



General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 April 2016

Original: English

Human Rights Council Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Communications, cases examined, observations, and other activities conducted by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

108th session (8 – 12 February 2016)

I. Introduction

1. The present document reflects the communications and cases examined, the observations made and other activities carried out by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances at its 108th session, held in Rabat, from 8 to 12 February 2016.
2. The Working Group thanks the Government of Morocco and the National Council of Human Rights of Morocco for hosting the Working Group, and for facilitating the successful conduct of its 108th session.

II. Communications

3. Between its 107th and 108th sessions, the Working Group transmitted 214 cases under its urgent action procedure, to Argentina (1), Bahrain (2), Burundi (1), China (3), Egypt (40), Indonesia (1), Kuwait (1), Libya (1), Pakistan (158), South Sudan (1), the Syrian Arab Republic (1) and the United Arab Emirates (4).
4. At its 108th session, the Working Group decided to transmit 85 newly reported cases of enforced disappearance to 16 States. The Working Group also clarified 42 cases, in Argentina (1), Bangladesh (1), China (2), Egypt (24), Pakistan (6), Sri Lanka (7) and the United Arab Emirates (1). Twenty-four cases were clarified on the basis of information provided by Governments and 18 on the basis of information provided by sources.
5. Between its 107th and 108th sessions, the Working Group, following its prompt intervention procedure, transmitted jointly with other special procedure mechanisms five communications to China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, India and Serbia.
6. At its 108th session, the Working Group reviewed three general allegations concerning Bangladesh, Colombia and Kenya.

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III. Other activities

7. On the margins of its 108th session, the Working Group held an expert consultation co-organized with the Moroccan National Council for Human Rights, on enforced disappearances and non-State actors. The event brought together experts on enforced disappearances and on the issue of non-State actors and human rights, from different regions. The consultation provided a valuable opportunity to discuss the different legal regimes applicable and the increasing instances of abductions carried out by non-State actors, which may be tantamount to enforced disappearances, and to reflect on ways and means in which the Working Group can address the issue. The Working Group will continue its discussion on this issue, and calls upon all stakeholders to provide information and views thereon.

8. During the session, the Working Group met with non-governmental organizations working on the issue of enforced disappearances in Morocco, and in other States. The Working Group also held formal meetings with representatives of the Governments of Burundi, Japan, Morocco and Ukraine.

9. The Working Group also discussed the reports following its visits to Peru and Sri Lanka, and the preparation of its visit to Turkey from 14 to 18 March 2016 and future visits. It also reviewed the progress report on the study on migration and enforced disappearances.

10. On the last day of the session, the Working Group held a press conference and concluded its session with a visit to the former detention centre and memorial site of Derb Moulay Cherif, and to the cemetery of the enforced disappeared of the events of 1981, in Casablanca.

IV. Information concerning enforced or involuntary disappearances in States reviewed by the Working Group

Albania

Information from the Government

11. On 18 January 2016, the Government of Albania provided information on one outstanding case. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Algeria

Standard procedure

12. The Working Group transmitted 10 cases to the Government of Algeria, concerning:

- (a) Ameer Bouzid, allegedly last seen in January 1997 at Châteauneuf barracks, Algiers;
- (b) Safia Bouzid (born Ould Azouz), allegedly last seen in January 1997 at Châteauneuf barracks, Algiers;
- (c) Hamid Bouzid, allegedly arrested in February 1997 at the Great Post Office of Algiers by military security officers;
- (d) Smail Bouzid, allegedly arrested in February 1997 at the Bab Azzoun pension fund in Algiers by military security officers;

- (e) Youcef Bouzid, allegedly arrested in February 1997 at his residence in Algiers by military security officers;
- (f) Abdellah Haddouche, allegedly abducted on 17 December 1994 in Fouka by gendarmes;
- (g) Ahmed Braih, allegedly arrested on 6 January 2009 in Algiers by the Algerian Security Services and last seen in March 2009 at the Blida military prison;
- (h) Laid Bellekhdar, allegedly last seen on 4 November 1992 at the police station of Oran;
- (i) Moussa Hassaine, allegedly last seen in January 1995 at the gendarmerie of Bousmail;
- (j) Ahmed Hassaine, allegedly arrested on 7 February 1995 in his residence by communal guards.

13. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case concerning Mr. Braih was sent to the Government of Morocco.

Angola

Information from the Government

14. On 24 September 2015, the Government of Angola provided information on two outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Argentina

Urgent action

15. On 24 November 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government of Argentina concerning a boy under 18 years of age, who allegedly disappeared in the city of Rosario, Santa Fe province, on 6 November 2015.

Clarification based on information from sources

16. On 4 December 2015, a source provided information on the case transmitted to the Government through the urgent action procedure on 24 November 2015 concerning a boy under 18 years of age. On the basis of the information provided, the Working Group decided to clarify the case as the boy had reportedly returned home safely.

Information from the Government

17. On 2 February 2016, the Government of Argentina also transmitted information concerning the above-mentioned case of a boy under 18 years of age.

Information from sources

18. A source provided information on one outstanding case.

Bahrain

Urgent action

19. On 8 October and 16 November 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted two cases to the Government of Bahrain concerning Mohammed Fakhrawi, allegedly arrested on 18 September 2015, and Ali Isa Ali Al-Tajer, allegedly arrested on 5 November 2015, by State agents, at their homes.

Information from the Government

20. On 25 August 2015, the Government of Bahrain transmitted information concerning two outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Information from sources

21. A source provided new information on one outstanding case.

Bangladesh

Clarification based on information from sources

22. On the basis of the information provided by the source, the Working Group decided to clarify the case of Salah Uddin Ahmed. The individual was reportedly released by his abductors on 11 May 2015.

Information from sources

23. A source provided information on one outstanding case.

Brazil

Information from the Government

24. On 21 October 2015, the Government of Brazil transmitted information concerning four outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Burundi

Urgent action

25. On 29 January 2016, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted a case to the Government of Burundi concerning Marie Claudette Kwizera, allegedly abducted by Burundian National Intelligence Service agents, near the central polyclinic of Bujumbura, on 10 December 2015.

China

Urgent action

26. On 9 December 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted two cases to the Government of China concerning Xing Qingxian and Tang Zhishun, allegedly arrested in Mong La, Myanmar, on 6 October 2015.

27. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the cases was also sent to the Government of Myanmar.

28. On 14 January 2016, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government of China concerning Gui Minhai, a national of Sweden, who allegedly disappeared from his apartment in Pattaya, Thailand on 17 October 2015.

29. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case was also sent to the Governments of Thailand and Sweden.

Clarification based on information from sources

30. On the basis of the information provided by a source, the Working Group decided to clarify the previously transmitted case of Israel Ershidin, who had reportedly been released from detention.

Clarification following the expiration of the six-month rule

31. On the basis of information previously provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify the case of Jiang Fen following the expiry of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/106/1, para. 17). The individual was reportedly released from custody on 9 July 2011.

Information from sources

32. A source provided information on one outstanding case.

Prompt intervention letter

33. On 26 November 2015, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other five special procedure mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter concerning the alleged demolition of 37 Christian, Catholic and Protestant churches, the removal of more than 500 churches in Zhejiang Province and the enforced disappearance of a pastor for protesting against the planned demolition of a church.

Observations

34. The Working Group underlines that, as provided for in article 7 of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked to justify enforced disappearances. It also recalls that, according to article 10 (2) of the Declaration, accurate information on the detention of such persons and their place or places of detention, including transfers, should be made promptly available to their family members, their counsel or to any other persons having a legitimate interest in the information.

Other general information

35. During the session, the Working Group examined nine cases that had been originally registered under the records of China. On the basis of the information indicating that these persons are under the custody of authorities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the cases have been re-registered under the statistics of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Colombia

Standard procedure

36. The Working Group transmitted one case to the Government of Colombia concerning Borja Lazaro Herrero, allegedly abducted from a hotel in Guajira, Colombia, on 7 January 2014, by a paramilitary group operating with the acquiescence of State officials. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case was also sent to the Government of Spain.

Information from Sources

37. A source provided information on two outstanding cases.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Standard procedure

38. The Working Group transmitted 14 cases to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, concerning:

(a) Baek Cheol Beom, allegedly arrested by the National Security Agency in a house in Hoiryung, North Hamkyung Province, in May 2014;

(b) Han Chul-Ju, allegedly arrested on 2 June 2003 at a refugee mission centre in Nanjing City, China, and repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(c) Han Hye Ok, allegedly arrested by the National Security Agency in her home in Hoiryung City, in early October 1995;

(d) Hong Won-Chul, allegedly arrested by the National Security Agency in Pyongyang in June 1999;

(e) Jeon Myeong Hee, allegedly last seen in the summer of 2014 at the Hoiryung City Safety Agency, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(f) Jeon Gwang-Gook, allegedly arrested on 2 June 2003 at a refugee mission centre in Nanjing City, China and repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(g) Kim Geun Cheol, allegedly arrested on 2 June 2003 at a refugee mission centre in Nanjing City, China and repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(h) Lee Chung Seong, allegedly arrested on 2 June 2003 at a refugee mission centre in Nanjing City, China and repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(i) Choi, Hong-Sik, allegedly abducted from Seoul by North Korean forces between 28 and 30 June 1950;

(j) Choi, Jun, allegedly abducted from his home in Seoul on 13 September 1950 by North Korean forces;

(k) Jeong, Kyung-sook, allegedly abducted to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Korean Airline airplane YS-11, hijacked on 11 December 1969;

(l) Kim, Jeong-gyu, reportedly taken from his home in Pyongyang by his co-workers of the Liaison Department of the Central Party, in August 2011;

(m) Kim, Kyung Ae, allegedly arrested on 3 April 2014 by two agents from the Onsung Security Agency;

(n) Lee, Chang-Hyeok, allegedly arrested at Yanji Station in China on 15 December 2010 and repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Information from the Government

39. On 4 January 2016, the Government transmitted information concerning 14 outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification. Nine out of the 14 cases had been originally registered under the records of China; however, on the basis of information indicating that these persons were in the custody of the authorities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the cases were re-registered under the statistics of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Observations

40. With regard to the nature of the replies received from the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea concerning the cases outstanding before it, the Working Group recalled Human Rights Council resolution 21/4, in which the Council urged States to cooperate with the Working Group to help it to carry out its mandate effectively.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Prompt intervention letter

41. On 10 December 2015, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other four special procedure mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter concerning alleged human rights violations, including cases of enforced disappearances, perpetrated in the framework of Operation Likofi (15 November 2013 to 15 February 2015), and on the discovery of a mass grave in Maluku, Kinshasa on 19 March 2015.

Ethiopia

Prompt intervention letter

42. On 28 December 2015, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other four special procedure mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter concerning the alleged repression of peaceful protests since mid-November 2015 in the Oromia region.

Ecuador

Information from the Government

43. On 17 September 2015, the Government of Ecuador transmitted information concerning five outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

44. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of one of the cases was sent to the Government of Colombia.

Egypt

Urgent action

45. During the period under review, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted 40 cases to the Government of Egypt. Nine of the cases were clarified following information received from a source:

(a) On 28 September 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted three cases to the Government of Egypt, concerning Taalat Hosni Quranu Ali Al Sharkawy, Abdelrahman Mohammed Abdelbasser and Khaled Mohammed El Beltagy, who were allegedly abducted by Homeland Security and members of the security forces between 19 August and 22 September 2015 and taken to an unknown destination;

(b) On 9 October 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted a case to the Government of Egypt concerning Abdullah Mohamed Saad Ahmed Al Samenody, allegedly arrested by armed officers in Al Sayed Ahmed Al Khayat Street in Zaqaiziq City, Sharqia Governate, on 2 September 2015;

(c) On 23 October 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted 29 cases to the Government of Egypt, concerning Mohamed Hassan Ahmed Kadiha, Mohamed Ibrahim Ahmed Lasheen, Islam Ali Abu Alma'aty Salem, Ossama Mohammed Ezz Al Arab Mogahed, Ahmed Mohammed Ali Hussain Ali, Ibrahim Ibrahim Mahmoud Abdul Salam, Anas Emad Al Sayed Shosha, Anas Khamis Abdul Moniem, Ossama Khamis Abdul Moniem, Ahmed Abdel Moneim Musharraf Issawi, Amr Abdullah Attia Mohamed Saada, Ali Shawky Ibrahim Salman, Yusuf Ali Shawky Ibrahim Salman, Abd el-Rahman Abd el-Salam Ayoud, Abdullah Nagi Mahmoud, Desoky Abdul Mawgood Eissa, Mohamed Abd al-Twwab Ahmed, Yousri Zaki Sweilem, Talla't Hassan Qurani, Ahmed Abdullah Ibrahim Saloma, Abdul Rahman Mahmoud Ramadan, Shaaban Hussien Khalied, Khaled Mohammed El Beltagy, Farhat Zaki Abul Hamid Al Ashram, Abdul Rahman Mohammed Abdul Basir, Ahmed Mohamed Abd el-Gwad, Abdullah Mohamed Saad el-Smanody, Badawy Mohammed Tokhy, Anas Mahmoud Saied Nader Fattoh Saber and Hany Mohamed Hassanin Sharaf, all allegedly taken by State agents between 15 July and 16 October 2015;

(d) On 30 November 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted a case to the Government of Egypt concerning Hany Mohamed Hassanin Sharaf, allegedly arrested by Homeland Security at the terminal of Cairo International Airport while departing for Astrakhan, Russian Federation, on 18 November 2015;

(e) On 9 December 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted two cases to the Government of Egypt, concerning Mahmoud Ahmed Saeed Saeed and Mahmoud Ahmed Nagah Abdul Fattah, allegedly taken by State security agents to the State Security Department in Lazoughy Cairo, on 23 and 27 November 2015 respectively;

(f) On 12 February 2016, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted five cases to the Government of Egypt, concerning Ghareeb Zaghoul, Abdelrahman Mohamed Saleh Mohammed, Medhat Mohamed Bahi Aldin Ahmed Abdelhameed, Asser Mohammed Zahr Aldeen Abdelwarth and Magdy Hassan Amer Hassan, all allegedly taken by the police from their homes, to an unknown destination between 12 January 2016 and 7 February 2016.

Standard procedure

46. The Working Group transmitted three cases to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, concerning:

- (a) Ibrahim Abdu El Moenim Amr, allegedly arrested by army and police forces, at Al Tayaran St., Nasr City, Cairo district, during a protest before the Republican Guard Club, on 8 July 2013;
- (b) El Sayed Mohamed Ismail Amr, allegedly abducted by a group of four masked gunmen reportedly belonging to the security services, in front of his home in Zagazig, Al Sharkeyia on 24 August 2013;
- (c) Mohamed Hafez Mohamed Khaled, allegedly arrested by army and police forces at Al Manassa Memorial, Nasr City, Cairo district on 27 July 2013.

Clarification based on information from sources

47. On the basis of the information provided by a source, the Working Group decided to clarify the cases of Khaled Mohammed El Beltagy, Farhat Zaki Abul Hamid Al, Abdul Rahman Mohammed Abdul Basir, Ahmed Mohamed Abd el-Gwad, Abdullah Mohamed Saad, Badawy Mohammed Tokhy, Anas Mahmoud Saied, Nader Fattoh Saber and Sahraf Hany Mohamed Hassanin, who had been reportedly held in detention.

Information from the Government

48. During the period under review, the Government transmitted information concerning eight outstanding cases. On the basis of the information provided, the Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule to all cases.

49. On 4 and 7 May 2015, the Government transmitted information concerning one outstanding case, which has also been updated with new information from a source. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Clarification

50. On the basis of information previously provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify 15 cases, of which 12 were clarified following the expiry of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/106/1, para. 32) and three others based on the information provided by the source before the expiry of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/107/1, para. 45).

Observation

51. The Working Group thanks the Government of Egypt for the large number of replies, which demonstrated its commitment to engage with the Working Group, allowing it to clarify a number of cases. The Working Group is, however, concerned that, during the period under review, it transmitted 40 reported cases of enforced disappearances under the urgent action procedure to the Government and continues to receive regularly allegations of cases of disappearances. It reiterates that, as provided for in article 7 of the Declaration, no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked to justify enforced disappearances, and that, according to article 10 (2), accurate information on the detention of such persons and their place or places of detention, including transfers, should be made promptly available to their family members, their counsel or to any other persons having a legitimate interest in the information.

El Salvador

Information from sources

52. Sources provided information on three outstanding cases.

Greece

Information from the Government

53. On 15 December 2015, the Government of Greece transmitted information concerning one outstanding case. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case was also sent to the Government of Switzerland.

Guyana

Standard procedure

54. The Working Group transmitted one case to the Government of Guyana concerning Frantz Britton, allegedly last seen on 25 January 1999 being forced by police officers into a car, in East Coast Demerara, Guyana.

Honduras

Information from the Government

55. On 18 November 2015, the Government of Honduras transmitted information concerning one outstanding case. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

India

Information from the Government

56. On 13 January 2016, the Government of India transmitted information concerning seven outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Prompt intervention letter

57. On 9 October 2015, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other two special procedure mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter concerning the alleged continued refusal of authorities to renew the passport of a human rights lawyer since 2004 in an attempt to restrict his work in relation to investigations of cases of enforced disappearance.

Indonesia

Urgent action

58. On 11 January 2016, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government of Indonesia concerning Abdulrahman Khalifa Binsobeih, allegedly kidnapped on 18 December 2015 from a police station in the District

of Batam Indonesia, by members of the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates and Indonesian secret services, and extradited to the United Arab Emirates.

59. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case was also sent to the Government of the United Arab Emirates.

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Standard procedure

60. The Working Group transmitted one case to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning Robert Papazian, allegedly last seen on 17 July 1982 in Evin Prison.

Iraq

Standard procedure

61. The Working Group transmitted two cases to the Government of Iraq, concerning:

(a) Abdel Karim Aswad Al Janabi, allegedly arrested by Federal Police officers in the Al Ruba'i neighbourhood in Mahmoudiyah, Baghdad, on 20 December 2006;

(b) Mustafa Jassim Kazem Al Rubaie, allegedly last seen in video footage broadcast on Al Baghdadia TV, on the occasion of a visit of the vice president, Mr. Al Hashimi, to Tasferat Prison in Baghdad, on 8 February 2011.

Kuwait

Urgent action

62. On 20 November 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government of Kuwait concerning Abdulrahman Ahmed Omar, allegedly arrested by members of the State security at his home on 1 October 2015.

63. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case was also sent to the Government of Egypt.

Libya

Urgent action

64. On 1 December 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted a case to the Government of Libya concerning Slaah Salem Slimane Al Hassi, allegedly abducted by members of a militia in armed uniform near his house on 22 November 2015.

Standard procedure

65. The Working Group transmitted two cases to the Government of Libya, concerning:

(a) Sofiane Chourabi, allegedly abducted in Ajdabiya, on September 2014;

(b) Nadhir El Guetari, allegedly abducted in Ajdabiya, on September 2014.

66. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the cases was also sent to the Government of Tunisia.

Maldives

Standard procedure

67. The Working Group transmitted one case to the Government of Maldives, concerning Ahmed Rilwan, allegedly abducted by the Police of Maldives in front of his residence in Hulhumalé sea harbor, Malé region on 8 August 2014.

Mexico

Standard procedure

68. The Working Group transmitted three cases to the Government of Mexico, concerning:

(a) Raúl Colunga Ibarra, allegedly last seen between 18 and 20 July 2014 in a prison of the Public Security Agency (Policía Preventiva), in Sombrerete, Zacatecas;

(b) Rodolfo Guajardo González, allegedly last seen between 18 and 20 July 2014 in a prison of the Public Security Agency (Policía Preventiva) in Sombrerete, Zacatecas;

(c) Emmanuel Ahmed Avalos Zelaya, allegedly abducted on 28 October 2013 by two hooded individuals in civilian clothes, allegedly acting with the acquiescence of the State, in an area of Tizapan El Alto, Jalisco.

Information from the Government

69. On 16 October 2015, the Government of Mexico transmitted information concerning 21 outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

70. On 28 October 2015, the Government of Mexico transmitted a reply to the joint urgent appeal sent on 10 July 2015, concerning the alleged arbitrary detention of 12 individuals charged in connection with the case of the Ayotzinapa students, and allegations of their torture and ill-treatment. In its reply, the Government reported on the legal basis for the arrest of the 12 individuals, the allegations of torture against them, and the treatment of evidence obtained by torture in Mexican legislation. The Government stated that, according to the evidence, no cases of physical torture or injuries had been identified. The forensic medical expert had found that the individuals who had physical marks presented wounds typical of persons opposing resistance during arrest. However, the expert considered that, to ensure that the individuals were not subjected to torture or other cruel or inhuman treatment, the Istanbul Protocol was to be applied.

71. The Government also sent information about the investigations conducted at the municipal and State levels against the persons allegedly responsible for the events in Iguala in September 2014.

Information from sources

72. Sources provided information on two outstanding cases.

Nepal

Standard procedure

73. The Working Group transmitted two cases to the Government of Nepal, concerning:

- (a) Rajendra Chaulagain, allegedly abducted by army officers in Kathmandu on 18 July 2003 and last seen July 2004 at Bhairabnath Battalion;
- (b) Amar Budhathoki, allegedly abducted from his residence in the Rupandehi district by soldiers from the Saljhandi Army Camp, on 12 March 2006.

Pakistan

Urgent action

74. During the period under review, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted 158 cases to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:

(a) On 28 September 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted four cases to the Government of Pakistan, concerning Imran Muhammad, Imran Hameed Qureshi, Asim Khan Muhammad and Rauf Abdul, all allegedly affiliated with the Muttahida Quami Movement and reportedly abducted or arrested by Pakistani Rangers in Karachi between 28 June and 3 August 2015;

(b) On 19 October 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted 87 cases to the Government of Pakistan, concerning Nasir Muhammad, Syed Akhtar Hussain Ather Hussain, Amir Ali Shaikh, Aamir Ali AShiq Ali, Muhammad Kashif Muhammad Yousuf, Shahid Khan Ghulam Muhammad, Muhammad Saeed Iftikhar Ahmed Khan, Waqqar Ahmed Sarfaraz Ahmed, Majid Ali Khan, Adnan Idrees, Saeed Ismail, Imran Ahmed Khan Zaheer Ahmed Khan, Qamber Raza Zaidi Iqbal Hussain Zaidi, Shakeel Uddin Naseeruddin, Muhammad Qasim, Muhammad Afzal Bhatti, Qadeer Hassan Kiyani, Shahid Hussain Sherwani, Afzal Ali Akbar Ali, Sahid Munawar, Imran Meher Hasan, Jawwad Kaleem, Muhammad Abdul Hameed, Jaweed Ajmeri, Farhan Farooq Muhammad Farooq, Muhammad Kashif Qamaruddin, Rizwan Ahmed Aqeel Ahmed, Riyaz Abdul Razaque, Syed Zakir Hussain Syed Rafiq Hussain, Muhammad Muneer Muhammad Asghar Khan, Sheikh Ameer Noor Muhammad, Jaweed Ahmed Khan Ansar Ahmed Khan, Mirza Raheem Baig Afzal Baig, Muhammad Shakeel Fateh Muhammad Khan, Ali Mehmood, Syed Farhan Hashmi Syed Maqbool Ahmed, Imtiaz Uddin Nizam Uddin, Muhammad Asif Muhammad Imam Uddin, Majid Ali Mohsin Ali, Syed Saleem Ali Syed Faraz Ali, Ali Lodhi Nasarullah, Arif Hussain Altaf Hussain, Shah Nawaz Gayasuddin, Mirza Arsalan Baig Kausar Hussain Baig, Aamir Raza Raza Hussain, Abdul Khalid Khan Shahbuddin, Shahood Ansari Saadat Hussain, Shahood Ansari Arshad Ansari, Shakeel Nabi Buksh, Zafar Ali Khan Zahid Ali Khan, Faisal Nadeem Jameel Ahmed, Waseem Qamar Ali, Muhammed Ali Akber Muhammad Akbar Ali, Zaheer Pervez, Zeeshan Zaki, Syed Masood Ahmad, Wasi Haider Hassan Raza, Barkat Ali, Aalam Wahab, Muhammad Imran Muhammad Yameen, Muhammad Raees Qureshi, Imran Naseem, Muhammad Ejaz, Fawad Ahmed Hussain, Muhammad Faizan Muzaffar Ali, Ali Raza Jaweed, Muhammad Yameen Muhammad Mubeen, Muhammad Aasif Yunus, Aasif Abdul Samad, Hameed Sardar, Sadaqat Ali Khan Muhammad, Nasir Shah Ali, Aarif Mansoori Muhammad, Muhammad Sabir Butt, Muhammad Mateen Muhammad Ismail, Muhammad Aamir Saeed, Aslam Rehman, Wasi Tariq Qamar, Muhammad Mazhar Khan Muhammad Asghar Khan, Muhammad Arshad Nazar, Fareed Khan Dil Sheer Khan, Noor Aalam Qamar, Khurran Ahmed Shakri, Faizan Shah Muhammad Shab Uddin, Waseem Ahmed Abdul Ghani, Aamir Sheikh and Aftab Qama Siddiqui, all allegedly affiliated with the Muttahida Quami Movement and reportedly abducted by Pakistani Rangers in Karachi from their residences between 14 July and 24 September 2015;

(c) On 27 October 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted 19 cases to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, concerning Muhammad Sualiheen, Muhammad Sohail, Muhammad Zubair, Muhammad

Shakeel, Muhammad Mehmood, Muhammad Kashif, Kamran Sheikh Muhammad, Aamir Khan Muhammad, Muhammad Yaqoob, Muhammad Imran, Riyaz Ahmed, Fareed Ghulam Muhammad, Noman Sheikh Hussain, Muhammad Kashif, Jaffrey Jahanzeb Abdul, Usman Muqadam Muhammad, Umair Abdul, Raheel Abdul and Muhammad Siddiq, all allegedly affiliated with the Muttahida Quami Movement and reportedly abducted by Pakistani Rangers in Karachi from their homes between 21 September and 14 October 2015;

(d) On 9 November 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government of Pakistan, concerning Faisal Saleem, allegedly affiliated with the Muttahida Quami Movement and reportedly abducted by Pakistani Rangers from his home in Karachi on 8 October 2015;

(e) On 16 November 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government of Pakistan, concerning Rizwan Akram Niazi, reportedly abducted by Elite Force police officials in Karachi from his workplace on 11 November 2015;

(f) On 7 December 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted 33 cases to the Government of Pakistan, concerning Ijaz Aalam Israar Alam, Aleem Qadir Salman Qadir, Shakeel Muhammad Shakeel, Bilal Naeem Raheel, Ijaz Aalam Israar Alam, Deen Muhammad Pervaiz Alam, Abdul Ghaffar Abdul Waqqar, Noor Aalam Shahzaib Aalam, Abdul Qudoos Farhan Qudoos, Abdul Qudoos Muhammad Rafi, Abdul Razzaque Ijaz Khan, Aziz Uddin Arsalan, Iqbal Uddin Zahid Iqbal, Muhammad Hashim Abdul Aleem Jaffari, Ghulam Muhammad Muhammad Shahid Soorti, Shabbir Ali Abid Ali, Faisal Hanif Qureshi Muhammad Hanif, Itwar Hussain Meraj Hussain, Fazl Ur Rehman Muhammad Aasif Khan, Syed Khalid Hussain Zahid Hussain, Asghar Ali Sheikh Baber Arshad Sheikh, Aashiq Hussain Sadiq, Raees Uddin Muhammad Sohail, Hanif Abbasi Israar Alam, Muhammad Aslam Arsalan, Muhammad Umer Abdul Rasheed, Rehmat Ullah Imran Rehmat, Muhammad Zahid Muhammad Imtiaz, Siraj Ul Haq Muhammad Khalid, Nadeem Jameel, Muhammad Deen Zohab, Abdul Aslam Zai and Ameer Dulha Nadeem Dulha, all allegedly affiliated with the Muttahida Quami Movement and reportedly abducted by Pakistani Rangers in Karachi from their homes between 19 and 22 November 2015;

(g) On 21 January 2016, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted 13 cases to the Government of Pakistan, concerning Shahnawaz Muhammad Iftikhar, Muhammad Iftikhar Muhammad Wali, Shoaib Akhter Muhammad Akhter, Abdul Rasheed Abdul Waheed, Muhammad Adnan Abdul Waheed, Muhammad Imran Ansar Nazeer Ahmed, Haider Ali Khursheed Haider, Sheikh Hikmat Ullah Qureshi Rafi Ullah Qureshi, Ubaid Ullah Saeed Ullah, Kashif Hussain Shah Chiragh Hussain, Afzal Ali Asghar Ali, Aasim Qasim and Ali Sualih Ali, all allegedly affiliated with the Muttahida Quami Movement and reportedly abducted by Pakistani Rangers in Karachi from their homes between 1 and 9 January 2015.

Standard procedure

75. The Working Group transmitted 16 newly reported cases to the Government of Pakistan, concerning:

(a) Amir Qayyum, allegedly abducted by individuals believed to be Secret State agents near motorway toll plaza, Islamabad on 20 January 2015;

(b) Naeem Muhammad, allegedly arrested by unknown security agents belonging to law enforcement agencies near his house on 13 June 2015;

(c) Ahmed Mukhtiar, allegedly arrested by Pakistani Rangers at Rafi and Sons Installment Shop on 10 June 2015;

- (d) Nazar Mukarram Muhammad, allegedly arrested by Pakistani Rangers at Korangy crossing on 16 June 2015;
- (e) Saqib Afridi, allegedly arrested by Pakistani Rangers near his residence on 14 June 2015;
- (f) Adeel Muhammad, arrested by Pakistani Rangers near his home, “Y” Market, Korangi N°1, Karachi, District Korangi, Sindh Province on 1 April 2015;
- (g) Aslam Kamal Muhammad, allegedly arrested by Pakistani Rangers at his home on 7 May 2015;
- (h) Fahad Muhammad, allegedly arrested by Pakistani Rangers near his house, in Karachi, District East on 2 June 2015;
- (i) Khalil Ahmed, allegedly arrested by Pakistani Rangers near his home at Shah Faisal Colony, Karachi East, Sindh, on 5 May 2015;
- (j) Rehan Khan Muhammad, allegedly arrested in Manzoor Colony, District South Karachi by Pakistani Rangers on 6 June 2015;
- (k) Moiz Saleem, allegedly arrested by Pakistani Rangers at University road, Karachi, East, Sindh Province, on 23 May 2015;
- (l) Fahim Andah Rajput, allegedly arrested by law enforcement agencies and Pakistani Rangers from Tauheed Commercial, Karachi, District South, Sindh province, on 25 May 2015;
- (m) Touseef Ur Rehmaan, allegedly abducted by men in army uniforms at the checkpoint known as Chungi No. 26 on 9 July 2014;
- (n) Ghulam Qadir, allegedly abducted by men in army uniforms at the checkpoint known as Chungi No. 26 on 28 August 2014;
- (o) Muhammad Ejaz, allegedly arrested by members of the army from Hazar town Chal Chakiyan Sargodha on 22 October 2014;
- (p) Naveed Ur Rehman, allegedly last seen at his home on Mirial road, Riwalpindi on 10 June 2014.

Information from sources

76. Sources provided information on five outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Clarification based on information from sources

77. On the basis of information provided by sources, the Working Group decided to clarify the cases of Muhammad Adeel Muhammad Shareef, Sultan Mehmood Khan, Adil Zia Muhammad, Tanveer Ahmed Syed, Ameer Dulha Nadeem Dulha and Hamid Nehal Ahmed Ansari. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case concerning Hamid Nehal Ahmed Ansari was sent to the Government of Afghanistan. Two individuals are in detention and six were allegedly extrajudicially killed.

Observations

78. The Working Group thanks the Government for the replies provided on 2 and 4 February 2016, which will be reviewed by the Working Group at its 109th session. The Working Group is gravely concerned that, during the period under review, it transmitted, under its urgent action procedure, 158 newly reported cases of enforced disappearances to the Government of Pakistan. A large number of the cases concern individuals reportedly

affiliated with the Muttahida Quami Movement. The Working Group reiterates that, as provided for in article 7 of the Declaration, no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked to justify enforced disappearances, and that, according to article 10 (2), accurate information on the detention of such persons and their place or places of detention, including transfers, should be made promptly available to their family members, their counsel or to any other persons having a legitimate interest in the information.

Peru

Information from the Government

79. On 5 January 2016, the Government of Peru transmitted information to the Working Group concerning three outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Information from sources

80. A source provided information on two outstanding cases.

Serbia

Prompt intervention letter

81. On 22 December 2015, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with another special procedure mechanism, a prompt intervention letter concerning the alleged shortcomings of the draft law “on determining the facts on the position of newborn infants suspected to have disappeared in maternity hospitals in the Republic of Serbia”, aimed at the establishment of a mechanism providing redress to all parents whose babies allegedly disappeared from maternity wards in Serbia.

Seychelles

Information from the Government

82. On 2 October 2015, the Government of Seychelles provided information on three outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

South Sudan

Urgent action

83. On 9 October 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government of South Sudan, concerning Clement Lochio Loyiameri, allegedly last seen when he was forced into a military vehicle in Chukudum, Budi Count on 15 August 2015.

Sri Lanka

Standard procedure

84. The Working Group transmitted six cases to the Government, concerning:

- (a) Suganthan Selvarasa, allegedly abducted by Sri Lankan Military forces on 23 May 2008;
- (b) Rajeswaran Rasathurai, allegedly last seen in Maddalan, Mullaitivu, an area under control of the Sri Lankan Army, in April 2009;
- (c) Amalaraj Anthoni, allegedly abducted by members of the Police Special Task Force in the Eastern Province on 19 February 2009;
- (d) Kedeeswaran Rethinasingham, allegedly abducted in Kaluwanchikudy town by members of the army on 1 January 2009;
- (e) Sinnavan Stephen Sunthararaj, allegedly abducted in a white van by men identified as officers of the Criminal Investigations Department on 7 May 2009;
- (f) Prasath Mariyanajakam, allegedly last seen in Ananthapuram, Puthukkudiyiruppu, an area under control of the Sri Lankan Army, on 13 May 2009.

Clarification following the expiration of the 6-month rule

85. The Working Group, on the basis of information provided by the Government of Sri Lanka and following the expiration of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/106/1, para.70), decided to clarify the cases of Gunawardanamudalige Chandradasa, Tilakaratne Metiwela Gedara Ananda T., G. Rajkumar, Sanal Thchandran Sellamanuckkan, Kumarasiri Deniyaya Arachchige, Anura Perera Deniyaya Arachchige and G. Opious Perera. The seven individuals are reportedly living in their places of residence.

Information from sources

86. A source provided information on two outstanding cases.

Syrian Arab Republic

Urgent action

87. On 9 October 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted a case to the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, concerning Bassel Khartabil, allegedly taken out of his prison cell and transferred to an unknown location on 3 October 2015.

Standard procedure

88. The Working Group transmitted 15 cases to the Government, concerning:

- (a) Khalid Al Junaid, allegedly arrested by members of the Political Security Forces at Abu Shafiq checkpoint on 15 December 2012;
- (b) Ammar Alhalbouni, allegedly last seen at the Alkhatib Security Branch in Al-Khateeb Quarter, Damascus in May 2013;
- (c) Basel Tabbakh, allegedly arrested with his brother by a group pertaining to Jaramana local committees, in Al As Al Gharbi on 12 March 2013;
- (d) Zaher Tabbakh, allegedly arrested by a group pertaining to Jaramana local committees at his work in Jaramana, Karamila Circle on 12 March 2013;
- (e) Nazir Idris, allegedly arrested with his wife Sabah Qabaqibo by agents of Air Force Intelligence at the checkpoint of Al Huwash bridge, on the main road between Homs and Tartus, on 29 December 2012;

(f) Sabah Qabaqibo, allegedly arrested by agents of Air Force Intelligence at the checkpoint of Al Huwash bridge, on the main road between Homs and Tartus, on 29 December 2012;

(g) Hallak Mohamad, allegedly arrested by members the Military Security Branch at Al Areda checkpoint on 2 November 2014;

(h) Bilal Al Attarat, allegedly arrested by members of the Military Security Branch while crossing Mazza checkpoint, on Damascus Beirut International road on 31 May 2014;

(i) Ahmad Jahmay, allegedly arrested by members of the National Defence Forces of the Government while crossing Khnaifeis village checkpoint in Hama Governorate on 1 May 2014;

(j) Khuder Al Salkhadi, allegedly last seen at Branch 215 in the Military Security Branch in Damascus on 4 September 2014;

(k) Mahmoud Ali Deeb, allegedly arrested by members of the Syrian Army and Air Force Intelligence on 20 June 2012;

(l) Mohammad Bashar Ali Deeb, allegedly arrested by forces belonging to Branch 235 of Military Intelligence, at Al Zahra gardens on 26 November 2012;

(m) Walid Ramadan, allegedly arrested by officers of Air Force Intelligence at a checkpoint between the neighbourhoods of Masakin al Moualemin and Masakin al Ta'menat, Homs, on 14 November 2012;

(n) Mohamed Ramadan, allegedly arrested by officers of Air Force Intelligence at a checkpoint between the neighbourhoods of Masakin al Moualemin and Masakin al Ta'menat, Homs, on 14 November 2012;

(o) Abdul Rahman Al Rifai, allegedly arrested by Military Security at a checkpoint at the roundabout in Tadmor, Homs Governorate, on 23 November 2012.

Information from sources

89. A source provided information on four outstanding cases.

Information from the Government

90. On 7 October and 5 November 2015, the Government transmitted information to the Working Group concerning six outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Observation

91. The Working Group continues to be concerned about the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, which facilitates the occurrence of enforced disappearances. It reiterates article 2 of the Declaration, which provides that no State shall practise, permit or tolerate enforced disappearances, and article 7, which states that no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked to justify enforced disappearances.

Tajikistan

Information from the Government

92. On 21 August 2015, the Government of Tajikistan transmitted information to the Working Group concerning three outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Turkey

Information from the Government

93. On 4 January 2016, the Government of Turkey transmitted information concerning two outstanding cases. On the basis of the information provided, the Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule to them.

Turkmenistan

94. On 2 November 2015, the Government of Turkmenistan transmitted information to the Working Group concerning one outstanding case. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Ukraine

Information from the Government

95. On 15 September 2015, the Government of Ukraine transmitted information to the Working Group concerning five outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of two of the cases was also sent to the Government of the Russian Federation.

Information from sources

96. Sources provided information on one outstanding case.

United Arab Emirates

Urgent action

97. On 4 December 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted three cases to the Government of the United Arab Emirates, concerning Amina Mohammed Alabdouli, Moza Mohammed Alabdouli and Mosab Mohammed Aladouli, allegedly arrested by members of the State security apparatus at their home in the Emirate of Al Fujairah on 19 November 2015.

98. On 12 February 2016, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted a case to the Government of the United Arab Emirates, concerning Salman Taysir Hasan Mahmoud, allegedly last seen at the Headquarters of the Criminal Investigation Department of Abu Dhabi Police, Shakhbout Bin Sultan Street, Abu Dhabion 13 December 2015.

99. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case was also sent to the Government of Jordan.

Clarification

100. On the basis of information previously provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify the case of Mosaab Ahmed Abdelaziz Mohamed Ramadan following the expiry of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/106/1, para. 80). The individual is currently detained in Al Wathba Prison, Abu Dhabi.

United States of America

Standard procedure

101. The Working Group transmitted four cases to the Government of the United States of America, concerning:

(a) Wissam Salam Kamalx Al Hashimi, allegedly last seen in August 2011 in Camp Cropper, an American base allegedly used as a detention centre near Baghdad International Airport, Iraq;

(b) Ali Hamid Abdul Wahab Al Jeyali, allegedly arrested by American soldiers at the Hotel Babel, in Baghdad, on 16 October 2005;

(c) Jabbar Ali Jaro Aati Al Suhayli, allegedly arrested by American soldiers at the Hotel Babel, in Baghdad, on 16 October 2005;

(d) Essam Al Obaidi, allegedly arrested by United States Army officers in Al-Saydiya neighborhood, Baghdad, on 22 August 2007.

102. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the cases was also sent to the Government of Iraq.

Uzbekistan

Information from the Government

103. On 6 January 2016, the Government of Uzbekistan transmitted information concerning seven outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Zimbabwe

Information from sources

104. A source provided information on one outstanding case.
