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CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE QUESTIONS OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY, ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, IMPUNITY

Human rights in the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict States and in juvenile justice*

Report of the Secretary-General

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^{*} The report was submitted after the deadline in order to incorporate the received replies.

Summary

This report, submitted pursuant to resolution 2002/47 of the Commission on Human Rights, sets out the practical measures for the implementation of the international standards in the field of human rights in the administration of justice. The report concentrates on rebuilding and strengthening structures and capacities for the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, and in juvenile justice. It also highlights the role of technical assistance of the United Nations system in this regard.

Since the last report submitted on this issue (E/CN.4/2002/63), there have been significant developments in the activities of the United Nations human rights mechanisms as well as an enhanced number of administration-of-justice-related activities. Some treaty bodies have established follow up procedures to their recommendations. These procedures are aimed at assisting national authorities in efforts to increase human rights protections, including in regard to the administration of justice. With regard to special procedures, the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers has endorsed the adoption of the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct, principles that will address the issue of judicial corruption.

United Nations agencies are actively engaged in developing programmes and partnerships with NGOs involved in the development of strategies for post conflict justice mechanisms. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), through its technical cooperation programme, continues to provide advice and assistance, including training on the application of the relevant international human rights standards, to a wide range of national partners active in the administration of justice. These include the courts, law enforcement, corrections officials, public prosecutors, legal aid programmes, the legal profession and relevant NGOs. OHCHR has also developed methodological tools to address different aspects of the administration of justice, including human rights training manuals for judges, lawyers, police and corrections officials. OHCHR and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) continue to be engaged in juvenile justice activities, including the creation of global indicators intended to improve the availability of data on children's rights.

CONTENTS

			Paragraphs	Page
	Inti	roduction	1 - 2	4
I.	ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE		3 - 32	4
	A.	Relevant activities of the United Nations human rights mechanisms	3 - 8	4
		1. Human rights treaty bodies	3 - 6	4
		2. Special procedures	7 - 8	5
	B.	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	9 - 28	5
		1. Europe	18 - 19	7
		2. Latin America	20 - 21	8
		3. Africa	22 - 25	9
		4. Asia	26 - 28	9
	C.	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	29 - 30	10
	D.	United Nations Development Programme	31 - 32	11
II.	CHILDREN AND JUVENILES IN DETENTION		33 - 40	11
	A.	Committee on the Rights of the Child	33	11
	B.	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	34	12
	C.	UNICEF	35 - 40	12
		1. Europe	37	12
		2. Latin America	38	13
		3. Africa	39	13
		4. Asia	40	13
III.	CO	NCLUSIONS	41	13

Introduction

- 1. In 1993, the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna stressed that "every State should provide an effective framework of remedies to redress human rights grievances or violations. The administration of justice, including law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies and, especially, an independent judiciary and legal profession in full conformity with applicable standards contained in international human rights instruments, are essential to the full and non-discriminatory realization of human rights and indispensable to the processes of democracy and sustainable development". (Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, part I, para. 27.) The Conference further urged that institutions concerned with the administration of justice should be properly funded, and an "increased level of both technical and financial assistance should be provided by the international community".
- 2. In paragraph 26 of its resolution 2002/47, the Commission on Human Rights requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its sixtieth session on practical measures for the implementation of the international standards in the field of human rights in the administration of justice, in particular regarding rebuilding and strengthening structures and capacities for the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, and in juvenile justice, as well as the role of technical assistance of the United Nations system in this regard. The present report is submitted in accordance with that request.

I. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

A. Relevant activities of the United Nations human rights mechanisms

1. Human rights treaty bodies

- 3. As referenced in previous submissions, many concluding observations on government reports adopted by treaty bodies and most of the views on individual communications adopted by the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the Committee against Torture (CAT), as well as conclusions of CAT on inquiries under article 20 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, are directly relevant to the administration of justice. In this regard, it should be noted that some of the treaty bodies have established follow-up procedures to their recommendations, in collaboration with special procedures mandate holders and United Nations organs and agencies and national institutions. The procedures are aimed at assisting national authorities in efforts to increase human rights protections, including in regard to the administration of justice.
- 4. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Treaties and Commission Branch has established a Follow-up Unit, tasked with assisting treaty bodies with the implementation of recently adopted procedures for following up on concluding observations. This Unit reviews and analyses submissions relating to follow up on concluding observations received from States parties. The Unit also advises special rapporteurs on follow-up to concluding observations of the relevant treaty bodies. Special rapporteurs in turn report on their follow-up activities to the plenary committee. The Human Rights Committee

now provides a detailed report of its follow-up activities in relation to concluding observations. Since the inception of this follow-up procedure, 19 out of 21 States parties to which this procedure has been applied have provided follow up information.

- 5. In parallel, several treaty bodies implement a procedure for following up on final decisions adopted under their optional complaints procedure. The results under this procedure have been positive, in that a considerable number of cases State parties have granted remedies to the victims concerned, e.g., through release from detention, award of compensation and amendments to legislation.
- 6. The secretariat will continue to assist treaty bodies in establishing follow-up procedures for the implementation of their decisions within its programme to strengthen support to human rights bodies and organs from 2003 to 2005.

2. Special procedures

- 7. The reports, urgent appeals and field missions of the working groups, special rapporteurs and representatives and independent experts of the Commission on Human Rights alert the international community to serious human rights violations, including failures and deficiencies in the administration of justice. The observations, conclusions and recommendations contained in their reports point out structural problems within the human rights area, including the areas of the administration of justice and the judiciary.
- 8. In this regard, the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers noted with concern the existence of judicial corruption in some States. In response the Special Rapporteur endorsed, in association with the Judicial Group on Strengthening Judicial Integrity, a draft code of judicial conduct, referred to as the Draft Bangalore Code. Following a series of consultations with national Chief Justices held in The Hague in November 2002, the Draft Bangalore Code was revised and renamed the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct. They were noted at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission (see resolution 2003/39 and E/CN.4/2003/65) and the principles were brought to the attention of Member States, relevant United Nation organs and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their consideration.

B. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

- 9. OHCHR has been engaged in developing expertise and methodological tools to address different aspects of the administration of justice in particular with regard to post-conflict situations.
- 10. OHCHR has been supporting educational projects aimed at promoting human rights among professionals responsible for the administration of justice within its Technical Cooperation Programme in the Field of Human Rights. Those projects have addressed police, prison officials, as well as judges, prosecutors and lawyers, in all continents.
- 11. In the framework of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004), and in partnership with professional associations as well as experts and practitioners, the Office has also increased its efforts towards the production of relevant

methodological tools. In particular, OHCHR has developed the following materials: "Human Rights and Law Enforcement", a package for the human rights training of the police comprising a manual, a trainer's guide and a pocketbook of summarized relevant human rights standards; and "Human Rights in the Administration of Justice", a package aimed at introducing international human rights law and the relevant jurisprudence of universal and regional bodies and national courts to judges, prosecutors and lawyers. The package has been developed in cooperation with the International Bar Association; "Human Rights and Prisons", a package for the human rights training of prison officials, is comprised of a manual, a trainer's guide, a pocketbook of summarized relevant human rights standards and a compilation of related international instruments. Penal Reform International and the International Centre for Prison Studies have assisted OHCHR in its development.

- 12. OHCHR has also developed partnerships with various actors involved in developing post-conflict justice mechanisms. In September 2003, OHCHR and the Stockholm-based International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) brought together experts to explore ways of achieving justice and reconciliation in war-torn countries. The session, entitled, "From divided past to shared future: reconciliation in post-conflict societies", identified current trends, recent experiences and challenges for national and international initiatives aiming at truth, justice and reconciliation, particularly in post-conflict societies. In June 2003, OHCHR, in cooperation with the United States Institute for Peace and the Irish Centre for Human Rights, facilitated a three-day conference on the drafting of model criminal codes. The project stems from a recommendation in a report to the Secretary-General prepared in 2000, on the reform of United Nations peacekeeping operations. In partnership with the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), OHCHR is providing technical assistance to field presences and peacekeeping operations on approaches to transitional justice mechanisms. With the support of the European Union, OHCHR has launched a transitional justice project, entitled, "Rightssensitive transitional justice in post-conflict and post-crisis countries project". This two-year undertaking is intended to produce an operational manual identifying relevant rule of law tools for legal actors involved in criminal justice reform.
- 13. In the context of the report on terrorism and human rights submitted to the sixtieth session of the Commission (E/CN.4/2004/91), in September 2003 OHCHR published the *Digest of Jurisprudence of the United Nations and Regional Organizations on the Protection of Human Rights while Countering Terrorism*, bringing together relevant excerpts from the jurisprudence of United Nations human rights bodies and others of Europe, Africa and the Americas. The Office has distributed the digest widely and will update it periodically.
- 14. In the context of impunity, pursuant to Commission resolution 2003/72, the Secretary-General commissioned an independent study "on best practices, including recommendations, to assist States in strengthening their domestic capacity to combat all aspects of impunity, taking into account" the Set of principles for the protection and promotion of human rights through action to combat impunity, produced by the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. The study is before the sixtieth session of the Commission (E/CN.4/2004/88). This study also benefited from an expert workshop on best practices to combat impunity organized by OHCHR in December 2003. The workshop was convened to facilitate an exchange of views between the expert engaged to prepare the study and experts

drawn from the various geographical regions. Participants also included representatives of the OHCHR, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

- 15. With regard to the right to a remedy and reparation, pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/34, OHCHR convened, with the cooperation of the Government of Chile, the second consultative meeting for all interested member States, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), with a view to finalizing the "Basic principles and guidelines on the right to a remedy and reparation for victims of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law" (hereinafter "Principles and Guidelines") and, if appropriate, to consider options for the adoption of these principles and guidelines. The report of the Chairperson-Rapporteur on the second consultative meeting is before the sixtieth session of CHR (see E/CN.4/2004/57).
- 16. Support for the administration of justice is one of the main areas of assistance provided by OHCHR, through its technical cooperation programme. Under the programme, technical advice and assistance, including training in the application of the relevant international human rights standards, is provided to a wide range of national partners active in the administration of justice. These include the judiciary, law enforcement, corrections officials, public prosecutors, legal aid programmes, law societies and bar associations, university law faculties, paralegal programmes, and relevant NGOs and other civil society organizations. OHCHR field offices, when they are present, assist in designing and delivering a targeted programme of assistance to local partners involved in the justice system. In an increasing number of cases, OHCHR works closely with other United Nations agencies, programmes and departments supporting Governments in the administration of justice. The following are examples of recent and current assistance provided by OHCHR in various regions, with an emphasis on post-conflict situations.
- 17. A high-level international symposium on "The role of judges in the promotion and protection of human rights - strengthening interagency cooperation", was held in Vienna on 24 November 2003 at the initiative of the Foreign Minister of Austria and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The meeting marked the tenth anniversary of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. Experts, representatives of United Nations agencies and programmes, regional intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations took part in the meeting. The meeting adopted a Vienna Declaration on the Role of Judges in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms that stresses that this role of judges "is pivotal in the process of enabling people to assert their rights and in enforcing their claims to those rights". It also recommends specific action to strengthen the impact of judges in this area, to be taken by States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The Declaration makes special reference to conflict and post-conflict situations. It has been brought to the attention of the General Assembly.

1. Europe

18. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, OHCHR trained Federation and Republika Srpska defence attorneys on the new criminal procedure code, and participated in the working groups on the draft law on minor offences, on national prosecution of war crimes and on juvenile justice.

OHCHR also provided technical assistance to the Office of the High Representative's Rule of Law Unit on their draft criminal law programme and the issue of witness protection. In Macedonia, OHCHR provided support for the advisory board of the newly established NGO coalition, All for Fair Trials. The coalition was founded by representatives of 18 national NGOs with the aim to observe the implementation of fair trial standards and to collect impartial information on the functioning of the judicial system for the purpose of raising public confidence and proposing long-term reform in the criminal justice system. In Croatia, the OHCHR office, in cooperation with national partners, implemented a number of training seminars in support of the administration of justice. These included training courses for police on human rights standards, with a focus on criminal investigations and training courses for judges, lawyers and prosecutors, particularly in the realm of protection of women's rights.

Activities of the OHCHR Field Office in Serbia and Montenegro (including Kosovo) 19. have included participation in working groups and workshops on rule of law reform strategies and programmes. In cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), OHCHR monitored new legislation and practice during the state of emergency in Serbia, which was in effect for six weeks following the assassination of the Serbian Prime Minister in March 2003. Representatives of the office visited detainees, who were held without judicial supervision according to special powers given to the police and prosecutors under emergency decrees and other legislation, which remained in effect after the end of the state of emergency. OHCHR also made specific recommendations to the relevant authorities relating to human rights violations, including torture, conditions of detention which may have amounted to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and extensive periods of detention without judicial supervision, which continued after the ending of the state of emergency. Furthermore, OHCHR monitored the progress of investigations relating to serious human rights violations, including investigations into the mass graves with bodies from Kosovo, which were discovered in Serbia in 2001. In October, the Office published a report highlighting the problems causing slow progress in the investigations with recommendations as to how they should be addressed. In Montenegro, in cooperation with OSCE and the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, OHCHR intervened with the Government on the prosecution of a high-profile trafficking case. At the end of the year, a report by experts of OSCE found serious shortcomings in the procedure and recommended a reopening of the case.

2. Latin America

- 20. In Peru, OHCHR continued its support to the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, through the provision of technical and financial support. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is entering into its final stage and is therefore starting to prepare post-commission mechanisms in order to secure the efficient and effective implementation of its recommendations.
- 21. The office in Colombia of the High Commissioner for Human Rights continued to provide technical cooperation and training activities in order to contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of the national institutions involved with human rights, stressing the need to implement international human rights norms in this field. The Office of the Ombudsman, the

Office of the Attorney-General, members of Congress and municipal representatives, were the main recipients of such training. In November 2003, the office in Colombia signed a letter of understanding with the Office of the Attorney-General aimed at carrying out a project for institutional strengthening.

3. Africa

- 22. The administration of justice is the focus of much of the work being carried out by OHCHR field presences in Africa, as well as by the human rights presences organized by either the Department of Peacekeeping Operations or the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat.
- 23. In Angola, for example, the Minister of Justice has formally approved and requested the start of the implementation of the Municipal Justice Project, a joint project between the Ministry of Justice, UNDP and the United Nations human rights office. The project aims to provide better oversight of pre-trial detention periods, as well as to promote access to court information through modernization of the information management system of the Supreme Court, the Prosecutor General's Office, Luanda's Provincial Court, the prison service, as well as the Ministry of Justice. In Burundi, OHCHR continued to monitor the legality of detention in both prisons and police stations. Technical expertise was also provided to local law enforcement on adequacy of criminal investigations.
- 24. In Sierra Leone, OHCHR continued its support to the operations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). It completed the hearings phase in July 2003, and, with the assistance of OHCHR, will complete its report and recommendations in March 2004. The United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) Human Rights Section sponsored a two-day workshop to coordinate actors in the justice sector, and supported the implementation of prison reform. UNAMSIL, with the assistance of OHCHR, sponsored the Lawyers Centre for Legal Assistance to pilot a programme on free legal services to the poor. UNAMSIL has also convened two conferences on the rule of law in Sierra Leone.
- 25. Additionally, there are OHCHR technical cooperation projects in several other African countries, most of which contain a focus on the administration of justice. In Sudan, OHCHR has provided in-depth training on the administration of justice and law enforcement. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, OHCHR has initiated a number of training and advocacy activities, including the sensitization of military magistrates on "Military justice and protection of human rights". This campaign, from 30 September to 1 October 2003, involved 125 military magistrates. OHCHR also funded the reprinting of the Military Criminal Code and the Military Justice Code, as well as international instruments relating to human rights which were distributed to army officers. OHCHR also provided support to the Permanent Commission for the Reform of the Congolese Law, with particular regard to drafting laws meant to harmonize national law with the Statute of the International Criminal Court.

4. Asia

26. The Cambodia Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (COHCHR) carries out many activities relating to the administration of justice. Under its programme of support to the law-making process, for example, COHCHR continued to contribute to the legislative

process and criminal justice issues, through providing comments on draft laws, facilitating discussion amongst interested parties on legal policy issues, providing advice on legal issues with a particular focus on criminal justice process and procedure, as well as monitoring trials of concern in the court system. The agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Cambodia concerning the prosecution under the Cambodian law of crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea was signed in Phnom Penh on 6 June 2003.

- 27. The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) human rights focal points in the regions continue to monitor justice related issues, such as arbitrary detention and harassment of civilians by the military and police. OHCHR has provided a technical adviser to the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission so as to strengthen its infrastructure and develop priority areas such as monitoring the judicial process. The Government of Italy, with the support of UNAMA and UNDP, continues as the focal point for criminal justice reform activities, providing technical assistance to the interim administration and its entities, such as the Judicial Reform Commission.
- 28. In Timor-Leste, the human rights unit of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET) has contributed to the development of draft legislation such as legislation on domestic violence, the creation of the Office of the Provedor and draft immigration laws such as the Nationality Law and the Immigration and Asylum Law. The human rights unit has also been involved in the development of subsidiary forms of legislation, in particular the development of "standard operating procedures" for police and other actors in the field of law enforcement, including standard operating procedures in key areas such as arrest, detention, use of force and treatment of vulnerable persons.

C. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

- 29. In 2003, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) brokered a new landmark convention, namely the elaboration and the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which calls for preventive measures and the criminalization of the most prevalent forms of corruption in both the public and private sectors. It requires States parties to return assets obtained through corruption. There is a close relationship between institutional failure in the justice sector and the extent of organized crime in many countries. Where law enforcement, the administration of justice and financial systems are weak, criminal groups committing serious crimes are more prevalent. Good governance and the rule of law are prerequisites for prosperity and social justice. UNODC's work therefore directly contributes to the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration relating to strengthening the rule of law and respect for internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development.
- 30. The demand for technical assistance projects in the field of criminal justice reform has been steadily increasing since 2002. In its projects, UNODC provides advice on: (a) drafting and revising relevant legislation; (b) establishing and strengthening specialized departments/ units; and (c) the collection and analysis of data. In addition, UNODC: (a) trains relevant crime prevention and criminal justice actors; (b) strengthens cooperation between national authorities and NGOs, civil society and other relevant agencies; and (c) assists with the reconstruction and refurbishing of infrastructure and the provision of equipment. It is noteworthy that the Office has developed a comprehensive programme for criminal justice reconstruction in Afghanistan,

including criminal law reform and capacity-building for key criminal justice actors, in particular the Ministry of Justice and the Judiciary. The Office continued its efforts to promote the role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including organizing and conducting two training courses in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross in October 2002 and in June 2003. A Meeting of Experts on the Application of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was held in Austria in February 2003 to propose recommendations on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/15 on the subject. Together with OHCHR, UNODC was involved in the organization of the symposium on "The role of judges in the promotion and protection of human rights - strengthening inter-agency cooperation" in November 2003 (see paragraph 17 for recommendations).

D. United Nations Development Programme

- 31. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through its Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR), has created a security sector reform and transitional justice team to provide technical support and assistance to its regional bureaux and country offices. BCPR is actively engaged in judicial reform initiatives throughout the world. For example, in Sierra Leone, and in cooperation with the International Center for Transitional Justice, UNDP initiated a review of the potential legacy possibilities that the Special Court in Sierra Leone will have on the domestic justice system. The report, entitled, "The legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone", identified a number of projects that would form part of the court's strategic approach to its legacy. BCPR is also providing training assistance to judicial personnel, for example in Haiti and Kosovo.
- 32. In partnership with international NGOs, BCPR is examining and developing relevant justice-related tools. With ICTJ, UNDP co-hosted a conference on the Peruvian Reconciliation and Truth Commission. In relation to public officials, including judicial officials, BCPR is creating a vetting (approval for employment) tool, "Vetting of Civil Servants in the Justice and Security Sector".

II. CHILDREN AND JUVENILES IN DETENTION

A. Committee on the Rights of the Child

33. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was established in 1991 to monitor the progress made by States parties in implementing the rights in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Since 1993, the Committee has considered 218 initial and periodic reports of States parties to the Convention and has adopted concluding observations pursuant to their consideration, including specific recommendations relevant to the question of juvenile justice. In these concluding observations, the Committee has in a large majority of cases advised States parties to seek technical assistance in an effort to develop capacities to effectively implement the rights of the child. In particular, the Committee has suggested that States seek assistance in the area of juvenile justice from OHCHR, UNICEF, the United Nations Centre for International

Crime Prevention and the International Network on Juvenile Justice, through the United Nations Coordination Panel on Technical Advice and Assistance on Juvenile Justice. During its twenty-ninth to thirty-fifth sessions, held in Geneva between January 2002 and October 2003, the Committee examined 54 reports, many of which raised issues related to the administration of justice.

B. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

34. In September 2002, OHCHR organized in Geneva the 3rd meeting of the International Coordination Panel on Technical Assistance in Juvenile Justice. The meeting brought together participants from OHCHR, UNICEF, UNODC and non-governmental organizations. Discussions mainly focused on projects taking place in the Philippines, Yemen, Lebanon and Uganda. Participants also discussed work in the Russian Federation, Bangladesh, Guatemala, Benin, and South Africa. The next meeting of the panel is planned to take place during 2004 and will focus on best practices and common tools in the fields of juvenile justice.

C. UNICEF

- 35. Juvenile justice continues to be a growth area for UNICEF, with the majority of its country offices involved in juvenile-justice projects. UNICEF undertakes many projects on juvenile justice in cooperation with other organizations, including OHCHR, UNDP, the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP), WHO and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. UNICEF has produced informal guidelines for its country offices designed to give focus to UNICEF country projects, as well as ensure that country projects conform to a human rights framework.
- 36. To improve the availability of data on children's rights within juvenile-justice systems, UNICEF convened experts from July to November 2003 to identify a set of global indicators for juvenile justice. The indicators were developed by representatives from OHCHR, the World Organization against Torture, the University of Munich, the International Association of Family and Youth Judges and Magistrates, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Penal Reform International, the Child Justice Project of South Africa and UNICEF. The goal of this process has been to develop global indicators to support monitoring child rights abuses within justice systems and evaluating progress to create protective structures for children in conflict with the law. Set out below is a list of selected juvenile-justice initiatives supported by UNICEF in conflict and post-conflict States.

1. Europe

37. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNICEF supported two nationwide assessments of the situation of children in conflict with the law. In Kosovo, in collaboration with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), the Department of Justice and the Kosovo Police academy, UNICEF and NGO Terre des Hommes supported community service order programmes to promote alternatives to detention.

2. Latin America

38. In Colombia, staff participated in sessions of National Congress to review measures for the deprivation of liberty and to incorporate alternatives. In collaboration with the Partnership for Children and Adolescents Movement, UNICEF promoted a law to limit detention for protective custody or re-education reasons.

3. Africa

39. In Burundi, UNICEF reported on the situation of incarcerated minors in 11 prisons, while in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the agency advocated for protection codes for children in conflict with the law and trained civil servants in juvenile-justice procedures. In Sierra Leone, UNICEF supported the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in the creation of a child-friendly version of the TRC report. In Somalia, UNICEF conducted an extensive study of child-protection issues, and held juvenile-justice workshops with participants from the judiciary, local administration, police and civil society groups. There are future plans for collaboration with UNDP on further training of criminal justice personnel.

4. Asia

40. In Afghanistan, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, UNICEF led a joint assessment of the juvenile-justice system, created pilot programmes of alternatives to custody and rehabilitation, and undertook capacity-building programmes regarding juvenile-justice standards. In Timor-Leste, UNICEF drafted a memorandum of understanding with government authorities to provide assistance for drafting legislation on child protection and juvenile justice, train judiciary, ensure social reintegration of juveniles, and increase the number of children registered at birth. UNICEF Timor-Leste also developed a training module for juvenile justice, which has been shared and adapted by UNICEF in Somalia during capacity-building activities. In Iraq, UNICEF conducted a review of the juvenile-justice system and child rights capacity-building of police and social workers.

III. CONCLUSIONS

41. This report has identified significant practical measures for the implementation of international standards in the field of human rights in the administration of justice, with particular regard to rebuilding and strengthening structures and capacities for the administration of justice in post-conflict situations and juvenile justice. The creation of follow-up procedures to the recommendations of some treaty bodies will assist national authorities in efforts to increase human rights protection in the administration of justice. The report has also identified the development of expertise and methodological tools to address different aspects of the administration of justice, including human rights training manuals for judges, lawyers, police and corrections officials. United Nations agencies also continue to develop partnerships with relevant international organizations in developing strategies for post-conflict justice mechanisms. Extensive technical assistance initiatives continue to be undertaken by the United Nations agencies aimed at a wide range of national partners active in the administration of justice, including issues relevant to informal justice mechanisms and juvenile justice.
