

General Assembly

Distr.: General
22 July 2015

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

106th session (6 – 15 May 2015)

I. Introduction

1. The present document reflects the communications and cases examined and other activities carried out by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances at its 106th session, in Geneva.

II. Communications

2. Between its 105th and 106th sessions, the Working Group transmitted 45 cases under its urgent action procedure to Bahrain (1), Bangladesh (1), Egypt (19), Honduras (1), Jordan (1), Pakistan (21) and Zimbabwe (1).

3. At its 106th session, the Working Group decided to transmit 62 newly reported cases of enforced disappearance to 11 States. The Working Group also clarified 25 cases, in Cuba (1), Egypt (4), Georgia (1), Guatemala (1), Pakistan (7), Saudi Arabia (2), Sri Lanka (6), the Syrian Arab Republic (1), Tajikistan (1) and Uruguay (1). Fifteen cases were clarified on the basis of information provided by the Governments and 10 on the basis of information provided by sources.

4. Between its 105th and 106th sessions, the Working Group, following its prompt intervention procedure, transmitted, jointly with other special procedures mechanisms, three communications, to Colombia (1), El Salvador (1) and Mexico (1). The Working Group also transmitted two other letters, to Morocco (1) and Spain (1).

5. At its 106th session, the Working Group reviewed one follow-up general allegation, concerning El Salvador.



III. Other activities

6. At its 106th session, the Working Group met with representatives from Asia-Pacific States, the President of the Human Rights Council, and staff from the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
7. The Working Group finalized its study on enforced or involuntary disappearances and economic, social and cultural rights and decided to conduct a new study on enforced disappearances in the context of migration.

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

Algeria

Standard procedure

8. The Working Group transmitted 11 cases to the Government, concerning:
 - (a) Mr. Rabah Hadjaz, allegedly arrested on 26 June 1995 by members of the gendarmerie in the town of Ain M'lila, Skikda;
 - (b) Mr. Fateh Touati, allegedly abducted on 1 July 1996 by agents of the gendarmerie in Ain Naadja, Oued El Karma, Wilaya of Algiers;
 - (c) Mr. Youcef Nouah, allegedly abducted on 17 October 1994 by officers from Mountain Bourouba;
 - (d) Mr. Abderrahmen Habhouh, allegedly abducted on 5 July 1994 by agents of the military security in Wilaya of Medea;
 - (e) Mr. Omar Nedjoun, allegedly abducted on 18 January 1996 by police officers from Cavignac;
 - (f) Mr. Khalfallah Nail, allegedly arrested in April 1996 by uniformed police from the town of El Feidh Botma;
 - (g) Mr. Seddik Kebbabi, reportedly arrested on 5 June 1995 by plain-clothed agents from the Department of Investigation and Security Services, at the cafeteria of Gerta;
 - (h) Mr. Abderrahmane Ghoul, allegedly arrested on 20 November 1995 by police officers at a taxi station in Barbessa Haouch Telly;
 - (i) Mr. Habib Khiati, allegedly abducted on 1 October 1997 by uniformed and masked members of the national security forces (*Sûreté nationale*) in the village of Ain Zergua Rabaihia, Wilaya of Saida;
 - (j) Mr. Mohamed El Heit, allegedly abducted on 12 October 1994 by police and military officers of the Bourouba;
 - (k) Mr. Hatem Rabah, allegedly arrested on 26 February 2011 by agents from the anti-terrorist brigade of Bouyahia, Beni Doula, Tizi-Ouzou.

Information from sources

9. Sources provided information on four outstanding cases. The information was considered to be insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Argentina**Duplication**

10. The Working Group decided to consider one case as a duplicate of an existing case. The duplicate was subsequently deleted from the Working Group's records.

Bahrain**Urgent action**

11. On 15 April 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted a case to the Government concerning Mr. Mohamed Sharaf, who was allegedly arrested on 2 April 2015 by security officers in the village of Al-Eker.

Bangladesh**Urgent action**

12. On 18 March 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government concerning Mr. Salah Uddin Ahmed, allegedly arrested on 10 March 2015 at his residence in Dhaka by a group of 20 plain-clothed men who identified themselves as police members of the Detectives Branch.

Standard procedure

13. The Working Group transmitted 10 cases to the Government, concerning:

(a) Mr. Md. Selim Reza Pintu, allegedly arrested in Dhaka on 11 December 2013 by three men in civilian clothes who identified themselves as government administrators;

(b) Mr. Md. Ashadsuzzaman Rana; Mr. Karim Jahidul, also known as Tanvir; Mr. Md. Mazharul Islam, also known as Rusel; Mr. Al-Amin Al-Amin; Mr. Islam Shajedul, also known as Sumon; and Mr. Mohammad Abdul Quder Bhuiyan, also known as Masum, allegedly abducted on 4 December 2013 by officers of the Rapid Action Battalion in the Bashundhara residential area of Dhaka;

(c) Mr. Md. Kawsar Hossain and Mr. A M Adnan Chowdhury, allegedly abducted on 5 December 2013 by officers of the Rapid Action Battalion in Dhaka;

(d) Mr. Mohammad Fakrul Islam, allegedly abducted on 11 May 2013 by officers of the Rapid Action Battalion in Dhaka;

China**Standard procedure**

14. The Working Group transmitted four cases to the Government, concerning:

(a) Ms. Kang Hye Yeong, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested on 18 March 2004 in Inner Mongolia, near the China-Mongolia border, by the Chinese police;

(b) Ms. Park Ryeon Ha, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested in September 2007 at the China-Mongolia border by Chinese soldiers;

(c) Mr. Song Yong-guk and Mr. Song Yong-su, nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested in October 2001 by the Chinese police from a boat in the Yellow Sea heading towards the Republic of Korea.

15. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a copy of the above four cases.

Information from the Government

16. On 30 March 2015, the Government replied to a joint urgent appeal dated 27 January 2015 regarding the alleged arbitrary arrest, incommunicado detention and disappearance of human rights defenders Messrs. Huang Kaiping, Xia Lin, He Zhengjun, Liu Jianshu and Ms. Kou Yanding, between October and November 2014. In its reply, the Government stated the following:

On 10 October 2014, Mr. Huang Kaiping was detained in accordance with criminal compulsory measures on suspicion of the crime of creating disturbances and stirring up trouble. On 28 January 2015, he was allowed bail and is now waiting for the trial with restricted liberty of movement; Mr. Kou Yanding was detained in accordance with criminal compulsory measures on suspicion of crime of creating disturbances and stirring up trouble. On 26 November 2014, Mr. He Zhengjun was detained in accordance with criminal compulsory measures on suspicion of engaging in unlawful business operations; on 3 January 2015, a warrant was issued for him by a people's procurator's office and he was arrested. On 9 November 2014, Mr. Xia Lin was detained in accordance with criminal compulsory measures on suspicion of committing the crime of gambling; on 3 January 2015, a warrant was issued for him by a people's procurator's office and he was arrested.

17. On 22 August 2013, the Government transmitted information concerning 27 outstanding cases. On the basis of the information, the Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule to one of the cases. The information provided on the other 26 cases was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Colombia

Prompt intervention letter

18. On 18 May 2015, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with another special procedures mechanism, a prompt intervention letter concerning the alleged intimidation and harassment of and death threats against Ms. Rocío Campos Perez, member of – the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes (MOVICE) (section Barrancabermeja) and of the Colectivo 16 de mayo, organizations of families of disappeared persons.

Observations

19. With regard to investigations into cases of enforced disappearances, the Working Group recalls article 13, paragraph 2 of the Declaration, which states- that “steps shall be

taken to ensure that all involved in the investigation, including the complainant, counsel, witnesses and those conducting the investigation, are protected against ill-treatment, intimidation or reprisal”.

Congo

Standard procedure

20. The Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Mr. Melvin Tchamba Ngassam, a citizen of Cameroon, who was allegedly abducted on 8 April 2011 by security agents and the Congolese Police in Pointe Noire. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case was sent to the Government of Cameroon.

Cuba

Clarification

21. On the basis of information provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify one outstanding case following the expiration of the period prescribed by the six-month rule. The individual is reportedly in detention (see A/HRC/WGEID/104/1, para. 49).

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Standard procedure

22. The Working Group transmitted two cases to the Government, concerning Ms. Shin Seong Sim and her husband, Mr. Kim Cheol Hun, both citizens of the Republic of Korea, allegedly abducted in April 2003 in Jilin Province, China, by personnel from the National Security Agency of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

23. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, the Government of China and the Government of the Republic of Korea received a copy of these cases.

Ecuador

Information from sources

24. A source provided information on one outstanding case.

Egypt

Urgent action

25. During the reporting period, the Working Group transmitted 19 cases to the Government under its urgent action procedure.

26. On 2 April, the Working Group transmitted six cases to the Government under its urgent action procedure, concerning:

- (a) A person below the age of 18, allegedly arrested on 22 March 2015 in Damanhur Province;

- (b) A person below the age of 18, allegedly arrested on 23 March 2015 by the police in his home in Danhur Province;
 - (c) Mr. Ahmed Reda Ibrahim Ibrahim Al Ghool, allegedly arrested on 1 January 2015 by plain-clothed officers of the State security police and members of the Special Forces in black uniform, in Kafr Al Zayat City, Gharbia Governate;
 - (d) Mr. Omar Mahmoud Mostafa Dahshan, allegedly arrested on 22 March 2015 by police officers in al Stad Street, Shebeen Al Qoom City, Monofiya Province;
 - (e) Mr. Galal Salah Ahmed Metwally, allegedly arrested on 20 February 2015 by the State security police on a train between Alexandria and Cairo;
 - (f) A person below the age of 18, allegedly arrested on 22 March 2015 by the State security police near the high bridge, al Shariah Street, Damanhur Province.
27. On 15 April 2015, the Working Group transmitted two cases to the Government under its urgent action procedure, concerning:
- (a) Mr. Ahmed Saad Ahmed Ibrahim, allegedly arrested at his home on 24 March 2015 by police officers in uniform;
 - (b) Mr. Rabie Mohamed Ahmed Al Saqqa, allegedly arrested on 23 March 2015 at his home in Meit Al Sarrag, Mahala, Al Gharbia Province by police officers who identified themselves as law enforcement personnel.
28. On 20 April 2015, the Working Group transmitted three cases to the Government under its urgent action procedure, concerning:
- (a) Mr. Anwar Abdallah Ahmed Hussein, allegedly arrested at his home in Cairo on 29 March 2015 by plain-clothed policemen;
 - (b) Mr. Omar Essam Abdel Fattah Al Fayoumi, allegedly arrested on 1 March 2015 in Abu Shahin neighbourhood, El Mahalla, Gharbia Governorate by general investigation officers and police officers, some of whom were wearing masks;
 - (c) Mr. Samir Mohamed Abbas Al Hity, allegedly arrested on 9 January 2015 by civil police officers in front of the Kafr Al Zayat Mosque, Gharbia.
29. On 30 April 2015, the Working Group transmitted seven cases to the Government under its urgent action procedure, concerning:
- (a) Mr. Mohamed Shehata Mohammed Abdel-Hadi, allegedly arrested at his residence in Cairo on 27 March 2015 by Homeland Security officers;
 - (b) Mr. Tarek Mohamed Wagdy Abdullah, allegedly arrested on 24 March 2015 by Homeland Security officers on Faysal Street in Giza, Giza Governorate;
 - (c) A person below the age of 18, allegedly arrested at his home in Qalyubia Governorate on 27 March 2015 by Homeland Security forces;
 - (d) Mr. Ammar Ali Mahmoud Juma, allegedly arrested at his residence in Giza on 17 March 2015 by Homeland Security officers in uniform;
 - (e) Mr. Shafie Jaber Mahmoud Meshal, allegedly arrested outside the education administration building in Samannoud, Gharbia Governorate on 17 March 2015 by plain-clothed Homeland Security officers;

(f) Mr. Hassan Farouk Sharaf, allegedly arrested at his work place, inside the Maasara seminary, on 22 March 2015 by Homeland Security officers;

(g) Mr. Ibrahim Mohamed Sadiq, allegedly arrested on 1 April 2015 by plain-clothed Homeland Security officers in Alsnaria village, near Samalut, Minya Governorate.

30. On 11 May 2015, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government under its urgent action procedure, concerning Mr. Mohamed Abdul Raheem Metwally Sayed Ahmed, allegedly arrested on 23 April 2015 by national security forces outside the Public Hospital of Zefta, Gharbiya Province.

Standard procedure

31. The Working Group transmitted three cases to the Government, concerning:

(a) Mr. Youssef Zariaa Salmi, allegedly last seen on 2 November 2013 at Zuhur Security Forces Camp, Sheikh Zuid District;

(b) Mr. Bassim Jabir Abdul Khaliq Naser, allegedly last seen on 26 May 2014 at the 6th of October State Security Building in Cairo;

(c) Mr. Omar Abdelwahab Hussein, allegedly arrested on 16 December 2014 by the police outside the gates of Minya University, Minya.

Information from the Government

32. On 8, 9 and 27 January and 8 April 2015, the Government transmitted information concerning 12 outstanding cases. On the basis of the information provided, the Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule to the 12 cases. The Working Group thanks the Government of Egypt for the multiple replies received during and after the session, which will be processed and considered by the Working Group as soon as possible.

Information from sources

33. Sources provided information on four cases.

Clarification

34. On the basis of the information provided by the Government and confirmed by the source, the Working Group decided to clarify three cases. The individuals are reportedly in detention.

35. On the basis of the information provided by the source, the Working Group decided to clarify one case. The individual is reportedly in detention.

Duplication

36. On the basis of the information provided by the source, the Working Group decided to consider one case as a duplicate of an existing case. The duplicate was subsequently deleted from the Working Group's records.

Observations

37. The Working Group thanks the Government for the large number of replies, which allowed the Working Group to clarify some cases. It is, however, concerned that, during the period under review, it transmitted 19 newly reported cases of enforced disappearances under the urgent action procedure to the Government. In particular, the Working Group is concerned at what seems to be a recent pattern of short-term disappearances. In this regard,

the Working Group recalls the Declaration, in particular articles 2 (“no State shall practise, permit or tolerate enforced disappearances”), 7 (“no circumstances whatsoever [...] may be invoked to justify enforced disappearances”) and 10 (“accurate information on the detention of such persons and their place or places of detention, including transfers, shall be made promptly available to their family members, their counsel or to any other persons having a legitimate interest in the information”).

El Salvador

Prompt intervention letter

38. On 12 May 2015, the Working Group transmitted a prompt intervention letter concerning the alleged intimidation and harassment of the relatives of Mr. Oscar Oswaldo Leiva Mejía, Mr. Francisco Javier Hernández Gómez and Mr. José Fernando Choto Choto since their disappearance on 18 February 2014 by members of the armed forces and the national civil police of El Salvador.

General allegation

39. The Working Group received from credible sources additional information on issues previously raised (A/HRC/WGEID/105/1, paras. 52-57), as well as on new elements concerning obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Declaration.

40. In particular, the Working Group received information regarding alleged passivity and failure to complete the due and diligent investigation of multiple cases of enforced disappearances, with no guarantee of respect for or participation in the investigation of relatives of missing persons. The Working Group refers to complaints filed in 2006 to the Office of the Attorney General and then through habeas corpus before the Supreme Court by relatives of persons who had disappeared during the armed conflict. The Supreme Court issued resolutions urging the Office of the Attorney General to undertake the necessary actions regarding the allegations. Reportedly, in 2014, the Office discovered that it had no documentation regarding allegations from 2006; as a consequence, the families of the victims themselves were forced to provide documentation to the authorities. Although the cases were assigned to the homicide unit, no other steps have been taken to appoint more police investigators to the cases.

41. Other sources provided information on the obstacles faced by disappeared migrants and their families. The sources referred to 350 cases of disappearance of migrants en route from El Salvador to the United States of America, during which the migrants were allegedly victims of disappearance, killings or executions in the territory of Mexico. In the light of the institutional difficulties faced by victims’ relatives when searching for their loved ones, the sources reported that a transnational mechanism should be created to facilitate access to justice for victims of disappearance and their families. Sources also indicated that El Salvador does not offer families the necessary support. In this regard, the Office of the Attorney General reportedly responded in some cases that it could not accept complaints of missing migrants in Mexico since the events had occurred in the territory of that country. The sources expressed concern for the families who do not have the resources to file complaints in Mexico in order to receive information about their missing relatives.

42. Lastly, the sources submitted information to the Working Group concerning current cases of enforced disappearance of persons that seemed to indicate new modalities of disappearances. The disappearances have allegedly continued in a context of violence and impunity, despite the signing of the Peace Accords of Chapultepec in 1992. According to the sources, organized crime is also responsible for the level of violence currently witnessed in El Salvador.

43. The sources also reported that there had been a simultaneous increase in disappearances in the country and in the number of clandestine cemeteries. According to the information available, the number of missing persons in 2011 and 2012 exceeded the number of cases of enforced disappearance of children during the armed conflict registered by civil society organizations. Several cases were allegedly committed by members of the armed forces as part of their duty to bring security to the communities by countering the violence generated by organized crime. The sources expressed concern over the lack of a State policy for searching for missing persons; the lack of coordination in the work of relevant institutions was reflected in the disparities in the statistics available on the number of missing persons. Also, according to sources, the missing persons unit of the National Civil Police conducts an exhaustive search only if the case in question falls into the “priority” category. According to an instruction on investigations concerning disappeared and missing persons approved by the National Civil Police in June 2012, the priority category includes cases involving the disappearance of public authorities, civil servants, foreigners with diplomatic missions, or of police or military personnel, and cases that cause alarm and national upheaval.

Georgia

Clarification

44. On the basis of information provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify one outstanding case following the expiration of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/104/1, para. 60). The individual is reportedly deceased.

Guatemala

Clarification

45. On the basis of information provided by a source, the Working Group decided to clarify one case. The individual is reportedly deceased.

Duplication

46. The Working Group also decided to consider one case as a duplicate of an existing case. The duplicate was subsequently deleted from the Working Group’s records.

Honduras

Urgent action

47. On 1 May 2015, the Working Group, following its urgent action procedure, transmitted one case to the Government concerning Mr. Donatilo Jimenez Euceda, allegedly last seen at noon on 8 April 2015 at his workplace at the Atlantic Regional University Centre (CURLA) of the National Autonomous University of Honduras.

Indonesia

Information from sources

48. A source provided information on one outstanding case.

Jordan

Urgent action

49. On 13 March 2015, the Working Group transmitted under its urgent action procedure one case to the Government, concerning Mr. Jaffer Al Shaikh Yousif, a national of Bahrain, allegedly arrested at his apartment in Irbid, Jordan on 19 February 2015 by State forces of Jordan. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, the Government of Bahrain received a copy of the case.

Mauritania

Information from sources

50. A source provided information on one outstanding case.

Mexico

Prompt intervention letter

51. On 30 April 2015, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedures mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter concerning alleged acts of intimidation against members of organizations belonging to the National Network for the Defence of Human Rights and participating in the *Gira Nacional*.

Press release

52. On 1 May 2015, the Working Group issued, jointly with another special procedures mechanism, a press release in which it welcomed the constitutional reform approved by the Congress of Mexico on 30 April 2015, which will allow the Federal Congress to issue general laws on enforced disappearances and torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment. The experts also urged the legislatures of the States to complete the process of constitutional reform in order that it enter into force as soon as possible and to guarantee its effective implementation.

Information from the Government

53. On 29 January 2015, the Government transmitted information regarding one outstanding case. The information provided by the Government was considered to be insufficient to lead to a clarification.

54. On 31 March 2015, the Government responded to a prompt intervention letter transmitted on 16 December 2014 concerning the alleged stigmatization and undermining of the legitimacy by Mexican State authorities of a non-governmental human rights organization supporting the families of the 43 disappeared students from Iguala. In its reply, the Government stated that the Centre for Investigation and National Security had not been involved in any act of harassment of human rights organizations. The Government also stated that, on 8 January 2015, the Deputy Prosecutor's Office for Human Rights, Crime Prevention and Community Services of the General Prosecutor's Office requested to perform a risk assessment of individuals and human rights organizations considered to be at risk.

Information from sources

55. Sources provided information on 13 outstanding cases.

Morocco

Standard procedure

56. The Working Group transmitted five cases to the Government, concerning:

- (a) Mr. El Mustapha El Bellal, allegedly abducted on 30 September 1993 by officers of the secret service of the Royal Armed Forces, at the Place d'armes in Agadir;
- (b) Mr. Abdel Aziz Erradi, allegedly abducted in November 1984 by officers of the royal gendarmerie at the Royal Gendarmerie barracks in Rabat;
- (c) Mr. Hassan Albansir, allegedly abducted during a general strike on 20 June 1981 by the police in the neighbourhood of Arasât Ben Slama, in Casablanca (old Medina);
- (d) Mr. Lahrach Adlani, allegedly arrested on 14 July 1975 by the police in Zaïr Rabat;
- (e) Mr. Abderrahmane Derouich, allegedly arrested on 4 July 1999 by police officers from the General Directorate for Territorial Surveillance in Boulevard Allal El Fassi, Oujda.

Other communications

57. On 24 April 2015, the Working Group transmitted another Letter concerning investigations conducted by the Equity and Reconciliation Commission and the Advisory Council on Human Rights. It was alleged that, in its report, the Council only acknowledged the death of missing persons without providing concrete evidence, and that the answers provided by the Moroccan authorities were stereotyped, fragmented and did not contain any specific analysis of the case in question, and that, in some cases, were even partially incorrect.

Pakistan

Urgent action

58. During the period under review, the Working Group transmitted under its urgent action procedure 21 cases to the Government.

59. On 9 March 2015, the Working Group transmitted 10 cases under its urgent action procedure, concerning:

- (a) Mr. Syed Sabih Ahmed Rizvi Syed Ahmed Abbas Rizvi, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 26 February 2015 by Pakistani Rangers;
- (b) Mr. Muhammad Tahir Rehan Muhammad Anwar, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 26 February 2015 by Pakistani rangers in uniform;
- (c) Mr. Amjad Khan Sher Rehman, allegedly arrested at a wedding ceremony in North Karachi on 26 February 2015 by Pakistani rangers in uniform;
- (d) Mr. Abdul Kaleem, allegedly arrested on 25 February 2015 at his work place in Karachi by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;
- (e) Mr. Naeem Ahmed Qureshi Bashir Ahmed Qureshi, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 24 February 2015 by Pakistani rangers in uniform;

(f) Mr. Muhammad Ashraf Ali Muhammad Asghar Ali, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 12 February 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(g) Mr. Syed Abdul Naved Syed Abdul Saeed, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 31 January 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(h) Mr. Abrar Ismail, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 21 January 2015 by Pakistani Rangers;

(i) Mr. Rana Umair Sharafat Ali, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 20 January 2015 by Pakistani Rangers;

(j) Mr. Zaheer Shah Jannat Gul, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 20 January 2015 by Pakistani Rangers.

60. On 26 March 2015, the Working Group transmitted one case under its urgent action procedure, concerning Mr. Abdul Hayat, allegedly abducted on 5 February 2015 at his home in Quetta, Balochistan by members of the Frontier Corps.

61. On 2 April 2015, the Working Group transmitted 10 cases under its urgent action procedure, concerning:

(a) Mr. Nabeelur Rehman Habibur Rehman, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 4 March 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(b) Mr. Farhan Rafique Muhammad Mehtab, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 4 March 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(c) Mr. Muhammad Danish Muhammad Ali, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 2 March 2015 by Pakistani Rangers;

(d) Mr. Fahad Iqbal Muhammad Iqbal, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 1 March 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(e) Mr. Imran Mehtab Mehtabuddin, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 27 February 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(f) Mr. Syed Mukhtar Hussain Rizvi Syed Munnawar Hussain Rizvi, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 23 February 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(g) Mr. Zaheer Rajput Shabbir Rajput, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 22 February 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(h) Mr. Muhammad Hamid Muhammad Shabbir, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 22 February 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(i) Mr. Muhammad Umair Siddiqui Abdul Sami, 37 years old, son of Mr. Sami, arrested at his residence in Karachi on 15 February 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform;

(j) Mr. Muhammad Ali Muhammad Yousuf, allegedly arrested at his residence in Karachi on 4 February 2015 by Pakistani Rangers in uniform.

Information from sources

62. Sources provided information on nine outstanding cases.

Clarification

63. On the basis of information provided by sources, the Working Group decided to clarify seven cases. Five individual are reportedly free, while the other two are reportedly deceased.

Observations

64. The Working Group is concerned that, during the period under review, it transmitted under its urgent action procedure to the Government 21 newly reported cases of enforced disappearances. In this regard, the Working Group stresses that, as provided for in article 7 of the Declaration, no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked to justify enforced disappearances. The Working Group acknowledges the receipt of a communication transmitted by the Government during the session. The communication will be reviewed at the 107th session.

Peru**Information from sources**

65. Sources provided information on two outstanding cases.

Saudi Arabia**Clarification**

66. On the basis of information provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify two outstanding cases following the expiration of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/104/1, para. 113). Reportedly, one individual is deceased while the other is free.

Spain**Letter and press release**

67. On 25 March 2015, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with another special procedures mechanism, a letter concerning allegations in connection with the decision of the Council of Ministers on non-continuation of extradition proceedings. The authorities of Argentina had requested the extradition of 17 Spanish citizens for crimes including serious violations of human rights and crimes against humanity, committed during the Franco regime. On 26 March 2015, a press release was issued on the same subject.

Information from sources

68. A source provided information on one outstanding case. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, a copy of the case was sent to the Government of France.

Sri Lanka**Standard procedure**

69. The Working Group transmitted 10 cases to the Government, concerning:

- (a) Mr. Vamathevan Anantham, allegedly last seen on 16 May 2009 in an army-controlled area in Mulliwaikkal, Mullaitivu, Northern Province;
- (b) Mr. Pratheepan Sandiya Francis Posia, allegedly last seen in presence of Sri Lankan Army in May 2009 at Omanthai military checkpoint, Northern Province;
- (c) Mr. Jegaraj Jesurajah, allegedly last seen on 28 April 2009 while displaced in an army-controlled area in Valaigarmadam, Northern Province;
- (d) Mr. Kajeenthan Kanthasamy, allegedly last seen on 4 April 2009 in an army-controlled area in Vadduvagal, Northern Province;
- (e) Mr. Rajapulenthiran Murugesu, allegedly last seen on 17 May 2009 in an army-controlled area of Sinnathangadu, Mullaitivu, Northern Province;
- (f) Ms. Satsuthan Ealilnila, allegedly last seen on 17 May 2009 at Eradaiwakkal, Mullaitivu, Northern Province, when she was captured by the Sri Lankan Army;
- (g) Mr. Atulananthan Sivanewaran, allegedly last seen on 10 April 2009, in Puthumaththalan, Northern Province; the Sri Lankan Army was allegedly responsible for his disappearance;
- (h) Mr. Kirubakaran Thavarasa, allegedly last seen on 18 May 2009 at the army checkpoint in Omanthai, Northern Province, where he was loaded on to an army vehicle;
- (i) Mr. Mayilvagunam Thiruchelvam, allegedly last seen on 19 May 2009 in an army-controlled area in Vadduvagal, Mullaitivu District, Northern Province;
- (j) Mr. Ratheeshwaran Vairamuththu, allegedly last seen on 18 May 2009 in Vadduvagal village, Northern Province, when he surrendered to the Sri Lankan Army.

Information from the Government

70. On 24 February 2015, the Government transmitted information regarding outstanding cases. On the basis of the information received, the Working Group decided, at its 106th session, to apply the six-month rule to seven cases. The information provided on another 187 cases was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Clarification

71. On the basis of information provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify six outstanding cases following the expiration of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/104/1, para. 118). Reportedly, five individuals are free and one is deceased.

Observation

72. The Working Group thanks the Government for its invitation and looks forward to making its country visit in August 2015.

Syrian Arab Republic

Standard procedure

73. The Working Group transmitted five cases to the Government, concerning:
- (a) Mr. Samir Obaid, allegedly arrested on 22 December 2012 in Jabla by members of Shabiha of Hilal Al Assad, a pro-government armed group with links to the National Defence Army;
 - (b) Mr. Ammar Faraj, allegedly last seen in December 2012 in Branch 251 of the Internal Security forces in Damascus;
 - (c) Mr. Ward Raad, allegedly last seen in very poor conditions of health on 5 December 2014 in the military police department of the municipality of Al-Qabun, north-east of Damascus,;
 - (d) Mr. Bader Saleh, allegedly arrested on a bus in the main street of the village of Al Lataminah on 2 December 2013 by a patrol of the military security forces;
 - (e) Mr. Abdel-Qader Ali Deib, allegedly arrested at the Harsta checkpoint in Damascus on 9 January 2014 by members of the Air Intelligence forces.

Clarification based on information from sources

74. A source provided information on one outstanding case. The Working Group decided to clarify the case as a result. The individual is reportedly free.

Tajikistan

Clarification

75. On the basis of information provided by the Government of Tajikistan, the Working Group decided to clarify one outstanding case following the expiration of the period prescribed by the six-month rule. The individual is deceased.

Thailand

Information from sources

76. Sources provided information on two outstanding cases.

Turkey

Standard procedure

77. The Working Group transmitted 10 cases to the Government, concerning:
- (a) Mr. Ilyas Eren, allegedly abducted at Kulp Bus Terminal, Diyarbakir Province on 11 March 1997 by four civil police officers;
 - (b) Mr. Aydin Esmer, allegedly abducted in Kizilagaç, Mus Province on 14 September 1999 by gendarmerie officers;
 - (c) Mr. Fikri Özgen, allegedly abducted about 100 metres from his home in Diyarbakir on 27 February 1997 by four plainclothed police officers;

(d) Mr. Abdurrahim Demir, allegedly arrested at Savalet bridge in Kiziltepe on 17 August 1995 by gendarmerie officers;

(e) Mr. Hacı Sili, born in 1970, allegedly abducted in Güçlükönak, Sırnak on 2 March 1994 by soldiers returning from a military operation;

(f) Mr. Tahsin Çiçek, allegedly abducted in Lice, Diyarbakir on 10 May 1994 by Lice District gendarmes;

(g) Mr. Ali İhsan Çiçek, allegedly abducted in Lice District on 10 May 1994 by gendarmes;

(h) Mr. Ahmet Şahin, allegedly arrested in Lice District on 18 March 1993 by gendarmes;

(i) Mr. Bekir Demir, allegedly abducted in Egrimec Hamlet of Kızılğac, Mus on 13 October 1993 by army officers from the Bolu Alpine Command Unit;

(j) Mr. Bahri Esenboga, allegedly abducted together with five peasants in Findik village on 13 August 1994 by the Regional Command of Findik.

Observations

78. The Working Group thanks the Government for its invitation and looks forward to making its country visit in November 2015.

Turkmenistan

Standard procedure

79. The Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Mr. Turkish Tyrmiev, allegedly last seen on 6 May 2002 in a courtroom in Ashgabat during his trial.

United Arab Emirates

Information from the Government

80. On 3 and 23 March and 24 April 2015, the Government transmitted information regarding six outstanding cases. On the basis of the information received, the Working Group decided, at its 106th session, to apply the six-month rule to two cases. The information provided on the other four cases was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

81. On 3 March 2015, the Government transmitted a reply to the joint urgent appeal dated 20 February 2015. In its reply, the Government stated that the three sisters – Ms. Asma Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Ms. Al Yazyeh Khalifa Al Suwaidi and Ms. Meriem Khalifa Al Suwaidi – had been arrested on charges of being members of a terrorist organization, and that they had since appointed a lawyer.

Uruguay

Information from the Government

82. On 25 February 2015, the Government transmitted information regarding one outstanding case. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Information from sources

83. Source provided information on one outstanding case.

Clarification

84. On the basis of information provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify one outstanding case following the expiration of the period prescribed by the six-month rule (see A/HRC/WGEID/104/1, para. 148). Reportedly, the individual is deceased.

Yemen**Information from sources**

85. A source provided information on one outstanding case.

Zimbabwe**Urgent action**

86. On 16 March 2015, the Working Group transmitted under its urgent action procedure one case to the Government, concerning Mr. Itai Peace Kadiki Dzamara, allegedly abducted in Harare on 9 March 2015 by State security agents.

Information from sources

87. A source provided information on one outstanding case.
