

Sri Lanka

282. During the period under review, the Working Group transmitted to the Government of Sri Lanka 20 new cases of disappearance, 2 of which reportedly occurred in 2001; 1 case was sent under the urgent action procedure.

283. The 12,297 reported cases of disappearance are alleged to have occurred in the context of two major sources of conflict in that country: the confrontation of Tamil separatist militants and government forces in the north and north-east of the country, and the confrontation between the People's Liberation Front (JVP) and government forces in the south. Between 1987 and 1990, the disappearances occurred mostly in the Southern and Central Provinces of the country, during a period in which both security forces and JVP resorted to the use of extreme violence in the contest for State power. The cases reported to have occurred since 11 June 1990, the date of resumption of hostilities with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), have taken place primarily in the Eastern and North-Eastern Provinces of the country.

284. The newly reported cases include a group of nine farmers who were allegedly abducted by the armed forces from a rice field in Polannaruwa, seven persons who were reportedly abducted or detained from public places in various parts of the country, and two persons who disappeared from military camps in Vavuniya.

285. The Working Group undertook three field missions to Sri Lanka, in 1991, 1992 and 1999. Following its visits, the Working Group recommended to the Government of Sri Lanka that an independent body be established with the task of investigating all cases of disappearance which had occurred since 1995 and to speed up its efforts to bring the perpetrators of enforced disappearances to justice. The Working Group also recommended the setting up of a central register of detainees as provided for in article 10 (3) of the Declaration. It also pointed out that all families of disappeared persons should receive the same amount of compensation and that the procedure for issuing death certificates in cases of disappearances should be applied in an equal and non-discriminatory manner. The Working Group further noted that the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the Emergency Regulations have not been abolished or harmonized with internationally accepted standards of human rights, and recommended that the prohibition of enforced disappearance be included as a fundamental right in the Constitution of Sri Lanka.

286. The Government has, according to its records, so far provided information in respect of 11,673 outstanding cases, of which 4,063 were sent during the period under review. The majority of these cases are still under consideration by the Working Group and the sources. In respect of a number of cases, the Government replied that death certificates had been issued and/or compensation granted or was in the process of being granted. With regard to the remaining cases, the Government replied as follows: it was unable to trace the persons concerned because the addresses that had been provided were incorrect or unclear, or because the family had left the area; no such person had disappeared from the address provided; cases were pending in courts of law; family members had not requested or had declined death certificates or compensation; the persons were reported to be alive; the disappearance had not been reported to any government authority.

287. In the past, the Working Group clarified 572 cases, of which 533 were clarified on the basis of information provided by the Government and 39 on the basis of information provided by the source. During the period under review, the Working Group was able to clarify a total number of 4,390 cases on the basis of the information previously received from the Government, on which no objection was received from the source.

Observations

288. The Working Group wishes to express its appreciation to the Government of Sri Lanka for the amount of information that it is providing and for its efforts to investigate and clarify the fate of the many thousands of persons who disappeared in the past. This has led to the clarification this year of more than 4,000 cases, which is the highest number of clarifications ever achieved by the Working Group, and was made possible only by the concerted efforts of the Government, the families and non-governmental organizations, with the assistance of the Working Group. The Working Group wishes to express its hope that this process will continue and lead to many more cases being clarified.

289. However, in view of the fact that new cases continue to be reported, it is necessary to stress the urgency of taking, in accordance with article 3 of the Declaration, effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent and terminate acts of enforced disappearance.

290. The Group wishes to remind the Government of its obligations under article 10 of the Declaration to hold persons deprived of liberty only in officially recognized places of detention, to bring them promptly before a judicial authority and to make available promptly accurate information on the detention of such persons to their family members, their legal counsel, or to any other persons having a particular interest.

Sudan

291. During the period under review, the Working Group transmitted one new case of disappearance to the Government of the Sudan, which occurred in 2001 and was sent under the urgent action procedure.

292. The majority of the 267 reported cases of disappearance concern 249 villagers who were allegedly abducted from the village of Toror in the Nuba Mountains in 1995 by the armed forces of the Government of the Sudan. It is suspected that the villagers were taken to a Government-controlled "peace camp".

293. The newly reported case concerns a member of the Sudanese Communist Party, who was allegedly arrested at his home in Khartoum by security forces and taken away to an unknown destination. He had reportedly been arrested four times previously and had spent a total of over two years in prison.

294. During the period under review, the Working Group met with representatives of the Government of the Sudan, including a representative of the Ministry of Interior Affairs and member of the Advisory Council of Human Rights, as well as representatives of the Ministry of

Annex II

Decisions on individual cases taken by the Working Group during 2001

Countries	Cases which allegedly occurred in 2001	Cases transmitted to the Government during 2001		Clarifications by:		Discontinued cases
		Urgent actions	Normal actions	Government	Non-governmental sources	
Algeria	-	-	46	-	-	-
Angola	-	-	-	3	-	-
Burundi	1	1	-	-	1	-
Cameroon	9	9	-	1	-	-
China	4	4	8	-	-	-
Colombia	12	12	-	-	-	-
Denmark	1	1	-	-	1	-
Ecuador	1	1	-	-	-	-
Honduras	-	-	3	-	-	-
India	1	-	17	1	-	-
Indonesia	-	-	-	2	-	-
Jordan	-	-	1	-	-	-
Lao People's Democratic Republic	-	-	5	-	-	-
Lebanon	-	-	6	-	-	-
Mexico	2	2	-	3	1	-
Morocco	-	-	2	-	-	-
Nepal	4	16	41	-	16	-
Pakistan	3	3	-	-	-	-
Philippines	4	2	2	-	-	-
Russian Federation	1	1	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	-	-	1	-	-	-
Sri Lanka	2	1	19	4 390	-	-
Sudan	1	1	-	-	-	-
Thailand	-	-	32	-	-	-
Turkey	3	3	-	-	-	-
Uzbekistan	-	-	1	-	-	-
Palestinian Authority	1	1	1	-	-	-

Annex III

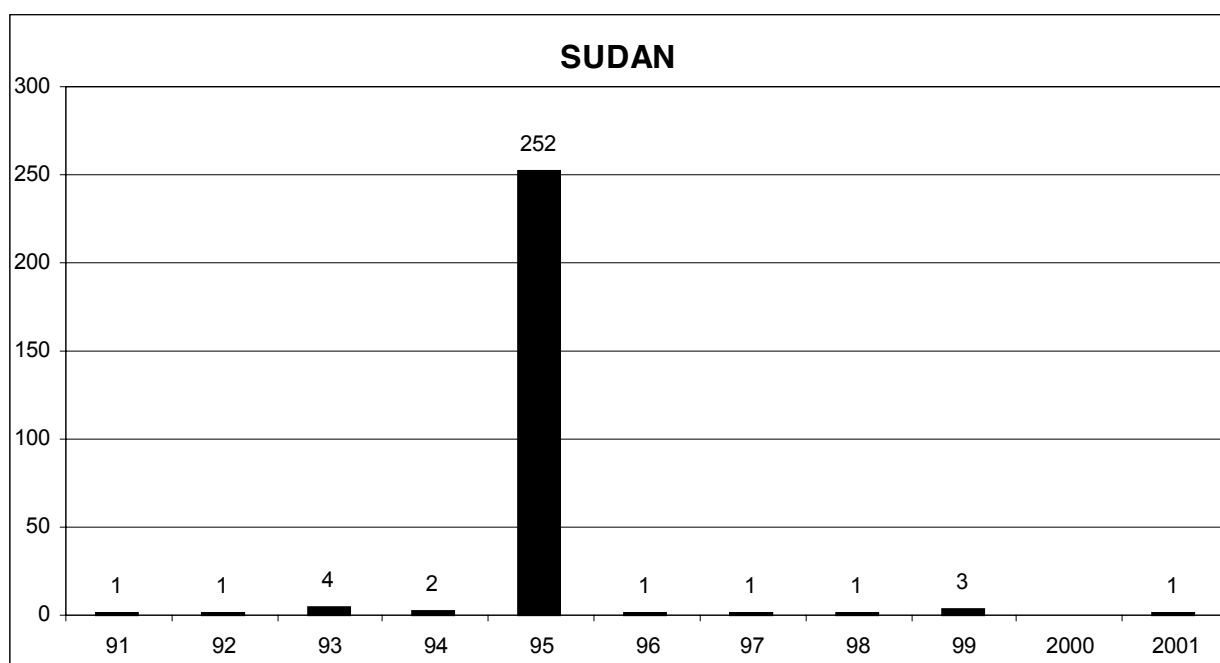
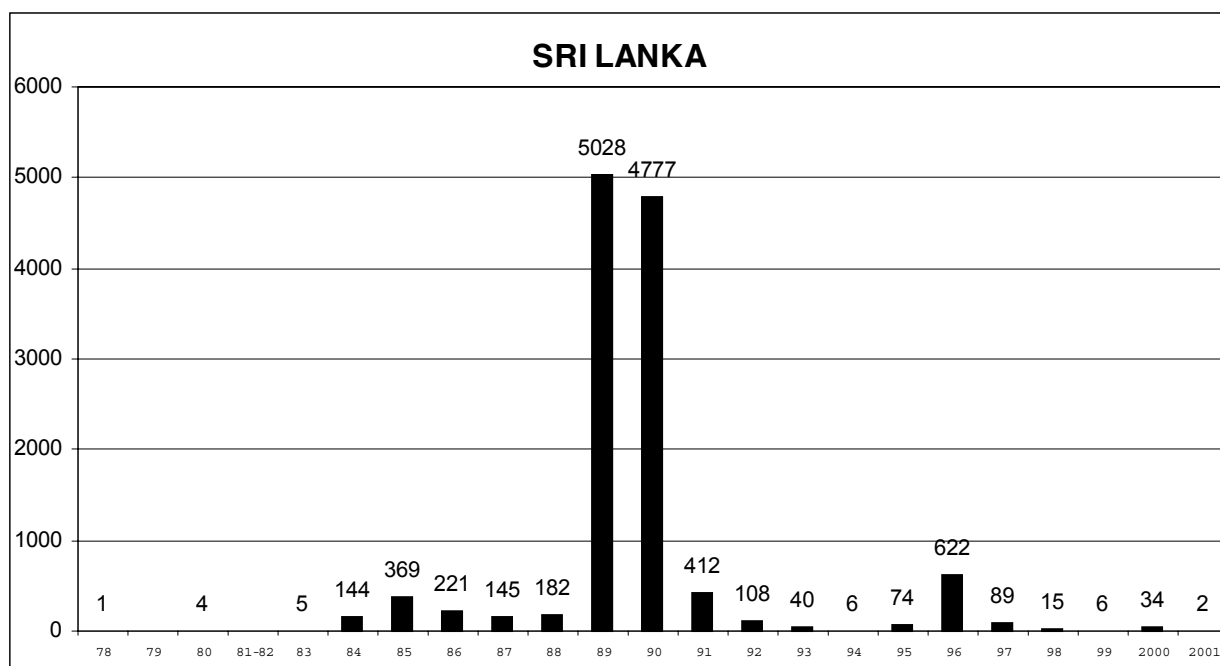
Statistical summary: Cases of enforced or involuntary disappearance reported to the Working Group between 1980 and 2001

Countries/ entities	Cases transmitted to the Government				Clarification by:		Status of person at date of clarification			Discontinued cases
	Total		Outstanding		Government	Non- governmental sources	At liberty	In detention	Dead	
	No. of cases	Female	No. of cases	Female						
Afghanistan	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Algeria	1 133	16	1 120	14	7	6	5	1	7	-
Angola	7	1	1	-	6	-	-	-	6	-
Argentina	3 455	772	3 377	749	43	35	49		29	-
Bangladesh	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bahrain	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Belarus	3	-	3		-	-	-	-	-	-
Bolivia	48	3	28	3	19	1	19	-	1	-
Brazil	60	4	8	-	48	4	4	-	48	-
Bulgaria	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	-
Burkina Faso	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Burundi	53	-	52	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Cambodia	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroon	18	-	17	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Chad	13	-	12	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Chile ^a	912	67	844	67	45	23	2	-	66	-
China	106	7	41	4	56	9	42	22	1	-
Colombia ^b	1 114	95	856	77	198	60	156	24	78	-
Congo	31	1	31	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Democratic Republic of the Congo	51	11	42	11	6	3	9	-	-	-
Denmark	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Dominican Republic	4		2		2	-	2	-	-	-
Ecuador	23	2	8	-	11	4	6	4	5	-
Egypt	20		12		7	1	1	7		-

Countries/ entities	Cases transmitted to the Government				Clarification by:		Status of person at date of clarification			Discontinued cases
	Total		Outstanding		Government	Non- governmental sources	At liberty	In detention	Dead	
	No. of cases	Female	No. of cases	Female						
Nicaragua	234	4	103	2	112	19	45	11	75	-
Nigeria	6	-	1	1	5	-	5	-	-	-
Pakistan	83	2	78	2	1	4	4	1	-	-
Paraguay	23	-	3	-	20	-	19	-	1	-
Peru	3 006	311	2 368	236	253	385	450	85	103	-
Philippines	662	80	505	60	124	33	109	19	29	-
Romania	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Russian Federation	212	11	211	11	-	1	1	-	-	-
Rwanda	21	2	19	2	-	2	1	1	-	-
Saudi Arabia	3	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Seychelles	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Africa	11	1	-	-	3	2	1	1	3	6
Sri Lanka	12 297	148	7 335	135	4 923	39	97	24	4 841	-
Sudan	267	35	262	35	2	3	5	-	-	-
Syrian Arab Rep.	35	3	8	3	13	14	18	5	4	-
Tajikistan	8	-	6	-	-	2	1	-	1	-
Thailand	34	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Togo	11	2	10	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
Tunisia	15	1	-	1	11	4	-	15	-	-
Turkey	180	11	96	4	36	48	51	20	13	-
Turkmenistan	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-
Uganda	61	34	54	32	2	5	2	5	-	-
Ukraine	4	2	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Arab Emirates	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
United Rep. of Tanzania	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-
Uruguay	31	7	23	4	7	1	4	4	-	-
Uzbekistan	12	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Venezuela	14	2	10	1	4	-	1	-	3	-
Yemen	150	-	149	-	-	1	1	-	-	-

Annex IV

**GRAPHS SHOWING THE DEVELOPMENT OF DISAPPEARANCES
IN COUNTRIES WITH MORE THAN 100 TRANSMITTED CASES
DURING THE PERIOD 1971-2001**



Note: These graphs provide an illustration of the trend in disappearances reported to the Working Group during the period 1971-2001.