

III. Decisions on individual cases taken by the Working Group and communications transmitted to the States concerned during the reporting period²⁵

Countries	Number of outstanding cases at the beginning of the period under review	Cases transmitted to the Government during the reporting period		Cases clarified during the period under review by:		Number of cases of possible clarification by Government (6-month rule)	Number of outstanding cases at the end of the period under review	Communications sent during the period under review				Communications received during the period under review			
								Prompt intervention letter	Urgent appeal	General allegation	Other letter	Response to prompt intervention letter	Response to urgent appeal	Response to general allegation	Response to other letter
		Urgent actions	Standard cases	Government	Sources										
Afghanistan	3						3								
Albania	1						1								
Algeria	3 139		40				3 179	2				1			
Angola	2						2								
Argentina ²⁶	3 244		1	1		157	3 241				1				1
Bahrain	4	3			3		4								
Bangladesh	34	3	13		1		49		1	1					
Belarus	3						3								
Bhutan ²⁷	5						0								
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	28						28				1				

²⁵ Urgent actions are cases of enforced disappearances that have occurred within three months prior to the receipt of a report by the Working Group; or cases of enforced disappearances that have occurred prior to the three-month limit, but within one year prior to the receipt of a report by the Working Group, provided that there is a link with a case that occurred within the three-month period. Standard cases are cases of enforced disappearances that have occurred prior to the three-month limit. Prompt intervention letters concern cases of intimidation, persecution or reprisal against families of disappeared persons, witnesses, lawyers, human rights defenders and other individuals concerned with disappearances. Urgent appeals concern allegations of enforced disappearances; or allegations regarding persons deprived of liberty who are at risk of being disappeared. General allegations concern alleged obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Declaration.

²⁶ The Working Group decided at its 110th session to transfer three cases from Argentina to Uruguay.

²⁷ The Working Group decided at its 111th session to transfer five cases from Bhutan to India.

Countries	Number of outstanding cases at the beginning of the period under review							Communications sent during the period under review				Communications received during the period under review			
								Cases transmitted to the Government during the reporting period		Cases clarified during the period under review by:		Number of cases of possible clarification by Government (6-month rule)	Number of outstanding cases at the end of the period under review	Prompt intervention letter	Urgent appeal
		Urgent actions	Standard cases	Government	Sources										
Russian Federation	480	1	327				808			1					1
Rwanda	23						23								
Saudi Arabia	5						5								
Seychelles	3						3								
Somalia	1						1								
South Africa	1						1								
South Sudan	2						2	1							
Spain	7						7								
Sri Lanka	5 758		101				5 859	2		2					
Sudan	174	5			5		174		3				2		
Syrian Arab Republic	179	2	37			1	218								
Tajikistan	3						3								
Thailand	82						82		1						
Timor-Leste	428						428								
Togo	10						10								
Tunisia	2		10				12								
Turkey ³⁰	78	4	18	3	2		94		1				1		
Turkmenistan	3	1					4								
Uganda	15						15								

³⁰ The Working Group determined during its 111th session that one case was a duplicate and subsequently expunged it from the records.

Sri Lanka

104. The Working Groups regrets the lack of progress in the establishment and effective functioning of the Office of Missing Persons and urges the Government to take fully into account the recommendations made after the visit carried out in November 2015 concerning the Office (see A/HRC/33/51/Add.2, paras. 79-80).

Syrian Arab Republic

105. The Working Group continues to be gravely concerned about the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, which facilitates the occurrence of enforced disappearances. It reiterates article 7 of the Declaration on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which provides that no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked to justify enforced disappearances.

106. The Working Group reiterates its call to the Security Council to consider referring the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic to the International Criminal Court (see A/HRC/27/49, para. 99, and A/HRC/33/51, para. 103).

107. On 19 September 2011, the Working Group requested an invitation to visit the country. No response has been received yet from the Government, in spite of reminders sent on 2 September 2013, 27 October 2014, 27 November 2015 and 18 November 2016. The Working Group hopes that a positive reply will be received soon.

Thailand

108. On 30 June 2011, the Working Group requested an invitation to visit the country. No response has been received yet from the Government, in spite of reminders sent on 8 November 2012, 2 September 2013, 28 October 2014, 27 November 2015 and 18 November 2016. The Working Group hopes that a positive reply will be received soon.

Turkey

109. The Working Group reiterates the recommendation formulated after its visits in March 2016, notably to adopt immediately a comprehensive policy to address disappearances, which would include the creation of an extrajudicial mechanism specifically devoted to the search of those who have disappeared, and to ensure the proper preservation and investigation of existing burial sites (see A/HRC/33/51/Add.1, paras. 71-72).

United Arab Emirates

110. On 13 September 2013, the Working Group requested an invitation to visit the country. No response has been received yet from the Government, in spite of reminders sent on 27 October 2014, 27 November 2015 and 18 November 2016. The Working Group hopes that a positive reply will be received soon.

Yemen

111. The Working Group continues to be concerned about the situation in Yemen, which may facilitate the occurrence of enforced disappearances (see A/HRC/33/51, para. 109). It reiterates article 7 of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which provides that no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked to justify enforced disappearances.

Annex II

Statistical summary: cases of enforced or involuntary disappearance reported to the Working Group between 1980 and 2017, and general allegations transmitted

States/entities	Outstanding cases		Total		Cases clarified by:		Status of person at date of clarification			Discontinued cases	Closed cases	General Allegation	
	Cases	Female	Cases	Female	Government	Sources	At liberty	In detention	Dead			GA sent	Response
Afghanistan	3		3										
Albania	1		1										
Algeria	3 179	20	3 208	21	9	20	11	10	8			Yes (2013)	Yes
Angola	2		12	1	7				7	3			
Argentina ¹	3 241	728	3 444	775	125	78	39	5	159				
Bahrain	4		17		2	11	2	11				Yes (2014)	Yes
Bangladesh	49	1	52	2	1	2	3					Yes (2011, 2016, 2017)	No
Belarus	3		3										
Bhutan ²	0		0										
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	28	3	48	3	19	1	19		1				
Bosnia and Herzegovina												Yes (2009, 2011, 2014)	Yes

¹ The Working Group decided at its 110th session to transfer three cases from Argentina to Uruguay.

² The Working Group decided at its 111th session to transfer five cases from Bhutan to India.

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	Cases	Female	Cases	Female	Government	Sources	At liberty	In detention	Dead			GA sent	Response
Rwanda	23	2	26	2		2	1	1		1			
Saudi Arabia	5		15		4	4	3	4	1	2			
Serbia	0		1		1		1						
Seychelles	3		3										
Somalia	1		1										
South Africa	1	1	12	2	3	2	1	1	3	6			
South Sudan	2		2										
Spain	7		9		2				2			Yes (2014)	Yes
Sri Lanka	5 859	121	12 450	191	6 551	40	118	27	6 446			Yes (2011, 2014)	Yes
Sudan	174	5	388	37	205	9	212	2					
Switzerland			1		1			1					
Syrian Arab Republic	218	11	275	12	15	42	30	21	6			Yes (2011/2)	Yes
Tajikistan	3		10		5	2	1		6				
Thailand	82	8	86	8	2		1	1		2		Yes	No
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia												Yes (2009)	No
Timor-Leste	428	28	504	36	58	18	51	23	2				
Togo	10	2	11	2		1	1						
Tunisia	12		29	1	12	5	2	15					
Turkey ⁴	94	3	222	12	76	51	73	25	29	1			
Turkmenistan	4		6		2			2					

⁴ The Working Group determined during its 111th session that one case was a duplicate and subsequently expunged it from the records.

Annex III

Graphs showing the number of cases of enforced disappearances per year and per country according to the cases transmitted by the Working Group during the period 1980-17 May 2017 (only for countries with more than 100 cases transmitted)



