

### Russian Federation

90. Eighteen newly reported cases of disappearance were transmitted to the Government. Two cases were transmitted under the urgent action procedure. One case concerns a journalist who was detained in Chechnya in January 2000 by Russian soldiers. This case was subsequently clarified on the basis of information received from the source according to which the person had been released. Another case concerns the Speaker of the Chechen Parliament of the Russian Federation who disappeared in September 2000. The Government subsequently informed the Working Group that a number of investigative actions and police inquiries were being undertaken to determine who organized and carried out the abduction and ascertain the person's whereabouts. The other cases occurred in January and March 2000 and concerned persons who were detained at a Russian army checkpoint located between Chiri-Yurt and Duba-Yurt villages in Chechnya. Soldiers of the 245th armoured infantry regiment were said to be responsible. Three of the victims were detained at the checkpoint while they were evacuating wounded women and children in a car. The car was later found abandoned in a field.

91. Particular concern was expressed by two non-governmental organizations regarding the existence of internment or "filtration" camps located in Grozny, Pyatigorsk, Georgievsk, Mozdok and Chernokozovo. It was alleged that people detained in such camps have no access to their relatives, medical doctors or lawyers and are especially at risk of enforced disappearance, ill-treatment and torture.

92. It was reported that people crossing between Chechnya and Ingushetia were subjected to control at the Russian military checkpoints in order to check their identity documents against computer records of suspected members of Chechen armed groups. Women and men are separated and their identity documents checked by soldiers. A number of men were detained following such checks and taken to "filtration" camps. The whereabouts of many of those believed held in such camps were said to remain unknown.

### Rwanda

93. The Working Group transmitted five newly reported cases of disappearance to the Government, four of which reportedly occurred in July and August 1994 in Kigali. In spite of the intervention of the Ministry of Justice, the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Prefect of Kigali, the whereabouts of these persons remain unknown. Another case reportedly occurred in April 2000 and was sent under the urgent action procedure. It concerns a citizen of the Democratic Republic of the Congo who was reportedly arrested at the border between Rwanda and Uganda. In accordance with its methods of work, the Working Group also transmitted to the Government of Rwanda two cases which occurred in February 2000 and which were also transmitted to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania (see para. 101).

### Sri Lanka

94. The Working Group visited Sri Lanka in October 1999. The purpose of its visit was twofold: to follow up on the recommendations made by the Working Group during its visits in 1991 and 1992 and to identify efforts taken to minimize and resolve the problem of enforced

or involuntary disappearance, as well as to follow up on new developments. During 2000 the Government provided information on 6,297 outstanding cases of enforced disappearance. The Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule to those cases.

95. The Working Group transmitted 49 newly reported cases to the Government, 15 of which occurred in 2000 and 34 between 1990 and 1999; 16 cases were sent under the urgent action procedure. During the same period, the Working Group clarified 479 cases on the basis of information provided by the Government. In 457 cases death certificates were issued and compensation was paid to the relatives. In addition, 16 other missing persons were released, 3 other persons were found in prison and 3 persons were found living at liberty. Another case was clarified on the basis of information received from the source stating that the person concerned was found in detention; he had been held in incommunicado detention since 22 June 2000 by members of the Security Coordinating Unit in Vavuniya, which previously had denied having him in custody. The information provided by the Government regarding 14 other cases was not considered sufficient to consider them clarified.

96. Three of the newly reported cases concerned the mother and two brothers of a member of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Elam (LTTE) who carried out a suicide bomb attack against an election rally at Jaela, near Colombo. The Government reported that, as ordered by the magistrate conducting the inquiries, they were flown to Colombo for a DNA test to identify the suicide bomber. After the DNA test, they had returned to their residence in Jaffna and were living at liberty. The source made no comments on the Government's reply during the six-month period and the cases were accordingly considered clarified. Other cases that occurred in 2000 took place in Batticaloa, Colombo, Sasthri Koolankulam, Trincomalee and Vavuniya. The victims were detained by the army, the navy, the Directorate of Military Intelligence, the Security Coordinating Unit and the People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), an armed Tamil group opposed to the LTTE, allegedly acting with the acquiescence of the security forces.

97. New cases of enforced or involuntary disappearance have taken place in a setting of intensified armed conflict between government troops and the LTTE. The Working Group was informed that there has been an increase in reports of enforced disappearance since new emergency regulations were introduced by the President of the Republic in May 2000. Under these new regulations, published on 3 May 2000 and promulgated under section 40 of the Public Security Ordinance, members of the army and police officers have the right to arrest any person engaged in activities considered to be a threat to national security, to seize printing presses and to take possession of planes, ships and vehicles and other assets from the public for national security purposes. It was pointed out that wider powers given to the security forces under the new regulations and the removal of several earlier safeguards against arbitrary arrest and detention may have contributed to the increase.

#### Sudan

98. No new cases were transmitted by the Working Group to the Government. The Working Group clarified one case on the basis of information previously provided by the Government on which no objections were received from the source. The Government reported that the person concerned had been released. She had been arrested on suspicion of passing classified information to foreign agents.

Annex I

STATISTICAL SUMMARY: CASES OF ENFORCED OR  
INVOLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCES REPORTED TO  
THE WORKING GROUP BETWEEN 1980 AND 2000

Country	Total	Clarified	Outstanding
Afghanistan	2	0	2
Algeria <sup>a</sup>	1 087	13	1 074
Angola	7	3	4
Argentina	3 455	78	3 377
Bahrain	1	1	0
Bangladesh	1	0	1
Belarus	3	0	3
Bolivia	48	20	28
Brazil	60	52	8
Bulgaria	3	3	0
Burkina Faso	3	0	3
Burundi	52	0	52
Cambodia	2	0	2
Cameroon	9	0	9
Chad	13	1	12
Chile	912	69	843
China	95	65	30
Colombia <sup>b</sup>	1 103	258	845
Congo	31	0	31
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	51	9	42
Dominican Republic	4	2	2
Ecuador	22	15	7
Egypt	20	8	12
El Salvador	2 661	391	2 270
Equatorial Guinea	3	0	3
Eritrea	34	0	34
Ethiopia	114	2	112
Gambia	1	1	0
Greece	3	0	3
Guatemala	3 151	169	2 982
Guinea	28	7	21
Haiti	48	10	38
Honduras	199	70	129
India	338	50	288
Indonesia	637	76	561
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	516	15	501
Iraq	16 514	130	16 384

Country	Total	Clarified	Outstanding
Israel	3	1	2
Jordan	1	0	1
Kazakhstan	2	2	0
Kuwait	1	0	1
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	1	0	1
Lebanon	306	8	298
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	4	1	3
Malaysia	2	1	1
Mauritania	1	0	1
Mexico <sup>c</sup>	363	133	214
Morocco	247	134	113
Mozambique	2	0	2
Myanmar	2	2	0
Namibia	1	0	1
Nepal	51	5	46
Nicaragua	234	131	103
Nigeria	6	5	1
Pakistan	80	5	75
Paraguay	23	20	3
Peru	3 006	638	2 368
Philippines	658	157	501
Romania	1	1	0
Russian Federation	211	1	210
Rwanda	21	2	19
Saudi Arabia	3	1	2
Seychelles	3	0	3
South Africa <sup>d</sup>	11	5	0
Sri Lanka	12 277	595	11 682
Sudan	266	5	261
Syrian Arab Republic	35	27	8
Tajikistan	8	2	6
Thailand	2	0	2
Togo	11	1	10
Tunisia	15	15	0
Turkey	177	84	93
Turkmenistan	2	2	0
Uganda	61	7	54
Ukraine	4	0	4
United Arab Emirates	1	1	0
United Republic of Tanzania	2	2	0

Annex II

DECISIONS ON INDIVIDUAL CASES TAKEN BY THE WORKING GROUP DURING 2000

Country	Cases which allegedly occurred in 2000	Cases transmitted to the Government during 2000		Clarifications by:		Discontinued cases
		Urgent actions	Normal actions	Government	Non-governmental sources	
Algeria	3	-	217	2	-	-
Argentina	2	2	-	-	-	-
Belarus	-	2	-	-	-	-
Burundi	-	-	1	-	-	-
Cameroon	-	-	3	-	-	-
Chad	-	1	-	-	-	-
Chile	-	-	-	4	-	-
China	-	-	-	2	-	-
Colombia	15	15	-	22	-	-
Congo	-	-	31	-	-	-
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	1	-	-	1	-
Ethiopia	-	-	1	-	-	-
India	21	-	27	3	-	-
Indonesia	29	29	8	-	-	-
Lebanon	-	-	18	-	-	-
Mexico	2	4	-	9	-	2
Morocco	1	1	2	-	-	-
Namibia	-	-	1	-	-	-
Nepal	3	5	30	1	1	-
Pakistan	1	1	-	-	-	-
Peru	2	2	-	-	2	-
Russian Federation	18	2	16	-	1	-
Rwanda	1	1	4	-	-	-
Sri Lanka	15	16	33	479	1	-