parliament, on 6 December, of the bill amending Law No. 2000-008 of June 2000 to establish the quota system in elective, government and State administration positions. The revised legislation institutes a quota system for the participation of women in elective, government and State administration functions. The objective is to increase the quotas from 15 to 25 per cent for elective positions and from 25 to 30 per cent for appointments to senior government positions. It is anticipated that this legislation will strengthen the participation of women in public and political life in Niger.

**ND6** – The Government and other relevant actors adopt a human rights-based response to combat migrant smuggling and human rights violations associated with irregular migration; particular attention is given to protecting women’s and children’s rights

123 10

OHCHR contributed to the protection of groups in vulnerable situations from human rights violations by supporting
the establishment of appropriate protection systems and procedures.

OHCHR provided technical support to the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants to develop the National Plan of Action to combat the smuggling of migrants. This support primarily consisted of ensuring the integration of an HRBA into the strategic axes of the Action Plan. Specifically, OHCHR focused on enhancing national legal frameworks and policies on the protection of the human rights of migrants, in line with the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICMRW) and other international human rights instruments, and enhancing the national capacities in Mali and Niger to increase the protection of the human rights of migrants and their access to justice, in accordance with international human rights law and standards.

Furthermore, OHCHR analysed the conformity of the Labour Code with the standards established in ICMRW, which was ratified by Niger in 2009. The review demonstrated that the Labour Code is not in line with certain provisions related to non-discrimination in ICMRW, that it does not define migrant workers or refer to legal provisions relating to family reunification for migrant workers. As a result, the Office made proposals to the Government for corrective measures, which were integrated into the draft National Action Plan.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Niger submits reports promptly to the UPR and to the treaty bodies, engages with and responds to special procedures, and implements their recommendations.

OHCHR provided technical support to Niger to encourage the timely submission of its reports.

In 2019, Niger continued its efforts to submit outstanding reports to the human rights treaty bodies. As a result, the Government finalized and submitted its second periodic report on the implementation of ICCPR and its initial reports under CAT and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). OHCHR trained members of the NMRF on the drafting guidelines and provided technical support in finalizing and validating the reports and responding to the lists of issues.

M2 – UN agencies, civil society organizations, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and other key actors prepare and submit at least one contribution or shadow report to the UPR, Treaty Bodies or special procedures annually.

Technical guidance was provided by OHCHR to the NHRC and other actors to increase the substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR provided substantive guidance to the NHRC for the development of its report under CAT and to civil society organizations in the preparation of their joint alternative reports on the implementation of ICCPR. The report, which included OHCHR’s inputs, was considered in November.

Peace and Security (PS)

PS4 – The Government promotes peace processes and justice reforms; these recognize the rights of victims and comply with international human rights norms and standards.

Through research and advocacy, OHCHR contributed to the establishment of national systems and procedures for protection from human rights violations.

OHCHR carried out a study to identify the profiles of victims of human rights violations in the Boko Haram conflict in the Diffa region. The main objectives of the study were to identify the types of human rights violations that occurred in the context of the conflict, determine the profile of the victims and propose means of compensation for the damage suffered.

Through the study, OHCHR sought to ensure that the rights of victims were taken into account in the context of the amnesty process that was initiated by the Government. In addition, OHCHR urged the importance of respecting the principles of human rights in conducting this process. As a result, the penal code was revised to exclude from amnesty the perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and all other serious crimes.
As a result, the Government of Nigeria hosted two special procedures visits in 2019, namely, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, in August, and the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, in September. OHCHR provided technical and logistic support for both missions and will follow up with the concerned parties on the implementation of the recommendations resulting from these visits.

**PILLAR RESULTS:**

**Accountability (A)**

A2 – Nigeria domesticates at least one human rights treaty and accepts at least two additional individual complaints and inquiry procedures by 2021.

Through technical support and guidance, OHCHR contributed to the domestication and ratification of international and regional human rights treaties by the country.

In 2019, the President signed into law the Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, which domesticated CRPD. This came about following advocacy that was undertaken by the UN, its partners and stakeholders. To prepare for this achievement, OHCHR organized a workshop on CRPD, in 2018, which brought together relevant stakeholders and government representatives.

Furthermore, in response to recommendations issued by the UPR, the President signed into law the Corrections Service Act, which reformed the Nigerian penitentiary system and brought it in line with current global practices that emphasize rehabilitation and establish mechanisms for non-custodial sentences.

**Mechanisms (M)**

M1 – The Government responds more swiftly to requests to visit by mandate holders and accepts 80 per cent of requests.

Through targeted advocacy and outreach, OHCHR encouraged the Government to increase its acceptance of special procedures visit requests.
PILLAR RESULTS:

D2 – By 2021, a law regulates the compliance of business with human rights. OHCHR and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) help to train corporations in human rights, with the objective of ensuring that all economic actors and businesses adhere to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of relevant legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards by providing technical guidance and building the capacity of partners.

In 2019, the Office focused on building the capacity of business players and the NHRC related to business and human rights. The NHRC and its partners are familiar with the UNGPs, able to conduct investigations into human rights violations in the business sector and claim redress for violations of their rights. The Office further engaged in an analysis of existing policies, programmes and laws on business and human rights and provided inputs into the Labour Law, which is currently being revised, to ensure that the labour rights of individuals are better protected and that businesses are held accountable. The NHRC provided its inputs and views during the review of the National Employment Policy, which was promulgated in 2019 and addresses respect for human rights in relation to employment. OHCHR also monitored major development and infrastructure projects with regard to involuntary displacement, resettlement and compensation, with a view to ensuring that affected populations have relevant information and are supported in claiming their rights.
PILLAR RESULTS:

Peace and Security (PS)

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has established mechanisms for the arrest, detention, interrogation and transfer of those apprehended during operations in accordance with international human rights and humanitarian laws and standards.

Through the provision of technical advice, OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms, which conform to international human rights standards.

In March, detailed standard operating procedures on capture and detention were finalized and signed by the Force Commander. OHCHR supported efforts to ensure that they will be implemented by the G5 Sahel Joint Force, including through advocacy during workshops and trainings that led to their dissemination to sector and battalion officers before military operations were conducted. Furthermore, the Joint Force developed a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), which sets out the immunities and privileges for the Joint Force troops and aims at ensuring compliance with international legal standards, including on the capture, detention and transfer of detainees. As a result of OHCHR’s advocacy, the provisions of SOFA on the arrest and detention of suspects, screening and identification of soldiers and redress were brought closer in line to international standards. A provision on the non-execution of the death penalty was included as a requirement of the transfer of suspects between the G5 Sahel countries.

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has integrated pre-deployment, preventive and mitigation mechanisms and measures.

The OHCHR-G5 Sahel team in Bamako also contributed to the amendment of the Force Generation Protocol by encouraging the inclusion of criteria aimed at enhancing the selection process, namely, requiring that candidates do not have a criminal record or a pending case and that they have demonstrated good conduct and discipline. Military headquarters in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger are now following the same process as the United Nations screening procedures.

PS2 – Political and strategic support to the implementation and maintenance of the Compliance Framework is maintained.

Through advocacy and outreach, OHCHR helped to ensure that critical human rights issues were raised and taken up in international forums in a timely manner.

In 2019, the OHCHR-G5 Sahel team routinely engaged members of the Security Council, Member States of the UN and AU and other UN entities at strategic levels in order to provide consistent political and technical support for its work with the G5 Sahel countries. In May, briefings...
were organized, in New York, for Security Council members and representatives of the G5 Sahel countries. At the end of March, the High Commissioner briefed the Security Council on the Compliance Framework during a ministerial meeting that was organized by Burkina Faso and France on the establishment of the G5 Sahel Joint Force. On 12 February, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights delivered an informal briefing to Security Council members, the AU, the G5 Sahel and some permanent representatives from the European Union on the Compliance Framework. In coordination with the UN Department of Peace Operations, OHCHR provided inputs to the Secretary-General’s report to the Security Council on the G5 Sahel Joint Force, which was presented to the Security Council on 16 May. Following the presentation, 11 Security Council members referred to the Compliance Framework as a positive initiative. Recommendations were put forward to fully operationalize its measures and mechanisms. The Compliance Framework is increasingly considered by UN Member States to be a tool that can help mitigate harm to civilians in the context of conflict and counter-terrorism operations in the Sahel.

The Compliance Framework has been similarly identified as a positive approach in documents or policies of other partners, for instance, in the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) policy paper entitled *Building a culture of protection: 20 years of Security Council engagement on the protection of civilians*. The paper documents the achievements and good practices that may serve as a foundation for achieving tangible protection for civilians in the years ahead.

**PS6 – United Nations support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.**

Through technical advice and training, OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights standards and compliance with the HRDDP by relevant actors.

Following the extension of the geographical scope of MINUSMA to support the G5 Sahel Joint Force outside of Mali, OHCHR provided technical and operational guidance to the Human Rights Division of MINUSMA for the organization of regional consultations on the implementation of the HRDDP. Pending the full deployment of the HRDDP team, tools, recommendations and a temporary plan for its implementation were shared with MINUSMA. Furthermore, a draft General and Preliminary Risk Assessment Framework on MINUSMA support to G5 Sahel Joint Force was finalized, in December, with technical guidance from OHCHR. This Framework will serve as the basis for required HRDDP risk assessments.
SOMALIA: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SOMALIA (UNSOM)

Population size: 15.44 million
Surface area: 638,000 km²
Human Development Index: 2

Type of engagement: Peace Mission
Year established: 2008
Field office(s): Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Mogadishu, Puntland, Somaliland, South West State
UN partnership framework: United Nations Integrated Strategic Framework 2017-2020
Staff as of 31 December 2019: 26

XB requirements 2019: US$ 270,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019:

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation (P)

P5 – Four thematic civil society networks are established or strengthened. Five civil society networks are able to monitor, report on and advocate for human rights effectively.

The HRPG continued to encourage the increased use of national protection systems by civil society actors through training sessions that were facilitated to enhance their capacity to advocate for their rights.

The HRPG facilitated a panel discussion, which took place in Mogadishu, in August, on increasing youth participation in political and economic development. Approximately 110 participants engaged in discussions related to the role of the Government in developing initiatives and ensuring the active participation of youth in ongoing political processes, including the constitutional review process, the national reconciliation dialogue and development on compensation for victims of human rights violations.

In September, the HRPG contributed to a meeting on endorsing and implementing the draft IDP Policy, which involved 55 participants from the Parliamentary Committee on Refugees and IDPs, the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs and CSOs. Land rights, tenure security, development and social inclusion, political participation and access to services were among the topics discussed for inclusion in the draft. In addition, the State’s role in adopting the policy and ending the suffering of refugees and IDPs was underscored. At the end of the meeting, State representatives recognized the responsibilities of national and local authorities to protect IDPs and create conditions for adequate and durable solutions.

Accountability (A)

A2 – A functioning and independent National Human Rights Commission is established. It reports annually on the human rights situation. At least two functioning rule of law institutions with oversight and accountability powers are established.

The Human Rights and Protection Group (HRPG) of UNSOM contributed to the strengthening of existing protection mechanisms to promote their compliance with international human rights standards by building the capacity of national mechanisms.

In order to strengthen the capacity of national mechanisms providing redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, the HRPG facilitated two workshops, one for the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights and one for the Parliamentary Committee on Justice in the South West State of Somalia, on the implementation of recommendations issued by the UPR and accountability for human rights violations. Participants discussed topics such as the role of Members of Parliament in promoting and protecting human rights, accountability and the human rights obligations of the State as the primary duty-bearer. In Puntland, a total of 15 members of the Parliamentary Committee on Justice and Human Rights were supported by the HRPG in conducting outreach on prisons and IDPs. The findings on the human rights conditions of those being detained will be used to urge the Parliament to undertake effective measures to promote human rights and encourage policy development on compensation for victims of human rights violations.

Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.
and preparations for the national elections in 2020. The meeting also enabled participants to identify impediments to their participation in the economic development of the country, such as high unemployment rates and an absence of national policies addressing youth issues.

Moreover, the HRPG contributed to awareness-raising activities for civil society, national authorities and the general public regarding CRPD. For instance, a seven-day community outreach was organized for six districts. Three schools for the deaf participated in the events and mobilized their local communities of parents, families and friends. The events reached over 100 persons and focused on the importance of the ratification of CRPD, which took place on 6 August.

Peace and Security (PS)

PS6 – Six risk assessments are conducted and at least 40 per cent of mitigation measures are implemented.

The HRPG contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards, principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the work of the Peace Mission.

In May, the United Nations-African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) Joint Working Group on the HRDDP met to discuss progress made on the implementation of agreed mitigation measures to address violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law. This included a presentation on the actions taken by AMISOM to monitor air asset mitigation measures. On 8 July, a joint assessment was carried out to support the implementation of these measures in view of the anticipated possible new air assets. Recommendations were made for further training on human rights and international humanitarian law for air crew, standard operating procedures for air assets and enhanced incident reporting.

The Joint Working Group met on 10 October to discuss progress and challenges in the implementation of key mitigation measures to prevent and respond to violations allegedly committed by security forces, including the role of AMISOM Boards of Inquiry, ex gratia payments and the work of the Civilian Casualty Tracking, Analysis and Response Cell. Progress was noted with regard to ex gratia payments for affected victims and relatives. In addition, AMISOM established Boards of Inquiry for two incidents involving the alleged killing of five civilians by AMISOM troops. The HRPG supported the implementation of mitigation measures by UN entities providing support to non-United Nations security forces, including the United Nations Mine Action Service, through training of trainers in Mogadishu and Puntland.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Support is provided for one annual visit by the Independent Expert on Somalia. Somalia submits one UPR report and at least one periodic report to human rights mechanisms.

The HRPG supported the increased engagement of the Federal Government with the international human rights mechanisms.

The advocacy and technical guidance provided by the HRPG contributed to the ratification of CRPD on 6 August, the enactment of legislation that was signed on 31 December 2018 to establish a disability agency and the process of drafting legislation on the rights of persons with disabilities. The HRPG’s technical support was also pivotal in the submission of the first UPR mid-term review report, in January, and the submission of reports under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and CAT, on 19 September and 10 December, respectively. In July, the HRPG provided support to the sixth visit to Mogadishu and Hargeisa of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia. This support included logistical, administrative and substantive support, especially in facilitating consultations with the Federal Government, Federal Member States, UNSOM, UN agencies, AMISOM, trade unions and humanitarian and civil society organizations.
**SOUTHERN AFRICA**

**Type of engagement**  
Regional Office

**Countries of engagement**  
Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe

**Year established**  
1998

**Field office(s)**  
Pretoria

**Staff as of 31 December 2019**  
12

**Total income**  
US$864,800

**XB requirements 2019**  
US$2,471,000

**Total XB expenditure**  
US$969,842

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**Total RB expenditure**  
US$166,653

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<td>$166,653</td>
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**Key OMP pillars in 2019**

**Peace and Security (PS)**

PS5 – In at least four countries, UN Country Teams integrate human rights in their early warning, prevention, preparedness and response plans.

OHCHR strengthened the prevention agenda and operationalization of the Human Rights up Front Initiative in Southern Africa through support to Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UNCTs on early warning and prevention. This was achieved by conducting integrated human rights monitoring and analysis prior to and during elections (*Comoros, Malawi and Mozambique*) and after elections (*Malawi* and *Zimbabwe*), as well as through country visits, briefings, technical cooperation, remote monitoring and the establishment of cooperation platforms, such as integrated information and risk analysis mechanisms. The methodology used included open source media and social media monitoring, targeted data collection and engagement with RCs/UNCTs and networks of civil society partners.

OHCHR convened its partners working on early warning, early action and prevention in Southern Africa to discuss their experiences with prevention strategies in the region, review approaches, tools and practices for early warning and establish a regional knowledge-sharing network to exchange views and possibilities for enhancing early warning and early action. These experiences will feed into ongoing consultations on the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture Review.

**PILLAR RESULTS:**

**Participation (P)**

P6 – Civil society organizations are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.

The Office continued enhancing the meaningful participation of civil society actors in public processes and the protection of civic space in Southern Africa.

In 2019, the Office supported the Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders Network (SAHRDN) in developing strategies for the promotion and protection of human rights in the region. The SAHRDN is a network comprising representatives of human rights organizations in 10 Southern African countries.

OHCHR undertook strategic research relating to laws and policies that shrink civic space and conducted a survey to identify the challenges faced by CSOs and HRDs in the subregion, which will inform the future work of the Office.

The Office continued enhancing the capacity of CSOs and networks, particularly in *Lesotho, Malawi* and *Mozambique*, through its monitoring work, the development of new partnerships, trainings and technical advice.

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† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p. 208.
Humanitarian Country Teams in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe incorporated human rights analysis into their discussions and strategies related to the response to Cyclones Idai and Kenneth, including as a result of OHCHR inputs and participation. The Office also supported the integration of human rights in to Post-Disaster Needs Assessments in Malawi and Mozambique, with a focus on people with disabilities, older persons and persons with albinism. In Mozambique, the Regional Office for Southern Africa participated in the Operational Peer Review that followed the scale-up response to Cyclone Idai and recommended strengthening the Protection Cluster.

Following a marked increase in civil unrest throughout Malawi, which began in September, OHCHR contributed to designing a prevention strategy to address the most urgent gaps in human rights protection. The strategy was adopted by the UNCT and recommends the provision of support to help increase the capacity of the Malawi police to manage violent demonstrations and strengthen their internal professional standards and mechanisms to enable them to manage internal misconduct.

With technical support from OHCHR, such as training of relevant government officials, technical guidance and advisory services, NMRFs and other structures have been strengthened in Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia. The Office also supported Eswatini in the establishment of an NMRF. The mechanisms have been instrumental in building national ownership, empowering line ministries, enhancing human rights expertise in a sustainable manner, stimulating national dialogue on human rights and facilitating communication between the Government and the Parliament, the judiciary, NHRIs and CSOs.

The Office spearheaded work on an NRTD, an electronic system that facilitates recording, tracking and reporting on the implementation of human rights recommendations emanating from international, regional and national human rights mechanisms linked to the SDGs. Mauritius is the first country in Africa to have instituted an NRTD and subsequent support was provided to Botswana. Experience to date demonstrates that using an NRTD requires the institutionalization of existing structures and processes for engagement with human rights mechanisms and the implementation of recommendations issued by NMRFs.

OHCHR provided technical support to Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia to facilitate the preparation of their reports to the international human rights mechanisms. This resulted in greater appreciation for the simplified reporting procedure that is available for reports to the human rights treaty bodies. Support was also provided to States for the preparation of State Party reports in Botswana, Lesotho and South Africa. In addition, OHCHR provided support to Lesotho and Mauritius for the preparation their respective State reports to the third UPR cycle.

OHCHR also provided support to States in the subregion to promote the ratification of the international human rights treaties, resulting in the ratification of CAT, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR on the abolition of the death penalty in Angola.

Some progress continued to be made with regard to State engagement with special procedures mandate holders in the subregion. Special procedures visits were undertaken in the region by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to water and sanitation to Lesotho (February), the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons to Mozambique (April/May), the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to Comoros (June, suspended midway), the International Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism to South Africa (September), the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association to Zimbabwe (September) and the Special Rapporteur on the right to food to Zimbabwe (November).

Moreover, support was provided to governments and UNCTs in Angola, Lesotho and Madagascar in the preparation of their national reports to the UPR.

In Mozambique, OHCHR focused its efforts in supporting the National Human Rights Directorate in the Ministry of Justice in relation to their promotional activities and as Chair of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights.
M2 – More NGOs and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) engage with the UN human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR effectively engaged with CSOs to promote their interaction with the international human rights mechanisms. Progress was made in relation to the submission of alternative reports by CSOs in the subregion to the human rights treaty bodies. Representatives from CSOs are regularly invited to attend national trainings on State Party reporting in order to promote consultations with CSOs in the process of preparing State reports.

OHCHR enhanced the capacity of representatives of CSOs to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. A one-day subregional training on this topic was organized in the margins of the Southern African Human Rights Defenders annual meeting in South Africa. In addition, a three-day training was organized in Zambia to promote engagement with the mechanisms. As a result of these trainings, CSOs enhanced their understanding of the various mechanisms and their working methods, as well as the functions of the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

Support and guidance were also provided to UNCTs and CSOs in Lesotho in the preparation of their submissions to the UPR.

In Mozambique, OHCHR provided information and guidance to CSOs on treaty body engagement in the context of CEDAW’s review of Mozambique’s combined third to fifth periodic reports.

D7 – All UNDAF roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach to programming; all link the SDGs to human rights standards.

With support from OHCHR, four countries in the subregion, namely, Angola, Eswatini, Madagascar and South Africa, rolled out new UNSDCFs.

The Office participated in the development of new Cooperation Frameworks in these countries and played a leading role in ensuring that human rights were mainstreamed into the new UNSDCFs. In Eswatini and South Africa, recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms were incorporated into their respective CCAs. OHCHR will continue to provide technical support to the UNCTs in both countries to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed into the CCAs in 2020.

The Office collaborated with UNCTs in Mozambique and Zimbabwe by facilitating workshops and trainings on the application of a human rights lens to programme development, including through stakeholder mapping and consultations. This also addressed the linkages between the SDGs and human rights, integrating human rights and the SDGs into peace and development work on international human rights mechanisms and the role of the UNCTs in engaging with them, including in the implementation of their issued recommendations.
SOUTH SUDAN: UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SOUTH SUDAN (UNMISS)

Population size¹ Surface area² Human Development Index³ NHRI (if applicable)³
11.06 million 659,000 km² 0.413 (186/188 in 2018)

Type of engagement Peace Mission
Year established 2011
Field office(s) Aweil, Bentiu, Bor, Juba, Kuajok, Malakai, Pibor, Rumbek, Torit, Wau, Yambio and Yei
Staff as of 31 December 2019 88

XB requirements 2019 US$940,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability (A)


Technical support provided by the Human Rights Division (HRD) of UNMISS contributed to the improved compliance of legislation with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRD and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict provided technical support to the South Sudan People’s Defence Forces from the annex of the Secretary-General’s annual report on conflict-related sexual violence. Furthermore, the HRD supported the drafting of South Sudan’s National Police Service Action Plan, which was launched on 19 November.

A1 – South Sudan authorities release individuals who are arbitrarily detained or held incommunicado; provide information on disappeared persons; and grant access to rule of law institutions, including detention facilities.

State institutions sought to improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards with the support of the HRD.
Peace and Security (PS)

PS4 – The Transitional Government of National Unity identifies human rights violations and takes administrative and legal action to hold perpetrators accountable. It establishes transitional justice institutions that comply with international human rights norms, standards and good practices.

The HRD contributed to the establishment of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards, including by facilitating capacity-building activities.

No significant progress was made in 2019 towards the establishment of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan or the Commission on Truth, Reconciliation and Healing. The Ministry of Justice was unwilling to carry out any sensitization or consultation activities related to the Commission until after the revitalized Transitional Government was formed. Since this was postponed twice in 2019, no technical support was provided during the reporting period.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – South Sudan ratifies at least two human rights treaties or optional protocols without reservations.

Through outreach and advocacy activities, the HRD contributed to the increased ratification of international and regional human rights mechanisms.

As a result of continued advocacy and engagement with State authorities and relevant partners, South Sudan ratified ICCPR and ICESCR and their first Optional Protocols, on 3 June. Throughout April and May, the HRD facilitated weekly meetings to advocate for the ratification of these treaties with the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Committee, as well as the Justice and Legislation Committee of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly. In addition, with the technical support of the HRD, the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Committee presented a report to the Legislative Assembly and recommended the ratification of the two treaties. Furthermore, the HRD supported the Legislative Assembly to hold public consultations with CSOs and other key stakeholders, including the Union of Persons with Disabilities, to pursue the ratification of CRPD and its first Optional Protocol, which is still pending.

M1 – South Sudan implements UPR recommendations that it has accepted.

Technical support was provided by the HRD to the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up and implementation of the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR to contribute to its adequate functioning.

In August, the HRD collaborated with the South Sudan Human Rights Commission and other partners to support the Government of South Sudan’s Interministerial Committee on the UPR to provide training on the preparation and submission of the UPR mid-term review report in accordance with the South Sudan Matrix of Implementation of UPR Recommendations. The report was drafted and endorsed by the Government of South Sudan, in February. Similar support was provided to CSOs to draft and submit their mid-term alternative report to the UPR.
SUDAN: AFRICAN UNION-UNITED NATIONS HYBRID OPERATION IN DARFUR (UNAMID)

Population size\(^1\) Surface area\(^1\) Human Development Index\(^2\) NHRI (if applicable)\(^3\)
42.81 million 0.507 (168/188 in 2018)

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<td>Year established</td>
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<td>United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021</td>
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<td>Staff as of 31 December 2019</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
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</table>

XB requirements 2019 US$187,000

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**

1. Accountability (A)

A1 – Transitional justice and other mechanisms of redress are fully operational and comply with international human rights norms and standards.

Through technical assistance, the Human Rights Section (HRS) of UNAMID continued to contribute to the functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

Specifically, through 20 meetings and four workshops, the HRS provided technical support for 195 participants (70 women, 125 men) from the National Commission for Human Rights, the General Prosecutor for Darfur Crimes and the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission to broaden their human rights knowledge, enable them to more effectively discharge their mandates and strengthen the national transitional justice programme. The HRS also supported two workshops for 40 transitional justice personnel in Khartoum, in September, to assist transitional justice mechanisms and enable the National Commission for Human Rights to address past human rights violations and combat impunity. The second workshop for the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission targeted 40 persons and encouraged the Government to conduct a comprehensive disarmament process that is consistent with international standards. Furthermore, the HRS and UNDP provided support to the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission to conduct a study tour in Liberia to share lessons learned on transitional justice mechanisms. These capacity-building activities led to a strengthening of the protection mandates of the respective entities. In addition, the workshops recommended that the National Commission for Human Rights review and update its transitional justice programme.

A1 – Courts and traditional justice mechanisms significantly increase their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

By enhancing the capacity of judges and prosecutors on human rights, the HRS contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings and decisions.

The prolonged conflict in Darfur has had a negative impact on access to justice, including judicial infrastructure. As a result, courts continued to be affected by capacity constraints and undue delays. UNAMID and the UNCT supported the strengthening of the criminal justice chain by facilitating the construction of rural courts and police posts in Graida, Um Dafok, Wad Hagam, Al-Radoum and Sirba and Sisi localities and a child prosecution office and a child court in El Geneina. The construction of the rural courts provided essential facilities for the functionality of the justice chain. This consequently increased access to justice and made it easier for victims of human rights violations and abuses to pursue their rights to remedy.

The HRS continued to enhance the capacity of judges and prosecutors to mainstream human rights principles into judicial processes.
Participation (P)

P6 – An enabling environment has been established that is conducive to dialogue and respect for human rights. It includes the implementation of peace agreements.

The HRS sought to contribute to the increased meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

The HRS implemented capacity-building and awareness-raising activities for non-State actors to increase their knowledge about human rights. Particular emphasis was placed on vulnerable groups in camps for IDPs and rural communities at the frontline of localized violence between nomads and farmers. Such sensitization activities helped rights-holders in the exercise of their rights to freedom of assembly as manifested during and in the aftermath of the mass protests.

There was also a more visible participation of women in public life, which was enhanced by the political transformation and stated commitment of the Transitional Government to promote women’s rights. These developments helped to expand the civic space and promote an enabling environment for civilians to exercise their rights.

Development (D)

D7 – Human rights considerations are integrated in the post-2015 Development Agenda and actions to implement it.

By providing technical assistance, the HRS contributed to the increased compliance of selected policy areas with international human rights norms and standards.

The Transitional authorities adopted a Constitutional Document with strong human rights elements. It provides for legislative reform to enlarge freedom and prohibit all forms of gender-based discrimination, as well as a transitional justice agenda to promote accountability on the basis of investigating past crimes and bringing alleged perpetrators to justice. In addition, the Constitutional Document provides for the creation of 12 independent thematic commissions to consolidate a human rights and rule of law protection framework to promote and protect women’s rights and combat all forms of discrimination against women. The HRS engaged with authorities on the realization of economic and social rights, including through the integration of the SDGs into the transition agenda, as well as the implementation of integrated activities under the “Sudan in Transition” initiative.

Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 – The UN Country Team integrates human rights considerations in its policies and programmes for humanitarian action, early recovery, and security in Darfur.

UN common country programmes increasingly incorporated international human rights norms, standards and principles. Through the integration of a human rights-based approach and capacity-building activities, the HRS ensured a strengthened human rights presence in the operation areas of the State Liaison Functions (SLF). The SLF is a cooperation framework through which UNAMID co-locates staff with the UNCT to facilitate the joint implementation of programmes under peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction initiatives. Since January, HRS staff have been co-located with agencies, in particular UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, in SLF operation areas to support their national partners, including government entities and civil society groups. Through the integration of a human rights-based approach, SLF programmes and activities contributed to the development of sustainable solutions to the drivers of conflict through joint analysis, planning and delivery on activities in order to avoid conflict relapse.
UGANDA

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Type of engagement: Country Office
Year established: 2005
Field office(s): Gulu, Kampala, Moroto
Staff as of 31 December 2019: 30

Total income: US$646,547
XB requirements 2019: US$5,108,000
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Key OMP pillars in 2019

1 2 3

† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability (A)

A1 – State and non-State actors enhance their capacity to institute legal and policy reforms and implement and enforce existing laws. They improve the investigation and adjudication of cases that entail human rights violations, including within their own ranks.

With technical support from OHCHR, selected policies were amended to more fully comply with international human rights norms and standards.

In February, in the absence of a national legal framework, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) launched the Witness Protection Guidelines and the Victims’ Rights and Empowerment Guidelines, which are in line with international human rights norms and standards. OHCHR provided technical and financial support for the development of both of these documents, which will facilitate the establishment of a standard procedure for dealing with victims. It will also enable prosecutors to determine witness protection perimeters and the scope of protection and help them to recognize and implement victims’ rights during investigations and during and after trials. In 2020, OHCHR will follow up with the ODPP to ensure that the Guidelines are disseminated and implemented and continue to advocate for the adoption of the pending Witness Protection Bill.

The National Transitional Justice Policy (NTJP) was approved by the Cabinet. Over the last several years, OHCHR and its CSO partners and others advocated for the adoption of the NTJP and the Transitional Justice Bill, which is mostly in line with human rights standards, however it is still pending finalization and adoption.

Building on the momentum created by the adoption of the NTJP, OHCHR-Uganda produced a public report on national transitional justice processes, with a specific focus on survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in northern Uganda. The report will be published in the second quarter of 2020 and will serve as an advocacy tool in OHCHR’s future engagements on the implementation of the NTJP and the adoption of the Transitional Justice Bill.

A2 – National justice and human rights mechanisms, including the Uganda Human Rights Commission and the judiciary, provide redress and accountability to victims in an increased number of cases reported.

OHCHR contributed to strengthening national accountability and protection mechanisms to ensure they are functioning in increased compliance with international human rights standards. These efforts included providing technical support for the review of guidance books used by the judiciary, and advocating for the implementation of relevant legislation.

Building on its work carried out in 2018, OHCHR and the Judicial Training Institute launched the Resource Book...
**Participation (P)**

P2 – The Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) increasingly fulfils its mandate in conformity with the Paris Principles.

OHCHR continued supporting the UHRC to strengthen its capacity to work in conformity with the Paris Principles, including by collaborating in joint monitoring missions. Monitoring missions were undertaken with the support of OHCHR on a wide range of human rights issues in Karamoja, northern Uganda and Kampala, including remote areas. Information gathered from these missions was used to undertake action in relation to alleged violations committed by the State apparatus.

During the missions, the UHRC and OHCHR visited detention facilities and raised human rights concerns with relevant local authorities, including extended detention beyond the 48-hour rule, the lack of separation of female and male detainees and the number of minors being held in detention on charges of petty offences. Following the inspection of a police detention facility in West Nile, and as a result of joint UHRC and OHCHR advocacy, five juveniles were released who had been detained on minor theft offences. In Karamoja, information gathered from the field missions was used to initiate action in UHRC tribunals on alleged violations committed by law enforcement agencies, resulting in the payment of reparations to at least 26 victims. The report from the mission in the Lango subregion provided substantive information on mob activities. This informed a UHRC-OHCHR round-table discussion with key stakeholders from Justice, Law and Order Sector institutions, in Lira, on the increasing trend of mob activities in the Lango subregion. The dialogue identified strategies to minimize mob activities through real-time responses by the respective duty-bearers. Follow-up forums with the duty-bearers in areas most affected have been planned in 2020 to assess the extent to which different actions have been successfully undertaken by various actors.

P4 – Civil society monitors more systematically and is in a position to raise human rights concerns. Women human rights defenders are able to raise concerns affecting them, and enhance their ability to seek redress for threats and attacks against them.

The Office helped to facilitate the increasingly meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in public processes. This was primarily achieved by training civil society representatives on human rights issues relevant to their work and supporting their monitoring and advocacy efforts.

During 2019, the Office continued increasing the capacity of HRDs, WHRDs and journalists to report and advocate on human rights issues to enhance their meaningful participation and engagement in monitoring and advocacy efforts.

Building on the 2018 establishment of the Women Human Rights Defenders Network-Uganda (WHRDN), OHCHR strengthened the capacity of 42 members of the Network to advocate on human rights issues and engage with the international human rights mechanisms and other networks in the region. OHCHR launched a project through which it will organize, in 2020, capacity-building activities for grass-roots members of the WHRDN in the Karamoja, Busoga and Rwenzori subregions.

In addition, through four training activities, the Office built the capacity of 145 HRDs, including 66 women, on the use of the updated version of the human rights case database, engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and advocacy regarding public freedoms in the context of elections.
OHCHR also trained 112 journalists and media professionals, including 61 women, to increase their understanding of public freedoms, the linkages between the SDGs and human rights, as well as on women’s rights and gender equality, and to encourage reflection there of regarding editorial content and news reporting. Following the trainings, there was an increase in articles on human rights concerns in the print media.

Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices increasingly comply with international human rights norms and standards on equality and non-discrimination, in particular with regard to persons with disabilities, minorities and women’s rights.

Through advocacy efforts and by building the capacity of relevant stakeholders, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of selected legislation and policies with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR supported the development, through a consultative process, of a situational analysis on the human rights situation of persons with albinism in Uganda. The report, which was launched on 13 June on the occasion of International Albinism Awareness Day, recommends strategies to address challenges affecting persons with albinism. Building on the report, OHCHR cooperated with the Open Society Initiative for East Africa to launch a joint initiative to foster collaboration within the albinism community with a view to identifying future priorities and actions. In this context, the First National Meeting of CSOs of Persons with Albinism brought together 23 leaders, including eight women, from across the country to discuss common challenges and explore national strategic interventions targeted towards the promotion of their human rights. The participants identified eight priority areas for intervention and established a task force to develop a draft National Action Plan on Albinism, based on a national adaptation of the AU Regional Action Plan on Albinism. A draft was discussed at the second national CSO meeting, which was held in December. OHCHR will engage with authorities in 2020 to advocate for the adoption and implementation of the draft National Action Plan.

In February, OHCHR and the Uganda Equal Opportunities Commission launched the Report on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Uganda. The report provides a legal analysis of Ugandan disability legislation in relation to CRPD, identifies gaps and makes specific recommendations to align national legislation with the Convention. The report was issued when the Parliament was deliberating on the draft 2019 Persons with Disability Bill, which failed to address major concerns and minimized the Government’s obligations to fulfill the rights of persons with disabilities. Based on the findings of the report, the Equal Opportunities Commission presented its recommendations to the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Gender, Labour and Social Development. The Committee included some of these views in the adopted 2019 Persons with Disabilities Act.

OHCHR convened meetings and facilitated consultations to contribute to the improved compliance of selected programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR supported the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to develop a draft National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, in line with relevant recommendations that were issued by the UPR and accepted by Uganda in 2016. OHCHR supported the convening of several meetings of a resource group, composed of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UHRC and leading CSOs in the field. Furthermore, in order to inform the prioritization of issues in the draft Action Plan, OHCHR organized a series of regional consultations in Kampala, Gulu, Jinja, Masaka, Mbarara, Moroto and Soroti, bringing together more than 400 representatives from local governments, the UHRC, business actors and CSOs from nine districts in each region. The participants considered key human rights challenges resulting from existing business operations, prevailing gaps in the regulation of business activities and appropriate measures that need to be integrated into the draft in order to address these challenges. A further consultation was organized.
for business entities and trade union leaders to share findings from the nine regional consultations.

In October, OHCHR assisted the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to hold an editing retreat to work on the draft. Participants included the Office of the President, the Office of the Prime Minister, the UNHC, the Equal Opportunities Commission, the national chapter of the UN Global Compact and CSOs. The draft outlines land-, environmental- and labour-related concerns, provides for access to remedies and identifies measures to address the impact of business operations on marginalized and vulnerable groups. It is anticipated that the draft will be finalized in 2020 and will be submitted to the senior leadership of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development for approval.

D4 – Government offices increasingly apply a human rights-based approach to maternal health when they formulate and implement policies and programmes.

OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of Health to develop a draft national multi-sectoral strategy that applies an HRBA to reduce maternal mortality rates. OHCHR facilitated five coordination meetings of the HRBA Working Group, composed of representatives from the Ministry of Health, the UHRC, CSOs, UNFPA, WHO and UN Women, which provided substantive inputs during the drafting process. In addition, OHCHR piloted the draft strategy in five different districts to solicit feedback from local government officials, CSOs and community members. Participants shared the specific challenges they face in providing maternal health services and noted the lack of access to adequate information regarding sexual and reproductive health rights, among other issues of concern. It is expected that the strategy will be adopted by the Ministry of Health in 2020.

OHCHR joined the efforts of the Global Fund Technical Working Group on Human Rights and provided technical support for the drafting of the National Plan for achieving equity in access to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services. The plan was launched by the Ministry of Health, on 10 December, and sets out key interventions to address barriers that impede the enjoyment of human rights of people living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Particular attention is paid to the needs of key populations, such as LGBTI persons, drug users and other vulnerable groups, with a view to ensuring that “No One is Left Behind.” OHCHR provided inputs related to empowering communities to know their rights and demand services; strengthening legal aid providers to support women living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria; creating a referral pathway to ensure people have access to legal, psychosocial and health services as required; and reviewing legislation that is discriminatory to key populations.

D8 – The State’s statistical frameworks, including the national standards indicator framework (NSI) and the results and resources framework (RRF), increasingly comply with international human rights norms, standards and principles with respect to data for national development.

OHCHR will continue supporting the operationalization of the MoU, including with a view to addressing data gaps regarding marginalized and vulnerable groups.

M1 – The Government has approved a National Human Rights Action Plan and has access to sufficient data to enable it to report appropriately to human rights mechanisms, including by making effective use of the database on national, regional and international human rights recommendations.

Through technical support, OHCHR aimed to contribute to the effective functioning of mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.
OHCHR continued to build the capacity of government ministries, departments and agencies to track and report on progress made in the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. Since 2014, OHCHR has been progressively supporting the UHRC and the Government to develop a database/search engine, which consolidates recommendations emanating from the international, regional and national human rights mechanisms. After the database was updated to incorporate a monitoring and evaluation framework, a new version was launched, in March. The launch was followed by two trainings, in April and September, on the use of the database for the designated technical focal points.

Furthermore, as result of OHCHR’s support, the Government made significant advances in submitting long overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies. During 2019, OHCHR supported the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights, coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to collect data for the development of State Party reports under CAT and ICCPR. Furthermore, OHCHR and UN Women facilitated a validation meeting for the State Party report under CEDAW. In addition, technical support was provided for the validation of the draft initial report under ICERD. The four reports were finalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and are awaiting Cabinet approval before being submitted to the respective human rights treaty bodies. In March 2020, the periodic report was submitted to CEDAW, with the others expected to follow.

### WEST AFRICA

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Key OMP pillars in 2019

* Please refer to Data sources and notes on p 208.

**PILLAR RESULTS:**

**Non-discrimination (ND)**

ND1 – In the Economic Community of West African States, national laws, policies and programmes increasingly protect children from abuse and exploitation.

A number of results were achieved in the context of a project to support the eradication of begging and child abuse in Senegal, including the development of standard operating procedures for the care of children in danger and a national action plan for child protection that has been endorsed by the Government. A Children’s Code has also been finalized and is under consideration at the Ministry of Justice. Furthermore, a methodological tool that will be used in conducting a national survey on child begging in Senegal was developed with...
the technical assistance of the Office and approved by the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender and Child Protection. The provision of equipment (bedding and medicine) for 10 reception centres that were established to promote access to protection services for 500 children in vulnerable situations is another significant achievement. Finally, the Office carried out three studies linked to the implementation of this project, including a mapping of actors and initiatives to combat begging and child abuse, an analysis of Senegal’s international, regional and national legal framework on the rights of the child and the implementation status of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms on the rights of the child and a study on the status of data collection related to child begging in Senegal.

The Office also facilitated training to enhance the capacity of national actors to better protect the rights of children in Senegal. During the reporting period, OHCHR trained 60 members of the Departmental Child Protection Committees on research and data collection techniques related to child protection issues; 20 educators from Koranic schools (“daaras”) on the psychosocial care of children to improve their practices in the protection of child victims of abuse; 90 child protection actors on the legal framework, human rights and human rights mechanisms; 70 actors from the judicial system on the legal framework for child protection and the international and national legal frameworks to combat trafficking in persons, including the exploitation of children through forced begging; and 20 community actors on the harmful consequences related to the persistent practice of begging and child abuse.

The project made progress at the regional level. In the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal, national steering committees and technical committees, composed of key child protection actors, were established as main consultation mechanisms on the rights of the child. In Guinea-Bissau, the Office supported the drafting of the Children’s Code, including by disseminating the recommendations issued by regional and international mechanisms on the rights of the child to relevant actors in Guinea and Niger. It is also supporting the development of national action plans for both countries and has helped care centres to strengthen their communication skills through the production of information materials on the services offered to children in danger.

Accountability (A)

A1 – In three countries, National Human Rights Institutions operate effectively, or have been strengthened, in accordance with the Paris Principles.

The Office contributed to the increased establishment and functioning of NHRIs, in line with international standards, including by providing technical advice and advocating with authorities for the reform of related legislation.

In Burkina Faso, following the 2018 adoption of legislation to increase the independence of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), OHCHR trained its staff to enhance its management capacities and skills to monitor and report on human rights violations. The NHRC carried out one fact-finding mission but did not produce a substantive report on the human rights violations that occurred in 2019. In Côte d’Ivoire, the National Council on Human Rights received technical assistance to develop a report on good practices for monitoring human rights violations and to submit its report to the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation in order to be accredited with “A” status. In the Gambia, OHCHR provided substantive support to the NHRC to strengthen its capacities to function in compliance with the Paris
Principles. This led to the drafting and approval of a bill on the establishment of an independent NHRI in accordance with the Paris Principles, followed by the operationalization of the NHRC with the appointment of its commissioners, in February. OHCHR supported the organization of an orientation retreat and the drafting of internal policies and provided office space, furniture and equipment for the functioning of the NHRC.

A2 – In three countries, transitional justice mechanisms are in place and functioning in line with international human rights norms and standards.

As a result of technical support from the Office, transitional justice mechanisms were established and/or strengthened in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In the Gambia, OHCHR supported the operationalization of the transitional justice process. The Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission, established in 2017, began to implement its mandate, in 2019, and made use of the knowledge it had gained through the capacity-building activities that were facilitated by the Office. Between January and October, the Commission conducted a number of public hearings to enable the participation of 129 witnesses, 21 of whom were women and 31 of whom were alleged perpetrators. The Minister of Justice has not yet acted on a proposal to enact a government-led coordination mechanism on transitional justice that would facilitate a more coordinated and shared effort to implement the transitional justice process, particularly now that a National Strategy on Transitional Justice and Resource Mobilization plan has been adopted.

In the Gambia, civil society organizations, victims’ associations, media professionals, women and youth groups were provided with adequate training to participate in transitional justice processes. From June 2018 to January 2019, 28 media bodies, 44 representatives from victims’ associations, 66 religious and traditional leaders and 119 youth leaders received training to enhance their participation in transitional justice processes.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – In four countries, the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up is established or strengthened; NMRFs set out a plan for implementing recommendations.

Following technical guidance provided by the Office, NMRFs on the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR were developed or strengthened.

With support from OHCHR, the NMRF in Burkina Faso finalized its National Strategic Plan for the implementation of recommendations emanating from the treaty bodies and the UPR, in October. In Côte d’Ivoire, as a result of the strengthened capacity of the NMRF in relation to reporting to the human rights treaty bodies, the mechanism replied to the list of issues issued by CEDAW and CRC. In Senegal, the NMRF made good progress in reporting to the treaty bodies and, as of the end of 2019, it had finalized all of its outstanding reports, including a report under CEDAW. OHCHR enhanced the NMRF’s capacity to draft a National Action Plan on implementing the recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms.

In addition, under the Non-discrimination pillar, OHCHR continued to undertake activities to ensure that rights-holders, particularly youth and women, are sensitized to the importance of their participation in the public arena. In this respect, the Office worked closely with UNESCO and other partners to co-organize the third African Regional Youth Forum, in Banjul, the Gambia from 28 to 30 October. The Forum gathered together nearly 150 young leaders from across the continent, including 60 women, to discuss issues of common interest, including governance, gender, climate change and artificial intelligence. In the outcome document, the participants requested support to build their capacities and knowledge related to their rights and to learn how to use the recommendations issued from international human rights mechanisms to claim those rights.

Furthermore, under the Development pillar, OHCHR encouraged UNCTs to identify those furthest left behind on the basis of recommendations stemming from the international human rights mechanisms and advocated for the integration of these recommendations into all UN programmatic frameworks. In Senegal, OHCHR contributed to the UNCT’s revision of the “Leaving No One Behind” strategy. In Ghana, at the request of the RC, OHCHR provided an analysis of the outcomes of the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership as they relate to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.
ZIMBABWE

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<th>Key OMP pillars in 2019</th>
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1 2 3 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation (P)

P6 – Civil society organizations are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.

OHCHR provided technical support to empower rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, to participate in public processes and engage with the international human rights mechanisms to claim their rights.

The Office provided support and technical expertise to CSOs regarding their engagement with the special procedures. This resulted in four communications that were issued by special procedures on behalf of individuals whose rights were alleged to have been violated by the Government and an increased number of inputs and reports that were shared with special rapporteurs in relation to human rights issues of concern in the country.

OHCHR briefed two civil society organizations that support victims of torture on how to access the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. One of the organizations received a grant from the Fund to support its activities.

OHCHR advocated with the Government and provided technical inputs for the drafting of a disability bill and policy that is compliant with CRPD and international human rights principles. More specifically, organizations of persons with disabilities were consulted during the drafting process of the draft bill and policy. The Government then launched countrywide consultations to collect feedback on the drafts.
D7 – All UNDAF roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach to programming; all link the SDGs to human rights standards.

In 2019, all UN common country programmes integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles resulting from workshops that were facilitated by OHCHR and tools that it shared.

With OHCHR’s support and advice, the UN Human Rights Working Group was reactivated. The Office led the drafting of the Working Group’s terms of reference and 2019 annual workplan, both of which were endorsed by the UN Country Team.

OHCHR also conducted a training session on human rights and the SDGs for civil society organizations. The objective of the training was to encourage CSOs to provide inputs for Zimbabwe’s reporting process and engage in the implementation of the SDGs. Zimbabwe plans to submit a VNR at the 2020 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and it is in the process of drafting a progress report that will feed into the drafting process.

M1 – The country strengthens or legally establishes a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up.

By providing technical support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of an NMRF to facilitate the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR participated in the revision of the National Plan of Action and advocated for an inclusive approach to implementing and reporting on the UPR recommendations. While the Plan has not yet been formally approved, it has been published and is guiding the implementation of the UPR recommendations. Specifically, it lays out the planned actions and timelines for the implementation of the recommendations, and identifies the lead agencies and stakeholders. Furthermore, OHCHR conducted training sessions for CSOs and the Zimbabwe Gender Commission on reporting to CEDAW and how they can engage with the CEDAW Committee during its seventieth pre-sessional working group. Consequently, the Gender Commission, the Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association and the Women’s Coalition of Zimbabwe (with a membership of 116 organizations) made submissions to CEDAW.