

Republic of Korea. In accordance with its methods of work, copies of the cases were sent to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. (See also section on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, paragraphs 84-85.)

Sri Lanka

248. During the period under review, no new cases of disappearance were transmitted by the Working Group to the Government of Sri Lanka.

249. The 12,297 cases of disappearance reported to the Working Group are alleged to have occurred in the context of two major sources of conflict in that country: the confrontation between Tamil militants and government forces in the north and north-east of the country, and that between the People's Liberation Front (JVP) and government forces in the south. Between 1987 and 1990, the disappearances occurred mainly in the southern and central provinces and coincided with extreme violence on the part of both security forces and JVP. 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 been confined primarily to the eastern and north-eastern provinces of the country.

250. The Working Group undertook three field missions to Sri Lanka, in 1991, 1992 and 1999. The recommendation to the Government was that an independent body be established with the task of investigating all cases of disappearance which had occurred since 1995 and to accelerate 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.

251. According to its records, the Government has so far provided information in respect of a total of 11,881 outstanding cases, including information relating to 208 cases provided during the period under review. Most of these replies are still under consideration by the Working Group.

252. During the period under review, the Working Group considered information provided by the Government in relation to 3,341 outstanding cases. In respect of 1,234 cases, death certificates had been issued and/or compensation granted or was in the process of being granted in a number of cases. The Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule to these cases. With regard to 2,107 other cases, the Government reported that it had not been possible to establish the whereabouts of the persons concerned inasmuch as the addresses provided were incorrect or unclear or because the family had left the area; no person by the name 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 or the disappearance had not been reported to a government authority.

253. In the past, the Working Group clarified 4,962 cases, of which 4,923 were clarified on the basis of information provided by the Government and 39 on the basis of information provided by the source. At the current stage of the processing exercise, however, it must be borne in mind that the statistical figures indicated in the present section as well as in the statistical tables annexed to the present report in respect of the number of cases reported to the Working Group, cases that have been clarified and those still outstanding, reflect only an estimate and are, as such, subject to change.

Observations

254. The Working Group wishes to express its appreciation to the Government of Sri Lanka for the amount of information that it has provided and for its efforts to investigate and clarify the fate of the many thousands of persons who disappeared in the past.

255. 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

256. During the period under review, no new cases were transmitted by the Working Group to the Government of the Sudan. During the same period, the Working Group clarified 198 cases on the basis of information provided by the Government on which no observations were received from the source; in respect of all these cases, details on their current whereabouts were provided, together with the names and addresses of persons through whom the persons concerned could be reached.

257. 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, and taken to a government-controlled "peace camp". One case concerns a member of the Communist Party of Sudan who was allegedly arrested by the security forces in Khartoum; he had reportedly been arrested four times previously and had spent a total of over two years in prison.

258. Of the 203 cases clarified by the Working Group, 200 were clarified on the basis of information provided by the Government and 3 on the basis of information provided by the source. During the period under review, the secretariat of the Working Group was unable to send out reminders, in accordance with its methods of work, in respect of the 64 outstanding cases. The Working Group is unable to report on the fate and whereabouts of the persons concerned.

Observations

259. The Working Group reminds the Government of its obligation, under article 13 of the Declaration, to conduct impartial and effective investigations into alleged cases of disappearance

Annex II

Statistical summary:

Cases of enforced or involuntary disappearance reported to the Working Group between 1980 and 2002

[illegible]

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 detentio n	Dead	
	No. of cases	Female	No. of cases	Female						
Saudi Arabia	3	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Seychelles	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Africa	11	1	-	-	3	2	1	1	3	6
Spain	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sri Lanka ¹¹	12 297	148	7 335	135	4 923	39	97	24	4 841	-
Sudan ¹²	267	35	64	4	200	3	203	-	-	-
Syrian Arab Republic ¹³	36	3	12	3	11	13	16	4	4	-
Tajikistan	8	-	6	-	-	2	1	-	1	-
Thailand	34	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Timor-Leste ¹⁴	454	36	378	28	58	18	51	23	2	-
Togo	11	2	10	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
Tunisia	16	1	1	-	11	4	-	15	-	-
Turkey	181	11	96	4	37	48	51	21	13	-
Turkmenistan	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-
Uganda	61	34	54	32	2	5	2	5	-	-
Ukraine	4	2	3	2	1	-	-	-	1	-
United Arab Emirates	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
United Kingdom	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Republic of Tanzania	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-
United States of America	1	0	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uruguay	31	7	23	4	7	1	4	4	-	-

⁸ The Working Group removed eight multiple entries of cases from its database; three other cases that were not reflected in last year's report have been included in the present statistical table. The Working Group is currently reviewing the exact figure in relation to cases transmitted to the Government in the past with a view to ensuring their accuracy.

⁹ The figures are being reviewed for accuracy.

¹⁰ The figures are being reviewed for accuracy.

¹¹ The figures are being reviewed for accuracy.

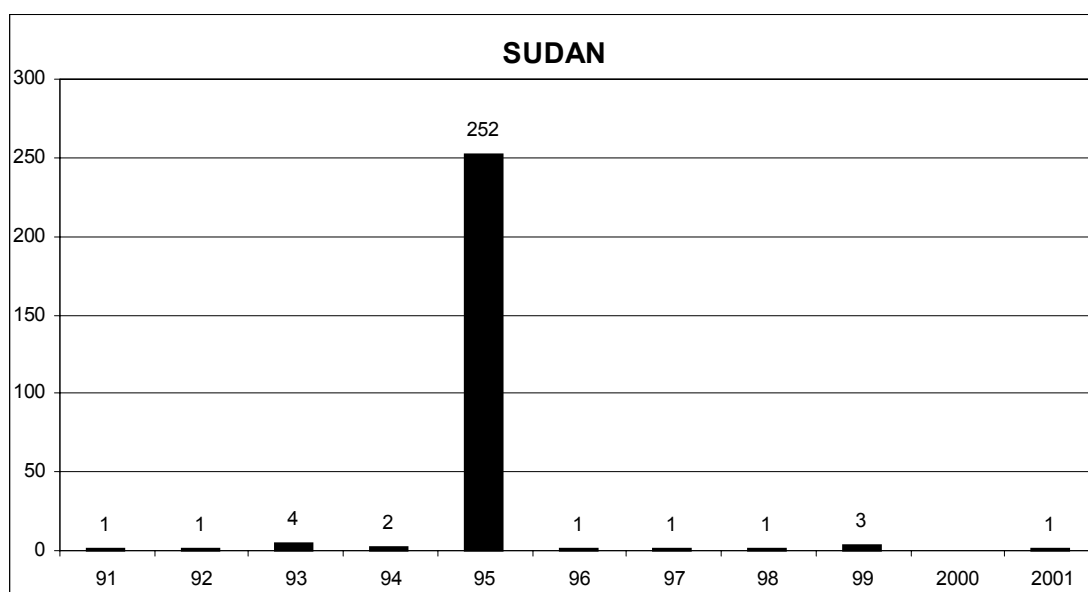
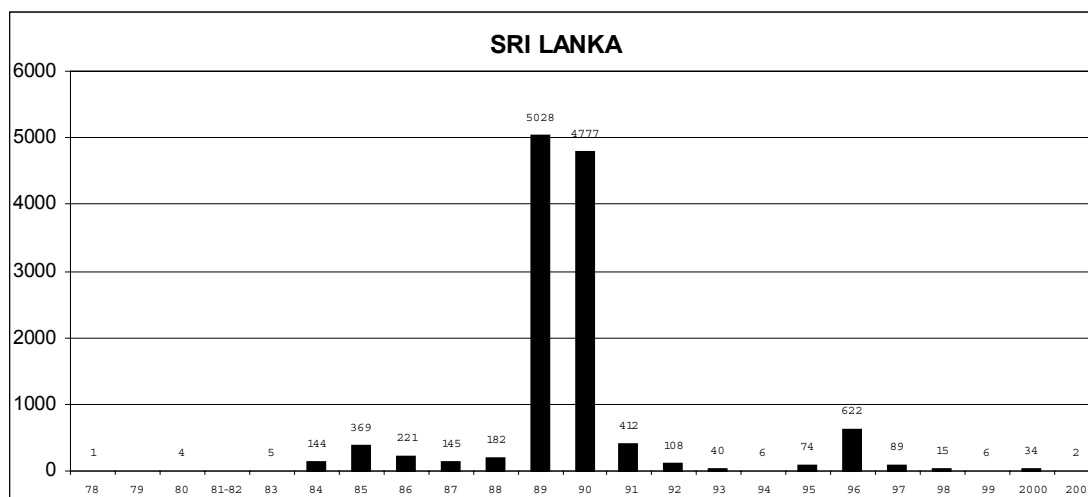
¹² The figures are being reviewed for accuracy.

¹³ The figures are being reviewed for accuracy.

¹⁴ The figures are being reviewed for accuracy.

Annex III

Graphs showing the development of disappearances in countries with more than 100 transmitted cases during the period 1973-2002



Note: These graphs provide an illustration of the trend in disappearances reported to the Working Group during 1971-2002.