



**UNITED NATIONS**  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
REPORT 2019



UNITED NATIONS  
**HUMAN RIGHTS**  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

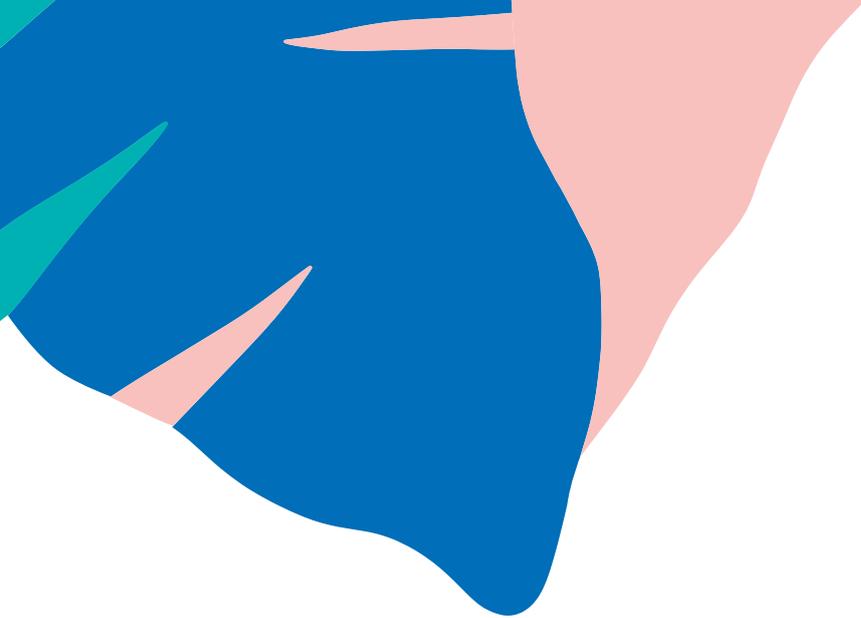


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## CREDITS

### **In memoriam**

UN Human Rights staff members Leyanis de Piras and Selma Vadala who passed away in 2019

### **Prepared by:**

Donor and External Relations Section, in consultation with the Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service, for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

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Young people at Respect Festival. © Getty Images

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## FOREWORD BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



© OHCHR

I am pleased to present this report, the first covering an entire year of my term as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

As I write this Foreword, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge our societies and ourselves, presenting a colossal test of leadership and humanity. In these unsettling times, the importance of human rights has become even more evident. My Office has issued guidelines and recommendations to embed human rights at the core of the global response, engaging with the entire UN system to influence national action plans across the world. This is essential for an effective response and recovery - but also to ensure that we “build back better”, as enshrined in the COVID-19 and human rights report “We are all in this together”, released by the Secretary-General.

As you will find in these pages, 2019 was a year marked by important developments worldwide, supported by our headquarters and 84 field presences across the world.

With our assistance, fifteen national laws were adopted to combat discrimination in all forms. In North Macedonia, for example, we supported advocacy efforts by civil society organizations, leading to the adoption of a new law by the country’s Parliament in May on prevention and protection against discrimination.

We also supported the development of the first system-wide United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, which aims to bring about structural change in the organization. It is the first UN accountability framework that operates across all UN pillars, without distinction, including climate action initiatives.

As part of our efforts to pursue the Secretary-General’s vision of establishing a Prevention Platform and enhancing the UN’s role at the regional level, last year the emergency response teams based in Pretoria and Bangkok identified emerging risks in the north of Mozambique leading to improved response coordination and to the development of an early warning system in Myanmar. We also set up a new emergency response team for West Africa to work on risk analysis that influences UN responses in the field.

In addition, the Office was instrumental in the deployment of two multidisciplinary light teams to Comoros and Malawi. With human rights components, they strengthened the UN’s preventive role in the run-up to potentially destabilizing elections.

Moreover, as co-chair of the UN Sustainable Development Goals Task Team on “Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights and the Normative Agenda”, alongside the World Health



Organization and UNESCO, my office actively contributed to the Secretary-General's reform of the UN Development System. We ensured that the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework had a strong normative and human rights foundation supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, especially as we enter the Decade of Action do deliver the Goals.

In Central Asia and Central America, for example, my Office carried out a number of initiatives to integrate human rights into national frameworks for the Sustainable Development Goals. From advising State authorities on elaboration of SDG indicators in Uzbekistan to supporting development of an online platform that connects the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms with the National Agenda for Sustainable Development in Honduras; our collaboration with diverse partners across the UN System, civil society, private sector, academia and national authorities has contributed to the transformative change we are targeting. Standing up for all human rights – for everyone, everywhere – is essential to fulfilling our promise of leaving no one behind and building prosperous, just and inclusive societies on a healthy planet.

This Report highlights how human rights-based action achieves tangible results,

though the gap between increasing demands and available funding keeps growing. I am grateful for the trust and support we received from our 84 donors in 2019: with the US\$179 million we received, my Office was able to assist governments and civil society organizations with long-term work that places people and their rights front and center. At the same time, our capacity to respond to urgent and new requests was limited as our 2019 Annual Appeal was only funded to 56 per cent.

Even as we recognize, with pride, the value and impact of the work we have accomplished through our partnerships, I am cognizant of the need for strengthened efforts. Today's multiple predicaments are sobering on many fronts – I look forward to distilling lessons learned, building on good practice and, together, leveraging a united voice for human rights for all.

**MICHELLE BACHELET**

*High Commissioner for  
Human Rights*

May 2020

# UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN 2019



# Facts and Figures in 2019

## MEMBER STATE COOPERATION

**39**   
treaty actions

**2** signatures

**19** ratifications

**18** accessions

**57**   
Governments hosted  
over **84**  
visits by special  
procedures mandates

**3,174**   
official documents  
submitted for meetings  
of human rights  
mechanisms, General  
Assembly and ECOSOC

**133**   
State Party reports reviewed  
by the treaty bodies with  
**7** States Parties visited  
by the Subcommittee on  
Prevention of Torture 

## PEOPLE CENTRED

**35,997**   
victims of torture in  
**77** countries received  
rehabilitation support

**8,594**   
victims of contemporary  
forms of slavery in **23**  
countries obtained assistance

**77**   
fellows (41 women and 36 men) from  
indigenous, Afrodescendant and minority  
communities in **56** countries, participated in  
the UN Human Rights Fellowship Programme

## HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS SUPPORT

Support to  
the work of   
**172** treaty  
body experts during  
**27** sessions  
for a total of  
**95** weeks

**92**  
resolutions  
adopted by the  
Human Rights  
Council 

**27,771**   
submissions related to  
individual complaints and  
Committee on Enforced  
Disappearances urgent  
actions received

## HUMAN RIGHTS INTEGRATION IN THE UN

**12**   
human rights  
components in UN  
Peace Missions,  
including **524** staff,  
supported by UN  
Human Rights

**37**  
Human Rights  
Advisers were  
deployed in UN  
Country Teams 

## CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT

**2,521**   
oral statements delivered by  
NGOs during Human Rights  
Council sessions

Over  
**2,420**   
participants in the 8th  
Forum on Business and  
Human Rights

**66**   
grants were awarded by the UN Human Rights  
Grants Committee to the total amount of  
**US\$4,272,554** for projects to  
be implemented in over **28** countries

# Global presence in 2019

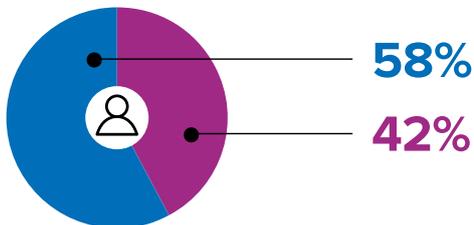
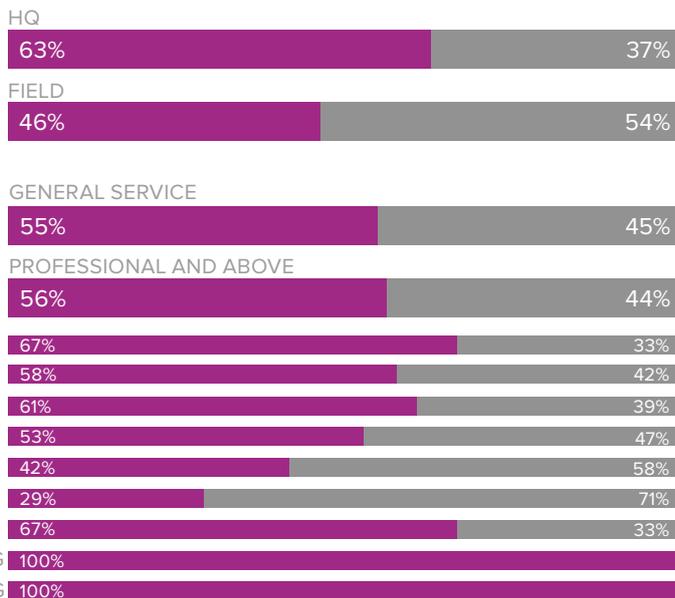


## STAFF GENDER DISTRIBUTION

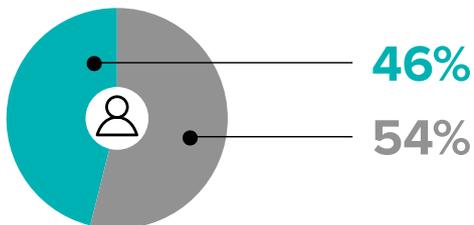


**55%**

**45%**



● international staff      ● national staff



● field staff      ● HQ staff

## STAFF IN THE FIELD

**54%** HQ

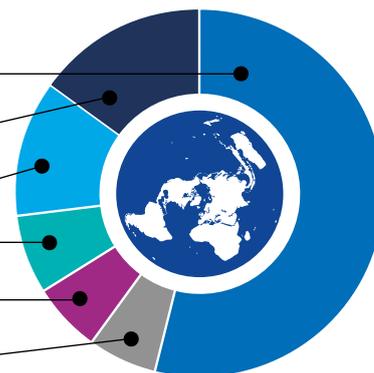
**15%** Africa

**12%** Americas

**7%** Asia Pacific

**6%** Europe & Central Asia

**6%** Middle East & North Africa



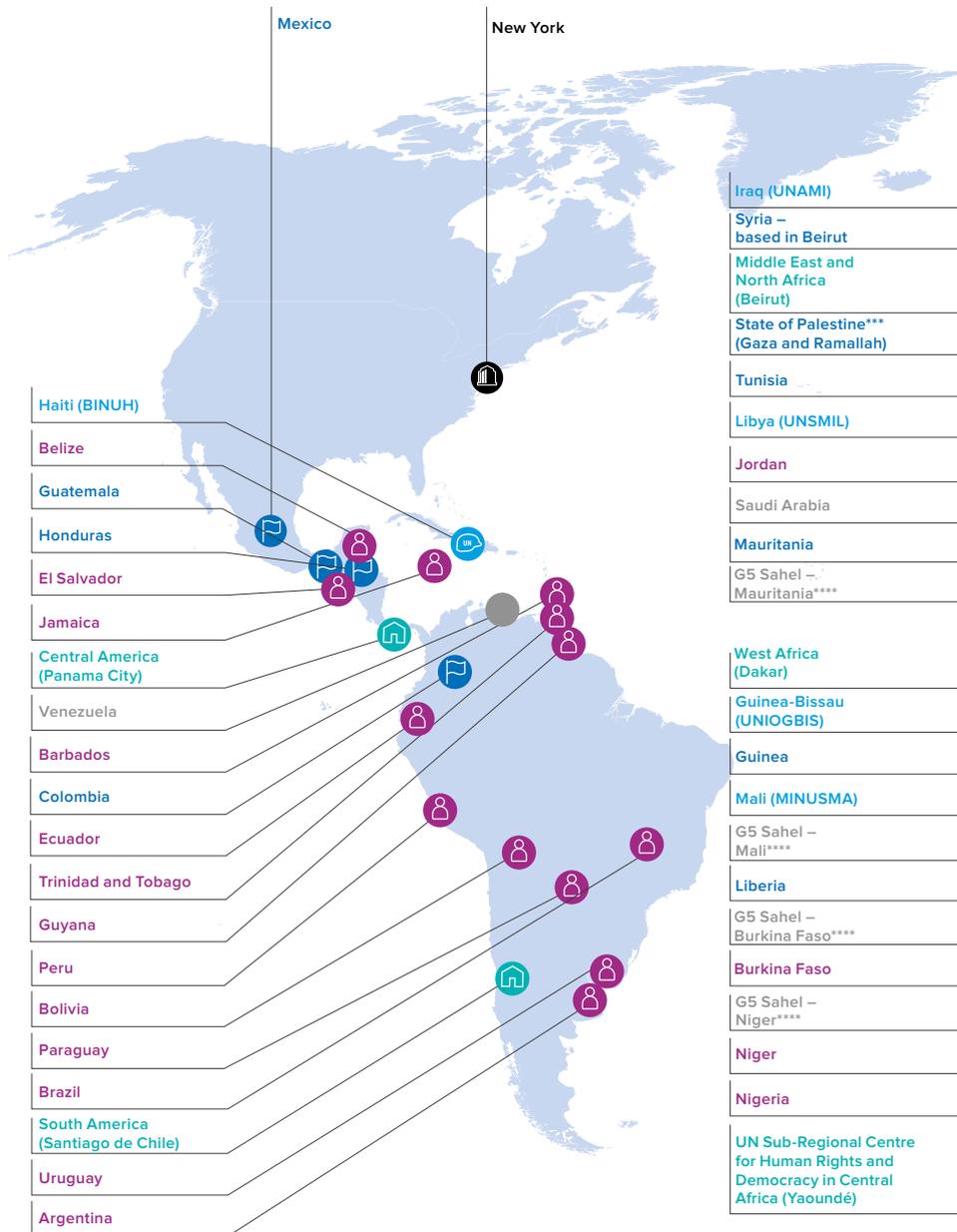
Notes: The data includes all OHCHR and UNDP administered staff in the General Service, National Officer, Professional and higher categories on temporary, permanent, continuing and fixed-term appointments. Locally recruited staff in the General Service category are considered as national staff.



OHCHR Liberia staff discuss durable solutions to forced eviction with residents of a demolished site in the Fendel community near Monrovia. © OHCHR

# UN HUMAN RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD IN 2019

-  Headquarters
-  Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions
-  Regional Offices/Centres
-  Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions
-  Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG
-  Other types of field presences



FIELD PRESENCES      HQ  
**84 + 1**  
 (2 locations)

COUNTRY/STAND-ALONE OFFICES/  
 HUMAN RIGHTS MISSIONS  
**17**

REGIONAL OFFICES/CENTRES  
**12**

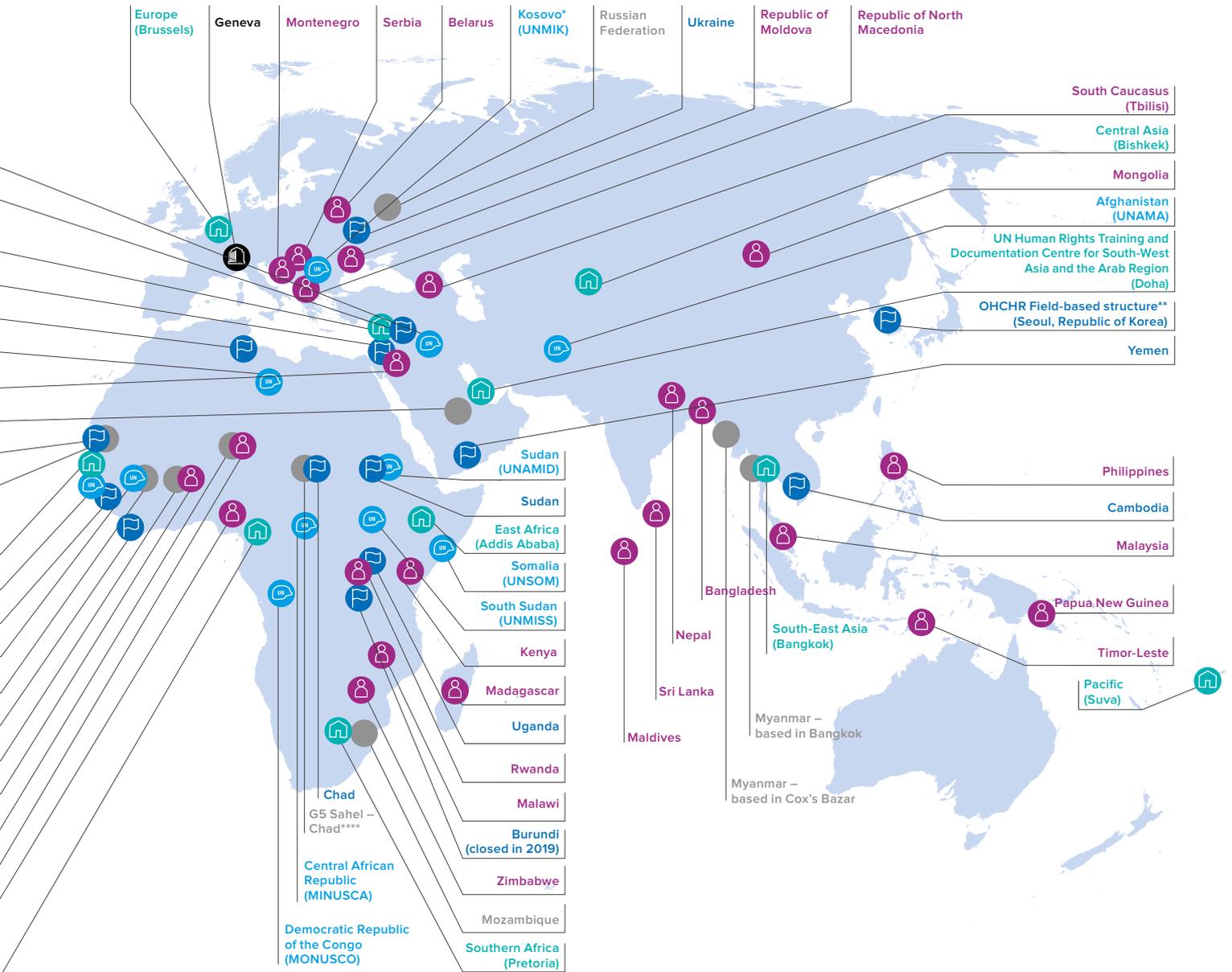
HUMAN RIGHTS COMPONENTS  
 OF UN PEACE/POLITICAL MISSIONS  
**12**

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISERS DEPLOYED  
 UNDER THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNSDG  
**37**

OTHER TYPES OF FIELD PRESENCES  
**6**

- Haiti (BINUH)
- Belize
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- El Salvador
- Jamaica
- Central America (Panama City)
- Venezuela
- Barbados
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Guyana
- Peru
- Bolivia
- Paraguay
- Brazil
- South America (Santiago de Chile)
- Uruguay
- Argentina

- Iraq (UNAMI)
- Syria – based in Beirut
- Middle East and North Africa (Beirut)
- State of Palestine\*\*\* (Gaza and Ramallah)
- Tunisia
- Libya (UNSMIL)
- Jordan
- Saudi Arabia
- Mauritania
- G5 Sahel – Mauritania\*\*\*\*
- West Africa (Dakar)
- Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS)
- Guinea
- Mali (MINUSMA)
- G5 Sahel – Mali\*\*\*\*
- Liberia
- G5 Sahel – Burkina Faso\*\*\*\*
- Burkina Faso
- G5 Sahel – Niger\*\*\*\*
- Niger
- Nigeria
- UN Sub-Regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (Yaoundé)



\* Reference to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

\*\* Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.

\*\*\* Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

\*\*\*\* G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger).

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS

EN EL EJERCICIO MILITAR PARTICIPARON MÁS DE 6.000 EFECTIVOS, LOS CUALES AGRUPARON A LAS VÍCTIMAS Y LAS AMETRALLARON DOS SEMANAS DESPUÉS DE LO OCURRIDO, EL MINISTRO DE DEFENSA GENERAL JOSÉ GUILLERMO GARCÍA DECLARÓ HABER INVESTIGADO EL CASO SIN QUE LE CONSTARA DICHA MASACRE; REITERANDO ESTO MISMO EN LA COMISIÓN DE LA VERDAD.

EN JULIO DE 1992, PARTICULARES INTERPUSIERON UNA DENUNCIA EN EL JUZGADO MIXTO DE PRIMERA INSTANCIA DE SAN SEBASTIÁN, EN LA QUE SE PIDE QUE A LA FECHA SE HAYA HECHO JUSTICIA.

La Comisión de la Verdad para El Salvador

EN ESTE MEMORIAL QUEREMOS DEJAR CONSTANCIA DE LOS NOMBRES DE LAS VÍCTIMAS DE LA MASACRE "EL CALABOZO" PARA HONRAR SU MEMORIA, PARA EVITAR QUE EL HORROR SE REPITA Y PARA DEJAR EN LA CONCIENCIA DEL PUEBLO SALVADOREÑO UN REQUERIDO IMPERECEDERO PARA LA BÚSQUDA DE UNA SOCIEDAD MÁS JUSTA Y MÁS HUMANA.

HAIDEE ABARCA  
QUENCY AGUILAR CARRILLO  
MATILDE ALFARO  
JIMENA FRANCISCA ALVARADO  
VIRGINIA ALVARADO DE AMAYA  
ESTER ALVARADO DE BAUTISTA  
CARMELA ALVARADO RODRIGUEZ  
ANTONIO ALVARADO  
FELICITA ALVARADO  
FIDELINA ALVARADO  
HAYDEE ALVARADO  
IRMA IRENE ALVARADO  
JAIME ALVARADO  
LAURA ALVARADO  
LEONARDA ALVARADO  
MARIA ALBERTINA ALVARADO  
MARTA ALVARADO  
VALENTÍN ALVARADO  
LORENA ALVARADO  
VICENTA AMAYA DE ALVARADO  
CRUZ AMAYA  
DANIEL AMAYA  
LUIS AMAYA  
PETRONA AMAYA  
VICENTA AMAYA  
ERNESTO ANTONIO  
GLENDA AZUCENA AYALA  
ADRIÁN AYALA  
GUADALUPE AYALA  
JUAN FRANCISCO AYALA

LORENA A  
NARDA A  
SALVADOR  
CARMEN B  
FERMIN BAR  
MARCELINO B  
ABRAHAM BAUTIS  
CLARA BAUTISTA  
OSMAR BOLAÑO  
ALERY BOLAN  
FLORENTINA BO  
CARMELA B  
ELIAS BO  
BETO BO  
CHEPITO B  
CRUZ BO  
GUILLERMO  
JAIME BO  
JOSÉ BO  
MARÍA ALICIA  
SANTOS JAIM  
ELIO CARRILLO  
GUDELIA CARRILLO  
ALIRIO NAPOLE  
MELBIN O. CARRILLO  
CONCHITA CARRILLO  
EULALIA CARRILLO  
JUAN ALBERTO CARRILLO  
ORBELINA CARRILLO  
ARNOLDO

Engracia Chavarria (seated on the left), psychologist from the Madeleine Lagadec Human Rights Promotion Centre, and OHCHR staff console Roxana Aguilar (seated on the right), survivor of the 1982 El Calabozo massacre in El Salvador at the memorial to the victims of the massacre. Roxana Aguilar lost most of her family members in the massacre. © OHCHR



## OVERVIEW OF 2019 BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

### OMP 2018-2021 at mid-point: Looking back at the first two years

When I was appointed High Commissioner for Human Rights in September 2018, my Office had just initiated the implementation of its four-year Management Plan (OMP) 2018-2021, building on the previous OMP from 2014-2017. This Plan is the product of a broad participatory process that provides both stakeholders and staff across the organization with an opportunity to discuss and contribute to the office-wide strategy, thereby enhancing the relevance of a management document to different human realities on the ground. It also boosts external trust and alignment, in addition to internal staff ownership and buy-in, and provides a solid programmatic framework to navigate through the present turbulent waters. As is the case with any programme, however, the OMP needs constant adjustments to ensure its relevance in our rapidly changing international environment. That is why I have undertaken a number of initiatives to continue to sharpen our programmatic focus during the first two years of the OMP. While ensuring agility in our current responses, these initiatives pave the way for the next OMP, which we will define in 2021.

### **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, PREVENTION AND ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS**

Since my appointment, I have taken steps to strengthen the focus of UN Human Rights on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), prevention, economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR) and gender equality. Investing in these four critical interconnected areas enables my Office to draw on the potential of the UN system reform and the consensus to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while contributing to implementing the Secretary-General's prevention agenda. Our objective is to reiterate and bring to the fore the linkages across the SDGs and sustaining peace, the indivisibility of all human rights, while underscoring the value added and the difference our work makes in people's daily lives.

In 2019, my Office adopted a Prevention Strategy and allocated funds for its implementation. The Strategy outlines how our work on ESCR and addressing inequalities, especially economic inequalities, within the context of implementation of the SDGs, can contribute to conflict prevention.

In September, I launched the "Surge Initiative" to identify and pilot ways to further support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the field. A surge team, composed of four staff and a senior economist, spearheaded this effort. Through the Initiative, we are documenting impactful changes and exploring ways to replicate or scale up good practices,

while also identifying and addressing blind spots. The surge team has been facilitating these pilots to achieve cross-fertilization among field presences and has provided advice to over 50 field presences, including in the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

A newly established "Community of Practice on SDGs, Prevention and ESCR" is also helping us to share documented examples of our results on the ground. This online community offers a means to scale-up and cross-fertilize engagement in these three interlinked areas of work. In less than three months, the platform has reached more than 300 users and became a dynamic vehicle to connect staff throughout the world to share their good practices and experiences, resources and materials, provide peer support and identify colleagues with particular expertise in these fields.

An analysis of the Annual Workplans 2020 across the Office demonstrated that the work of the surge team is already having an impact. A considerable number of field presences have either scaled-up their ongoing work or planned new activities for 2020 in areas such as engaging with the Cooperation Framework processes; analysing the consequences of inequalities on ESCR, deteriorating economic situations and economic policies; addressing corruption as a structural cause of human rights violations; and working on business and human rights. Enhanced engagement in humanitarian action through partnerships at the global level, as well as with Humanitarian Country Teams and Protection Clusters, is another unique



High Commissioner attends a presentation on information management at the OHCHR Global Meeting in Geneva in July 2019. © OHCHR

opportunity to strengthen our work in these three interlinked areas.

The 2018-2021 OMP provides a solid framework for this Initiative and the entire Plan contributes to the achievement of the SDGs. All six 'pillars' - support for the international human rights mechanisms; mainstreaming of human rights within development and peace and security efforts; and advancement of the core human rights principles of

non-discrimination, accountability and participation - encompass all sets of rights. Finally, prevention is identified as a 'shift' in our approach across the six pillars that will enable us to better adapt our work to the changing external context.

The following chapter highlights some of the key results of the work that we carried out across the globe in 2019. More details on the results achieved by all UN Human Rights field presences and

headquarters entities are available in the online part of the report.

# CRC30

## Key figures



# 201

States parties to the Convention



# 170

States parties to OPAC



# 176

States parties to OPSC



# 46

States parties to OPIC



# 196

States reported at least once



# 1,592

civil society reports submitted from 2009 to 2019



# 327

children met with the Committee during its pre-sessional working groups from 2008 to 2019



# 63

reports submitted by children from 2009 to 2019



# 57

States made 200+ pledges on 24 articles of the Convention to celebrate the 30th anniversary



Child-friendly version of the Convention produced in

# 6

UN languages



# 900+

visitors to the United Nations Office at Geneva to participate in celebratory events on 16 September 2019 and 20 November 2019



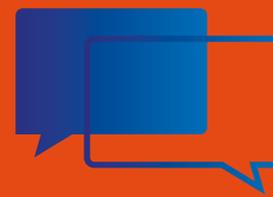
# 1 in 3

moderators/panellists at celebratory event on 16 September 2019 were children

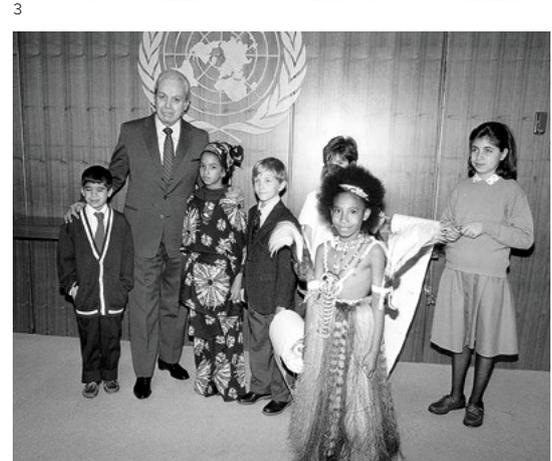


# 180,000+

engagements generated on the campaign



In 2019, UN Human Rights, together with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which recognizes children as their own beings entitled to non-negotiable rights. The Convention protects the rights of all children, everywhere, to be free from discrimination, violence and neglect and empowers them to claim those rights.



“Bringing up children and young people secure in their rights is fundamental to the future of humanity. Thirty years after it was adopted, the Convention on the Rights of the Child continues to be a vital guide for us all.”

**UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet**



**Photo 1:** © National Commission on the Rights of the Child, Belgium

**Photo 2:** © National Human Rights Committee, Qatar

**Photo 3:** © Child Rights Connect

**Photo 4:** A group of children meet with then Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, as the General Assembly adopts the Convention. 20 November 1989, United Nations, New York. © UN Photo

**Photo 5:** © National Commission for the Advancement of Women, Mothers and Children and UNICEF, Lao PDR

**Photo 6:** Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana, speaks with a child by his side at the high-level commemorative event of the General Assembly on the 30th anniversary of the Convention. 25 September 2019, United Nations, New York. © UN Photo

## Mechanisms (M)

Increasing implementation of the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms



### Mechanisms in numbers

#### TREATY BODIES

133

State Party reports reviewed by human rights treaty bodies

172

State Party initial and periodic reports and common core documents submitted

7

general comments elaborated by the treaty bodies

640

individual complaints registered

308

concluding observations and lists of issues prior to reporting

7

State Parties visited by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture

#### HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

92

resolutions adopted

42

Member States reviewed for the implementation of UPR recommendations

33

(23 women, 10 men)

delegates from 32 Small Island Developing States supported to attend HRC sessions by the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to support the participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the work of the HRC



Participation of 26 out of 42 Member States reviewed by UPR, supported by the UN Voluntary Fund for participation in the UPR



6 new HRC mandates established, including one new expert mechanism on the right to development

#### SPECIAL PROCEDURES



44 thematic and

12 country-specific Special Procedures mandates

57

Governments hosted



125 Member States and

1 non-Member Observer State extended a standing invitation to thematic special procedures

84

visits by special procedures mandates

#### REPORTING AND FOLLOW-UP ON RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS



41

newly established and/or strengthened National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up

## REPORTING BACK TO MYANMAR'S ROHINGYA: THE MOST IMPORTANT REPORT OF ALL



When the UN's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) on Myanmar completed its [444-page report](#) last year, which documented violations allegedly committed by security forces against Myanmar's ethnic Rohingya minority, its experts reported to the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly, the Security Council and a global audience. In May, the experts visited Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh to present the report to members of the Rohingya community, the majority of whom had fled an explosion of violence in the Rakhine State two years ago.

Among those present were witnesses, survivors and community leaders who had contributed vital testimony to the report and posed questions of their own. Many asked about the slow pace of justice and said they were desperate to leave the network of camps that has become the largest refugee settlement in the world, housing 900,000 people. They also complained they were being excluded from discussions about their future, including in relation to education and jobs, by governments and humanitarian organizations.

One woman expressed her appreciation that they had been given the chance to be heard and that the report had helped inform the world about the "indescribable violence" they had experienced.

### RELAYING THE ROHINGYA MESSAGE

The report documented systematic violations of the human rights of ethnic groups across the country, including the military "clearance operations" in Rakhine State that began in August 2017. Myanmar security forces allegedly killed

thousands of Rohingya civilians, raped and sexually abused women and girls and set their homes ablaze. The violence forced more than 700,000 Rohingya from the country, most to Bangladesh.

### A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

The experts began their 10-day reporting journey on 3 May, during which they held two meetings in the refugee camps, including one exclusively for women. They also met with Rohingya at Konarpara and heard new testimony from recent arrivals.

During their meetings in Bangladesh's Kutupalong camp, some refugees asked what would happen next. Darusman, the Chairperson of the FFM on Myanmar assured them the newly established Independent Mechanism for Myanmar will begin by preparing case files for the potential prosecution of alleged perpetrators.

"For us, this was the most important report back we've done," said Sidoti, member of the FFM on Myanmar. "Theirs are the stories we told. I very much hope it will become the standard for Human Rights Council investigations...to report to UN mechanisms [and] affected communities."

Expert Radhika Coomarswamy, member of the FFM on Myanmar, stressed the need to report back to the other ethnic groups that provided testimonies for the report.

"The plight of the Kachin, Shan and Chin communities also remains of serious concern to the FFM," she said.

The experts completed their trip by urging the international community to cut all financial ties with Myanmar's military. They further emphasized that its commanders need to be brought before a credible court to answer charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.



UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar representatives listen to a member of the Rohingya refugee community speak during a meeting in Kutupalong, Bangladesh. © OHCHR

# Highlights of pillar results

## Mechanisms (M)

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS



#### M1

National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations.



Technical assistance provided through the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme contributed to the establishment and/or strengthening of National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) in **Botswana, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Haiti, Kenya, Mauritius, the Republic of North Macedonia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Zambia**. In the **State of Palestine**<sup>1</sup>, OHCHR gradually enhanced the capacity of the Palestinian NMRF, including by increasing the knowledge about the international human rights treaties and mechanisms of representatives from relevant government institutions in the NMRF. Actions taken by the Office contributed to the institutionalization of the NMRF, clearly identifying the roles and responsibilities of each of its three levels, namely, the permanent High-level Interministerial Committee, the Interministerial Technical Committee and the ministry-based working groups. In addition, UN Human Rights initiated the roll-out of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) to support the effective follow-up on relevant concluding observations/recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

With OHCHR's support, the NMRF in **Serbia** cooperated with civil society and other relevant actors in the measurement of implementation of recommendations from the international human rights mechanisms. The Government, together with CSOs, developed a set of human rights indicators and an online database is now available to reflect nearly 400 recommendations received from the international human rights mechanisms. The database includes an interactive feature that ensures that all indicators that measure progress, their level of implementation and all relevant collected data can be easily updated and monitored by the general public. Furthermore, the Office facilitated the participation of CSOs in regular sessions of the NMRF and their engagement with issues of particular relevance, such as the prohibition of torture, specific reporting exercises and follow-up to individual decisions. At the request of CSOs, the Office organized a series of thematic sessions between relevant line ministries and members of the NMRF that are focused on follow-up and the exchange of insights and information about accountability regarding specific processes or outcomes.

#### M2

Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.



The UN Country Team (UNCT) in **Ukraine** submitted contributions to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in anticipation of its preparation of the list of issues related to its consideration of Ukraine's combined second and third periodic reports; to the Human Rights Committee in anticipation of its preparation of the list of issues prior to its consideration of Ukraine's eighth periodic report; and to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) to supplement Ukraine's follow-up report to the concluding observations issued by the treaty body. UN Human Rights led the UNCT's Human Rights Working Group and, in coordinating these submissions, it promoted a unified UNCT approach and ensured that the major human rights issues affecting Ukraine were brought to the attention of the UN human rights mechanisms.

In **El Salvador**, OHCHR facilitated the process of discussing recommendations issued during the second Universal Periodic Review (UPR) cycle with the UNCT, the Office of the Procurator

<sup>1</sup> Hereinafter, all references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

for the Defence of Human Rights (the NHRI of El Salvador) and civil society organizations on issues related to citizen security, justice, women's rights and the LGBTI population. These three stakeholders submitted contributions to the third UPR cycle and actively participated in the follow-up to the interactive dialogue. Furthermore, the Office contributed to the participation of non-traditional actors (organizational structures of indigenous peoples and committees of relatives of missing migrants) through the submission of information to the human rights treaty bodies and special procedures.

 In the context of **Kenya's** third UPR cycle, 67 CSOs submitted a joint report while a total of 22 CSOs submitted individual reports. For the first time, CSOs working on disabilities, sexual orientation and gender identity and sexual and reproductive health and rights participated in the preparation of the joint report. OHCHR contributed to the increased capacity of civil society to prepare and submit reports to the international human rights mechanisms.

## UN HUMAN RIGHTS WORK TO ADDRESS INTIMIDATION AND REPRISALS OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN 2019

UN Human Rights continued to pay increased attention to the importance of protecting civil society actors against reprisals. The Office consistently ensured that cases of reprisals against those who had interacted with the international human rights mechanisms were identified and addressed by the international community.

The human rights treaty bodies developed mechanisms to prevent and help protect human rights defenders (HRDs) in accordance with the San Jose Guidelines against Intimidation or Reprisals, as referenced in General Assembly resolution 68/268. To support these efforts, UN Human Rights updated a common treaty body web page on reprisals that indicates how the treaty bodies address cases of intimidation and reprisals and outlines how such allegations need to be reported. In addition, the treaty bodies continued to facilitate accessibility for civil society and HRDs, including by adopting decisions (interim measures) on individual cases of reprisals. During the year, various treaty bodies flagged concerns regarding the

work of HRDs during their dialogue with concerned States Parties, reflected these concerns in recommendations and published letters of alleged reprisals on the web page of the committees.

UN Human Rights continued to facilitate regular exchanges between NGOs and the President of the Human Rights Council (HRC) to create opportunities for civil society to discuss issues of critical concern. This included discussions on how to deal with reprisals occurring in the context of HRC sessions and enhancing the methods of work of the HRC while safeguarding civil society space. With regard to allegations of reprisals that were reported to UN Human Rights, the internal protocol for handling such cases in connection with HRC sessions was put in motion and recommendations on appropriate action on each case were made to the HRC President.

The Secretary-General issued a report on Cooperation with the UN, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights (A/HRC/42/30). It was prepared with

support from UN Human Rights and was presented to the HRC, in September. It includes cases from 48 States, reflecting the increased documentation of information on trends and cases in the public domain. For comparison, between 2010 and 2016, an average of 15 countries were included in the annual reports. The 2017 report mentions 29 States and the 2018 report lists 38 States. The 2019 report includes good practices to address and prevent reprisals, as recommended by Member States during the interactive dialogue on the 2018 report.

Moreover, 2019 marked the tenth anniversary of the adoption of HRC resolution 12/2, in which the Council requested that the UN take urgent steps to address intimidation and reprisals. The strong commitment to confront this issue was renewed by the Council, in September, with HRC resolution 42/28. Furthermore, the General Assembly adopted, by consensus, a resolution that condemns reprisals (A/RES/74/146).

### M3

Policy-makers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms.



National courts took opinions of the Working Group on arbitrary detention into account on a number of occasions, including in **Turkey**, where two detained individuals were conditionally released and in the **Republic of Korea**, during a public hearing before the Supreme Court regarding conscientious objection to military service and its status under international human rights law. In the latter case, the Government informed the Working Group that the Supreme Court reversed its existing jurisprudence that consistently justified the punishment of conscientious objectors as a means of protecting public safety. As a result of the reversal, detained objectors may now be eligible to file a claim for compensation.

In cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and various Member States, OHCHR organized a side event during the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly, in New York, with the participation of 80 parliamentarians from 35 countries. The event promoted the establishment of parliamentary human rights committees, which was recommended in the report on the Contribution of parliaments to the work of the Human Rights Council and its Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/38/25). The outcome document highlights good practices of parliamentary human rights committees as an important point of reference for parliaments worldwide.

### M4

International human rights mechanisms contribute to the elaboration of international law and jurisprudence, in particular in the context of emerging human rights concerns (frontier issues).



With substantive and secretariat support from OHCHR, the human rights treaty bodies examined a large number of cases on issues such as climate change; the international custody of children; and international criminality, including human trafficking and the enforced disappearances of migrants. In all of these contexts, the treaty bodies continued to define their jurisprudence, provide legal analyses and ensure that they shared a harmonized approach. In September, five treaty bodies, namely, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), CEDAW, the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW), the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and CRPD, adopted a statement on human rights and climate change ahead of the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit. Furthermore, at the CRC's eighty-first session, in May, the Committee adopted General Comment No. 24 on children's rights in the child justice system. In November, in its first ruling on a complaint by an individual seeking asylum due to the effects of climate change, the Human Rights Committee stated that without robust national and international efforts, the effects of climate change on sending States may trigger the non-refoulement obligations of receiving States. Finally, under its urgent action procedure, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) addressed specific recommendations to concerned States Parties regarding the challenges that arise in searching for disappeared persons along migration routes. The Committee invited these States Parties to adopt search and investigation strategies that are suited to the specific circumstances of each case and are in line with principle 9 of the Guiding Principles for the search for disappeared persons.

### M5

International human rights mechanisms are increasingly effective in promoting and protecting human rights.



In the context of enhancing the efficiency of the Human Rights Council (HRC) and the rationalization of its initiatives, seven resolutions became biennial and three resolutions became triennial. In addition, out of the six new thematic resolutions adopted in 2019, three were one-time resolutions. One-time resolutions represent a good practice wherein a resolution is adopted on an issue that has gained political momentum in the Council. Of all "recurrent" HRC resolutions, 78 are now biennial or triennial and only 33 are annual. In 2019, UN Human Rights provided support to the President and the Bureau on streamlining the work of the Council, which resulted in the adoption of a President's Statement on this subject.

The treaty bodies became more accessible to increase their engagement with all stakeholders. The Committee against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) and CED used videoconferencing and webcasting for public reviews, private hearings with NGOs, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), the UN in the field and, in the case of CAT, National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) and for joint meetings with

regional courts. During the eighty-second session of CRC and the seventy-third session of CEDAW, the dialogue with Mozambique took place through videoconferencing. CRPD continued implementing accessibility measures by ensuring remote captioning, international sign interpretation, national sign language interpretation, webcasting and Braille transcriptions. Remote captioning was provided for all dialogues that took place with State Party delegations during the Committee's twenty-first and twenty-second sessions. The Committee also facilitated accessibility arrangements during private briefings with organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), other civil society organizations and NHRIs on country situations.



Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Philip Alston, visits an unexploded ordnance clearance site in Houaphanh, Lao PDR. © Bassam Khawaja 2019

## Development (D)

Advancing sustainable development through human rights



## Development in numbers

### MAINSTREAMING HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL



UN Country Teams in

**42**

countries integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, into their work

**37**

Human Rights Advisers were deployed in UN Country Teams



### MAINSTREAMING HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL IN THE UN SYSTEM



UN policies and programmes at the global level integrated a human rights-based approach

### 2030 AGENDA AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

UN Human Rights is a custodian of

**4**

SDG indicators under Goal 16



UN Human Rights e-learning module on operationalizing the right to development in implementing the SDGs completed by

**306**

participants from

**116**

countries



### JOINT UN CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS



joint UNCT submissions to treaty bodies

Of **1,382** stakeholder contributions to UPR,

**105** were prepared by UN entities, including

**24** joint submissions by UNCTs



**33**



UNCTs provided joint inputs to the visits of special procedures

## HUMANIZING THE PRISON WORLD: A DIPLOMATIC VICTORY IN MADAGASCAR



Madagascar has a total of 24,000 prisoners in various prisons across the country. According to Omer Kalameu, the Human Rights Adviser in the country, the material and judicial conditions of detention are well below international standards.

Sixty per cent of detainees are in pretrial detention and overcrowding remains a serious problem. The country's largest prison, Antanimora, in Antananarivo, has an 800-person capacity, but more than 4,000 detainees are being held there, significantly impacting their health, hygiene and nutrition.

Following extensive advocacy undertaken by UN Human Rights in the country, Malagasy President Andry Rajoelina visited Antanimora, on 31 October, marking the first presidential visit to a penitentiary since 1960.

After meeting with prisoners and prison officials, the President proposed solutions to reduce overcrowding, pardoned detainees who had committed minor offenses and vowed to release 2,000 people by 31 December.

“We have managed to put the prison issue at the heart of reflection, discourse and political action,” said Omer Kalameu. Monthly meetings between the Resident Coordinator and the Malagasy Minister of Justice, facilitated by the Human Rights Adviser, provided opportunities for discussions on the inclusion of human rights in public policies. Madagascar's second UPR cycle, in November, offered further avenues for discourse on protecting the rights of detainees.

In addition, OHCHR provided extensive technical and financial support for the implementation of a new penal policy, which aims to end the systematic detention order and strengthens the operational capacities of the justice system to reflect Madagascar's international human rights obligations.

This multifaceted advocacy has produced tangible results. Following the President's visit to the Antanimora Central House, the Government increased the allocated budget for prisons, resulting in a more nutritious diet. It also began construction of the new Fianarantsoa Prison. Funding from the Peacebuilding Fund was used to set up a drinking water supply network at the Tsiafahy High Security Prison and Norway supported the building of a separation wall between minors and adults in Ankazobe Prison. Finally, the Ministry of Justice and UN Human Rights organized a campaign of reforestation and fruit tree planting in some prisons.

The Minister of Justice, Johnny Richard Andriamahefarivo, welcomed “the exemplary partnership between the UN and Madagascar to improve the detention and judicial conditions of inmates.” He continued, “thanks to the efforts of the Ministry of Justice and the technical and financial support of the Office and others, the target ratio of 60 per cent of convicts and 40 per cent of pretrial detainees was almost reached by the end of 2019.”

The Resident Coordinator, Violet Kakyomya, noted that “these positive achievements constitute an important step towards reinforced protection



President of Madagascar, Andry Rajoelina, accompanied by the Minister of Justice, visited the Central Prison of Antanimora in October 2019. © OHCHR

of human rights. The entire UN family is proud to have contributed to these achievements.” The next step is establishing preventive measures. “After 31 December, the work must continue to ensure that this criminal policy is effective, irreversible and sustainable.”

# Highlights of pillar results

## Development (D)

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS



#### D1

Judicial and non-judicial mechanisms hold business and other economic actors to account for rights abuses and provide remedies to victims.



In **Kenya**, the Centre for Justice Governance and Environmental Action (CJGEA) continued litigating a case on environmental rights, which involves two companies that are being sued for polluting the environment. Specifically, the two companies were smelting lead as their core business in the Owino Uhuru community where 3,000 residents suffered lead poisoning. OHCHR has provided technical and financial support for the case since 2016. In addition to securing a grant, we worked closely with Kenyan authorities to urge protection for the CJGEA and the members of the Owino Uhuru community when they were threatened for having filed and pursued the case. The Director of Public Prosecution took up the issue of threats and committed to offering witness protection for the duration of the case. The case challenges the responsibility of the State and non-State actors to respect, protect and fulfil the right to a clean and healthy environment as provided by the Kenyan Constitution. The case sought declarations on procedural environmental rights, access to information, public participation and access to effective remedy and was concluded in November. The decision is expected to be handed down in 2020.

In September, the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes presented a report to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/42/41). The report contains 15 principles that build on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions and multilateral environmental agreements on toxics to help States, businesses and other key actors to better protect workers from toxic exposure and provide remedies when their rights have been violated. The report, prepared with our support, constituted the fruit of 25 years of research under the mandate and its recommendations were echoed in a resolution adopted by the Council. The resolution encourages States, businesses and other actors to implement the 15 principles suggested by the Special Rapporteur through their legal and policy frameworks, as well as initiatives and programmes to strengthen the coherence between human rights and occupational health and safety standards.

#### D2

Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively.



The roll-out of the Standards of Conduct for tackling discrimination against LGBTI persons continued in 2019. The Standards of Conduct were disseminated at key global corporate events, such as the World Economic Forum in Davos, and they have now received the support of 270 of the largest companies in the world. In addition, OHCHR established a partnership with the newly created non-profit Partnership for Global LGBTI Equality to bring companies up to speed and assist them in operationalizing the Standards of Conduct. Furthermore, the Office hosted a meeting in Berlin, in July, with 50 representatives from civil society and 20 from various business organizations to discuss a paper for our forthcoming publication *Minding the corporate gap: How activists and companies can work together to tackle LGBTI discrimination*. This manual for human rights defenders (HRDs) around the world highlights the potential role of the private sector in tackling discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons, including by using the Standards of Conduct as a tool for effective engagement and collaboration.

In **Cambodia**, at the initiative of Oxfam and Fair Finance Asia, OHCHR contributed to the assessment and discussion of the Fair Finance Coalition and its road map to ensure that the activities of financial institutions are more socially responsible, fair, sustainable and respectful of international human rights principles. This platform was created to focus on the finance sector and is composed of members of the private sector and civil society organizations. Following UN Human Rights' advocacy, the UNGPs were incorporated into the assessment.

### D3

State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights.



In view of the critical role played by cities and local governments in an urbanizing world, OHCHR collaborated with United Cities and Local Governments to organize the first meeting, in Geneva, bringing together a group of 20 mayors and representatives of local governments to share their experience in promoting and protecting human rights. This initiative led to a number of recommendations to strengthen the engagement of cities and local governments with international human rights mechanisms and opened avenues for strategic collaboration for the promotion and protection of human rights.

**Canada** adopted a national housing strategy, in June, that explicitly incorporates the right to housing in a national law for the first time. The Government also established an accountability mechanism, the Federal Housing Advocate, to monitor its implementation. Furthermore, in **Portugal**, a new housing law entered into force, on 1 October, guaranteeing the right to housing, the participation of citizens in housing policy and improved protections against evictions. These results were achieved through advocacy undertaken by OHCHR and the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context and civil society.

In December, the Tripartite Charter for sustainable development and respect for human rights in the framework of private investments in **Madagascar** was finalized. With our support, the Charter was drafted by representatives of civil society, the Government and mining companies to promote the integration of the principles of participation, transparency and accountability into law and policymaking and to ensure that the Government's general policy and sector-based policies incorporate a human rights-based approach (HRBA).

### D4

Public health approaches, including sexual and reproductive health policies, comply with international human rights standards and provide non-discriminatory access, especially to children, adolescents, women and migrants.

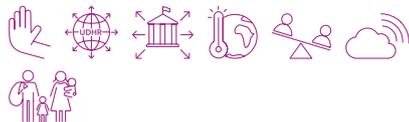


OHCHR worked through various partnerships to ensure that public health approaches comply with international human rights principles and standards, including a joint workplan with the World Health Organization (WHO) for 2019 that builds on the Framework of Cooperation, which was signed in 2017. As part of the joint workplan, both organizations worked together to identify good practices from the Western Pacific Region that are in line with the WHO QualityRights Initiative. This Initiative aims to improve access to quality mental health and social services and promote the rights of people with mental health conditions.

The High Commissioner's annual report to ECOSOC in 2019 was dedicated to the theme of universal health coverage and human rights (E/2019/52), through which we continued to advocate for universal health coverage and human rights. In addition, the report contributed to the recognition of human rights in the outcome of the General Assembly's High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage that was held in September.

## D5

Environmental and climate policies and plans increasingly respect, protect and fulfil human rights, guaranteeing those affected access to information, decision-making, public participation and remedies.



NHRIs from across **South Asia** and **Southeast Asia** were convened by OHCHR for the first dialogue held on the transboundary impact of climate change on human rights, which included an exchange on key lessons learned from a variety of actions taken in the subregion. Additionally, we continued to closely monitor emblematic cases of environmental HRDs and community activists targeted by governments, private companies or State-owned enterprises. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that was signed by OHCHR and the United Nations Environment Programme in 2019 provided initial scope, which will be further broadened in 2020, to jointly engage with stakeholders in the region on the environment and climate change.

## D6

Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent or redress the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects.



In partnership with the Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) of multilateral development banks (MDBs), we worked to develop policies and procedures on reprisals and contextual risk assessment tools and to strengthen the effectiveness of IAMs. The High Commissioner headlined a high-level event in the margins of the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings on reprisals in Washington D.C., which built momentum for more IAMs to adopt policies related to reprisals during the year. OHCHR continued its research and advocacy on the safeguard policy review processes of MDBs and produced a draft due diligence benchmarking study to compare the safeguard policies of development financing institutions against the standards outlined in the UNGPs, which influence safeguard policy revision processes. OHCHR also produced a series of project case studies as part of its advocacy efforts on the safeguard policy review processes of MDBs.

## D7

States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work.



OHCHR co-organized a panel at the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region entitled “Leave No One Behind: Driving policies through data and a human rights-based approach,” to present and illustrate the linkages between human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To sensitize and engage the incoming European Parliament on the SDGs and its linkages with human rights, the UN Brussels Team, composed of 25 UN entities, including OHCHR, invited candidates standing for the European Parliament elections, to sign a 10-point pledge to “Leave No One Behind.” By the end of 2019, 67 Members of the European Parliament had signed the pledge to personally defend human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights. Many more joined the pledge, which will remain open for signature throughout 2020.

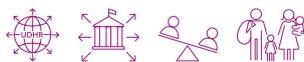
The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) has a strong normative and human rights foundation. This will provide a robust basis for UN Human Rights engagement at regional and country levels to ensure the integration of human rights into UN development work and support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. UN Human Rights participated in all of the UN Development System reform work streams and processes, most importantly in the development of the Management and Accountability Framework, the new Guidance for the UNSDCF, the System-Wide Strategic Document and the Regional Review.

A number of initiatives were carried out in Central Asia to contribute to the integration of human rights into national frameworks for the SDGs. In **Turkmenistan**, UN Human Rights supported the elaboration of a road map on the implementation of recommendations issued

by CEDAW, CESCRC and the UPR. In addition to the activity-specific indicators, the road map contains appropriate SDG indicators, which will enhance the mutual reinforcement of human rights and SDG reporting, thereby setting an example of a good practice for other Central Asian States. In **Uzbekistan**, UN Human Rights, through the UNCT, advised State authorities on developing national SDG indicators, which include supplementary human rights indicators to strengthen the implementation of SDGs that are aligned with international human rights law. OHCHR delivered a training on an HRBA to SDGs for the members of the expert group of the national SDG coordination body. The training session helped to enhance expertise at the national level and encouraged discussions about improving national SDG indicators from the human rights perspective.

## D8

National institutions, assisted by communities, systematically collect, disaggregate and use data relevant for advancing human rights when they monitor and implement the SDGs.



The methodologies developed by UN Human Rights for SDG indicator 16.1.2, on the number of conflict-related deaths, and SDG indicators 10.3.1/16.b.1, on the percentage of the population experiencing discrimination on grounds prohibited by international law, were endorsed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators, which is composed of Member States. This result increases potential opportunities for OHCHR to further mainstream human rights obligations and the prevention of human rights violations into the implementation and accountability framework of the SDGs at country, regional and global levels. We also supported the development of methodologies to monitor and collect data on the national implementation of human rights education, including through the work of UNESCO, in the context of SDG target 4.7 and the World Programme for Human Rights Education.

## YOUTH FROM BARBADOS AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN STANDING UP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

In line with the theme of 2019 Human Rights Day, “Youth standing up for human rights,” the UN Multi-Country Office for Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States sponsored a photo contest entitled “Our rights, our Caribbean... Leaving No One Behind.” Human Rights Day provided an opportunity to reflect on the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In addition, the event encouraged everyone to take action in their daily lives against all forms of discrimination and uphold universal human rights, thereby promoting the kinship of all human beings.

As photography is a powerful medium of expression that can communicate strong messages, the contest sought to

inspire action through imagery. Young people from Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, the British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines were invited to capture a photo that depicted what “Leaving No One Behind” meant to them within the human rights context of their respective countries and territories. Participants were also asked to explore themes of anti-discrimination and inclusion.

Prizes were awarded to the three top contestants, on 10 December, during the launch of a photo exhibition of the entries, in Barbados. The winners ranged in age from 11 to 15 years.



Kya Knight, second place winner of the photo competition, receives her award from the Honorable Colin E. Jordan, M.P., Barbados Minister of Labour and Social Partnership Relations and Mr. Didier Trebucq, UN Resident Coordinator for Barbados and the OECS.  
© UN Barbados and the OECS

## Peace and Security (PS)

Preventing violations and strengthening protection of human rights, including in situations of conflict and insecurity



### Peace and Security in numbers



12 out of 14

UN peace missions have a human rights component

32

staff deployed to support various investigations and crises situations (surge capacity)



524

human rights staff serve in UN peace missions



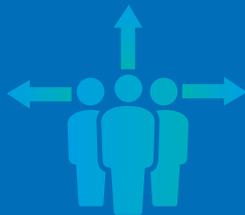
The Declaration of Shared Commitments under the Action for Peacekeeping initiative endorsed by

152

Member States and

4

intergovernmental organizations reasserting the UN's commitment to the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy for all UN support to non-UN security forces



2

"light team" deployments in situations at risk of serious human rights violations

HRDDP implementation advanced in

8

peace missions (MONUSCO, MINUSCA, MINUSMA, MINUJUSTH/BINUH, UNIOGBIS, UNMISS, UNSMIL and UNSOM) and

2

regional frameworks (AU-UN Partnership on Peace and Security and G5 Sahel Compliance Framework)



At least

16



public reports issued by human rights components of peace operations (MINUSCA, MINUSMA, MONUSCO, UNAMA, UNAMI, UNIOGBIS, UNMISS, UNSMIL, UNSOM) highlighted the human rights situations in

9

countries

**MINDING MILITARY MANNERS: HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES IN GUINEA-BISSAU**

Guinea-Bissau has faced political turmoil since its independence from Portugal in 1974 with longstanding violence and an elusive quest for justice by many.

Since 2013, UN Human Rights has trained the various branches of the military, including decision makers and border guards, about human rights, humanitarian law and international obligations.

A Guide on Human Rights for Armed Forces, written in Portuguese and known as the “blue book,” outlines human rights and responsibilities. The guide is now compulsory reading for new recruits.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jorge Gastao Na Sulnate, who coordinated the training for the armed forces, believes the time was right.

“Things were definitely not good. There were enforced disappearances and our only way of dealing with the general population was through violence,” Gastao said.

“Things are changing here,” said Eduardo Da Costa Sanhá, the country’s former Minister of Defence and former Vice-President of the Military Tribunal. UN Human Rights helped us see how we could transform the way we work, stay within the law, know our obligations and work peacefully with civil society.

**LEARNING ABOUT DIGNITY**

While training succeeded in shifting deep-rooted attitudes, change was difficult due to the military’s historical role and hierarchical structure, coupled with poverty and a lack of knowledge about human rights.

Through the UN Human Rights training, the military learned how to respectfully and peacefully interact with civilians. It also challenged its default reaction to use force.

“Before, the military took things into their own hands when it came to civilians, now there is civilian justice,” said Augusto Da Costa, UN Human Rights Officer.

“We have also learned about gender equality...and the right to health,” added Ensign Maria de Fatima Mendes.

**COLLECTIVE AWARENESS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE**

Guinea-Bissau is now experiencing a societal shift.

According to Olivio Pereira, Secretary General of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, “Human rights have changed lives. We are more politically mature, no one can violate laws with impunity. Society is more democratized and people simply won’t stand for it.”



Lieutenant-Colonel Jorge Gastao Na Sulnate. © OHCHR

# Highlights of pillar results

## Peace and Security (PS)

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### PS1

Parties to conflict and actors involved in peace operations increasingly comply with international human rights and humanitarian law and provide greater protection to civilians.



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

Spotlights: Youth Disabilities Women

OHCHR participated in five assessment missions to promote human rights integration into peace operations, including in the context of transitions, namely, UNAMID (March), AMISOM technical review (March), UNSOM review (May), MONUSCO independent strategic review (June/July) and UNOAU (October/November). Following these missions, UN Human Rights secured a central role for human rights during the transitions of UNAMID and MONUSCO. The independent MONUSCO strategic review report indicates that “human rights will be the main barometer for judging progress on various peace, security and rule of law efforts” in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and, “as human rights will be a key weather vane informing political engagement and protection tasks, a strong presence of the UN Joint Human Rights Office should continue in Kinshasa and the provinces,” even where the Mission is advised to drawdown. This provides an excellent basis for positioning human rights at the core of the transition, conflict prevention and peacebuilding work in the DRC.

Following UN Human Rights’ monitoring and advocacy efforts for the rights of children in armed conflict in **Afghanistan**, the Child Act (Child Rights Protection Law) was enacted through a presidential decree on 5 March. The Act includes provisions on recruitment and the use of children and bacha bazi, a harmful practice involving abuse of boys. Through trainings delivered by the HRS, 113 interlocutors, including teachers, judges, prosecutors and National Directorate of Security officers, were sensitized on the protection of children in armed conflict, specifically in relation to the prevention of sexual violence against children, such as bacha bazi.

In **Bolivia**, UN Human Rights undertook monitoring and analysis of the human rights situation during the pre- and post-electoral crisis. This significantly contributed to a national process, including a national dialogue that led to a call for new elections and an agreement between the transitional Government and the Movement for Socialism, on 23 November, to address the post-electoral crisis. Through the deployment of a technical mission, on 11 November, we facilitated the inclusion of human rights as a key element of the agreement. More specifically, the agreement calls upon the UN to provide assistance in relation to three main areas through the UN’s Initiative for the Consolidation of Peace in Bolivia, namely: 1) electoral assistance that is led by UNDP; 2) dialogue that is led by the Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO); and 3) the promotion and protection of human rights that is led by OHCHR with the support of UN Women. Relevant institutions received political and technical advice during and after the crisis on relevant human rights situations. In particular, UN Human Rights provided a technical analysis of Decree No. 4078, which appeared to grant the military with overly broad discretion to use force. On 28 November, the Decree was derogated, as recommended by UN Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

In the context of the protracted conflict in **Transnistria (Republic of Moldova)**, OHCHR supported Thomas Hammarberg, UN Senior Expert for the Transnistrian region, to prepare a follow-up report to his 2013 baseline study and contributed to his end-of-mission statement that outlined the need to better integrate human rights into the ongoing settlement process. The report was presented to the constitutional and de facto authorities and contributed to advocacy efforts to widen civic space and minimize protection gaps.

## PS2

Efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism comply with international law.



As a result of a workshop on human rights and detention in relation to terrorism, which was conducted by OHCHR, the United Nations Police, the Justice and Corrections Section of MINUSMA and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in June, 321 detainees were released who had been illegally detained in facilities under the responsibility of the Pôle Judiciaire Spécialisé (PJS), the leading entity in the fight against terrorism, money laundering and transborder criminality in **Mali**. The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of the personnel of the PJS. The workshop facilitated a debate on illegal detentions in relation to the fight against terrorism, as well as challenges faced by the PJS in handling the cases of persons arrested during counter-terrorism operations. Participants also explored possible avenues to improve detention conditions in compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

In 2019, the **G5 Sahel** Compliance Framework was increasingly considered by UN Member States to be a tool that could help mitigate harm to civilians in the context of conflict and counterterrorism operations in the Sahel. OHCHR consistently engaged members of the Security Council, Member States, the African Union (AU) and UN entities at strategic levels in order to provide consistent political and technical support for its work with the G5 Sahel countries. In February, the Assistant Secretary-General delivered an informal briefing to Security Council members, the AU, the G5 Sahel and some permanent representatives from the European Union (EU) on the Compliance Framework. In March, the High Commissioner briefed the Security Council on the Compliance Framework during a ministerial meeting that was organized by Burkina Faso and France on the establishment of the FC-G5S. In coordination with the UN Department of Peace Operations, UN Human Rights provided inputs to the Secretary-General's report to the Security Council on the FC-G5S, which was presented to the Security Council on 16 May. Following the presentation, 11 Security Council members referred to the Compliance Framework as a positive initiative. Recommendations were put forward to fully operationalize its measures and mechanisms.

## PS3

Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.



UN Human Rights partnered with the Department of Peace Operations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict to draft and sign a new joint United Nations Field Missions Policy: Preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), which provides guidance and explains the responsibilities and complementarity of mission components in peace operations, including the leading role of human rights components in implementing Security Council mandates on CRSV. The policy entered into force as of 1 January 2020.

UN Human Rights supported the development of a regional UN-wide strategy on sustaining peace in the **Western Balkans**. In March, UN Human Rights hosted an expanded retreat and facilitated human rights briefings for the Western Balkan Inter-Agency Working Group and Resident Coordinators (RCs) from the region. The adoption by the Secretary-General of a UN Action Plan for the Western Balkans, in June, created space for UN Human Rights to promote the application of an HRBA to its implementation and enhance its work in the region, together with UN entities and other partners. In this regard, UN Human Rights continued to undertake high-level advocacy on human rights concerns, including through increased engagement with authorities and an enhanced presence in the region. With the deployment of a Human Rights Adviser (HRA) to Montenegro, in September, UN Human Rights now has four field presences in the Western Balkans.

UN Human Rights, in coordination with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Presidential Commission on Human Rights, provided technical assistance to the National Civil Police (PNC) of **Guatemala**, for the integration of human rights standards into the

development of the Protocol on the Use of Force, with a view to improving the performance of their duties in the upcoming elections. The Ministry of the Interior adopted the Protocol, in June, prior to the general elections, during which the PNC played an important preventive role. UN Human Rights monitored the implementation of the Protocol during the elections and will continue to do so in all relevant situations, including demonstrations, protests, detentions and all other forms of police intervention.

UN Human Rights engaged with Security Council experts to provide a human rights analysis of primary conflict drivers in order to support the shaping of human rights mandates for peace operations that can effectively address those drivers. As a result, 12 Security Council resolutions adopted in 2019 include dedicated sections on human rights with a monitoring and reporting mandate.

## PS4

Justice mechanisms, including for transitional justice, provide increased accountability for conflict-related violations.



UN Human Rights provided advice and in-country support to a wide range of stakeholders (States, civil society, victim groups, UN partners) and engaged in reflection on and the design or implementation of transitional justice processes and mechanisms, including in **Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, the Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Myanmar, Nepal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia** and the **Western Balkans**. Examples include advice/support on the design of a comprehensive transitional justice strategy (**the Central African Republic, the Gambia**), draft legislation on transitional justice processes and mechanisms (**the Central African Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Kosovo**<sup>2</sup>), draft regulations on reparations programmes and justice-sensitive security sector reform processes (**the Gambia**) and the socioeconomic re-integration of members of armed and terrorist groups (**the DRC**).

In **Colombia**, UN Human Rights continued to provide technical assistance to the Search Unit for Persons Deemed as Missing in the Context of the Armed Conflict (UBPD) in order to increase the analytical capacities of the Unit to design strategies and methodologies for the search, location, identification and dignified delivery of remains, as well as the delimitation of the universe of persons deemed to have disappeared. In addition, UN Human Rights provided technical assistance to the UBPD for the inclusion of international human rights standards of victim's participation in the autonomous and independent process of selecting delegates from the organizations of victims of kidnappings and enforced disappearance to serve on the UBPD Advisory Board.

In **Tunisia**, UN Human Rights provided extensive technical assistance to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission "Instance Vérité et Dignité" (IVD), enabling it to fulfil its mandate in conformity with international standards. In particular, technical support was provided during the elaboration phase of the final report, notably on drafting of the IVD's recommendations. The recommendations focus on the State's reforms at the legal, political and institutional levels to promote democracy, reinforce the rule of law and guarantee the non-recurrence of past human rights abuses. The final report seeks to uncover the truth about violations of human rights committed between 1955 and 2013 and provides reparation measures for victims that have been included in a global reparation programme. The IVD's report was submitted and published, in March, in accordance with Law 53-2013. The IVD transmitted 69 indictments to the Specialized Criminal Chambers (SCC) with regard to 1,120 cases of torture, rape and other forms of sexual violence, enforced disappearance, murder, arbitrary detention, human trafficking, corruption and the misuse of public funds. It issued 145 decisions which referred cases of a similar nature to the SCC. The cases and the decisions concerned a total number of 1,666 victims and 1,426 perpetrators. As of the end of 2019, the SCC has held more than 150 hearings

<sup>2</sup> All references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

on more than 100 cases of gross violations of human rights. OHCHR engaged in constructive discussions with the judicial authorities to enhance and support the mandate and work of the SCC, including by building the capacity of the SCC judges and organizing workshops and various technical meetings and continued to monitor hearings throughout the year.

## PS5

Human rights information and analyses are integrated in early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policy-making, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.



UN Human Rights strengthened the prevention agenda and operationalization of the Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Initiative in **Southern Africa** through support to RCs and UNCTs on early warning and prevention. This was achieved by conducting integrated human rights monitoring and analysis prior to and during elections (Comoros, Malawi and Mozambique) and after elections (Malawi and Zimbabwe), as well as through country visits, briefings, technical cooperation, remote monitoring and the establishment of cooperation platforms, such as integrated information and risk analysis mechanisms. In **Comoros** and **Malawi**, OHCHR was instrumental in the deployment of two multidisciplinary light teams, which strengthened the UN's preventive role in the run-up to potentially destabilizing elections. Specifically, in Malawi, UN Human Rights developed an in-country prevention platform, which provided integrated UN analysis throughout the electoral process to guide UN response led by the RC. OHCHR also deployed a surge team to **Bolivia** to monitor the human rights situation in the electoral context and to **Chile** and **Ecuador** in the context of protests in both countries.

In the framework of the Office's efforts to pursue the Secretary-General's vision of establishing a Prevention Platform and enhancing the UN's role at the regional level, a new regional emergency response team (ERT) was set up at the West Africa Regional Office, in Dakar. Together with established presences in Bangkok and Pretoria, the three ERTs developed risk analysis to more directly influence UN responses at the field level. In 2019, this included the development of an early warning system in Myanmar and the identification of emerging risks in the north of Mozambique, which led to the improved coordination of UN responses, including the deployment of additional UN Human Rights capacity.

 With regards to policy development, the Office contributed to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, which were officially launched, in November. The Guidelines are founded on CRPD and are the first humanitarian guidelines developed by persons with disabilities through their representative organizations, together with humanitarian stakeholders.

 In terms of support for humanitarian action, the Office remained active in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and contributed to various operational and policy-related discussions, including in the area of the humanitarian/development nexus. In 2019, we supported UN Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) in the **Bahamas, Malawi, Mozambique, the State of Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic** and **Zimbabwe** and participated in the Operational Peer Review of the response to Cyclone Idai in Mozambique. In Southern Africa, HCTs in **Malawi, Mozambique** and **Zimbabwe** incorporated human rights analysis into their discussions and strategies related to the response to Cyclones Idai and Kenneth, including as a result of UN Human Rights inputs and participation. UN Human Rights also supported the integration of human rights in Post-Disaster Needs Assessments in Malawi and Mozambique, with a focus on persons with disabilities, older persons and persons with albinism. In Mozambique, UN Human Rights participated in the Operational Peer Review that followed the scale-up response to Cyclone Idai and recommended strengthening the Protection Cluster. UN Human Rights implemented a pilot project with the Asia Pacific Forum aimed at strengthening the capacity of NHRIs to engage in emergencies and humanitarian crises.

## PS6

United Nations' support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies, and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.



With technical assistance from UN Human Rights, the **Lebanese** Armed Forces (LAF) developed a Code of Conduct on Human Rights, launched in January. The Code of Conduct outlines fundamental human rights standards and principles that are relevant to law enforcement and highlights the importance of protecting women, children, older persons, refugees and victims of human trafficking in all law enforcement-related tasks. Following the launch, LAF announced that a number of legal adviser positions had been created in the departments responsible for monitoring the dissemination and implementation of the Code of Conduct. Moreover, the Office received official requests from the other two main security agencies in Lebanon, the Internal Security Forces and the General Security Office, to assist with the revision of their respective codes of conduct, introduce accountability elements and ensure wider dissemination of the documents among their personnel.

OHCHR provided technical support to MINUSMA and engaged RCs in **G5 Sahel** countries to establish a common understanding of Security Council resolution 2480 (2019) and to plan the implementation of the Human Rights Due Diligence Framework in G5 Sahel countries. Security Council resolution 2480, which expanded the mandate of MINUSMA to support the G5S Joint Force in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania and Niger, made strong references to compliance with the HRDDP regarding UN support to non-UN security forces. To this end, the Office provided technical and operational support to MINUSMA for the organization, in October, of regional consultations on the implementation of the HRDDP in the context of MINUSMA's support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force outside of Mali. In addition, we prepared a draft General and Preliminary Risk Assessment Framework on MINUSMA support to the FC-G5S, which will serve as a basis for specific HRDDP risk assessments for cases/operations/forces across the Sahel region.

In **Myanmar**, the Office provided support to the development of a Human Rights Due Diligence Framework for the work of the UNCT Myanmar. The work originated from a recommendation issued by the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar that the UNCT should undergo a human rights due diligence analysis. The advice and recommendations from the UN Human Rights team were adopted by the Myanmar UNCT and a draft Human Rights Due Diligence Framework was developed by OHCHR that provides clear guidance and next steps for implementation in 2020.

## PS7

The use of private military and security companies, and the development and deployment of new technologies, weapons and tactics, are increasingly consistent with and respect international human rights law and international humanitarian law.



The Working Group on mercenaries participated in the first session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on private military and security companies (PMSCs) and reiterated its support for a legally binding instrument supported by the findings made in its two thematic reports on the human rights impact of PMSCs in the extractive sector (A/HRC/42/42) and on gender and PMSCs (A/74/244), which highlighted the gaps in regulation and accountability created by insufficient PMSC regulation. It also stressed the importance of ensuring strong human rights safeguards in any future regulatory mechanism. The mandate consistently emphasized the need for strengthened regulation, including in engagements with States, private industry and in the context of multi-stakeholder initiatives.

## INFORMATION DRIVES PREVENTION

Operating under the understanding that “information drives prevention,” the organization has strengthened its efforts to build the practices, skills, and resources required to deliver timely, reliable, accessible information and analysis to inform prevention efforts.

### WHY NOW?

This Information Management (IM) initiative came out of the need to be able to provide human rights data to feed into the integrated analysis called for in the Secretary-General’s Prevention Platform. In addition, the New Way of Working and the Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace Agendas make human rights a key part of meeting their goals. In the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP) for 2018-2021 this has been addressed through a “Shift” to prevention. To ensure human rights data and analysis are part of the solution, the Office needs to be able to engage in the integrated analysis on an equal footing with UN partners.

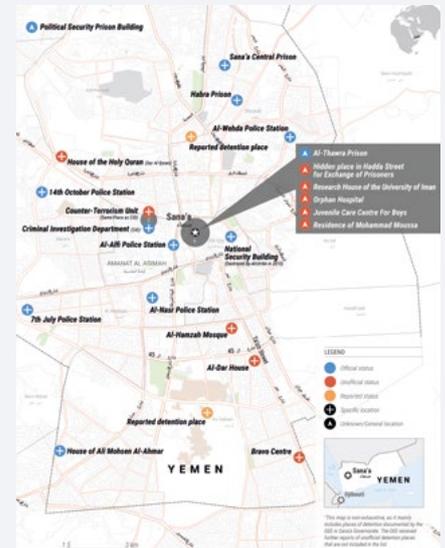
### WHAT IS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT?

We define IM as the systematic practice of identifying, collecting, protecting, processing, analysing and sharing data, information and knowledge for evidence-based decision-making. It is an information lifecycle that provides the ingredients for analysis.

### HOW DID WE MEET THE NEED?

The Emergency Response Section (ERS) has been moving to meet the data needs in the prevention space as this represents a transformation in how UN Human Rights engages and leverages information. In March, the Section was re-structured due to the expansion of its focus on IM and the organization-wide support that these IM services offer. The ERS is driving the creation and establishment of the Information Management function in the organization. The new Information Management and Data Analytics (IMDA) Unit developed a field operations IM Strategy that serves as the road map for the development of sustainable IM structures in support of human rights work in the field. This Strategy envisions a range of profiles and expertise required to set in place systems and practices for early warning, data aggregation, data cleaning, secure data collection, media monitoring, open source intelligence, geo-spatial analysis, mapping, satellite imagery analysis and visualization.

The Strategy is built around delivering **services, tools** and **people**. Targeting resources to support field presences leads to more actionable data and information; enabling UN Human Rights to provide the situational awareness required to deliver the timely, evidence-based, strategic and operational decisions that the UN system requires. The team has developed partnerships to leverage powerful **tools** to support media monitoring and structured secondary data analysis. The **services** are



Map of the network of detention facilities by de facto authorities in Yemen for the Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen. © OHCHR

delivered through the IMDA Unit and a service catalogue to support field presences, investigative bodies, peace-keeping components and risk analysis at headquarters. Examples of services produced in 2019 include data visualization, establishment of information flows, leveraging information and data to inform decisions, data management and analysis, GIS/mapping, media monitoring tools, satellite imagery, etc.

**ADDITIONAL RESULTS FROM OTHER PILLARS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY PILLAR:**

**A1**

Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.



With support from the Office, the Government of the **Central African Republic** gradually deployed defence and security forces and administrative and judicial authorities beyond the capital, in an effort to enhance its capacity to protect civilians and address impunity. OHCHR applied the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) in response to 132 requests for support from the defence and security forces. This resulted in the production of risk assessments and proposals for mitigating measures to prevent human rights violations. UN Human Rights screened 4,399 members of the defence and security forces who were to benefit from UN support. A total of 74 of those who were screened were excluded when it was determined that they were responsible for human rights violations. UN Human Rights continued to provide technical support for the integration of human rights into security sector reform through trainings, workshops and expert advice. It notably organized 60 training sessions and 10 workshops on international human rights law and international humanitarian law for 1,796 defence and security officers, including 287 women, in Bangui and across the country.

**P6**

The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard.



Building on its support in 2018, in **Colombia**, OHCHR implemented strategies to increase the capacity of victims, their families, civil society organizations and national and regional collective processes to participate in the mechanisms of the System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Recurrence (SIVJRNR). UN Human Rights provided technical assistance to nine of the 10 organizations that attended the “Space for strategic litigation” workshop to facilitate their participation in the SIVJRNR mechanisms, thus increasing their capacity to present reports to the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP). As a result, the organizations prepared one report for the JEP on 23 cases of extrajudicial executions that were carried out in Cesar, between 2007 and 2009, and one report on 158 cases of extrajudicial executions that were carried out in Antioquia. Furthermore, the Office strengthened the capacity of the Coalición contra la vinculación de niños, niñas y jóvenes al conflicto armado en Colombia (COALICO) to actively participate in the SIVJRNR mechanisms. COALICO subsequently presented one report to the JEP, which in turn contributed to the opening of Case No. 007 on recruitment and the use of children in the Colombian armed conflict.

## SUPPORTING KEY TRANSITION PROCESSES IN A NEW DEMOCRACY IN THE GAMBIA

In 2017, after 22 years of dictatorship in the Gambia, the UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), approved US\$3.1 million in essential financing to assist with the country's transition to democracy. From 28 to 31 May, partners of the Fund, including Belgium, Canada, the European Union, Germany, Ireland, Japan and the United Kingdom, visited the Gambia to evaluate the initial impact of this support. The PBF partners also sought to identify additional peacebuilding needs that had arisen during the transition process.

In late 2018, the PBF allocated an additional US\$450,000 to enable UN Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to support the establishment of transitional justice processes and human rights mechanisms to promote reconciliation and sustainable peace.

From the beginning, UN Human Rights supported nationwide consultations

to set up the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC), helped to develop a Comprehensive National Strategy for Transitional Justice and facilitated the functional establishment of the TRRC, in October 2018. Moreover, UN Human Rights built the capacity of the TRRC members and staff regarding the rule of law, human rights and gender equality and the practical aspects of the proceedings.

In reflecting on the past year, the TRRC staff shared moments of success and various challenges, including in relation to the quality of investigations, the low number of testimonies received from women, the payment of reparations, the design of an effective framework and fundraising.

Since commencing its public hearings, in January 2019, the Commission registered 941 victims and received the testimonies of 188 witnesses, including 23 that were delivered via video link from witnesses living outside of the country, during 10

three-week sessions that were completed by the end of the year. In addition, the Commission held one closed hearing and two hearings during which the identities of witnesses were concealed. Among these testimonies before the Commission, 35 were delivered by alleged perpetrators.

Furthermore, the Office and UNDP worked together to provide technical assistance for the operationalization of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and contributed to the increased capacity of key stakeholders to participate in transitional justice processes. During the swearing-in ceremony of the five commissioners, in February, the Vice-Chair of the NHRC, Mrs. Jainba Johm, recognized that the Fund had enabled the Commission to begin its work. The Fund also supported the NHRC to participate in the country's third UPR cycle by submitting an alternative report to the UPR Working Group and to organize a live streaming, in the Gambia, of the review process that was held in Geneva, in November. Finally, the Fund supported and facilitated the NHRC's programmes to promote the work of the Commission, including through participation at the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions annual conference, in March; exchange visits to the Ghanaian Human Rights Commission; trainings for CSOs and law enforcement officers; meetings of regional stakeholders in all five regions; and monitoring missions to Mile II, Old Jeshwang and Janjanbureh prisons and to three police detention centres.



Victims shared their personal stories with Ambassador Gert Rosenthal, member of the Peacebuilding Fund Advisory Group (right) in May 2019. © UN Peacebuilding Fund

This story is based on the feature article published on the UN Peacebuilding Fund's Exposure platform: <https://unpeacebuildingfund.exposure.co/supporting-key-transition-processes-in-a-new-democracy>

## Non-discrimination (ND)

Enhancing equality and countering discrimination



### Non-discrimination in numbers

Since its establishment in 1985, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples has supported the participation of over

**2,500**

indigenous persons in UN human rights mechanisms



**15**



national laws adopted to combat discrimination in all its forms

**1**

transgender person participated in the new UN Human Rights LGBTI Fellowship Programme launched in 2019



UN Free & Equal campaign supported national campaigns and activities in

**17**

countries across the world, reaching

**187,000**

followers via its social media platforms



**35**

fellows (18 women, 17 men) from

**29**

countries participated in the annual Indigenous Fellowship Programme in Geneva



The Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent sent 44 allegation letters and urgent appeals on behalf of over

**30,200**

victims



**30**

members of minority groups (15 women, 15 men) from



**27**

countries participated in the annual Minorities Fellowship Programme in Geneva

**12**

persons of African descent (8 women, 4 men) from



**11**

countries awarded a UN Human Rights Fellowship for People of African Descent

## IMPROVING THE LIVES OF TUNISIA'S RURAL WOMEN



CHEBIKA, Tunisia – Here in the fields of the interior, in the central Tunisian province of Kairouan, farmers – mostly women – spend eight hours a day picking olives, peppers or tomatoes, regardless of the weather.

“It is very hard work – sometimes we are so tired we fall down,” said Naima Khlif, 49, bending over to pick another handful of peppers.

Many rural farming women in Tunisia carried out this work, which entailed a multitude of risks, without a safety net for themselves or their families. Working for short periods for a variety of employers made them ineligible for social security benefits. With high unemployment rates in Tunisia, there were always plenty of other women waiting to take up available work. Despite these precarious conditions, some positive changes are slowly helping to improve the situation of these women.

### PROTECTING RURAL WOMEN'S RIGHT TO SOCIAL SECURITY

As a result of a local scheme that is supported by the Office, many rural women are now able to access social security and pay their contributions with a simple and free phone app that requires limited technical knowledge.

The app is the brainchild of Maher Khlifi, a local mechanic whose mother, a farm worker, was refused hospital care after her cancer diagnosis. After finding out that more than 90 per cent of women didn't have social security, Mr. Khlifi launched Ahmini, which means “protect me” in Arabic, a volunteer-based social enterprise designed to improve working



Naima Khlif at work picking peppers in Chebika, Tunisia.  
© OHCHR/Moadh Grami

conditions for rural women. “I wanted to find a way to change the lives of women like my mother and give them greater equality,” he said.

Today, women who join the scheme can register for social security on their phones, upload the required documents and pay their contributions. This simple technology has meant freedom from fear and uncertainty.

### CHANGING ATTITUDES, CHANGING LAWS

It all started in 2016 when Eljezia Hammami, a former coordinator with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, proposed a study on rural women and access to social security. The Office helped to fund and design the study, with support from UN Women.

The final report, which identified some of the startling reasons why rural women were ineligible for social security benefits, combined with advocacy materials, including from NGOs, served as the

cornerstone for a national strategy to ensure the economic and social autonomy of rural women.

“UN Human Rights was relentless in its advocacy for legal reform. Each time a representative met someone...in Tunis or Geneva, the issue of rural women was discussed and kept alive, adding a strong voice to ours,” Ms. Hammami said.

The legal reform was finally enacted in 2019, following which nearly 10,000 previously excluded rural women signed up for social security. The strategy for rural women has now been expanded to a five-year plan and many more women are expected to join.

The women are no longer refused healthcare, nor do they have to hide illnesses and pregnancies from employers. Working conditions may not yet be ideal, but the safety net for the poorest rural women is growing.

See the full version of this story on the UN Human Rights Exposure platform: <https://unhumanrights.exposure.co/improving-the-lives-of-tunisias-rural-women>

# Highlights of pillar results

## Non-discrimination (ND)

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### ND1

Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to 'leave no one behind', including by addressing the root causes of inequality.



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

Spotlights: Youth Disabilities Women



In December, the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) of **Guatemala** adopted a ministerial agreement for the implementation of the intercultural bilingual education model in 13 communities in Antigua Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán, Sololá. This ministerial agreement is the direct result of a strategic litigation case that was supported by OHCHR. Building on the favourable decision handed down by the Constitutional Court, in 2016, the Office provided technical assistance to the MINEDUC, indigenous authorities and affected communities regarding the design and implementation of the abovementioned intercultural bilingual education model, which includes a carefully prepared curriculum for indigenous children and scholarships for students.

The Parliament of **North Macedonia** adopted a new Law on Prevention and Protection against Discrimination, in May, after long political debates. UN Human Rights used the opportunity of the country's third UPR report, in January, to support CSOs in their advocacy efforts prior and during the review. The resulting eight recommendations that were issued to expedite the adoption of the Law, coupled with advocacy undertaken by civil society after the review, contributed to the Parliament's decision to adopt the Law. An assessment of the compliance of the Law with international human rights standards will take place in 2020. The adopted text, however, appears to fully incorporate the Office's comments and comply with international human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The new Law includes provisions related to persons with disabilities, explicitly lists sexual orientation and gender identity among the prohibited grounds of discrimination and clarifies definitions. Most importantly, it also strengthens the mandate and provisions for ensuring an independent and effective Commission for prevention and protection against discrimination, which were the weakest elements of both the previous Law and the national anti-discrimination framework.



A number of results were achieved in the context of the project to support the eradication of begging and child abuse in **Senegal**, including the development of standard operating procedures for the care of children in danger and a national action plan for child protection that has been endorsed by the government; and a Children's Code that has also been finalized and is under consideration at the Ministry of Justice. Furthermore, a methodological tool that will be used in conducting a national survey on child begging in Senegal, was developed with the technical assistance of OHCHR and approved by the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender and Child Protection. The provision of equipment (bedding and medicines) for 10 reception centres that were established to promote access to protection services for 500 children in vulnerable situations is also a significant achievement. Finally, the Office carried out three studies linked to the implementation of this project including a mapping of actors and initiatives to combat begging and child abuse; an analysis of Senegal's international, regional and national legal framework on the rights of the child and the implementation status of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms on the rights of the child; and a study on the status of data collection related to child begging in Senegal.

## ND2

Justice systems and related institutions increasingly monitor and investigate discrimination and provide redress to victims.



UN Human Rights contributed to the capacity-building of national institutions and equality bodies, mainly in **Europe** and **Latin America** and the **Caribbean**, and provided substantive inputs to national non-discrimination bills and plans of action against racism. For instance, as follow-up to recommendations issued by the UPR, UN Human Rights provided technical assistance to the Government of **Belgium** in its preparations of a national action plan against racism.

In April, the Constitutional Court ruled in favour of indigenous Mayan midwives, in a strategic litigation case that was supported by OHCHR in **Guatemala**. The Court's decision instructed the Ministry of Health to report on the implementation status of its internal policies for the provision of sexual and reproductive healthcare with an intercultural approach. Further, it ruled that the Ministry of Health must provide indigenous midwives with the tools and utensils they need to ensure quality, accessible and dignified reproductive healthcare. The Court ordered the Ministry of Health to develop adequate legal, technical and operational measures to ensure the effective inclusion of and respect for the customs, languages, practices and traditions of Maya, Garífuna, Xinca and Ladino women in the provision of maternal health services.

## ND3

Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote women's and girls' autonomy and choice and protect them from violence, including in the digital space.



The Office's conference on "Protecting Civic Space in the **European Union**" recommended that any new legislation in the EU relating to online civic space should strictly define what constitutes prohibited content in accordance with ICCPR and ICERD. It was also suggested that consideration be given to the adoption of EU legislation to combat violence and abuse against women online. As a result of its participation in the conference, the EU's Fundamental Rights Agency expanded its survey on civic space in follow-up to its 2018 report entitled "Challenges facing civil society organizations working on human rights in the EU" to include questions about online harassment of HRDs in general, and women in particular. In November, UN Human Rights was invited to highlight the human rights-based perspective at the Women's Network of European Socialist Parties event on "Breaking the silence on online violence against women," which focused on the consequences of women withdrawing from political life on account of online harassment. The then incoming European Commissioner for Equality attended the event and pledged to take action.

OHCHR successfully engaged with the National Human Rights Commission and CSOs to advocate for enhancing the participation of women in public space in **Niger**. UN Human Rights' advocacy contributed to the adoption by the Parliament, on 6 December, of the bill amending Law No. 2000-008 of June 2000 establishing the quota system in elective, government and State administration positions. The revised legislation instituted a quota system for the participation of women in elective, government and State administration functions. The objective is to increase the quotas from 15 to 25 per cent for elective positions and from 25 to 30 per cent for appointments to senior government positions. It is anticipated that this legislation will strengthen the participation of women in public and political life in Niger.

## ND4

Judicial institutions, media, and other sectors increasingly recognize and challenge harmful gender stereotypes and gender norms with a view to their eradication.



In **Paraguay**, Law No. 6338/19 was adopted on 1 July, amending article 10 of Law No. 5407/15 on domestic workers and improving their working conditions. This amendment was undertaken in response to a recommendation of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences during her visit to Paraguay in 2017.

## ND5

Principles and practices effectively counter discrimination and hate speech in the digital space.



The High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner raised their concerns about the pushback on women’s rights and gender equality, including in online attacks, misogyny and hate speech in several high-level discussions, including at the Commission on the Status of Women, which was held in New York, in March; at the Women Deliver 2019 Conference, which was held in Vancouver, in June; and at the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development, which was held in Nairobi, in November. The Office also contributed to the Doha Forum’s panel on “New Models for Online Content Governance,” during which panellists explored issues such as current and proposed efforts to monitor, regulate and curate online content; who should define what constitutes misinformation, hatred and violence on digital platforms; and risks associated with private actors developing their own decision-making frameworks for the removal of content. To this end, OHCHR developed a joint project with UN Global Pulse for monitoring online hate speech and incitement.

In the context of the rampant discourse emanating from religious and political groups opposing gender equality, UN Human Rights implemented activities aimed at countering the prevalence of hate speech and negative stereotyping directed towards women, LGBTI persons and groups that are frequently subject to discrimination. For instance, within the context of Human Rights Day, the Regional Office for Central America and **Panama’s** Museum of Contemporary Arts co-organized a digital arts exhibition, which included a specific segment emphasizing the need to combat the use of harmful stereotyping and its negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights of discriminated persons and groups.

## ND6

The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected.



OHCHR supported selected State institutions and programmes in the **Middle East and North Africa** to significantly improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards on migration. The Office translated into Arabic the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders and widely disseminated this document during capacity-building activities and discussions with governmental and non-governmental partners in the region. OHCHR also organized a training programme on these guidelines and conducted training sessions on the protection of migrants across borders for the Lebanese General Security (GS). As a result of the programme, 150 GS Officers were trained on human rights principles and guidelines for border management, trafficking and due process in border management. The programme allowed UN Human Rights to further engage with GS and relevant UN entities to uphold the rights of people on the move.

In 2019, concluding observations issued by CMW in relation to **Argentina, Colombia** and **Guatemala** addressed frontier issues, such as mixed migratory movements, and in particular, migrations known as the “migrant caravans.” The Committee also highlighted the human rights of women and children on the move in the context of the massive migration of Venezuelan citizens, including in relation to citizenship for Venezuelan children born in Argentina and Colombia, family reunification, border management capacities and the lack of infrastructure at border crossing points. The Committee expressed its concern about the persistence of xenophobic attacks and hate speech against migrants from the media. In addition, CRPD issued recommendations concerning people’s displacement and movement, particularly migrants, asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities, in 15 out of 18 concluding observations and recommendations that were issued during the year.

## ND7

Public support for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination, increases.



The UN Free & Equal campaign launched four mini-campaigns reaching more than 14.3 million people in 2019 alone through campaign videos. The campaign also reached more than 187,000 people through its Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts. In March, the campaign celebrated International Transgender Day of Visibility with a short, animated video. In May, International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia was marked with a campaign celebrating political progress achieved by human rights activists and LGBTI communities in countries around the world. In October, a mini-campaign for Spirit Day called on allies to stand up for the rights of LGBTI youth experiencing bullying. In December, a mini-campaign was launched to laud the dedication of some of Africa's most inspiring allies, including Willy Mutunga, former Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya; Seun Kuti, a musician and activist from Nigeria; Bishop Ssenyonjo, a theologian from Uganda; and Alice Nkom, a lawyer from Cameroon.

The Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism engaged with various partners, including a dermatology company, to launch the largest worldwide awareness-raising campaign on albinism. This included NYDG's ColourFull campaign, which used billboards in New York's Times Square on International Albinism Awareness Day to advocate for the rights of persons with albinism. Similar billboard campaigns were launched in other cities, including London and Hong Kong. In conjunction with the campaign, a consultation was held in New York bringing together Member States, UN entities, media representatives and communications specialists to reinforce advocacy efforts to combat discrimination against persons with albinism. The Independent Expert continued to advocate and promote "Champions for Albinism" to increase dialogue in civic space on persons with albinism. UN Human Rights has set up a dedicated web page (<https://albinism.ohchr.org/>) on its website that features champion advocates for albinism. The Independent Expert visited South Africa during national albinism month. While there, the President of South Africa delivered a national statement that acknowledged the need to address challenges faced by persons with albinism.

Following the 2018 design phase, the Association of Persons with Disabilities in **Timor-Leste** (ADTL) implemented a national campaign on the rights of persons with disabilities, with support from the Office. The campaign was based on a strategy that was drafted after consultations with persons with disabilities in three municipalities, interviews with organizations conducting behavioural change campaigns and desk research. The campaign featured inspiring persons with disabilities who are positive role models that embrace inclusion and make use of traditional and social media. Radio talk shows on the rights of persons with disabilities went on the air, in May, and preparations for three short videos/films commenced in November. One of the three videos, which highlighted terminology that should be used to respect the rights of persons with disabilities, was launched on International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The national campaign aims to raise awareness about the equal rights of persons with disabilities and reduce the use of stigmatizing language and discriminatory behaviour. It also emphasizes the importance of ratifying CRPD. The ADTL received financial support to carry out the campaign under the joint UN agency project entitled Empower for Change in order to reduce discrimination and violence against persons with disabilities. The campaign was funded by the UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

## NDS

The UN system implements a coherent and human rights-based response to inequality and discrimination, including intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.



The Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities continued to actively promote a process to strengthen UN system-wide accessibility, inclusion and mainstreaming of the rights of persons with disabilities. The findings of the 2018 baseline review of UN action to mainstream accessibility and disability inclusion informed the development of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), adopted in 2019. The Special Rapporteur engaged directly with the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General and collaborated with the IASG using CRPD as a reference point, which led to the adoption and launch of the UNDIS, in June. UN Human Rights contributed to the substance of the UNDIS.

## ADDITIONAL RESULTS FROM OTHER PILLARS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY PILLAR:

### A3

Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively.



With the support of UN Human Rights, protection measures were put in place for victims of sexual violence participating in the Walikale case in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, which enabled more than 20 victims to safely testify in court. In addition, UN Human Rights coordinated the provision of individual protection measures for 11 victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the **Central African Republic**. These measures enabled victims to participate in a public hearing judicial proceedings, in Bangui, from 11 to 15 March.



**UN Human Rights** @UNHumanRights · Dec 13, 2019

✓

#India: We are concerned that the new #CitizenshipAmendmentAct is fundamentally discriminatory in nature. Goal of protecting persecuted groups is welcomed, but new law does not extend protection to Muslims, incl. minority sects: [ow.ly/PYQC50xzfd9](https://ow.ly/PYQC50xzfd9)

#FightRacism #CABProtests



4.8K
10.9K
17.6K
↑

*Top social media post in 2019 highlighted the discriminatory nature of India's new Citizenship (Amendment) Act.*

## #FAITH4RIGHTS: INTERFAITH ENGAGEMENT TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS

Religious leaders are important human rights actors in light of their considerable influence on the hearts and minds of millions of people.

The Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence (A/HRC/22/17/Add.4) outlined some of the responsibilities of religious leaders to prevent incitement to hatred. In order to expand on those responsibilities and include the full spectrum of human rights, UN Human Rights brought together faith-based and civil society actors, in Beirut in 2017 (see A/HRC/40/58, annexes).

The Beirut Declaration considers that all believers – whether they identify as theistic, non-theistic, atheistic or other – should join hands and hearts to articulate the ways in which “faith” can more effectively stand up for “rights” so that they are mutually reinforcing. The individual and communal expression of religions or beliefs thrive and flourish in environments where human rights are protected. Similarly, deeply rooted ethical and spiritual foundations provided by religions or beliefs are also the foundation of human rights and can contribute to their protection and promotion. The Beirut Declaration is linked to 18 commitments on “Faith for Rights,” with corresponding follow-up action (<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/FreedomReligion/Pages/FaithForRights.aspx>).

In 2019, UN Human Rights enhanced the application of the Beirut Declaration and its 18 commitments on “Faith for Rights”

for training and advocacy purposes with religious minority groups, civil society organizations as well as international human rights mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on minority issues and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief.

OHCHR focused on the protection of religious minorities by organizing a regional workshop, in Tunis, in October, on enhancing civic space and addressing hate speech on social media platforms in the Middle East and North Africa. In November, the Office organized a side event during the Forum on Minority Issues on “Telling human rights stories of minorities: Short films and conversations with UN Human Rights minority fellows.” It screened and facilitated discussions on several short films from Iraq. The films had been selected at the 2019 Baghdad Foundation of Cinema and Arts Film Festival, conducted in partnership with the Human Rights Office of UNAMI.

Bringing rights into the digital age, UN Human Rights produced a #Faith4Rights toolkit, in December, as a prototype for faith actors, academic institutions and training experts that can be adapted and enriched to suit unique interfaith engagement contexts. The concept is interactive and participatory and the methodology of engagement is designed to be implemented through information technology and social media, with a particular focus on the needs of youth. The toolkit contains 18 modules, which offer concrete ideas for peer-to-peer learning exercises, such as how to share personal stories, search for faith quotes or provide inspiring examples of artistic expression.

Throughout 2019, the “Faith for Rights” framework was used by UN Human Rights, faith-based actors and civil society organizations to promote and advocate for the respect of freedom of religion and of minority rights. For example, the G20 Interfaith Forum in Osaka recommended reducing incitement to hatred by supporting religious leaders and faith-based actors to fulfil their human rights responsibilities outlined in the Beirut Declaration and its 18 commitments. In addition, the Action Plan of the Faith Action for Children on the Move Global Partners Forum called for the design and implementation of projects and initiatives aimed at promoting respect for and understanding of minority groups, including those with different beliefs, faiths and religions in order to reduce violence and xenophobic narratives and to nurture peaceful societies. Furthermore, the Religious Track of the Cyprus Peace Process organized a “Faith for Rights” seminar, in Nicosia, in October, which focused on the role that faith communities can play in combating human trafficking and supporting victims. In November, Arigatou International published a multi-religious study entitled “Faith and Children’s Rights,” which also draws upon the Beirut Declaration.

## Accountability (A)

Strengthening the rule of law and accountability for human rights violations



### Accountability in numbers

**35,997**

victims of torture in

**77**

countries received rehabilitation support



**8,594**

victims of contemporary forms of slavery in

**23**

countries obtained assistance



**2,961**

visits to places of detention were conducted



**6,047**

monitoring missions were undertaken to investigate and document human rights situations worldwide



**1,675**

trials were monitored worldwide



The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances transmitted

**797** new cases of allegations to States

**142** were under its urgent action procedure

The Working Group clarified **389** cases

NHRIs, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and its regional networks submitted

**7** written submissions

**16** pre-recorded video statements and

**29** oral statements

to the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms



In **19**

countries, NHRIs have been established or have improved their compliance with international standards (the Paris Principles)



## ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PAST HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN EL SALVADOR



It has been nearly 40 years since Dorila Márquez survived the horrific attack that left hundreds dead, including her brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews.

“It was purely a miracle I survived,” she said. Márquez and a few others had hidden in her home when the soldiers came. Over the course of the day, Márquez heard the screams, gunshots and explosions. It wasn’t until she exited her home the next day that she saw the scale of the violence – burned homes and fields, dead livestock and so many burned bodies.

Over the course of three days, in December 1981, soldiers of the El Salvador Army murdered nearly 1,000 civilians in El Mozote and other northeastern towns. El Salvador’s civil war lasted from 1980 to 1992.

Survivors and families have spent years fighting for recognition, justice and reparations. Decades of denial of the massacre by former governments, a new administration and bureaucratic mazes have stalled the reparations process.

Since 2016, the OHCHR Regional Office for Central America, has been working in El Salvador to provide technical assistance and support in relation to transitional justice. The Office provides technical and legal support to the country’s Attorney General’s Office and civil society for the investigation and criminal prosecution of crimes against humanity and war crimes that were committed in the context of the armed conflict.

“It was only after the 2016 rejection by the Supreme Court of the 1993 amnesty law that victims and family members could envision getting justice and dream of



Miriam Abrego (left) with two other survivors of the San Francisco Angulo massacre at a meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Guarantees of non-Recurrence during his visit to El Salvador in May 2019. © OHCHR

the truth hopefully being known,” indicated Marlene Alejos, former Regional Representative for Central America and Head of the UN Regional Office.

Overtuning the amnesty law made it possible to finally bring to trial those involved in the massacres. Julio César Larrama, from the Attorney General’s Office, said “this not only opened up the chance for prosecutions of those involved, but it also showed the need for better training on handling such cases.”

“We know that these events occurred many years ago, but if you talk to a victim of a serious violation of human rights it is as if those events occurred yesterday,” he said. “We do not want to cause double suffering and that is why we asked the UN Human Rights Office for support.”

Alejos said that one of the Office’s main contributions was the Attorney

General’s 2018 adoption of the “Policy on Investigations and Criminal Prosecutions of Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes,” elaborated with technical support from the Office after consultation with survivors, civil society and prosecutors. The policy contains an action plan and toolkit to assist the Attorney General’s Office in the investigation and prosecution of transitional justice cases.

Larrama, who is the coordinator for prosecutors working on cases stemming from the armed conflict, said the UN Human Rights Office facilitated important information exchanges with counterparts from other countries in similar situations, such as Colombia and Guatemala.

“They had a much longer war than ours and have obtained very good results in the cases they have aired.”

# Highlights of pillar results

## Accountability (A)

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### A1

Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.



#### A2

Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights.



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

Spotlights:  Youth  Disabilities  Women

In **Mexico**, a National Law on the Use of Force (LNUF) was adopted in May. During his visit to Mexico in 2015, the then High Commissioner for Human Rights recommended that Mexico adopt legislation on the use of force and, since then, several special procedures have issued similar recommendations. During the congressional debates related to the preparation of the draft law, UN Human Rights presented a document outlining the international standards that needed to be incorporated. Many of these standards were included in the final version. In May, UN Human Rights issued a statement acknowledging the positive aspects of the Law, while also underscoring its shortcomings, particularly regarding the lack of regulation on the use of lethal force and accountability. Following the adoption of the Law, the Office began to monitor its implementation, document cases of human rights violations and advocate for the security forces to fully comply with the LNUF.

Under the individual complaint procedures of the human rights treaty bodies, individuals have the right to complain about alleged human rights violations. In 2019, the eight treaty bodies that can receive individual complaints had registered a total of 640 new individual communications and had adopted 376 final decisions on communications. The Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) registered 248 new urgent actions and adopted 139 follow-up decisions with regard to registered urgent actions, bringing the total number of decisions it adopted in 2019 to 389. In addition, 3,360 individual communications were registered in 2019 and 65 decisions were adopted to close urgent actions.

Several NGOs in **Mexico** created, with UN Human Rights support, a website, [sintortura.org](http://sintortura.org), which was launched, in November, to monitor the implementation of the General Law on Torture. The website includes information on the status and number of investigations, the number of convictions for torture and forensic torture exams. It is also used for advocacy before the authorities across the country. In addition, the Office provided technical assistance and support to civil society organizations and victims' groups to promote the creation of an Extraordinary Forensic Mechanism, including by holding periodic meetings with government stakeholders and diplomatic missions to identify opportunities for collaboration. After several months of dialogue, an agreement was reached between the various actors involved in the process and the Extraordinary Forensic Mechanism was formally established on 5 December.

 The President of **Nigeria** signed into law the Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, enshrining the provisions of CRPD into national legislation. This came about following advocacy by the UN, its partners and stakeholders. To prepare the grounds for this achievement, UN Human Rights organized a workshop on CRPD, in 2018, which brought together relevant stakeholders and government representatives.

The Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission of **the Gambia**, established in 2017, began to implement in 2019 its mandate and made use of the knowledge it had gained through the capacity-building activities that UN Human Rights facilitated. Between January and October, the Commission conducted a number of public hearings to enable the participation of 129 witnesses, 21 of whom were women and 31 of whom were alleged perpetrators. A National Strategy on Transitional Justice and Resource Mobilization plan has been adopted. Still pending is a proposal to enact a government-led coordination mechanism on transitional justice that would facilitate a more coordinated and shared effort to implement the transitional justice process.

### A3

Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively.



UN Human Rights engaged in a series of activities in **Tunisia** to help advance the implementation of General Law No. 2017-58 against violence against women. In March, UN Human Rights collaborated with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Council of Europe to co-organize a two-day national conference to assess the level of implementation of the Law, one year after coming into force. The conference brought together 150 representatives (approximately 80 per cent women and 20 per cent men) from the justice, security, health and social affairs sectors, including 30 judges and lawyers from Tunis and other regions of the country. The conference identified key issues and produced recommendations for line ministries regarding each "P" of the law, namely, protection, prevention, prosecution and integrated policies.

### A4

States take measures to ensure that their decision-making, policies and actions are more transparent and the public has access to information for accountability purposes.



Following many recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR, **Liberia** adopted the Domestic Violence Bill in August. The legislation is a landmark for gender equality in Liberia and seeks to address physical, emotional, verbal and psychological abuse, dowry-related violence, offenses against the family and harassment, among other violations. Due to advocacy from traditional leaders, however, the criminalization of female genital mutilation (FGM) was excluded from the Bill. OHCHR provided technical support to the Independent National Commission on Human Rights during the drafting and consultation process. This support led to the establishment of the Working Group on FGM, which is advocating for the adoption of legislation on FGM that is currently being reviewed by the Parliament.

### A5

UN efforts for the rule of law, justice, counter-terrorism and accountability put human rights at the core.



UN Human Rights continued to engage with UN entities working on counter-terrorism to ensure due consideration for human rights. These included conversations with the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (OCT) on implementing the UN counter-terrorism travel programme and highlighting key human rights concerns in specific countries; with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) in relation to supporting their country assessments with human rights analysis; and with UNODC on developing UN strategies regarding prosecution, rehabilitation and the reintegration of persons allegedly associated with terrorist groups. UN Human Rights also provided inputs to the CTED for the Secretary-General's tenth report to the Security Council on the threat posed by ISIL/Daesh, covering the period from July to December, and to the OCT for the Secretary-General's report mandated by resolution A/RES/73/305 on victims of terrorism. In September, UN Women finalized the Guidance Note on gender mainstreaming principles, dimensions and priorities for preventing and countering violent extremism, to which UN Human Rights contributed.

In consultation with the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator, UN agencies and NGOs in **Myanmar**, the Office supported the establishment of a regular monthly early warning reporting system. The overarching objective was to facilitate communication and information sharing within the UN Country Team (UNCT), making sure that concerns regarding human rights developments are flagged, while also suggesting early actions to address and mitigate these developments. The first early warning report was issued in October. Since then, the early warning monthly reporting system has helped to ensure that human rights are maintained as a standing item for discussion on the UNCT agenda.

In May, the Office of the State Inspector was established in **Georgia**, following five years of advocacy efforts by UN Human Rights in co-operation with the national human rights institution and NGOs. The Office of the State Inspector has been designated as the independent institution responsible for the investigation of serious human rights abuses allegedly committed by law enforcement agencies. The investigatory function of the State Inspector's Office was formally launched in November, when the Office received sufficient funds from the State. In 2020, OHCHR will focus on building the capacity of the newly hired investigators and monitor the performance of the Office.



Assistant Secretary-General Andrew Gilmour meets with Nicaraguan human rights defenders in San Jose, Costa Rica, in October 2019. © OHCHR

## OUR SILENCE IS THEIR PROTECTION

This is the motto of the Toufah Foundation, which was established in July 2019 by Fatou “Toufah” Jallow, a 23-year-old women’s rights and anti-rape activist from the Gambia.

In June, following the publication of a report by Human Rights Watch and TRIAL International, documenting sexual crimes committed by former president Yahya Jammeh, Toufah decided to speak out publicly, breaking the culture of silence around sexual violence in her country. Her story inspired many in the Gambia and a movement was started by young activists, #IamToufah, which is similar to the #MeToo campaign. Later in the year, Toufah organized an historic women’s march against rape in the Gambia that saw many women and men take to the streets to say no to sexual violence. On 31 October, she testified for more than five hours in front of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC), which was set up to deal with human rights violations of the former president, who ruled the Gambia for more than 22 years.

OHCHR is working closely with Toufah to amplify her message of saying no to sexual violence, to ensure that the voices of victims are heard and to fight against impunity. In this context, the Office supported Toufah’s participation in a panel discussion that was organized for Human Rights Day, in New York, with the UN Secretary-General. Alongside other young human rights defenders from around the world, Toufah reiterated

her message and called on young people to take steps to “sit and get heard at the table. And if the tables need to change, create [your] own tables.” In addition, UN Human Rights has supported the TRRC since its inception to strengthen the institutional framework so that victims of serious human rights violations, including victims of sexual violence, like Toufah, can tell their stories in an environment that is safe and respects their dignity.



Fatou “Toufah” Jallow (second from right) with OHCHR staff at the West Africa Regional Office. © OHCHR

## Participation (P)

Enhancing participation and protecting civic space



### Participation in numbers

**7.6 million**



followers across UN Human Rights social media platforms

#StandUp4HumanRights mentioned

**#408,000**  
times in 2019,

**30** times more than in 2018

**36,936**

unique visitors to the Universal Human Rights Index website

Over

**85,000**

publications and other print materials were dispatched worldwide, reaching individuals in **51** countries



**4.89 million**

visits to online publications

**481**



civil society side events were organized during Human Rights Council sessions

UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples allocated

**144**

grants for participation of indigenous peoples in key UN mechanisms



Over **2,420**



participants in the 8th Forum on Business and Human Rights

**719**

new partnerships were established by UN Human Rights' field presences



**66**

grants were awarded by the UN Human Rights Grants Committee to the total amount of

**\$4,272,554**

for projects to be implemented in over **28** countries



New cases of reprisals against CSOs or individuals for cooperation with the UN in the field of human rights identified in

**48**

countries



## EMPOWERING SURVIVORS OF TORTURE IN UKRAINE



The use of torture and ill-treatment constitute systemic human rights problems in Ukraine that have been exacerbated by the ongoing armed conflict that broke out in 2014.

As at the end of 2019, more than 13,000 lives had been lost due to the conflict, including at least 3,350 civilians. In addition, hundreds of women and men have been detained, tortured, ill-treated or endured sexual violence in the eastern territory controlled by the self-proclaimed “republics” and in the territory controlled by the Government.

### “SOMEBODY HAD TO MAKE SURE THERE WAS DIGNITY”

In the spring of 2014, the life of Hanna Mokrousova changed forever. As an active supporter of Ukraine’s unity, she was detained by armed groups in her home town of Luhansk. When she was released, she fled to Kyiv. She saw how many people were in a similar situation, searching for help that did not exist. “Nobody knew what was next. Somebody had to make sure there was dignity. I had to do something,” recalls Hanna.

### ‘BLUE BIRD’ SPREADS ITS WINGS

In mid-2015, Hanna pulled together a team of like-minded people and founded an NGO called “Blue Bird” that provides victims of torture and their families with humanitarian, medical, psychological and legal assistance. The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) provided essential advice, expertise and financial support. Significant funding also

came from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, which has supported the organization since 2018.

“I felt their support at every step,” smiles Hanna speaking from a converted Kyiv apartment that serves as the Blue Bird office. From the onset of the armed conflict, the HRMMU interviewed victims of arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment from both sides of the contact line. “We saw an urgent need for services for victims of torture and their families. Since Blue Bird’s inception, we have been referring victims and families there,” says Uladzimir Shcherbau from the HRMMU. Over the last five years, at least 3,000 people have received support from Blue Bird.

### HELPING FAMILIES HELP THEIR LOVED ONES

Relatives or loved ones of a victim are often the first ones to look for multiple forms of assistance. Since it can take weeks, months or years for a family to reunite, Blue Bird also supports families for the entire time that their loved one is missing or deprived of their liberty.

“We help them to deal with hopelessness...not to give up and continue to fight for the release of a loved one,” says Hanna.

*See the full version of this story on the UN Human Rights Exposure platform:*  
<https://unhumanrights.exposure.co/empowering-survivors-of-torture-in-ukraine>



Hanna Mokrousova, a psychologist specialised in crisis counselling, founded Blue Bird in 2015. © OHCHR

# Highlights of pillar results

## Participation (P)

### PILLAR RESULTS / SHIFTS / SDGs

#### P1

Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



#### P2

The UN system and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals (including from reprisals).



### RESULTS / SPOTLIGHTS

Spotlights: Youth Disabilities Women

UN Human Rights continued its long-standing engagement with the **Afghan** Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC). On 17 July, following a selection process that took more than one year, the President appointed nine new commissioners (four women, five men), including the new Chair, Shaharзад Akbar. UN Human Rights continued to cooperate with the AIHRC on issues related to its pending re-accreditation by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). As a result, the AIHRC was re-accredited with “A” status by the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditations, in November. The AIHRC held public hearings across 33 provinces, in March and April, as part of its National Inquiry on the Role of Women in Peace and Security in Afghanistan. The hearings provided women in these provinces with an opportunity to raise their concerns regarding political participation and peace-related processes. The AIHRC produced a summary of these concerns, as well as recommendations to policymakers and other stakeholders. AIHRC attended hearings in Kabul, Bamyán, Herat, Helmand and Kandahar provinces, where it advocated for the promotion of human and women’s rights in peace and security efforts.

The Office supported the Government of Ethiopia to revise its draft legislation on NGOs, adopted in March. This major achievement led to a significant widening of the space within which civil society can engage in human rights work. For instance, in May, UN Human Rights convened an unprecedented countrywide gathering of CSOs to discuss, among other issues, efforts to build a strong and effective constituency of human rights CSOs and to identify how UN Human Rights can enhance the capacity of CSOs to engage and work on human rights in the country following years of repression of civil space in the country.

The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders participated in the implementation of the global communication campaign on the twentieth anniversary of the UN Declaration on human rights defenders, which was launched in December 2018. The website established for the occasion (<https://togetherwedefend.org/>) included stories of HRDs that had been champions in protecting civic space in various regions of the world and focused on a variety of human rights issues. The digital campaign featured a flagship video that told the story of grassroots and high profile defenders around the world, two made-for-social videos, campaign branding, an interactive website to showcase the stories of 10 HRDs, including a tool to send a message of solidarity to a defender, and a digital toolkit to enable partners to share the campaign materials on social media. The Special Rapporteur met with HRDs from around the world and devoted his report to the General Assembly to the persistent impunity for human rights violations committed against HRDs. The findings of the report are the result of extensive consultations with HRDs that have taken place since the beginning of his mandate, five regional consultations held in 2018 and 2019, the review of communications sent by the Special Rapporteur and 71 submissions collected through a survey.

In **Colombia**, relevant actors successfully addressed an increasing proportion of cases regarding human rights violations that were identified by the Office. In 2019, there was a reported increase in the violations of the rights of HRDs that often led to their deaths. At the same time, the institution responsible for protecting these groups has not demonstrated an increase in the delivery of effective protection measures. Against this background, UN Human Rights' contributions to the Committee for Risk Assessment and Recommendation of Measures (CERREM) during the reporting period aimed to strengthen the Pathway for Collective Prevention, which would enable government institutions to adopt informed measures in response to threats being faced by HRDs. To date, UN Human Rights has conducted 23 workshops for 952 leaders and HRDs across the country to explain and disseminate the legislation and characteristics of the protection route (requirements, procedures and responsibilities) to local authorities and communities. In addition, UN Human Rights continued to provide assistance related to requests for individual protection. The CERREM submitted information provided by the field presences to relevant institutions. In 2019, UN Human Rights participated in 58 sessions of the CERREM and presented a total of 7,214 cases for risk assessment to determine the level of risk (extreme, extraordinary, ordinary).

### P3

Business, policy-makers and the public at large increasingly value and support civic space.



Multi-stakeholder dialogues on HRDs and civic space took place during specific sessions of the Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights, in Geneva, in November, and at regional consultations. Providing guidance for business on engaging, respecting and supporting human rights defenders in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (in coordination with the Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders) is in progress.

### P4

Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.



In October, OHCHR and the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR), in Morocco, co-organized a workshop entitled “Towards legal protection for the safety and protection of women’s human rights defenders.” For several years, OHCHR worked closely with a group of 40 WHRDs from the Arab region to build their capacity to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. This work resulted in the establishment of the Regional Network for Women Human Rights Defenders in 2019. This year’s workshop included a group of female and male lawyers who were encouraged to collaborate with the WHRDs and use the international human rights complaint systems. The WHRDs were also introduced to two human rights activists who use art as a means to communicate messages about women’s rights.

The UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture are providing financial (and substantive) support to CSOs that provide assistance to victims of human rights violations. In 2019, for example, the directors of two organizations supported by the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, Trial International and Legal Action Worldwide, highlighted that the Voluntary Fund is a crucial partner in assisting them to obtain judicial decisions guaranteeing redress for victims of international crimes, which is essential for victims in the long term. In 2019, Legal Action Worldwide has received support from the Fund for projects throughout South Asia, the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, including in **South Sudan** and for Rohingya victims from **Myanmar**. In 2019, Trial International has received support from the Fund for projects assisting victims from a number of countries, including the **DRC, the Gambia, Nepal** and the **Syrian Arab Republic**.

**P5**

More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place.



With support from the special procedures, UN Human Rights conducted a human rights analysis of the draft amendments to legislation “On audio-visual media in the **Republic of Albania.**” Recommendations from UN Human Rights and other UN agencies were presented by the Resident Coordinator to the Albanian Parliament on 25 November. This advocacy effort helped to prevent the adoption of amendments with the potential to limit freedom of expression and human rights activism.

Many human rights violations committed in the **DRC** in the context of restrictions on democratic space were documented before, during and after the December 2018 elections. Following commitments made by President Tshisekedi to improve the human rights situation, there was a widening of democratic space. The most visible sign of this positive development was the release of political prisoners, the return of political exiles and the holding of several peaceful demonstrations. In this context, UN Human Rights observed a 26 per cent decrease in the number of human rights violations related to democratic space compared to 2018 (from 1,054 in 2018 to 778 in 2019).

**P6**

The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard.



In the **Republic of Moldova**, UN Human Rights created a network for a group of 15 mothers of children from across the country with various types of disabilities, empowering them to advocate both for the rights of their children and for their own rights as caregivers. The mothers supported by UN Human Rights benefited from psychological counselling sessions with a professional psychologist to help them process any difficulties of having a child with disabilities and to feel empowered for conducting advocacy actions. Several capacity-building events that were conducted by UN Human Rights further enhanced their capacity to advocate for the rights of children with disabilities. The group of mothers became a platform for promoting human rights by engaging in dialogue with State authorities, making television appearances and drafting advocacy documents to raise key issues faced by children with disabilities and their family members. In particular, the members of the platform highlighted some of their challenges in exercising the right to health at an event that included participants from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection and 11 mass media outlets.

In **Serbia**, over 30 OPDs and CSOs contributed to public discussions on the drafting of the new National Strategy on Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities 2020-2024. The drafting of the new Anti-Discrimination Strategy relied on inputs from CSOs through discussions and questionnaires; consultations that were held between CSOs and the Government on the draft Anti-Discrimination Law in 2019; consultations that were held between the Government, CSOs and women’s organizations on the parameters of the new Strategy on Eradicating Domestic Violence; and the coordination and framing of the critical inputs of OPDs to the Family Law amendments regarding the legal capacity regime. UN Human Rights contributed to achieving this result by helping to create space for CSOs in policymaking processes.

In **Guinea-Bissau**, UN Human Rights significantly contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes. Following the mentoring efforts of UN Human Rights, which targeted a core group of 41 HRDs, including 19 women, on human rights monitoring and elections and early warning, the Human Rights Defenders Network monitored the presidential elections in all regions of the country, in November and December, to identify and address threats of human rights violations. In addition, six networks of CSOs were mobilized with the assistance of the European Union, UN Women, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNIOGBIS. The networks received support from the Peacebuilding Fund for the joint development and monitoring of an electoral Code of Conduct for the presidential elections, to establish a situation room to identify and monitor possible risks and to provide early warning on threats to the electoral process. The situation room was set up during the first and second rounds of the presidential elections, in November and December. The

civil society initiatives were lauded by stakeholders for their significant contribution to a peaceful environment for the presidential elections and the reduction in post-electoral social conflicts. Those capacities were also developed in relation to the legislative elections held in early 2019.

## P7

Public recognition that human rights and accountability make important contributions to effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism, increases.



Under the MoU between UN Human Rights and the **Tunisian** Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA) and through engagement with the Independent High Authority of Elections (ISIE), UN Human Rights sensitized approximately 800 imams who are responsible for Friday prayers regarding their obligation to maintain a principle of neutrality during electoral campaigns. In August, UN Human Rights organized a series of regional meetings aimed at enhancing the role of religious actors to facilitate free, honest, transparent and peaceful elections in 2019. UN Human Rights organized four interactive sessions on free speech in the context of countering hate speech and the partiality of imams in the electoral context. The MoRA and the ISIE have since reported that, thanks to the sensitization discussions that were conducted with UN Human Rights' support, they observed no major violations of the principle of neutrality of mosques or incitement to hatred by imams during the electoral period. Through two additional workshops and bilateral meetings that were undertaken within the same framework, UN Human Rights and the MoRA consulted with the trade union of imams and the Tili Foundation, a local CSO with expertise in the education of imams, in order to develop a three-year strategic plan to implement the MoU.

## JOB SHADOWING AT THE REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



© Mostafa Hakawati

### Mostafa Hakawati, 17

“Human rights in Lebanon are viewed as a dead end. I remember the look in my parents’ eyes when I told them I wanted to pursue a career in human rights and law. They were proud to have a son who wanted to make things right, but they were worried about the practicalities.

For my school’s job shadowing day, I had the opportunity to visit the UN. I didn’t think I’d be lucky enough to be placed in my field of interest, but I was chosen to shadow at the UN Human Rights Regional Office for MENA. When I arrived, I had low expectations that I would take part in anything significant, but the UNV working on Bahrain gave me an immediate crash course on international human rights mechanisms. I was mesmerized! As I interacted with the team, I realized that this was the world where I belonged. I was struck by the productivity that was generated in the span of a day! From 8-9 March, I witnessed the closure of a three-year project and several officers working on individual cases.

What resonated with me the most, however, took place at a panel discussion on Lebanon’s Law No. 105 for the missing and forcibly disappeared. While

there, I looked up and saw a picture of Mehieddine Hashisho, my father’s uncle, who was kidnapped during the Lebanese Civil War. Although the Office didn’t know about this when I was selected, I was deeply touched to see his picture on display. I knew that he hadn’t been forgotten and that his rights and those of his family hadn’t been abandoned. I listened in on the discussions and talked to people who were engaged in the rights of the forcibly disappeared, including human rights officers from the UN Human Rights headquarters, international experts, heads of international and local organizations, ministers and deputies.

These experiences helped me to decide that I want to strive for a better future through human rights. I look forward to joining the community that is working to make this dream a reality.”

# MANAGEMENT



OHCHR staff listens to a woman in Chermalyk village of Donetsk region, located a few kilometers from the contact line that is frequently under shelling. The woman explains that she had sustained a concussion as a result of heavy shelling at a cemetery during a funeral in July 2019. © OHCHR



This chapter provides an overview of the efforts of UN Human Rights to ensure its decision-making, planning, management and evaluation processes operate at the highest possible standard.

It includes highlights of results achieved under UN Human Rights' nine Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans (OEAPs).

## Decision-making and accountability framework

### UN CONTEXT AND MANDATE

Mandated by General Assembly resolution 48/141, UN Human Rights is a department of the United Nations Secretariat. It does not have its own executive board but it is directly accountable to the Secretary-General and the General Assembly.

The mandate of UN Human Rights is derived from General Assembly resolution 48/141, the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent human rights instruments, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.

The mandate includes preventing human rights violations, securing respect for all human rights, promoting international cooperation to protect human rights, coordinating related activities throughout the United Nations and strengthening and streamlining the United Nations system in the field of human rights. In addition to its mandated responsibilities, the Office leads efforts to integrate a human rights approach into all work that is carried out by the United Nations agencies.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights is the principal human rights official of the United Nations who is appointed by the General Assembly for a fixed term of four years, with the possibility of one renewal for a second term.

UN Human Rights is led by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the support of the Deputy High Commissioner and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, who heads the New York Office. In December 2019, the Secretary-General announced the appointment of Ms. Nada Al-Nashif, of Jordan, as Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights and of Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris, of Latvia, as Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head of the New York Office.

### INTERNAL TO THE OFFICE

Office-wide decision-making takes place through the Senior Management Team (SMT), which is chaired by the High Commissioner, and the Programme and Budget Review Board (PBRB), which is chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner. These two bodies meet regularly to make recommendations to the High Commissioner on policies, operating procedures and programme and resource allocations. The Policy Advisory Group (PAG), which is chaired by the Deputy High Commissioner, is an additional forum for senior managers to exchange views and recommend issues of a policy/programme or financial nature



Deputy High Commissioner Kate Gilmore attends the 5th National Sitting of Children's Parliament in Edinburgh to celebrate 30 years of children's rights as enshrined in CRC. © Children's Parliament of Scotland

for further discussion by the SMT and/or the PBRB.

In 2019, the SMT met on seven occasions to shape decisions on policy-related matters and organized one expanded Strategic Leadership Retreat for senior managers. The SMT approved the UN Human Rights Security Accountability Policy, the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on Crisis Preparedness and Response and on Internal Communications. It also approved the opening of an office in Niger and discussed the office-wide work already underway in relation to economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR), prevention and the SDGs. During the Strategic Leadership Retreat, the leadership team agreed on four “re-sets” to sharpen UN Human Rights’ work on: 1) Leadership and silo disruption; 2) Technical cooperation; 3) Engagement with Member States; and 4) Storytelling and communication. A

fifth “re-set” was to enhance UN Human Rights’ work on ESCR, prevention and the SDGs.

Twelve regular meetings and one extraordinary meeting of the PBRB were held during 2019, thereby contributing to the improved internal governance of office-wide programming, budgeting and financial planning. During the first half of 2019, the PBRB completed the 2018-2019 Annual Workplan transition and undertook a Mid-Year Review Resource Reality Check (see below for further details on this strategic exercise). In the course of 2019, the PBRB reviewed approximately 70 fundraising and fund allocation proposals from both headquarters and the field, which is a record number indicating an increased involvement of staff in resource mobilization and continued support from donors. While monthly monitoring of extrabudgetary financial

expenditures and income have been on the PBRB’s agenda for many years, monitoring of human resources and the regular budget situation became regular items on the agenda in 2019. This contributed to enhanced internal governance, and to timely and coherent messaging from senior management to staff on sensitive topics, such as the evolving regular budget situation.

Following an internal survey-based assessment of the PAG, the PAG meetings are now organized when needed, instead of on a weekly basis. The meetings focus on strategic areas of intervention by UN Human Rights.

In 2019, three PAG meetings were held in relation to: (i) possible focus areas for speeches and statements by the High Commissioner for the year; (ii) crisis preparedness and response; and (iii) UN Human Rights’ response to global protests. The recommendations from these meetings were taken up by the SMT.

Extended PAG (ePAG) meetings with managers continued to be organized on a bimonthly basis as a forum to share and discuss management issues. Discussion items included the Assessment by the Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN); the UN’s internal administration of justice system; a 360-degree review for managers; health and well-being, including flexible working arrangements and smoking; the Dignity@Work policy; diversity and UN Human Rights demography; the branding project; web redesign and security accountability.

## Results-Based Management

### PLANNING

The programmatic work of UN Human Rights is guided by the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP), which is in line with the Secretary-General's Strategic Framework 2018-2019. It integrates the mandates given to UN Human Rights by United Nations intergovernmental bodies and engages the High Commissioner's overarching mandate to promote and protect all human rights for all.

The OMP positions the work of UN Human Rights under the following thematic pillars: support for the international human rights mechanisms; mainstreaming human rights within development and peace and security efforts; and advancement of the core human rights principles of non-discrimination, accountability and participation. To maintain relevance in a changing world, UN Human Rights introduced "shifts" under the pillars to strengthen its work to prevent conflict, violence and insecurity; help expand civic space; broaden the global constituency for human rights; and further explore emerging human rights concerns (frontier issues) in the context of climate change, corruption, inequalities, people on the move and digital space and emerging technologies.

This new road map is designed in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and has a particular focus on the Agenda's human rights-based commitment to "Leave No One Behind." The OMP also shines a human rights "spotlight" on women, persons with disabilities and young people.

The OMP is built on a strong results framework with risk management, which was introduced in 2018, as an integral component of programme management at the field level.

### MONITORING

Monitoring the performance of the Office against the targets set by the OMP takes place through the Performance Monitoring System (PMS); a tailor-made online tool that facilitates planning, monitoring and reporting on a common set of office-wide results in line with results-based management (RBM) principles and standards.

In 2019, the PMS reported the following performance highlights:

- Over 12,149 sessions for users with editing rights;
- Over 661 colleagues accessed the system;
- Less than two per cent downtime was reported throughout the year; and
- Over 95 per cent of user support requests were addressed within two hours.

The 2019 Mid-Year Review ensured budgetary discipline, adjustments in programmatic and managerial priorities and close monitoring of OEAPs as more entities across UN Human Rights became involved in their implementation. In some cases, the Mid-Year Review revealed that adjustments to some country or regional programmes were required. This was taken up during the preparation of the 2020 Annual Workplans (AWPs). Furthermore, a substantial programmatic analysis and programmatic discussion at the September PBRB meeting fed into the programmatic guidance for the 2020 AWP process. The monitoring and strengthened programmatic analysis functions are providing an effective feedback loop for strategic decision-making at the PBRB level.

## EVALUATION

In 2019, the evaluations of the Uganda Country Programme and RBM were finalized. The Uganda evaluation was effectively used during renegotiations related to the continuation of the UN Human Rights presence in Uganda. The evaluation on transitions from peace operations was initiated with missions to New York, Geneva and Liberia. In addition, preparations began for the country programme evaluations for Cambodia, Central America, Colombia and Ukraine.

The MOPAN assessment was launched and a management response and action plan were finalized and approved by the PBRB. Internal reviews were conducted for the Gender Facilitators Network, the UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region, internal communications and the staffing of the front offices of senior managers. An

internal start-up review of the G5 Sahel project was also completed during the reporting period.

The tracking system for the follow-up to evaluation recommendations and the evaluation module in the PMS ensured that the outputs of these evaluative exercises were effectively integrated into the workplans of the respective teams and are now being implemented. This contributed to continuous improvements in the work programmes and their overall strategic direction. Managers involved were requested to submit new updates to the PBRB every six months. With a focus on lessons learned, evaluation findings were identified and made available to relevant teams and contributed to informed decision-making. The database of evaluation consultants was consistently maintained and updated, and a checklist was prepared for the recruitment of consultants.

Gender has been mainstreamed into all of the evaluations that were managed and conducted by UN Human Rights. The assessment of the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (SWAP) rated the UN Human Rights evaluations as "exceeding the requirements" of gender integration.

Following the 2019 adoption of the new UN Disability Inclusion Strategy, steps were taken to begin integrating disability inclusion into evaluations. This included supporting the development of an evaluation indicator and technical note, within the framework of the United Nations Evaluation Group Working Group on Human Rights and Gender Equality in an evaluation that was co-convened with UN Women.

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## EVALUATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESULTS-BASED MANAGEMENT

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In 2019, an evaluation of the implementation of results-based management (RBM) in the Office was conducted by a team of external consultants.

The evaluation found evidence that staff increasingly applied RBM principles and made use of RBM tools and instruments to make informed decisions that were focused on results. The evaluators also witnessed a positive trend to incorporate perspectives that transcended departmental interests and practices. Other achievements included well-established strategic management, performance monitoring and results reporting practices; a positive trajectory in terms of planning and performance related to gender integration and women's empowerment; and the establishment of a dedicated evaluation unit with corresponding policies and practices.

At the same time, the evaluation identified areas where improvements could be made. Evidence suggests that RBM is not yet fully recognized for its contribution to learning and the generation of knowledge. Although OHCHR is a data-driven organization, it is only recently that initiatives have been taken to strengthen information management and knowledge management. Importantly, the Office has not yet developed ways to integrate results-based budgeting into its RBM system.

The evaluation results were discussed at an end-of-the-year workshop for the main internal stakeholders. A management response and action plan are being prepared for the implementation of the evaluation recommendations.

## LESSONS LEARNED

RBM is about developing a culture of results. A key component of developing a culture of results is to recognize the actions that promote learning from experience. Compiling, systematizing and disseminating good practices and lessons learned supports more effectiveness in programme implementation because it allows effective programmes to be replicated with the knowledge and experience of others.

The 2018-2021 OMP is based on robust contextual analysis and broad consultations with many different stakeholders, drawing on achievements and lessons learned, including from internal reviews, external evaluations and audits.

The MOPAN assessment, which was published in April, rated the uptake of lessons learned and good practices from evaluations and other reports as an area of improvement. UN Human Rights stepped up its efforts to capture and share good practices and lessons learned. For example, during the consultation process of the virtual planning month, which was launched as part of the preparations for the 2020 AWP, all teams reflected on the lessons learned (what worked and what did not) that would require a change in their strategy for programme implementation.

In 2019, the Task Forces on SDGs, prevention and ESCR, established by the High Commissioner to expand work in these three critical areas, produced essential analysis and recommendations. The Surge Initiative confirmed that while there is limited knowledge about the opportunities that are available for human rights implementation in the 2030 Agenda, there is considerable interest among field presences to operationalize the pledge of “Leaving No One Behind;” link UN human rights reviews and SDG

reporting and accountability; invest in the new Common Country Analysis and UNSDCF; and do more related to data disaggregation. Amid rising inequalities, field presences responded positively to specialized and technical advice to work on economic and other inequalities and their impact on the enjoyment of economic, social and other human rights.

One of the objectives of the evaluations that UN Human Rights conducted in 2019 was to produce useful lessons learned and good practices that illustrate successful and unsuccessful strategies. For example, the Independent Evaluation of the Implementation of Results-Based Management at UN Human Rights identified lessons learned and good practices in the implementation of the RBM approach. The evaluation report concluded that UN Human Rights’ investment in RBM had paid off and had positioned it in a far better position than it was in 10 years ago, both in terms of knowing what it is contributing to and why and its capacity to communicate this to others. At the same time, UN Human Rights placed more emphasis on accountability than on the learning component of RBM.

Lessons learned exercises were also undertaken in the context of UN Human Rights country engagement. For example, in a follow-up to a lessons learned exercise on the response to the Honduras crisis, UN Human Rights developed new standard operating procedures on its preparedness and response. In another example, a lessons learned workshop was jointly organized by UN Human Rights and the Department of Peace Operations regarding cooperation between UN Human Rights and military components of peace operations. This also provided an important opportunity to reflect on the potential for collaboration between the two UN

departments to promote and protect human rights. The identified good practices and lessons learned will be used to update the UN Handbook on integrating human rights into the work of UN military components. Furthermore, identifying and applying lessons learned was integral to the 2019 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Reviews. In some cases, the Mid-Year Reviews revealed that adjustments to country or regional programmes were required. This was taken up during the preparation of the 2020 AWP. Finally, substantial programmatic analysis and discussions fed into the programmatic guidance for the AWP 2020 process.

## RISK

Effectively managing risk is a vital element of good governance and management. This is taking place on a daily basis within UN Human Rights. In its 2018-2021 Management Plan, UN Human Rights made risk management an integral component of programme management. Risk management contributes to the successful achievement of expected outcomes and results, especially at the field level where every programme has a risk management component. Risk assessment is a requirement in the guidelines for UN Human Rights' country and regional strategies in the OMP and it is monitored through end-of-year reporting.

UN Human Rights will manage and reduce risk throughout the organization by identifying, assessing, understanding, acting on and communicating risk issues. This will help senior management to strategically plan and wisely allocate resources, enhance responsible decision-making and contain threats to the organization. Risk management will be monitored as part of programme performance monitoring, strengthening the link between expected outcomes, results and evaluation.

As part of the overall risk management initiative of the United Nations Secretariat, UN Human Rights is currently developing a corporate risk management plan in an effort to improve the organizational governance and accountability framework. This is expected to be ready in 2020.

Based on the assessments and assumptions that were made when developing the different theories of change adopted by UN Human Rights, the Office identified three main risk factors, namely, environmental (political/crisis/cultural); programmatic; and institutional. It then

assessed the likelihood that each of these risks might occur and devised measures to prevent them or reduce their impact.

The principal **environmental** risks in 2019 included armed conflict (Iraq, Libya, Mali and the Syrian Arab Republic), lack of access (Southern Caucasus and Ukraine), political unrest and elections (Bolivia, Cambodia, Chile, Ecuador, Lebanon, the Republic of Moldova and the State of Palestine), humanitarian disasters (Jamaica, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe) and unpredictable challenges in partnerships with Governments.

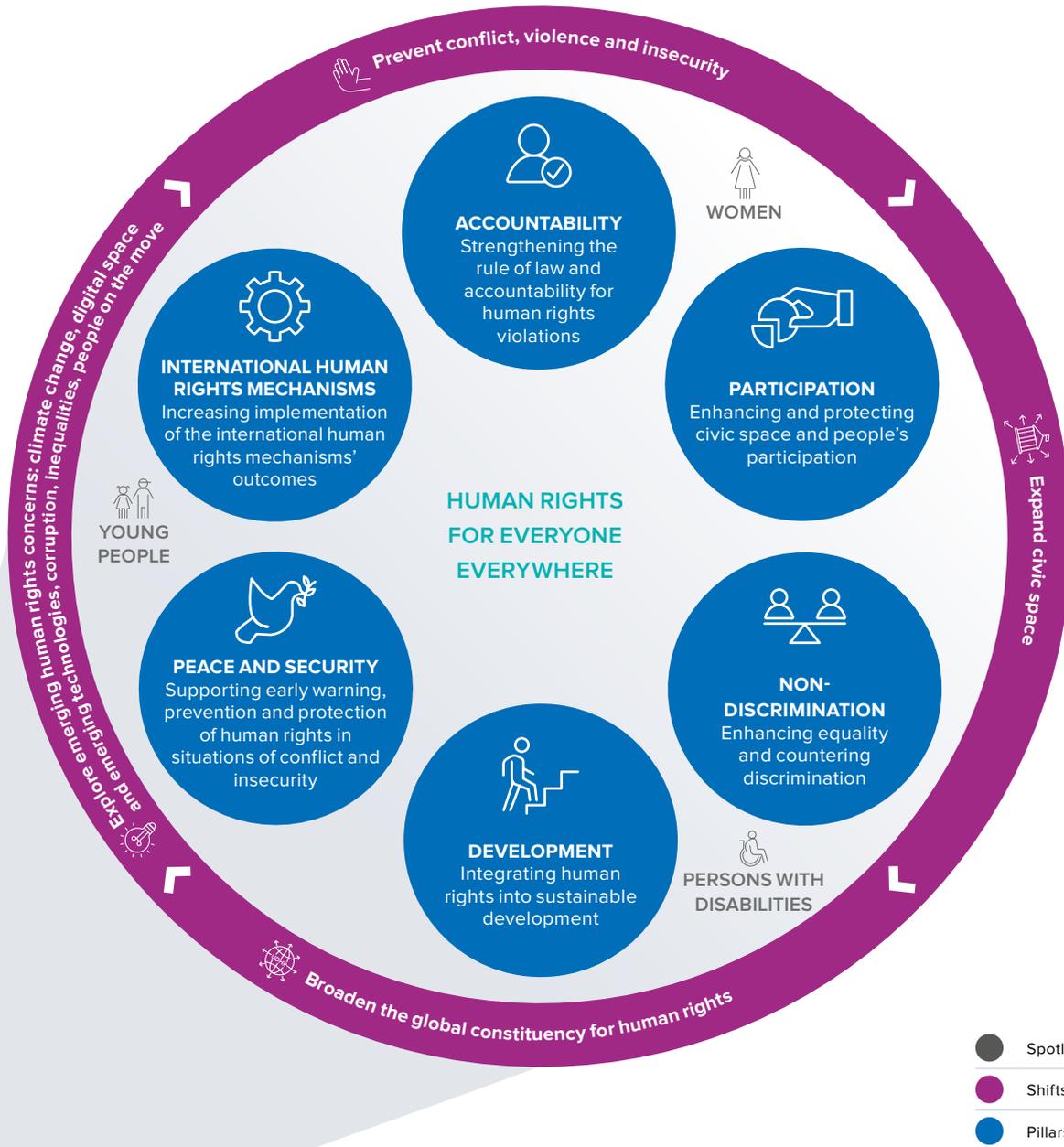
The principal **programmatic** risks in 2019 included lack of resources and staff (Kyrgyzstan), delays in approval of national framework for cooperation (Madagascar), unclear positioning of authorities on human rights issues (Tunisia), unwillingness to engage and lack of a host country agreement (Burundi and Myanmar) and domestic bureaucratic delays (Yemen).

The principal **institutional** risks in 2019 were mainly related to delays in recruitment and regularisation of national and international staff, due to human resources policies not fully adapted to the needs of field presences (Malawi, the Syrian Arab Republic, and G5 Sahel Framework Project).

# The implementation of the OMP in 2019

The priorities, strategies and targets of UN Human Rights are set out in the OMP 2018-2021. The Plan provides a robust results framework through to the end of 2021 that is based on six Pillars, four Shifts and three Spotlights. It also includes nine OEAPs.

**FIGURE 1: OMP 2018-2021**



## OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS ACHIEVING OMP RESULTS IN 2019

The data is based on self-assessments by 101 reporting entities of (i) their level of progress; and (ii) whether a result is connected to a shift or a spotlight population.

In their end-of-year reports, programming entities indicated the level of progress they had made towards achieving the country results planned as targets for 2021. With regard to organizational effectiveness, results are defined at the output level and progress for this report is assessed over a 1.5-year period from July 2018 to December 2019.

When providing an update on progress made towards the achievement of a country result, programming entities had the choice of indicating different levels of achievement, which included no progress, some progress, good progress or partially achieved/fully achieved.

## Progress towards country results

Throughout the Office, the distribution of activities is quite even across the six pillars, with a stronger focus on Peace and Security and Accountability. While Accountability, Mechanisms and Participation have a relatively even focus across regions, the focus on the other pillars differs significantly depending on the region.

In 2019, the pillar with the most progress was Mechanisms, wherein 22 per cent of results were partially or fully achieved (above the Office average). This was also the case in 2018.

On the other hand, Development showed 11 per cent of all Development results with no progress.

## Shifts linked to results

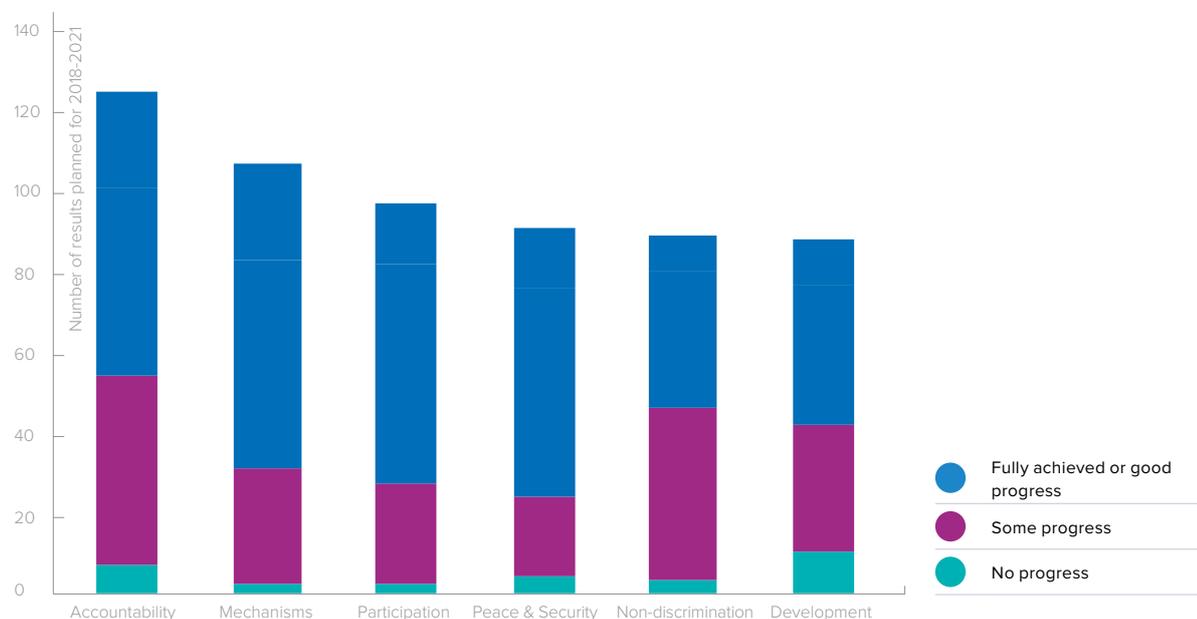
Four Shifts were identified in the OMP:

- (i) strengthen work to **prevent** conflict, violence and insecurity;
- (ii) help expand civic **space**;
- (iii) broaden the **global constituency** for human rights; and
- (iv) explore further **emerging human rights concerns**, i.e., “**frontier issues**.”

This shift has five sub-thematic issues, namely, climate change, digital space and emerging technologies, corruption, inequalities and people on the move.

In 2019, there was an increase in the percentage of outputs contributing to shifts. While 43 per cent of results reportedly contributed to a shift in 2018, in 2019 it was approximately 46 per cent. The High Commissioner’s prioritization of prevention explains the considerable increase in the percentage of outputs contributing to the prevention shift.

**FIGURE 2: LEVEL OF PROGRESS BY PILLAR RESULT**



### Spotlight populations linked to results

In the 2018-2021 OMP, UN Human Rights emphasized the spotlight populations of youth, women and persons with disabilities.

The focus on spotlight populations in 2019 remained unchanged from 2018 with women remaining the most selected population (and the order of distribution among the three spotlights remained the same: women, youth and persons with disabilities).

The number of results targeting youth more than doubled since 2018, reaching 26 per cent of all results associated with a spotlight population. Most of the outputs were under the Participation pillar.

### SDGs, prevention and ESCR

The 2019 end-of-year reports included the contribution of reporting entities towards results associated with the High Commissioner's priorities, namely, SDGs, prevention and ESCR.

The results reflect the impact of the work undertaken by the Surge Team in 2019.

Principal SDG engagement lies with SDGs 5, 10, 16 and 17.

## Organizational development

### ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS RESULTS

UN Human Rights defined nine inter-related Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans under the OMP 2018-2021 (see Figure 3 opposite): Strategic Leadership and Direction; Innovation; Dynamic Knowledge; External Communications; Resource Mobilization; Partnerships; Operations Management; Diversity and Gender; and Talent and Career Management.

Organizational Effectiveness (OE) results are the changes that UN Human Rights commits to achieving to improve its organizational effectiveness. OE results are defined at the output level and were defined in the 2018-2019 Annual Workplan for a period of 18 months.

Approximately 86 per cent of programming entities have reported on OE results, thus demonstrating a high level of office-wide engagement towards the OEs in all regions and by all headquarters programming entities.

### OHCHR IN THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM REFORM

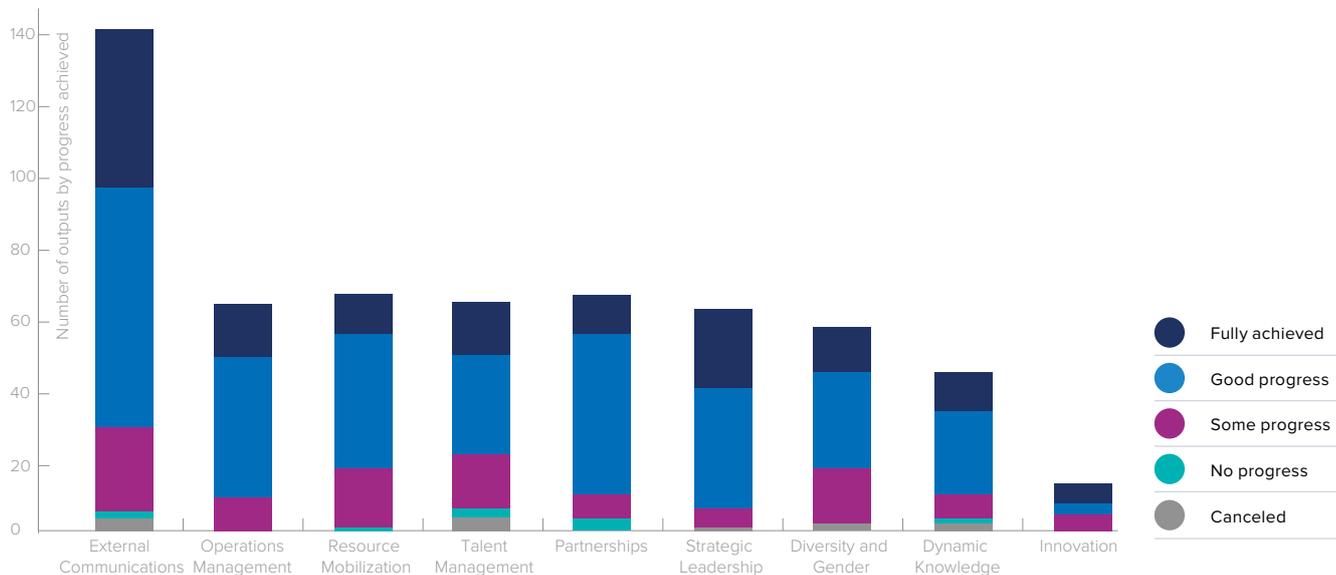
As Co-Chair (with WHO and UNESCO) of the UNSDG Task Team on "Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights and the Normative Agenda," OHCHR actively engaged in the Secretary-General's reform of the UN Development System through fostering policy coherence on normative issues across the UN system. The Task Team promoted increased engagement of development actors with the international human rights mechanisms, notably overseeing the revision of the UN Common Learning Package on a Human Rights-Based Approach to Programming and the finalization of the UNSDG Operational Guide for UNCTs on Leaving No One Behind, which was then piloted in Cameroon, Nepal and Tunisia.

The Office also contributed to the re-design of the UN Development Assistance Framework into the UNSDCF with a strong normative and human rights foundation for collaborative Country Team initiatives.

FIGURE 3: OEAPs



LEVEL OF PROGRESS FOR EACH OEAP



**Progress in the implementation of the nine OEAPs is outlined below, highlighting key achievements from headquarters and the field in 2019.**



### Strategic Leadership and Direction

UN Human Rights leadership bodies are making timely, evidence-based strategic decisions in line with results-based management principles.

- A UN Human Rights Global Meeting was organized, in Geneva, in July, bringing together approximately 400 staff, including over 70 colleagues from field presences, to inspire, innovate, learn, communicate and operate as One Office. The Global Meeting furthered the discussions from the 2019 Strategic Leadership Retreat and confirmed the commitment to the four “re-sets” to sharpen the focus of the Office on: 1) Leadership and silo disruption; 2) Technical cooperation; 3) Engaging with Member States; and 4) Storytelling and communication. In addition, a fifth “re-set” was confirmed with regard to how the Office can enhance its work on the three priority areas identified by the High Commissioner in 2018 (SDGs, prevention and ESCR).
- The High Commissioner also launched a number of initiatives to “re-set” key operational issues, such as a review of the terms and conditions for national staff and General Service staff and the launch of a UN Human Rights health and well-being action plan. Three communities of practice were launched in relation to communication (CommsNet), administration (AdminNet) and leadership (LeadingNet) in order to foster exchange, peer learning and information sharing.
- Following the adoption of the Dignity@Work Policy and Action Plan, in line with the Diversity and Gender OEAP, a Dignity Dialogue (2018) and a Diversity Dialogue (2019) were rolled out to the Office. Over 700 staff members took part in each Dialogue. The Dialogues are tools to encourage an open exchange on the actions that could be taken to improve the working environment, uphold respect and dignity in the Office and accelerate change to ensure that its demography is more in sync with the world’s population. Furthermore, in February, a Network of Dignity Contacts was introduced to provide UN Human Rights colleagues with the full range of confidential formal and informal options that are available to them in case of concerns about how they are treated within the Office, including prohibited conduct in the workplace. Following a six-month pilot period and an internal evaluation, the Network was expanded into the field with approximately 20 new trained volunteers from all corners of the world. It went live in February 2020. The Dignity@Work Policy was a finalist in the 2019 Secretary-General Awards.
- In preparation for the Secretariat’s move towards an annual programme budget document in 2020, UN Human Rights developed the 2020 Budget Report programme plan. One element of the new format entailed the drafting of narrative “results stories” from the four sub-programmes reflecting the entirety of the UN Human Rights work programme. The preparation of the document required a higher investment of time than in previous years due to a complete change in its format. As an example, the new format requires the presentation of a fully achieved and a planned result for each sub-programme. In addition, UN Human Rights defined a strategy to engage with Member States, which included a presentation of the programme plan to Member States that was conducted by the High Commissioner. The briefing was well attended and many countries from different regions took the floor to support the programme. Nevertheless, due to a lack of consensus on the new format of the Secretary-General’s programme plans, the Committee for Programme and Coordination referred the programme plans to the General Assembly for review.
- In 2018, a 360-degree feedback mechanism was rolled out as a project with 19 senior leaders across the Office. The mechanism was subsequently rolled out to 130 managers supervising four or more staff in Geneva, New York and the field. The mechanism could be relaunched in two years to allow for benchmarking. Targeted training and learning opportunities will be explored to enhance skills on performance management with a focus on innovation, change, communication and team coaching, complementing the OEAP on Talent and Career Management.
- To further enhance internal communications, senior management approved a Standard Operating Procedure on Internal Communications, which was initially developed in 2018 and stipulated everyone’s responsibility to inform and stay informed. Several internal communications initiatives were implemented during the Global Meeting, including a Knowledge Fair and a team building event. A new intranet homepage was launched to improve access to information. Weekly and quarterly office-wide updates were issued and regular Hardtalks and all-staff meetings were organized.



Across UN Human Rights, innovation is encouraged, supported and its results are implemented accordingly.

- As part of the Innovation Action Plan, the 2019 edition of the UN Human Rights Innovation Challenge was launched, in April, to generate out-of-the-box ideas to transform how UN Human Rights works to achieve human rights impact. The Challenge provided staff with a platform to identify actions that UN Human Rights could stop doing and/or propose new and creative alternatives in which it could invest. A total of 29 proposals were submitted and 10 were shortlisted and invited to make a pitch for seed funding. A pitch event was held during the Global Meeting with three external panel experts including experts from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UNAIDS. Staff voted to identify four winning innovation projects that were awarded seed funds for implementation.
  - › “Ditch UNfair internships” came in first and received seed funding of US\$25,000 to support a pilot programme to bring candidates from the Global South to Geneva. UN Human Rights also took part in the 100-day internship challenge to come up with concrete, actionable recommendations for the senior management of UN Geneva that would improve the internship experience in the UN Secretariat. Key achievements included assigning dedicated slots in language and other training courses for interns, free meals for interns in UN cafeterias after hours and a more structured onboarding and exit package.
  - › The other three winning proposals focused on the volunteer mobility programme for national staff, investing
- in technology as a force for good and establishing a Human Rights Officers Academy. Three of the shortlisted proposals targeted youth.
  - › The diversity of proposals, the engagement of the candidates and the feedback of the experts was a strong indication of success and a growing interest in innovation within the organization.
  - › The UN Human Rights Innovation Challenge also attracted interest from other UN partners who have replicated and adapted the concept within their organizations.
  - › All four winning proposals from the 2017 Innovation Challenge were implemented with seed funds by the end of 2019, including one information management project that attracted significant donor interest and led to an expansion of the original concept.
- During 2018 and 2019, work was undertaken to continue and build upon UN Human Rights’ annual Innovation Challenge, first launched in 2017. UN Human Rights developed links and cooperated with UN agencies with more advanced approaches to programmes and organizational arrangements to support innovation, including UNHCR, WIPO, UNDP and UN Global Pulse, to support the conceptualization and creation of the “Light Up! Innovation Engine” project, which included a study tour of UNHCR’s innovation services. UN Human Rights also became a member of the UN Innovation Network.
- The “Light Up! Innovation Engine” project was launched, in June, with the participation of over 25 colleagues across the Office including field presences. Representatives of the “Light Up! Innovation Engine” project met with UN Innovation

counterparts based in Geneva, such as UNHCR. During the meeting, they exchanged best practices and established an informal partnership with the University of Geneva's Innovation Hub in charge of the Master's Programme in Innovation, Human Development and Sustainability.

- UN Human Rights organized a workshop with Element AI to generate ideas for repetitive tasks that would benefit from the use of automation and artificial intelligence. Four ideas from different parts of the Office emerged at the workshop, two of which will be further developed during 2020. UN Human Rights also deepened its relationship with the Masters' Programme in Innovation, Human Development and Sustainability of the University of Geneva in partnership with Tsinghua University (THU, Beijing) in order to connect with its students for joint innovation projects. Three of these projects have been agreed upon for implementation in 2020.
- Due to the lack of access to the country, the **Myanmar** Team had to resort to alternative ways to monitor human rights developments. This included the use of Internet-based and encrypted applications to obtain and share information. This proved particularly effective for the work in Cox's Bazar where the Myanmar Team reached out to victims and witnesses in northern Rakhine to build its analysis of the situation on the ground. The Myanmar Team is also making use of satellite images to assess developments to areas where it has no access with a particular focus on land rights, conditions for safe and dignified returns and economic development.

### **Dynamic Knowledge**

UN Human Rights' knowledge base is used strategically to actively shape programming, capacity, culture and structure.

- UN Human Rights launched "2030 CoP," the Community of Practice on the SDGs, economic, social and cultural rights, prevention and right to development as one of the outcomes of the three task forces on SDGs, prevention and ESCR that were convened by the High Commissioner in 2018. The 2030 CoP has three objectives, namely, to (i) facilitate peer to peer support so that colleagues can share knowledge and experiences and support each other in their work; (ii) share good practices, materials, stories and initiatives so that colleagues can build on work that is already underway; and (iii) serve as a directory for cross-fertilization so that colleagues with specific thematic expertise and practical experience can be easily identified. Soon after its launch, in October, participants identified several promising practices and opportunities for cross-fertilization, including on the right to water (Colombia, Kenya and Mexico) and the justiciability of ESCR (Tunisia). A focused discussion was also held on economic analysis and human rights. As of December, the 2030 CoP, operating through the Yammer social networking service for private communication, had more than 300 members and was comprised of UN Human Rights staff from headquarters and field presences.
- The first phase of the review of the new "welcome mat" for onboarding colleagues into new jobs at UN Human Rights was completed. The review included an all-staff survey; bilateral and small group consultations; a mapping of internal and external induction modalities and practices; consultations

on Knowledge Management and Learning; and collecting input from other UN system entities. A Knowledge Fair was organized in the context of the Global Meeting with over 100 knowledge products that were inventoried, catalogued and shared.

- UN Human Rights selected a partner to begin the process of systematically classifying its archive files. The partner reviewed all of the Office's paper archives to assess what should be sent to the archive in Geneva, what should be digitized and stored in a centralized repository and what could be eliminated. The digitization will begin in 2020. These efforts will complement the final phase of the transition to the human rights database (HRDB) for which the Office recruited a temporary staff member. The staff member helped to optimize the contents of the HRDB and coached staff on knowledge management. He also developed several formats to facilitate information gathering, analysis and sharing, including legal analyses for certain types of human rights violations.

## External Communications

UN Human Rights' human rights impact and messages are effectively communicated, helping to position it as a partner of choice for its key stakeholders.

- There was a 46.5 per cent increase in the number of media articles citing UN Human Rights between 2018 (41,629 articles) and 2019 (61,015 articles). The total percentage increase since 2017 was 154 per cent, or almost eight times the target figure of a 20 per cent increase in the number of media articles by 2021. The 2019 total is the highest annual total achieved and includes the highest figure reached for a single month. The record number of media articles generated by the Office reflects stronger storytelling and clear and effective messaging. The launches of a number of key UN Human Rights reports, particularly those on Chile, Kashmir and Venezuela, were especially effective. The July launches of the reports on Kashmir and Venezuela and the High Commissioner's high-profile visit to Venezuela the previous month, were the primary reasons for the record monthly media pick-up of just under 10,000 articles, in July.
- In July, UN Human Rights recruited a communication consultant (as planned under the "Light Up! Innovation Engine") to focus on telling the stories of the work of the Office in the Africa region. Throughout the year, UN Human Rights issued bimonthly reports under a new format that showcases its human rights impact in the region in line with the OMP. It also issued human interest stories that were posted on social media and the UN Human Rights website. These stories attracted considerable attention from a large audience.
- In an effort to differentiate between OHCHR and the HRC, the HRC media team developed a Council website in 2018. In the reporting period, new features were introduced with a distinguishable identity for the HRC and its mechanisms. Moreover, the HRC media team developed a new logo, in all official UN languages, which has been applied to all HRC public materials and web-based platforms, including its social media accounts, outreach products, electronic e-mail signatures and business cards. In 2019, the HRC logo was included for the first time as a masthead on correspondence sent by the HRC Presidency.
- In March 2018, the Office launched a branding exercise that continued to be developed throughout 2019. The branding company presented its results, proposed a strategy and worked with UN Human Rights to develop and launch the 2019 Human Rights Day campaign. It also presented a first draft of the new UN Human Rights brand book.
- The multi-year Web Transformation Project, launched in 2018, aims to produce a new, user-friendly OHCHR.org website that leverages current technology and is effectively governed. In 2019, it focused on content revision, governance and procurement. The bulk of the content work involved auditing existing web pages and preparing reports that recommended what content to update, remove or migrate.
- A strong emphasis was placed on the use of multimedia, visual storytelling through social videos, interactive Instagram stories and animated infographics. This improved the Office's capacities to tell stories and convey its messages in different formats. UN Human Rights explored new ways of

storytelling, both in terms of format and venue, taking advantage of new platforms, such as Exposure or Medium. In addition, the Office developed unique visual messaging for various communications products and produced many social media-only stories in an immersive mobile format. In the second half of 2019, multilingual accounts were created in French ([facebook.com/onudroitsdelhomme](https://www.facebook.com/onudroitsdelhomme)) and Spanish ([facebook.com/onuderechoshumanos](https://www.facebook.com/onuderechoshumanos) and [instagram.com/onuderechoshumanos](https://www.instagram.com/onuderechoshumanos)). These new pages will help UN Human Rights to increase its content promotion and audience engagement in multiple languages.

- In March, OHCHR and the UN in **Cambodia** partnered with a local pop celebrity, Laura Mam, her all-women production company, the Embassies of Australia, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the Swiss Development Cooperation and SMART telecommunications, to organize a concert celebrating female artists, music and dance in Cambodia. Through the concert and a special music video that was produced for International Women's Day, the campaign generated 221,000 live views through Facebook live streaming and 1.1M views in total. Leading up to the concert, televised round-table discussions with women leaders and influencers expanded the understanding of critical barriers to women's empowerment and gender equality in Cambodia.
- As part of its general communication objective to change the way that the Office communicates, the **Central America Regional Office in Panama** worked with the Museum of Contemporary Art in Panama (MAC Panama) to create a space that would enable the general public to interact with the 30 articles of the UDHR and

raise awareness about the need to stand up for human rights. For this project, which consisted of a six-week exhibition, the Central America Regional Office and MAC Panama requested 30 graphic designers and illustrators (gender-balanced, most of whom were under the age of 30) to create 30 posters: one poster for each of the articles of the UDHR. During the exhibition, the Office carried out several events to generate traffic from different types of audiences. The events included a scrapbook workshop to create signs with messages on women's rights, especially to eradicate violence against women, a human rights workshop, a DJ night and a hip hop night with break dancers and rappers who sang about human rights. The exhibition closed on 10 January 2020 with a music event. The exhibition enabled people to physically interact with the art and contributed to generating content and attracting the attention of younger audiences.

- For International Human Rights Day, the **Regional Office for Europe in Brussels** and UNESCO created a youth podcast, in collaboration with Spotify, called "The Future We Want" (<https://spotify.fi/2rvYfIZ>). The podcast was designed to mobilize youth for human rights by highlighting the journey of four youth activists (an activist on persons with disabilities, an activist on Roma rights, an educational youtuber and a climate activist).

## Resource Mobilization

Investment in and support for UN Human Rights has expanded and donors are expressing confidence in the value delivered by these investments.

- Total voluntary contributions amounted to US\$179 million, a decrease of 4.3 per cent compared to 2018. It should be noted, however, that 2018 was an exceptional year, which saw the highest amount ever received by the Office (US\$187.1 million) with a 31 per cent increase over 2017. A total of 85 funding agreements were signed with donors in 2019.
- While grants were secured from the MacArthur Foundation and the Open Society Foundations in 2019, UN Human Rights developed a road map during the last quarter of 2019 to more proactively reach out to private foundations in 2020. A series of events will be organized throughout the year with the aim of paving the way for the creation of new platforms for their engagement with UN Human Rights. On 1 October, the Office signed a MoU with a funding component with two Qatari non-profit NGOs, namely, Silatech and Education Above All. The purpose of this MoU is to promote and protect the rights of young people, realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development relating to youth and implement the United Nations Youth Strategy.
- UN Human Rights prepared a position paper on the office-wide approach to JPO management and made specific recommendations on aligning JPO management with the OMP and its annual planning and monitoring processes. The paper was considered and endorsed by the PBRB at its December session for implementation starting at the 2020 Mid-Year Review point.
- The Case for Support, produced in 2019, was printed in early 2020. It will be available at several UN Human Rights events with the aim of proactively reaching out to private and corporate foundations and paving the way for the creation of new platforms for their engagement with UN Human Rights.
- An agreement with the customer relationship management platform, Salesforce, was signed in April and UN Human Rights was able to purchase its first licenses in May. In June, UN Human Rights began working with a consultant to adapt the system to its donor relations needs and the first modules were developed and tested. In addition, the consultant facilitated three trainings for the staff members of the Donor Relations Section to explain the main features of the system. UN Human Rights will begin using the system in 2020.
- In May, UN Human Rights deployed a P4 Human Rights Officer to work within the Financing for Peace Section of the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) with a view to mobilizing more resources for UN Human Rights projects from the Peacebuilding Fund. Initial indications show that the deployment is improving the institutional links between UN Human Rights and the PBSO, resulting in more quality submissions from UN Human Rights. A joint UN Human Rights-PBSO workplan that was finalized and adopted by both offices in 2019 is being implemented.
- The Office in **Guatemala** increased its programming and fundraising capacities with the creation of a Programme Management Unit, in September. This Unit will closely coordinate with the teams working on administration, human resources and monitoring and evaluation to reach out to donors to inform their programmes and ensure that they include human rights priorities. Similarly, the Office in **Cambodia** enhanced its resource mobilization and programme management capacities by establishing an international post of External Relations and Planning Officer.

## Partnerships

UN Human Rights has broadened and diversified its institutional partners and maximized the mutually reinforcing human rights benefits of exchange of expertise, reach and resources.

- OHCHR launched an internal taskforce to develop a road map for partnerships, which will include the identification of key partners and enablers, as well as a vision and toolkit for the establishment of partnerships in the future.
- OHCHR established a new partnership with HURIDOCS to automatize the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI), which will include tagging the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms against SDGs and targets through a pioneering use of artificial intelligence. UN Human Rights also supported the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights in developing the European Union Fundamental Rights Information System by drawing on data from the treaty body jurisprudence database.
- The collaboration with the World Bank progressed well in 2019. Building on the success of the High Commissioner's engagement at the 2018 World Bank Spring Meetings, the High Commissioner participated in a prominent event on fragility, conflict and violence (FCV) at the 2019 Spring Meetings that were held in April, in Washington D.C., with CEO Kristalina Georgieva. UN Human Rights supported the High Commissioner's participation in the FCV event and engaged with the World Bank's consultation process as it develops its first draft Strategy for FCV. As of the end of the year, this process was ongoing.
- In 2019, the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights initiated a

multi-year cooperation with UNESCO to develop a manual and toolkit that promotes a human rights-based approach to cultural diversity and the importance of safeguarding cultural heritage in humanitarian action and during security, peacebuilding and peacekeeping operations.

- The Human Rights Monitoring Mission in **Ukraine** (HRMMU) engaged for the first time in a partnership with a local NGO to prepare video lectures on international standards for protecting HRDs. As part of a broader online course for HRDs, the lectures aimed to deliver information to HRDs about their protection according to international law, including who can be considered an HRD, how the HRMMU operates in Ukraine, key challenges to civic space in Ukraine and what international mechanisms are available for the protection of HRDs. The lectures were posted online and widely shared by local civil society activists.

## Operations Management

UN Human Rights managers are enabling the most efficient and responsible use of all available resources, supported by the effective deployment of relevant technologies.

- UN Human Rights continued contributing to the operationalization of the UNSDG Strategy for the Deployment of HRAs and ensured the timely and effective processing of extensions and processing of new approved deployments. As a result, at the end of 2019, all HRAs in 37 countries were operating under the aligned terms of reference that were managed in close cooperation between UN Human Rights and the UN Development Cooperation Office (DCO). New deployments were secured for Belize, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Guyana, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal and Trinidad and Tobago. At the end of 2019, UN Human Rights deployed HRAs and Human Rights Mainstreaming Projects in 37 countries to support the enhanced integration of human rights into the country programmes of the respective resident coordinators and UN Country Teams (UNCTs).
- The emission reduction plan continues to be implemented. The greenhouse gas emissions for headquarters are calculated annually and waste measures are now included in this calculation. In 2019, UN Human Rights was assessed as being climate neutral, for the first time, as a result of the Secretariat's initiative of offsetting its 2018 carbon footprint.
- Throughout 2019, the transition from UNDP-operated Atlas to UMOJA continued in a number of field presences. In **Colombia**, it required the Office to conduct a detailed analysis of the procurement and travel processes. It also

required to make changes to the flowcharts, carry out induction sessions, determine the type of access that each staff member would have to the system and hold staff meetings at different stages of the implementation process. Regular staff meetings were essential to identify bottlenecks and possible solutions, analyse processes and prepare templates and documents to be used by the staff. In 2019, the Colombia Office travel unit processed 3,095 trips, of which 2,839 were processed through UMOJA. By planning travel in advance, ensuring understanding of staff members of the UMOJA travel module as well as compliance with Secretary-General policies, the Office in Colombia was able to reduce the volume of requests by 13 per cent, thus optimizing the resources used for travel.

- With support from headquarters, the **Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa** initiated a project to develop a regional monitoring database, the first to be designed for a regional office. The database is being tailored to meet the regional-level needs in terms of monitoring, verification and documentation.

## Diversity and Gender

Respect for diversity, gender equality and inclusion is at the centre of UN Human Rights' organizational culture and is fully supported by appropriate organizational arrangements.

- The pilot phase of the new UN Human Rights Gender Accreditation Programme was launched in 2019 in the UN Human Rights Offices in **Cambodia** and the **State of Palestine**. The Programme responds to a need to translate the external and internal commitments of UN Human Rights to gender equality, diversity and inclusion into concrete actions. The Programme aims to build and reinforce the capacity of the UN Human Rights field presences to integrate gender into advocacy and programmatic work by providing sustained on-the-job technical support. An internal platform was also established to help the offices to report on their commitments under the new Gender Accreditation tool. An official logo was designed and a pamphlet was developed to explain the premises of the programme. UN Human Rights organized an awards ceremony in Geneva, in January 2020, for the first two field presences that successfully completed the Programme. The Office issued a call for applications for 2020. In response to the call for entries launched by the High Commissioner, in November, the Country Office in Colombia and the HRMMU were selected to participate in the programme in 2020.

## UN HUMAN RIGHTS PILOTS ITS GENDER ACCREDITATION PROGRAMME



In 2019, UN Human Rights launched its Gender Accreditation Programme, a new one-year gender and diversity accreditation programme for field presences and headquarters entities.

The purpose of the Programme is to translate our commitments to gender equality, diversity and inclusion into concrete actions and to build the capacity of staff on gender and diversity integration. It is a different way to promote learning and to track and reward progress. At the same time, it fosters accountability through a process that recognizes good performance and the delivery of results.

### Pilot phase 2019: Voices from the field



“It’s been a fantastic opportunity to pause and look at how we deal with our programmatic and operational work through a gender lens. Now that we have been accredited, it will be a big tick for our donors. All of our donors are looking for an independent and concrete assessment on gender.”

*James Heenan, Head of Field Presence, State of Palestine*



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This programme is grounded in the OEAP on Diversity and Gender and the Office’s other existing commitments to gender and is one of the commitments of the High Commissioner as an International Gender Champion.

In 2019, the pilot phase was implemented in the field presences in Cambodia and the State of Palestine, both of which received their accreditation in an award ceremony held in Geneva, in January 2020. The award ceremony marked the successful end of the pilot stage and the full roll-out of the programme in OHCHR field presences in Ukraine and Colombia based on the assessment of the pilot phase.



“We were brainstorming and coming up with lots of innovative ideas that maybe we should have been doing a long time ago. Equally important it was fun and there is a competition element to it.”

*Simon Walker, former Head of Field Presence, Cambodia*



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- As part of the Office's piloting of the Gender Accreditation Programme, an audit was undertaken of gender and diversity in staffing and the recruitment process. The gender and geographic diversity profile of the Office was constantly monitored in terms of recruitment. Gender and diversity goals were included in over 90 per cent of staff Performance Assessments. Office-wide discussions on gender and diversity were held, with a focus on recruitment and the diversity profile of the Office.
- UN Human Rights piloted its LGBTI Fellowship, in November, as part of the OEAP on diversity and inclusion. The Fellowship seeks to raise awareness and build the capacity of LGBTI HRDs with regard to protecting and promoting the rights of LGBTI persons through the work of the international human rights mechanisms and within the international human rights law framework. It also aims to strengthen the capacities of UN Human Rights to integrate the human rights of these populations into its work. This year, a transgender person from Kenya was selected in recognition of the violence and discrimination that transgender persons face in all regions of the world.
- UN Human Rights prepared a discussion paper on Transforming our own demography for greater diversity (also known as The Rainbow Paper). The discussion paper takes stock of the Office's efforts in recent years in terms of diversity and remaining challenges. It also showcases staff profiles by gender and geography in comparison to the world population. The discussion paper was instrumental in the launch of a set of Diversity Dialogues in the Office to encourage an open exchange on what actions could be taken to ensure that its demography is more in sync with the world's population. The feedback received will be compiled into a set of concrete measures for the High Commissioner to approve for implementation in 2020. Recommendations from the staff Diversity Task Force remain important and will form part of

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### **UNITED NATIONS DISABILITY INCLUSION STRATEGY**

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In 2019, UN Human Rights deployed its Human Rights and Disability Adviser to support the development of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS). During the period from January to June, UN Human Rights, UNDP and ILO delivered 16 trainings and reached over 300 UN officers in New York, Geneva, Rome and Vienna. In addition, it supported the drafting of the UN policy and the entity-based accountability framework.

The UNDIS is the first system-wide accountability framework on disability inclusion in the UN. Its entity-based indicators and the scorecard for UNCTs (currently under development) are envisioned to bring about a structural change in the organization and provide for a human rights-based policy framework to improve its performance in "Leaving No One Behind," including persons with disabilities. It is also the first UN accountability framework that operates across all UN pillars, without distinction, and will also apply to peace and security and climate change initiatives.

UN Human Rights had a substantive role in the establishment of the UNDIS Secretariat in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. The Office's Human Rights and Disability Adviser was shortlisted for the Secretary-General's Award as a "Change Agent," for his work on the UNDIS. UN Human Rights is preparing its first report to the Secretary-General on the UNDIS.

the measures to be presented to the High Commissioner.

- UN Human Rights in the **Republic of Moldova** conducted a Diversity Study to assess the diversity of UN national staff working in the country. Based on the results of the study, the UNCT identified major gaps in terms of diversity in the areas of ethnicity, age, language, geography and persons with disabilities and decided to re-establish a diversity task force to assess potential activities to increase diversity.
- At a retreat of the **Southern Africa Regional Office**, in February, for staff and Heads of field presences in Southern Africa, a discussion was held on gender and diversity. A number of action points were agreed to, including the development of a gender strategy, the need for all field presences in the subregion to integrate gender mainstreaming into their reporting and a proposal for additional training on gender mainstreaming. A draft of the regional Gender and Diversity Strategy 2019-2021 was finalized. The implementation of the Strategy, which is in line with UN Human Rights' and UN's policy commitments, will continue in 2020.



## Talent and Career Management

UN Human Rights is actively unleashing the full potential of its staff with focused talent and career management accessible to all.

- A review of the work undertaken by the General Services staff in UN Human Rights Headquarters commenced, to review assigned work, the organizational structure and related classification levels. In addition, the regularization of staff was underway throughout the year and a comprehensive review of the conditions of service for national staff in field offices was concluded.
- In 2019, UN Human Rights targeted support and access to learning opportunities for field-based staff members through the promotion of the new learning platform, LinkedIn Learning, and through the organization of the Field Administrative Staff Consultations that took place in Geneva, in May, for 28 field-based administrative staff. A total of 46 UN Human Rights staff members used LinkedIn Learning in 2019.
- Following the 2018 launch of the 360-degree feedback project as a pilot for senior leaders (D1 level and above), UN Human Rights facilitated the delivery of the executive coaching package. The 360-degree feedback cycle for all managers supervising four or more staff members was rolled out in November 2018. Over 160 managers received feedback until the survey campaign closed. After reaching out to colleagues in Geneva, New York and all field presences, the data was collected and uploaded to the Vision Metrics platform, which was the main tool used to facilitate the implementation of the process. The survey was reviewed and adjusted according to the lessons

learned from the pilot with the senior leadership. The project was underpinned by a communication strategy to ensure active participation. The final reports were completed on 9 March. Colleagues that received feedback discussed the results and designed their professional development plans through coaching.

- In 2019, special focus continued to be placed on women leaders within UN Human Rights. Five staff members attended the UNSSC Women Leadership programme, EMERGE - the Programme for Emerging Women Leaders. During an office-wide collaborative effort in the first quarter of 2019, an initial proposal was developed for a Women's Mentoring Programme that was based on learnings and good practices by UNAIDS.

› EMERGE is a leadership development and coaching programme that promotes and develops women leaders with the aim of closing the gender parity gap in the UN system. It was co-developed for women leaders by 11 UN partners (ILO, the International Telecommunication Unit (ITU), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UN Human Rights, UNAIDS, UNHCR, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), WHO and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)) to implement the 2017 UN Leadership Framework. Specifically, it identified four leadership behaviours that exemplify the new way of working, namely, focusing on impact, driving transformational change, systems thinking and co-creation. The commitment to and belief in inter-agency collaboration and gender equality resulted in a high level

of engagement by 33 participants and 28 organizers, including learning managers, from the 11 entities over a sustained period of three years.

› In 2019, UN Human Rights jointly with ILO, ITU, OCHA, UNAIDS, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOG, UNSSC, WHO and WIPO won the International Coaching Federation's Prism Award for EMERGE, in recognition of its high-quality standards of professional coaching. The award honours organizations of all sizes and in all sectors that have enhanced their organizational performance through the deployment of coaching for a change in culture, leadership and people development, organizational productivity and performance improvement. The third edition began in 2019.

- A number of initiatives were carried out to strengthen the skills of the staff in the **Guatemala** office. One such initiative that had a concrete impact on the work of UN Human Rights in the region involved the participation of a staff member in a training of trainers session on "Human Rights at International Borders," in Geneva. The training was instrumental in strengthening the capacity of the Office in Guatemala to provide technical assistance to State institutions, particularly immigration and law enforcement officers, and staff members of the national human rights institution. It also enabled the Office to support similar initiatives undertaken by other field offices in the region.

# FUNDING



Discussion on land rights between UN Human Rights staff and villagers of the Phum Pis resettlement site who were expelled from their village after the government awarded an economic concession on their lands to a sugar cane company. © OHCHR



# Funding overview in 2019

ANNUAL APPEAL

**\$321.5M**

TOTAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

**\$179M**

**84** DONORS

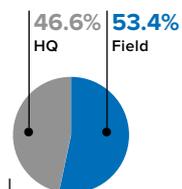
of which 66 are Member States

Annual Appeal (extrabudgetary requirements)	<b>\$321.5M</b>	
Total voluntary contributions	<b>\$179M</b>	UNFUNDED \$142.5M
Expenditure (extrabudgetary)	<b>\$183M</b>	

## OVERVIEW OF FUNDING SOURCES



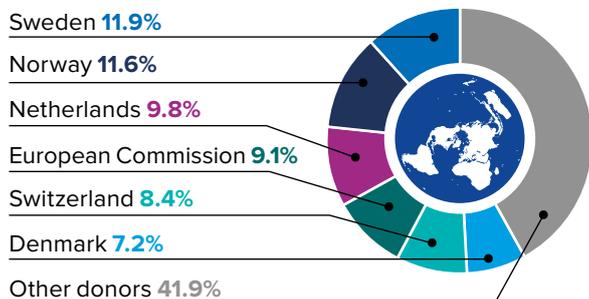
XB expenditure HQ and Field



XB contributions received by type of contribution



## TOP SOURCES OF UNEARMARKED XB



## BREAKDOWN OF DONORS BY BRACKETS OF CONTRIBUTIONS



## BREAKDOWN OF DONORS BY GEOGRAPHIC GROUP



\* Of total amount of voluntary contributions

This chapter presents an overview of UN Human Rights funding in 2019 and of funding trends since 2010.

**Continuous improvements in the level, flexibility, timeliness and predictability of voluntary contributions and the diversification of the donor base are essential to ensuring that UN Human Rights has the resources it needs to achieve the goals set out in the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP) 2018-2021.**

UN Human Rights is partially funded through assessed contributions from Member States to the United Nations regular budget and partially through voluntary contributions (extrabudgetary funding) from donors, the majority of whom are Member States.

In 2019, the second year of the OMP 2018-2021, UN Human Rights' total income was US\$284.6 million. Of this total, 62.9 per cent came from voluntary contributions and 37.1 per cent came from the United Nations regular budget.

In 2019, the approved regular budget appropriation for UN Human Rights, as a department of the United Nations Secretariat, was US\$105.6 million, which is just under 3.7 per cent of the total UN regular budget. More specifically, excluding funds it apportions to the human rights components of peacekeeping operations, out of 51.7 per cent of the total regular budget resources directed to the three UN system pillars, the UN regular budget allocates 7.7 per cent to the human rights pillar; the other two pillars being development and peace and security.

As a matter of principle, the UN regular budget should finance all activities that are mandated by the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, including by the Human Rights Council. The regular budget allocation, however, does not currently keep pace with the ongoing growth in the number and scope of the General Assembly human rights mandates.

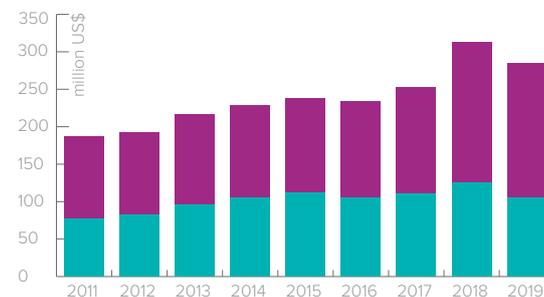
In addition, during 2019, the Human Rights Council adopted 65 resolutions with programme budget implications. These new mandates were presented to the General Assembly at the end of the year in the summary of all resolutions adopted by the Council. While most of the resources required for new mandates were approved, their late-in-the-year presentation to the General Assembly meant that UN Human Rights had to draw from its voluntary resources to fund new activities with a more immediate timeline.

Furthermore, due to cash flow issues, regular budget allotments in 2019 were issued on a quarterly basis and the actual amount received capped at 75 per cent of that expected for activities.

Therefore, in 2019, to cover the funding gap caused by the combined effect of the regular budget cuts, delays in payments and cash flow issues, UN Human Rights had to rely on voluntary contributions to finance approximately 23 per cent of its officially mandated activities that should be financed by the regular budget.

#### OHCHR - FUNDING OVERVIEW

- Voluntary contributions
- Regular budget appropriation

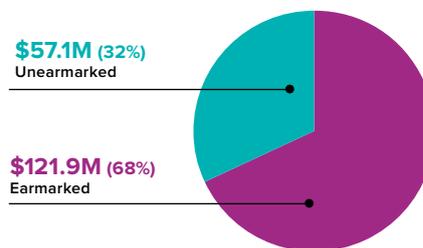


However, payment of extrabudgetary contributions continued to be received in the latter half of the year, further aggravating the cash flow situation of the Office.

In terms of extrabudgetary support, a total of US\$179 million was raised in voluntary contributions during the reporting period. This represents a decrease of 4.3 per cent compared to the 2018 total of US\$187.1 million, the highest annual amount that UN Human Rights has received to date. The total amount of extrabudgetary contributions falls far short of the US\$321.5 million in extrabudgetary requirements that was sought in the 2019 Annual Appeal. These extrabudgetary requirements are the funds that UN Human Rights requires, in addition to its regular budget allocation, if it is to respond to all of the requests for assistance that it receives in a given year.

In absolute terms, during 2019, UN Human Rights raised the eighth highest amount of unearmarked funds ever received (US\$57.1 million). Nevertheless, this represented the second lowest percentage of unearmarked funds (32 per cent) compared to the total extrabudgetary income since 2006. Some of this can be attributed to the receipt of more locally sourced funding for field activities and to contributions from non-traditional budget lines that can only be accessed as earmarked funds. Other contributions that were previously unearmarked were transformed into more circumscribed funding. This continued increase in earmarking makes it more difficult for UN Human Rights to efficiently implement the OMP, limiting its capacity to allocate resources where and when they are most needed. Earmarking means reduced flexibility with correspondingly higher transactional costs, as well as constraints on the effective response to emerging needs.

**EARMARKED VERSUS UNEARMARKED FUNDING 2019**



**2019 - TREND IN PLEDGES AND PAYMENTS**



The diversification of the donor base continued to be a challenge. In 2019, UN Human Rights received funding from a total of 84 donors. As in previous years, despite efforts to broaden the donor base, including by increasing the number of contributing Member States and bringing in non-traditional donors, the overwhelming majority of voluntary contributions came from 66 Member States, which provided a total of US\$143.6 million, representing 80.2 per cent of all contributions received. Of the 66 Member States that contributed in 2019, only one was a first time contributor, while 49 had contributed in 2018. In addition, 31 out of 66 contributing Member States increased their support compared to 2018 and 53 provided unearmarked funding.

Multilateral organizations, including the European Commission and UN partners, contributed an additional US\$34.1 million, or 19 per cent, of all contributions.

In line with the Funding Compact that was established in 2019 between Member States and UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) members, including UN Human Rights, to better align funding with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the contributions received by UN Human Rights through the inter-agency Pooled Funds and Trust Funds reached a record US\$10.2 million in 2019. This reflected the enhanced engagement with the UN Peacebuilding Support Office, through the Peacebuilding Fund, and the growing demand for Human Rights Advisers in the UN Country Teams, which are funded through the UN Multi-Donor Trust Fund on Human Rights Mainstreaming.

The Funding Compact also calls for Member States to increase their multi-year commitments. In 2019, only four donors pledged through new multi-year agreements, which compounds the lack

of funding predictability and sustainability. As of the beginning of January 2020, only US\$63.7 million from 18 donors had been registered for 2020 as part of multi-year agreements.

On the expenditure side, approximately 58.5 per cent of all extrabudgetary funding was used to support work in the field, which receives minimal support from the regular budget. The remainder of the voluntary funding was distributed between other areas of UN Human Rights' work and often supplemented the limited resources available from the regular budget.

Although the extrabudgetary income of UN Human Rights was below the extrabudgetary requirements presented in the 2019 Annual Appeal and in spite of increased earmarking of voluntary contributions, UN Human Rights used its available resources efficiently, which enabled it to achieve a far greater impact than would otherwise have been possible. The 2019 Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) assessment of UN Human Rights acknowledged that, despite the "chronic mismatch between OHCHR's growing mandate and scope of operations on the one hand, and its human and financial resources on the other," the organization used its scarce human and financial resources more efficiently, "performing remarkably well, and punching above its weight."<sup>3</sup>

In 2019, 51.1 per cent of total expenditures, including both regular budget and voluntary contributions, were devoted to fieldwork, particularly for capacity-strengthening projects and for human rights monitoring, which were predominantly financed through voluntary contributions. Approximately 10.9 per cent of total expenditures were spent on thematic research, human rights mainstreaming, the development of policy and the provision of guidance and tools; 8.3 per cent were spent supporting the human rights treaty bodies, including policymaking organs; and 11.6 per cent were spent in support of the Human Rights Council and its special procedures. The remainder was devoted to programme support (4.9 per cent), executive direction and management, resource mobilization and outreach activities (9 per cent) and the trust funds and miscellaneous activities (4.2 per cent).

<sup>3</sup> MOPAN 2017-2018, Assessment of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, published in April 2019. <http://www.mopanonline.org/assessments/ohchr2017-18/>

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR IN 2019

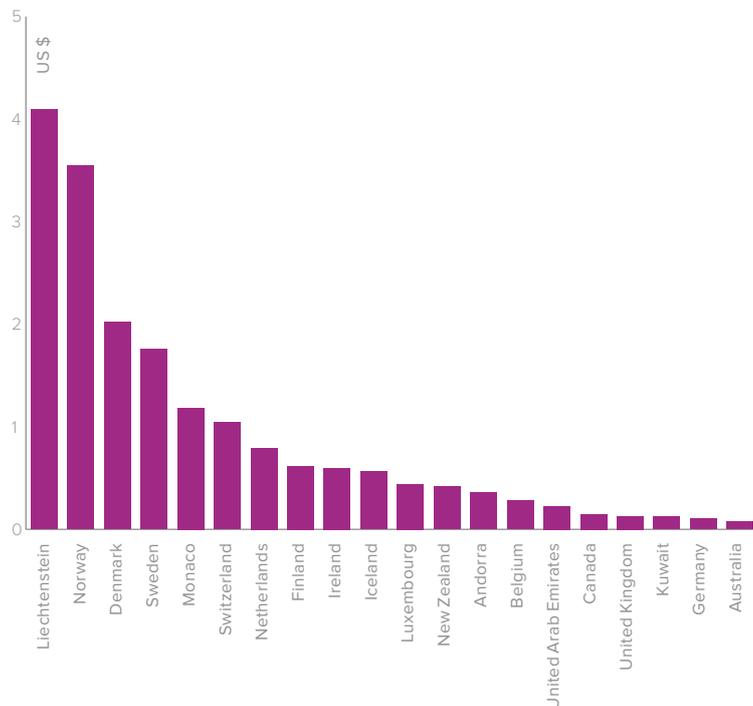
DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED	DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED
1 European Commission	20,689,560	25%	25 International Labour Organization (ILO)	1,048,024	0%
2 Norway	18,835,881	35%	26 Microsoft	850,000	0%
3 United States of America	18,200,211	0%	27 China	800,000	0%
4 Sweden	17,885,196	38%	28 OCHA (incl. CERF)	624,334	0%
5 Netherlands	13,665,987	41%	29 Kuwait	510,000	98%
6 Denmark	11,723,058	35%	30 Portugal	375,028	82%
7 UNDP (UN pooled and trust funds funding)	10,219,125	0%	31 Poland	335,239	54%
8 Switzerland	8,854,779	54%	32 India	300,000	0%
9 United Kingdom	8,532,030	36%	- Morocco	300,000	67%
10 Germany	8,411,296	23%	34 Luxembourg	268,602	77%
11 Canada <sup>1</sup>	5,525,752	68%	35 Mexico	238,288	63%
12 Finland	3,408,014	54%	36 Iceland	200,000	0%
13 Belgium	3,230,479	70%	37 Liechtenstein	155,155	16%
14 France	3,119,443	58%	38 UN Women	125,630	0%
15 Ireland	2,906,394	72%	39 UNHCR	124,362	0%
16 Republic of Korea	2,500,000	24%	40 Austria	120,349	0%
17 United Arab Emirates	2,188,425	71%	41 Turkey	120,000	83%
18 New Zealand	2,051,984	100%	42 Counterpart International	118,569	0%
19 Russian Federation	2,000,000	5%	43 Czech Republic	117,296	74%
20 Australia	1,936,192	0%	44 Japan	117,133	0%
21 Spain <sup>2</sup>	1,501,515	34%	45 Open Society Foundations (FPOS)	107,000	0%
22 Italy	1,261,887	0%	46 Call for Code	105,000	100%
23 Saudi Arabia	1,149,867	0%	47 Qatar	89,911	0%
24 UNOPS	1,104,675	0.0%	48 Estonia	88,229	37%

DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED	DONOR	TOTAL IN US\$	% UNEARMARKED
49 UNTF for Human Security	75,011	0%	73 Slovenia	10,941	100%
50 Org. Inter. de la Francophonie (OIF)	66,831	0%	74 Auckland Law School	10,484	0%
51 Pakistan	65,000	86%	75 Costa Rica	6,727	100%
52 Ford Foundation	52,150	0%	76 Montenegro	5,470	100%
53 Monaco	45,820	75%	77 Kazakhstan	5,000	100%
54 MacArthur Foundation	40,000	0%	78 Republic of Moldova	3,000	100%
55 Peru	35,795	85%	79 Armenia	2,500	100%
56 Ukraine	35,000	0%	- Philippines	2,500	100%
57 Slovakia	32,012	100%	81 Albania	2,283	100%
58 Bulgaria	30,000	100%	82 Cuba	2,135	100%
- Egypt	30,000	33%	83 Mauritius	1,843	100%
- Uruguay	30,000	100%	84 University of Exeter	1,333	0%
61 Lithuania	29,703	44%	<i>Individual donors / miscellaneous</i>	27,539	93%
62 Andorra	27,443	0%	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>178,991,420</b>	<b>32%</b>
63 Cyprus	22,002	100%			
64 Georgia	20,000	75%			
- Indonesia	20,000	100%			
- Malaysia	20,000	100%			
- Thailand	20,000	100%			
68 Chile	17,000	12%			
- Sri Lanka	17,000	100%			
70 Singapore	15,000	0%			
71 Holy See	13,000	0%			
72 Latvia	11,001	100%			

<sup>1</sup> Includes a contribution of CAD 30,000 from the Government of Québec.

<sup>2</sup> Includes a contribution of EUR 20,000 from the Basque Government and a contribution of EUR 150,000 from the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation.

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM TOP 20 DONORS TO OHCHR PER CAPITA IN 2019**

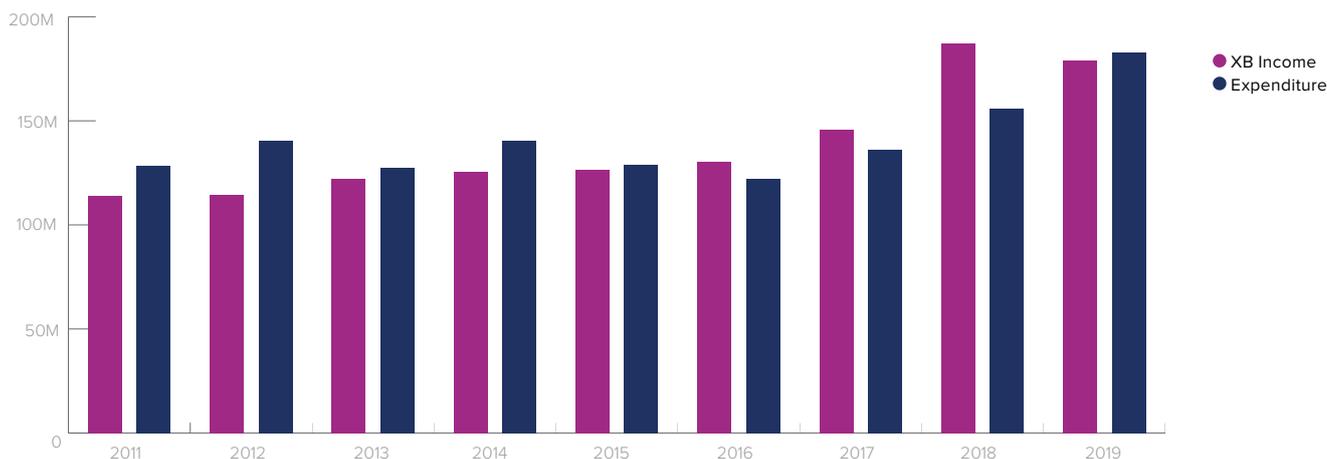


Source: based on 2019 voluntary contributions from OHCHR's donors (Member States) and 2018 population figures from the World Bank Data Profiles.

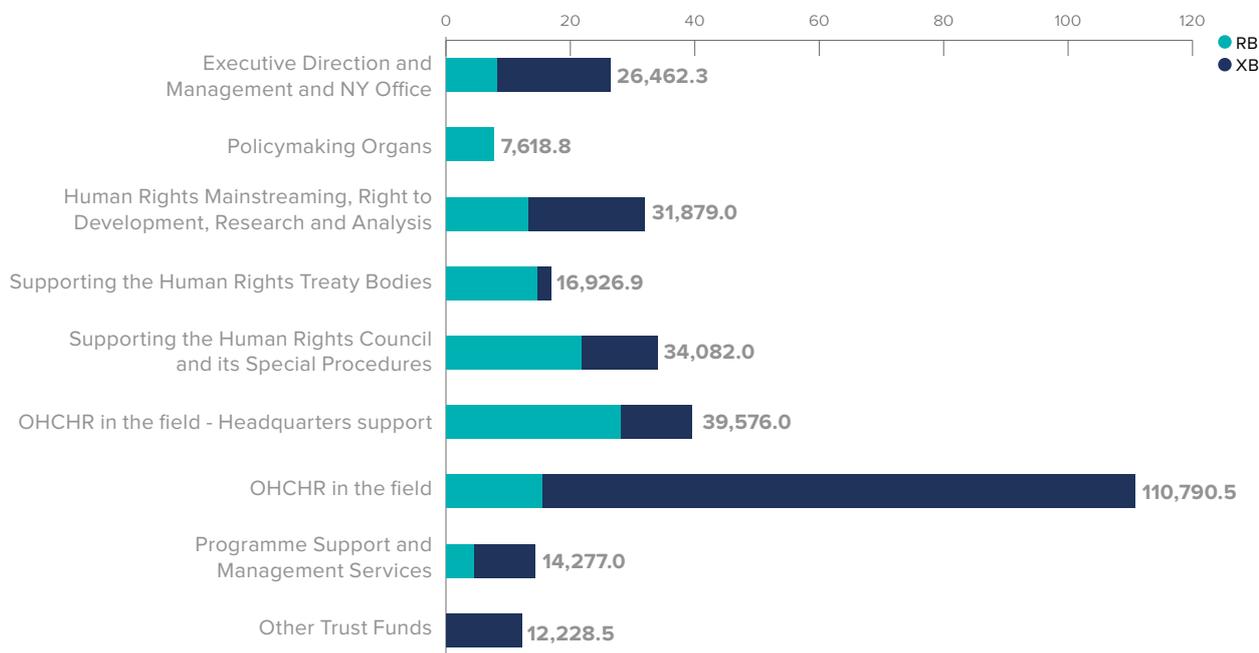
**UN POOLED AND TRUST FUNDS FUNDING RECEIVED BY OHCHR IN 2019 THROUGH UNDP**

Donor	US\$
Joint Programmes (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala)	579,253
Joint SDG Fund (Georgia, South Africa)	201,222
Moldova 2030 SDGs Partnership	192,075
Peacebuilding Fund (Chad, Colombia, DRC, the Gambia, Guinea, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Nigeria, Uganda)	2,806,826
Spotlight Initiative Fund (Liberia, Mexico)	592,187
UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict	267,174
UNDG-Human Rights Mainstreaming Trust Fund	1,457,191
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,095,927</b>

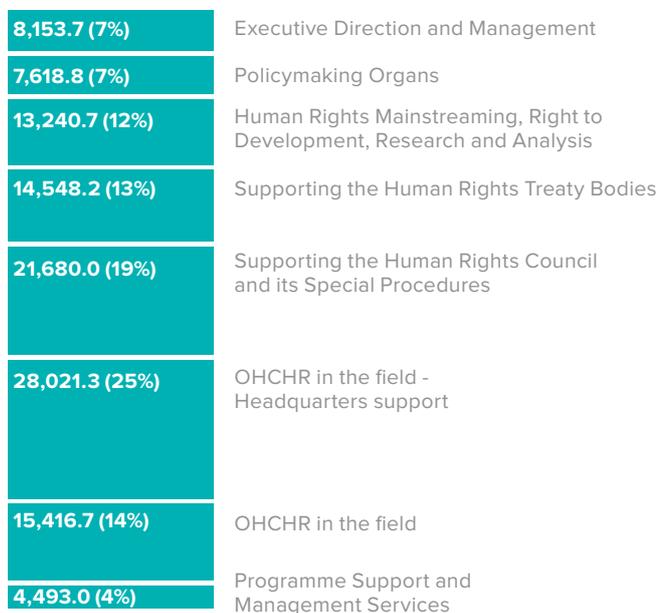
**EXTRABUDGETARY INCOME VERSUS EXPENDITURE 2011-2019 (IN MILLION US\$)**



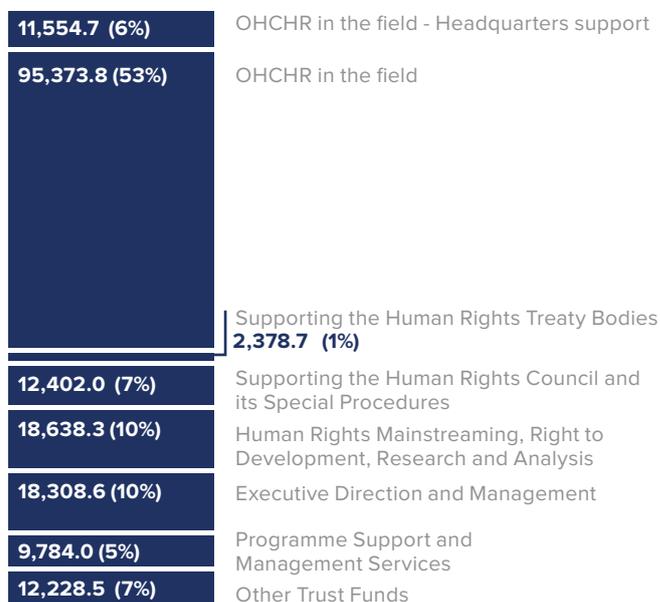
**COMBINED RB & XB EXPENDITURE BY MAIN ACTIVITY IN 2019 (IN THOUSANDS US\$)**



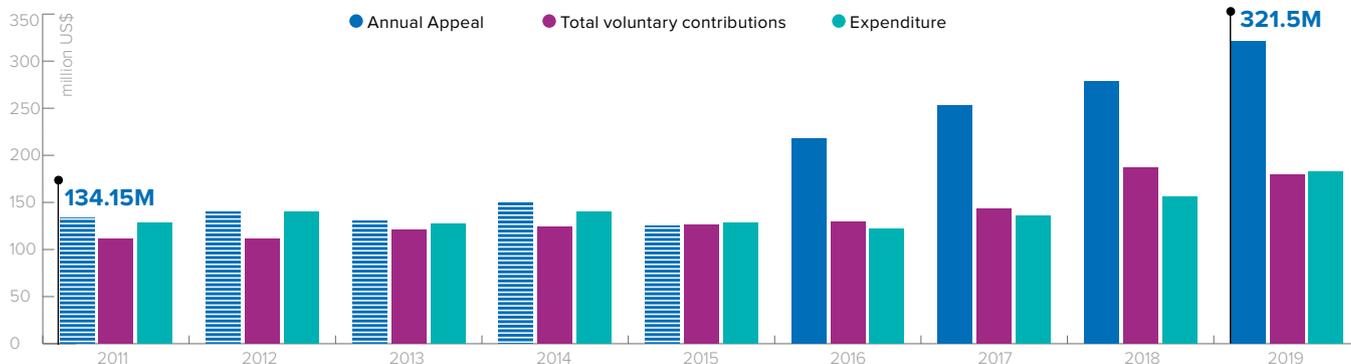
**REGULAR BUDGET EXPENDITURE BY MAIN ACTIVITY IN 2019 (IN THOUSANDS US\$)**



**XB EXPENDITURE 2019 (IN THOUSANDS US\$)**

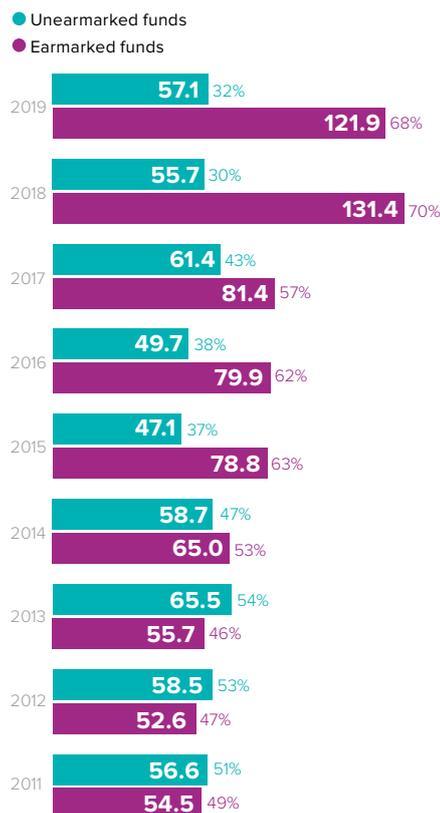


# Funding trends 2011-2019



Until 2015, the annual appeal/extrabudgetary requirements consisted of mere cost plans based on projected income. As of 2016, UN Human Rights introduced a new approach attempting to show the Office's true requirements, i.e. a needs-based budget of all the funds the Office would need if it was to respond to all requests of assistance it received, and that could realistically be implemented within a single year.

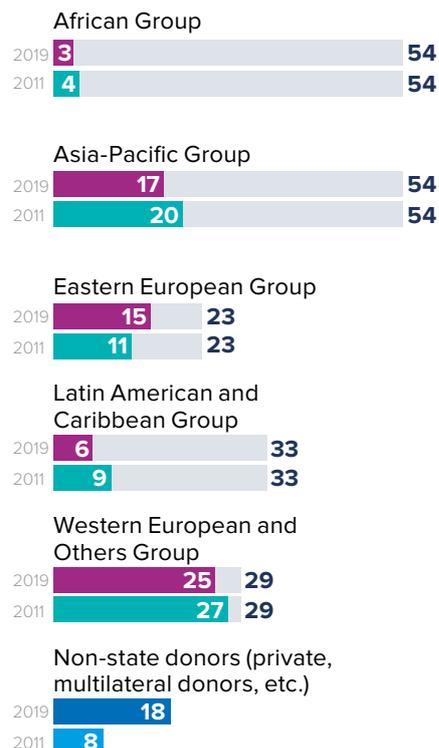
## EARMARKED VERSUS UNEARMARKED FUNDING (IN MILLION US\$)



## NUMBER OF DONORS (INCLUDING MEMBER STATES)



## BREAKDOWN OF DONORS BY GEOGRAPHIC GROUP



### REGULAR BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

Approximately 37 per cent of the UN Human Rights income is derived from the United Nations regular budget. The cash amount of the regular budget funding that is allocated to UN Human Rights has gradually increased since 2005, when the World Summit committed to a doubling of the regular resources available for UN Human Rights over a period of five years, and when it established the Human Rights Council, which since its inception has been active in creating new human rights mandates with regular budget implications.

However, this continuous growth ended during the 2018-2019 biennium when the approved allocation decreased to a level below the allocation for the 2014-2015 biennium. For the 2018-2019 biennium, the approved regular budget appropriation for UN Human Rights was US\$201.6 million as compared to US\$215.5 million in 2016-2017, US\$206.9 million in 2014-2015, US\$177.3 million in 2012-2013 and US\$151.6 million in 2010-2011. In 2019, the Office received US\$105.6 million in regular budget allocations compared to US\$125.6 million in 2018 representing a decrease of 15.9 per cent.

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The level of voluntary contributions to UN Human Rights has increased substantially since 2010 but then decreased for the first time in nine years in 2019, when a total of US\$179 million was raised, falling below the exceptional 2018 level.

In 2018, UN Human Rights received US\$187.1 million, representing the highest amount ever received by UN Human Rights. In 2017, the third highest amount of US\$142.8 million was received in voluntary contributions, followed by US\$129.6 million in 2016, US\$125.8 million in 2015,

US\$123.7 million in 2014 and US\$121.2 million in 2013. Between 2010 and 2012, the amount of voluntary contributions gradually increased from US\$109.4 million in 2010 to US\$111.1 million in 2012.

### REGULAR BUDGET VERSUS VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Over the last nine years, approximately 40 per cent of the funding for UN Human Rights came from the United Nations regular budget (37.1 per cent in 2019, 40.2 per cent in 2018, 44 per cent in 2017, 45 per cent in 2016, 46 per cent in 2015 and 2014, 44 per cent in 2013 and 42.5 per cent in 2012). On the other hand, approximately 60 per cent came from voluntary contributions (62.9 per cent in 2019, 59.8 per cent in 2018, 56 per cent in 2017, 55 per cent in 2016, 54 per cent in 2015 and 2014, 56 per cent in 2013 and 57.5 per cent in 2012). Over the past few years, the increase in the share of the United Nations regular budget for UN Human Rights activities came from additional resources that were allocated to cover the Treaty Body Strengthening Process and additional mandates, including commissions of inquiry established by the Human Rights Council.

### EXPENDITURE COMPARED TO INCOME

Total expenditures in 2019, including both regular budget and voluntary contributions, reached US\$293.8 million (compared to US\$274.1 million in 2018, US\$246.7 million in 2017, US\$223.3 million in 2016, US\$225.9 million in 2015 and US\$239.1 million in 2014).

Looking exclusively at extrabudgetary income and expenditure, additional income, including interest and miscellaneous income, brought the total available income in 2019 to US\$181.3 million. With expenditures amounting to US\$183 million, UN Human Rights recorded more expenditure than income for the first time since 2015, ending 2019 with a shortfall of US\$1.7 million. The deficit was covered using the reserves accumulated between 2016 and 2018 when income exceeded expenditure for three consecutive years.

### NUMBER AND TYPOLOGY OF DONORS

In 2019, the number of Member States that contributed to UN Human Rights increased by three, up to 66. The overall number of donors decreased by five, amounting to a total of 84 donors compared to 89 donors in 2018. During 2010-2019, the number of contributing Member States fluctuated between its lowest (62) in 2015 and its highest (71) in 2011, marked by the increase in contributions driven by the Arab Spring. The total number of donors that contributed to UN Human Rights was lowest in 2010 and 2015 (71) and highest (89) in 2018.

Amongst the 66 Member States who contributed in 2019, nine renewed their support after at least one year of financial inactivity. Another seven Member States left the list of donors, despite the High Commissioner’s repeated appeals to

broaden UN Human Rights’ donor base. Over the last four years, only 48 Member States provided a contribution every year and 34 others contributed at least once in the same four-year period.

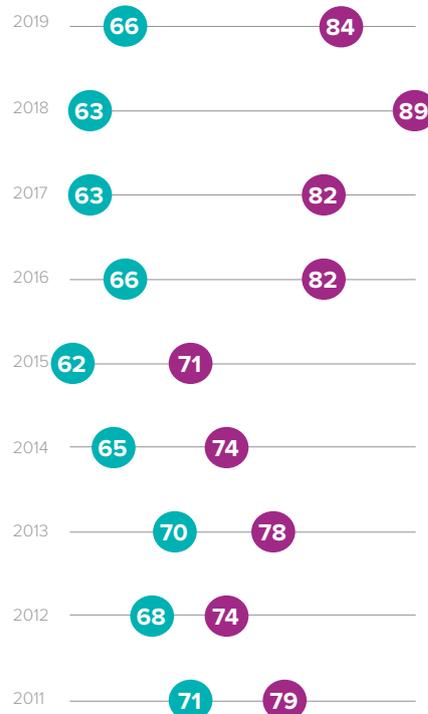
Of the 66 Member States that contributed in 2019, 25 were members of the Western European and Others Group (out of 29 Member States comprising the group); 17 were from the Asia-Pacific Group (out of 54 Member States comprising the group); 15 were from the Eastern European Group (out of 23 Member States comprising the group); six were from the Latin American and Caribbean Group (out of 33 Member States comprising the group); and three were from the African Group (out of 54 Member States comprising the group).

During 2010-2019, the number of donors per regional group fluctuated between 24 and 28 for the Western European and Others Group, between 14 and 20 for the Asia-Pacific Group, between seven and 15 for the Eastern European Group, between six and 10 for the Latin American and Caribbean Group and between two and five for the African Group.

The number of non-State donors, composed of multilateral organizations, the private sector and the UN system, has gradually increased from seven in 2010 to a total of 26 in 2018, down to 18 in 2019.

### NUMBER OF DONORS (INCLUDING MEMBER STATES)

● Number of Member State donors  
● Total number of donors



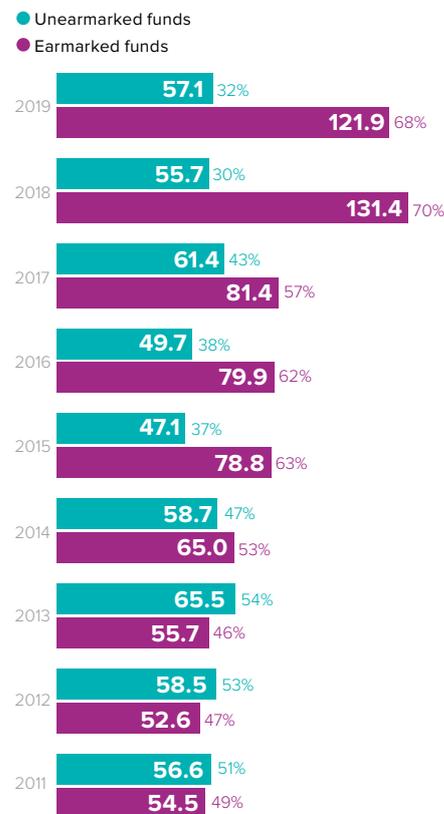
### EARMARKED VERSUS UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2019, UN Human Rights received US\$57.1 million in unearmarked funds from 53 donors. In absolute terms, UN Human Rights raised the eighth highest amount of unearmarked funds. The unearmarked funds, however, represented 32 per cent of the overall voluntary contributions received in 2019, a two per cent increase from 30 per cent in 2018, representing a significant decrease from 43 per cent in 2017 and the second lowest percentage since 2006. During

2010-2019, the percentage of unearmarked funding has fluctuated between 30 per cent (at its lowest in 2018) and 54 per cent (at its highest in 2010 and 2013).

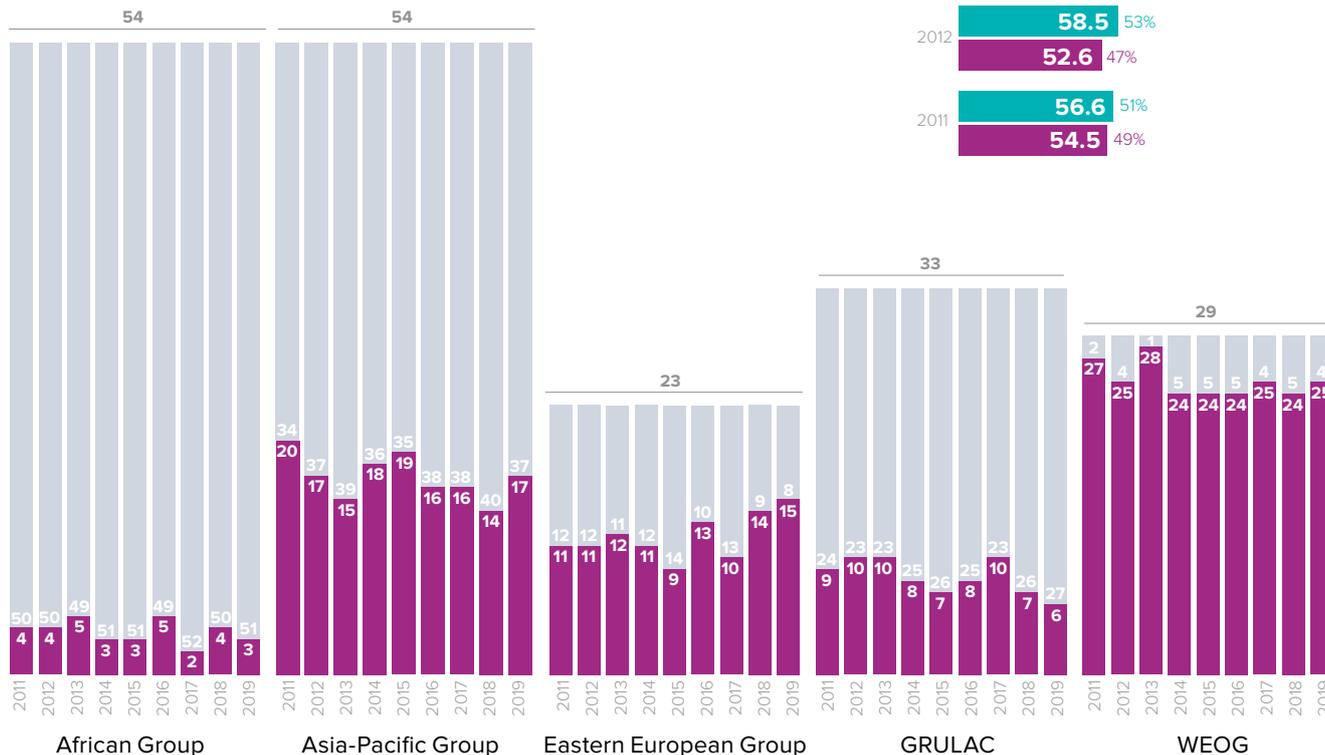
Some of the increase in earmarking can be attributed to the receipt of more locally sourced funding for fieldwork and contributions from non-traditional budget lines that can only be accessed as earmarked funds (such as humanitarian and development budget lines). Other contributions that were previously unearmarked are now provided as more circumscribed funding.

### EARMARKED VERSUS UNEARMARKED FUNDING (IN MILLION US\$)



### OHCHR DONOR BASE IN 2011-2019, BROKEN DOWN BY REGIONAL GROUP

● Number of donors by regional group      ● Number of non-donors by regional group



## Voluntary contributions to OHCHR in 2019

(by earmarking and in descending order)

The distribution of funds in this table reflects earmarking by donors (as per major headings of the extra-budgetary requirements presented in the UN Human Rights Appeal 2019).

	European Commission	Norway	United States of America	Sweden	Netherlands	Denmark	UNDP
							
<b>Unearmarked</b>	5,170,455	6,639,948		6,816,990	5,592,841	4,116,481	
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>		194,974					267,174
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>	797,980	2,718,804	1,218,000		1,666,485	1,653,785	
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>		108,319			882,353		
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>	5,619,104	1,191,508			2,352,940		
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>	174,863	1,039,861	1,782,000		2,058,823		
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>	8,927,158	6,292,554	8,650,211	11,068,206	1,112,546	5,190,481	9,951,951
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>		108,319	5,650,000			4,895,973	5,298,164
<i>Africa</i>	425,450	2,039,269		3,518,812	1,112,546	294,507	2,893,503
<i>Americas</i>	135,381	1,873,917	2,000,000	3,851,675			1,025,586
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>	1,217,628			2,739,750			139,762
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>	2,772,460	819,576	1,000,211	957,969			594,937
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>	4,376,239	1,451,473					
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>		649,913	6,550,000			762,311	
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>							
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR</b>	<b>20,689,560</b>	<b>18,835,881</b>	<b>18,200,211</b>	<b>17,885,196</b>	<b>13,665,987</b>	<b>11,723,058</b>	<b>10,219,125</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Switzerland	United Kingdom	Germany	Canada	Finland	Belgium	France	Ireland	Korea, Rep. of
								
4,806,895	3,082,614	1,935,450	3,767,898	1,852,273	2,275,313	1,806,020	2,079,153	600,000
62,000	90,000							
330,869	769,911	95,080		363,636			330,033	250,000
100,000		910,777				55,741		150,000
	443,350	466,843	682,926					300,000
452,465	25,202	1,093,956	78,555	227,273		455,006	55,741	500,000
2,900,937	3,855,240	2,928,846	919,515	909,091	955,166	724,638	346,707	650,000
		1,960,616		909,091		89,186		100,000
	1,714,806				955,166	256,410	68,929	
1,220,000	765,547	218,818	919,515				277,778	
103,760								50,000
550,000	701,036	465,476						
1,027,177	673,850	283,936				379,041		500,000
201,613	265,714	980,344	76,859	55,741		78,038	94,760	50,000
<b>8,854,779</b>	<b>8,532,030</b>	<b>8,411,296</b>	<b>5,525,752</b>	<b>3,408,014</b>	<b>3,230,479</b>	<b>3,119,443</b>	<b>2,906,394</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>

	United Arab Emirates	New Zealand	Russian Federation	Australia	Spain	Italy	Saudi Arabia
							
<b>Unearmarked</b>	1,550,000	2,051,984	100,000		503,847		
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>				135,593		27,548	149,867
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>	598,425		831,667	33,898	109,409		145,000
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>					32,823		
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>				237,288			
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>			253,333	33,898	114,880	22,002	75,000
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>			815,000	1,359,920	691,201	1,184,834	630,000
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>			100,000		196,937		
<i>Africa</i>						1,184,834	
<i>Americas</i>					494,265		
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>				1,359,920			
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>			715,000				
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>							630,000
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>	40,000			135,593	49,355	27,503	150,000
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>							
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR</b>	<b>2,188,425</b>	<b>2,051,984</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>1,936,192</b>	<b>1,501,515</b>	<b>1,261,887</b>	<b>1,149,867</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

UNOPS	ILO	Microsoft	China	OCHA	Kuwait	Portugal	Poland	India
								
					500,000	309,021	180,513	
		850,000	550,000					
	1,048,024		250,000			22,002	77,363	
1,104,675				624,334			77,363	200,000
								200,000
				209,988				
1,104,675								
				414,346			77,363	
					10,000	44,004		100,000
<b>1,104,675</b>	<b>1,048,024</b>	<b>850,000</b>	<b>800,000</b>	<b>624,334</b>	<b>510,000</b>	<b>375,028</b>	<b>335,239</b>	<b>300,000</b>

	Morocco	Luxembourg	Mexico	Iceland	Liechtenstein	UN Women	UNHCR
							
<b>Unearmarked</b>	200,000	207,877	150,000		25,025		
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>					25,025		
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>				200,000			
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>			78,288		40,040		
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>		27,902			40,040		
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>						125,630	124,362
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>							
<i>Africa</i>							
<i>Americas</i>							124,362
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>						125,630	
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>							
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>							
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>		32,823	10,000		25,025		
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>	100,000						
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>268,602</b>	<b>238,288</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>155,155</b>	<b>125,630</b>	<b>124,362</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Austria	Turkey	Counterpart International	Czech Republic	Japan	Open Society Foundations	Call for Code	Qatar	Estonia
								
	100,000		86,835			105,000		33,003
10,941								
10,940			13,055		107,000		59,911	
			8,703	117,133				
65,646	10,000							
		118,569						33,003
		118,569						33,003
32,823	10,000		8,703				30,000	22,222
<b>120,349</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>118,569</b>	<b>117,296</b>	<b>117,133</b>	<b>107,000</b>	<b>105,000</b>	<b>89,911</b>	<b>88,229</b>

	UN Trust Fund for Human Security	Organisation internationale de la Francophonie	Pakistan	Ford Foundation	Monaco	MacArthur Foundation	Peru
							
<b>Unearmarked</b>			56,000		34,443		30,588
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>		47,167	6,000		11,377		
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>	75,011	19,664		52,150		40,000	
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>							
<i>Africa</i>		19,664					
<i>Americas</i>				52,150		40,000	
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>	75,011						
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>							
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>							
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>			3,000				5,206
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>							
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR</b>	<b>75,011</b>	<b>66,831</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>52,150</b>	<b>45,820</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>35,795</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

Ukraine	Slovakia	Bulgaria	Egypt	Uruguay	Lithuania	Andorra	Cyprus	Georgia
								
	32,012	30,000	10,000	30,000	13,201		22,002	15,000
			10,000					5,000
35,000					16,502			
35,000					16,502			
			10,000			27,443		
<b>35,000</b>	<b>32,012</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>29,703</b>	<b>27,443</b>	<b>22,002</b>	<b>20,000</b>

	Indonesia	Malaysia	Thailand	Chile	Sri Lanka	Singapore	Holy See
							
<b>Unearmarked</b>	20,000	20,000	20,000	2,000	17,000		
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>							
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>						15,000	
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>							
<b>Field Presences</b>							
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>							
<i>Africa</i>							
<i>Americas</i>							
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>							
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>							
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>							
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>				15,000			13,000
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>							
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>13,000</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.



	Albania	Cuba	Mauritius	University of Exeter
				
<b>Unearmarked</b>	2,283	2,135	1,843	
<b>Executive Direction and Management New York and Geneva</b>				
<b>Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis</b>				1,333
<b>Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies</b>				
<b>Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation</b>				
<b>Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>				
<b>Support to the Programmes</b>				
<b>Field Presences</b>				
<i>Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities</i>				
<i>Africa</i>				
<i>Americas</i>				
<i>Asia and the Pacific</i>				
<i>Europe and Central Asia</i>				
<i>Middle East and North Africa</i>				
<b>Humanitarian Trust Funds</b>				
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>				
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR</b>	<b>2,283</b>	<b>2,135</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>1,333</b>

\* Includes earmarked contributions that could not be reported above.

## PREDICTABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

UN Human Rights opened 2019 with only US\$60 million of predictable income in pledged contributions that were annual instalments of multi-year funding agreements. In 2019, UN Human Rights had such agreements with 16 donors, including 11 Member States (Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), the European Commission and four other donors (the Ford Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, Microsoft and the Open Society Foundations).

## IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

A number of Member States, namely Colombia, Qatar and Senegal, which host UN Human Rights offices, provide in-kind support by covering costs of items, such as the rent of premises, utilities and vehicles. The corresponding contributions are credited to their assessed contributions to the United Nations regular budget.

MEMBER STATE	NATURE OF IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION	ESTIMATED FAIR VALUE US\$
Colombia	Rental of Premises	294,898.00
	Provision of armoured vehicle and running costs	57,694.21
Senegal	Rental of Premises	90,563.00
Qatar	Rental of Premises and running costs	178,542.00

## JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS, 2017-2019

Some Member States provided UN Human Rights with additional, indirect financial support by contributing to the United Nations Junior Professional Officers (JPO) Programme, which is administered by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in New York. As of 31 December, UN Human Rights had 32 JPOs (23 women, nine men) who

were supported by the Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland (see table below). Switzerland and the Netherlands also funded JPOs who were nationals of developing countries. Non-nationals amounted to six out of 32 in 2019.

SPONSOR	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2017	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2018	NATIONAL JPOs (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2019
Belgium		1	1
Denmark	10	8	4
Finland	1	1	1
Germany	2		1
Hungary		1	1
Italy	3	3	1
Japan	2	3	2
Republic of Korea	2	2	2
Netherlands	2	3 (+2)	3(+5)
Norway	2	1	2
Saudi Arabia	1	1	
Sweden	2	2	3
Switzerland	6 (+1)	3 (+1)	5(+1)
Spain	1	1	
United States of America	1		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>

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**FORMER JPO STORY: GABRIELLA HABTOM, SECRETARY OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE**


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Gabriella Habtom, Secretary of the Human Rights Committee and former JPO (2001-2004) funded by Italy. © Gabriella Habtom

**How would you describe the role of your JPO appointment in your career in human rights? What difference did it make?**

“In 1998, I applied for the JPO Programme that was funded by the Italian Government for the programme year 1999/2000. Out of the 50 available positions, the Italian Government reserved five posts for non-Italians and, as an Eritrean, I was thrilled to have been selected for one of those posts! After being shortlisted, I was interviewed by UN Human Rights and hired for an Associate Expert position to work with the then Support Services Branch, which was dealing with the human rights treaty bodies and the Human Rights Commission. My two-year post was exceptionally extended to a third year, thanks to the generosity of the Italian Government.

Then, in 2001, my incredible journey began with the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. With an academic background in international relations and development, I felt that I had landed in exactly the right place at the right time. Without question, I gained a deeper understanding of the mandate of UN Human Rights and about the United Nations system in general. The experience also strengthened my professional skills in the field

of human rights, particularly in relation to economic, social and cultural rights and the practical implementation and reporting on human rights treaties at the national level. I also had the privilege of being associated with the drafting of new international standards and working towards the establishment of several new treaty bodies. In this regard, I worked on the first elections of membership and sessions of the Committee on Migrant Workers, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and the Committee on Enforced Disappearances. After these many wonderful experiences, I am now the Secretary of the Human Rights Committee.

As a national of a developing country, I feel particularly fortunate to have had this opportunity and wish to reiterate my gratitude to the Italian Government for its participation in the framework of multilateral initiatives. I encourage other donor governments to consider and continue supporting young professionals, especially those from Least Developed Countries who have much to gain and offer from such initiatives.”

**What would you advise to those who are thinking of becoming a JPO/are currently JPOs in UN Human Rights?**

“I strongly encourage current interns, consultants and young professionals to consider the path of the JPO Programme. It provides a rare window of opportunity to work for human rights in headquarters and in field operations. In my 20 years with UN Human Rights, I have met several JPOs, including those whom I personally advised to apply for the Programme. The majority are still working within UN Human Rights or the UN at large. Among my former JPO colleagues that returned home, many are holding ministerial positions in the field of human rights, international development and cooperation or foreign policy.”

### UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS, 2017-2019

In addition, UN Human Rights benefited from indirect financial support through the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Programme, which is administered by UNDP. In 2019, a total of 104 UNVs served with UN Human Rights, of whom 31 per cent were national UNVs and 67 per cent were women. As of 31 December, UN Human Rights had 19 UNVs who were fully funded by the Governments of Finland, Germany, the Republic of

Korea, Luxemburg, Switzerland, the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) (see table below). Germany and Luxembourg funded UNVs who were nationals of developing countries. Of the 19 UNVs, 15 were young persons between 18 and 29 years of age.

The table below shows the number of UNVs that were fully funded by Member States, including non-nationals of the Member States.

SPONSOR	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2017	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2018	UNVs NATIONALS OF THE DONOR COUNTRY (+ NON-NATIONALS) 2019
Finland	1	1	1
France	1	1	
Germany	1 (+1)	1 (+1)	1
Ireland	1	1	
Republic of Korea	2	2	4
Luxembourg	(+1)	(+1)	
Norway	1	1	
Sweden	1	1	3
Switzerland	7	7	9 (+1)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>

## FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY UN HUMAN RIGHTS

Voluntary contributions in support of UN Human Rights are channelled and managed through nine trust funds and three special funds that are not trust funds as defined by the UN Financial Regulations and Rules.

Additional financial information related to these funds can be found in the extrabudgetary income and expenditure report for 2019 (on pages 130-131).

### United Nations Trust Fund for the Support of the Activities of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

In 1993, the United Nations Trust Fund for the Support of the Activities of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was established by the Secretary-General to supplement regular budgetary resources as a general funding pool. **It is the largest fund administered by UN Human Rights**, through which 83.6 per cent of all extrabudgetary funds, including unearmarked funds, were managed in 2019. Detailed information on the implemented activities and the voluntary contributions managed through the Trust Fund is shared in this report.

### United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights (VFTC) was established by the Secretary-General in 1987. It is the second largest fund administered by UN Human Rights. It provides financial support for technical cooperation aimed at building a strong human rights framework, including effective national and regional institutions, legal frameworks and infrastructures.

Since 1993, a Board of Trustees, appointed by the Secretary-General, has provided administrative and operational guidance. In recent years, its role has evolved to include the provision of advice on policy orientation, strategies on technical cooperation at a broader programme level and a global vision of the work of the Fund. In 2013, the Secretary-General entrusted the Board to also serve as a Board of Trustees for the United Nations Voluntary Fund for

Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review.

In 2019, the Board was composed of Mr. Morten Kjaerum (Denmark), Ms. Lin Lim (Malaysia), Ms. Esi Sutherland-Addy (Ghana), Ms. Valeriya Lutkovska (Ukraine) and Mr. Santiago Corcuera-Cabezut (Mexico). Mr. Corcuera-Cabezut was nominated in August to replace the seat vacated by Ms. Carmen Rosa Villa (Peru). At its forty-ninth session, in November, the Board elected Ms. Esi Sutherland-Addy as Chair. Her mandate will run until 30 November 2021.

The Board meets twice a year to review the programmes that the Fund supports and to consider thematic issues, methodologies and procedures; examine financial, administrative and fundraising matters; and brief Member States on its activities. The forty-eighth session of the Board was held in Geneva, in March.

The forty-ninth session was held at the Regional Office for Southern Africa, in Pretoria, and included a visit to the UN Human Rights technical cooperation project in Mozambique. Through these sessions, Board members observed the work of UN Human Rights field presences, evaluated their cooperation with partners on the ground and convened discussions with the staff members of UN Human Rights on the status of the implementation of technical cooperation programmes, funding trends and key challenges and opportunities for the Fund.

The Board recognized the efficacy of the strategy employed by UN Human Rights to expand its regional presence, including by setting up specific technical cooperation projects, for example in Mozambique. It also highlighted how the Regional Office for Southern Africa strengthened its thematic capacities and leveraged its technical expertise to establish the trust that is needed to gather the evidence-based information that is in turn used to advise State entities and other key actors on the development of effective responses, policies and programmes. More specifically, this enabled the Office to provide enhanced thematic expertise on economic, social and cultural rights and the protection of women's rights, with a specific focus on violence against women. In Mozambique, the Office and national partners worked to build trust and offer safe spaces for dialogue and collaborative work to support positive change on the ground. Working closely with the UN Country Team (UNCT) in response to Tropical Cyclone Idai, the Office ensured that human rights were integrated into humanitarian action, thereby enabling actions to address the risk of persons with disabilities and older persons being left behind.

The Board acknowledged that the areas identified by UN Human Rights as frontier issues and spotlight populations served to concretize new areas of support through technical cooperation, which addresses identified needs on the ground. The Board paid increased attention to the issue of corruption and the profound impact it has on the enjoyment of human rights. It also recognized the work of the Office in exploring the dimensions of corruption and its impact on the enjoyment of human rights, which was incorporated into UN Human Rights' training and capacity-building initiatives and policy dialogues.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$17,208,002 in pledges and contributions, compared to US\$18,789,565 in 2018. The total expenditure of the Fund in 2019 amounted to US\$15,498,086 compared to US\$13,294,808 in 2018.

In 2019, the Fund provided resources for technical cooperation programmes designed to build a strong human rights framework at the national level in 45 regions, countries and territories through 34 Human Rights Advisers/human rights mainstreaming projects in Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Montenegro, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, the South Caucasus region (Georgia), Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Zimbabwe; seven human rights components of peace operations in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Libya, Somalia and the Sudan (Darfur); and four Country/Stand-alone Offices in

Chad, Mauritania, Mexico and the State of Palestine.

In 2019, emphasis was placed on supporting the efforts of States on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With the support of the Fund, UN Human Rights continued to facilitate national efforts to incorporate international human rights standards into national laws, policies and practices, with a focus on the follow-up to recommendations issued by international human rights mechanisms. The Fund also contributed to the establishment and strengthening of national structures, institutions and capacities to ensure adherence to those standards and the development by UN Human Rights of online mechanisms to facilitate follow-up to the recommendations issued by international human rights mechanisms.

In addition, with support from the Fund, UN Resident Coordinators and UNCTs continued to strengthen their human rights capacities. The Board welcomed the partnership between UN Human Rights and the UN Sustainable Development Group, which will ensure that the UN Resident Coordinators and UNCTs are well equipped with knowledge, experience and expertise on human rights to better support States. The Board also recognized the contribution of the expanded deployment of Human Rights Advisers to ensure that all United Nations programming processes are rooted in human rights and reflect the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION (VFTC)

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Denmark	4,209,893	VFTC
Finland	909,091	VFTC
Germany	1,104,452	VFTC
India	200,000	VFTC
United States of America	1,150,000	VFTC
<b>(a) Total contributions earmarked to VFTC</b>	<b>7,573,436</b>	
Australia	188,395	Human Rights Adviser in the Philippines
	305,085	Activities in the Asia-Pacific region
Denmark	294,507	Somalia
Ford Foundation	52,150	Mexico (strengthening the capacities of victims of forced disappearances to defend their rights)
	66,890	Chad
France	78,038	Mauritania
Lithuania	5,501	Georgia
MacArthur Foundation	40,000	Mexico (implementation of the 2018 National Law on disappearances through technical assistance to the Mexican authorities)
Netherlands	202,546	Kenya (strengthening the UN response to shrinking democratic space and police impunity in Kenya)
	324,957	Haiti
	433,276	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (allocated to Chad)
Norway	108,319	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (allocated to Niger)
	433,276	OHCHR's work in the Sahel region (allocated to Mauritania)
	454,939	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*

	200,000	Belarus (implementation of the National Action Plan on human rights)
Russian Federation	400,000	Russian Federation (consolidating the Human Rights Master's Programme)
	50,000	Russian Federation (activities of the Federal and Regional Ombudspersons for human rights in the Russian Federation)
	100,000	VFTC, in particular for its work in Africa
Saudi Arabia	200,000	OHCHR's work in the State of Palestine*
	4,991,230	Deployment of Human Rights Advisers
UNDP	306,934	Human rights mainstreaming CPL workshop
	139,762	Human Rights Adviser in Bangladesh
	83,263	Human Rights Adviser in Malawi
United States of America	175,500	Libya, Sri Lanka
<b>(b) Total contributions earmarked to specific projects</b>	<b>9,634,566</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to VFTC	0	Unearmarked
<b>(c) Total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL (A) + (B) + (C)</b>	<b>17,208,002</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>15,498,086</b>	

\*Reference to State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

## VFTC PROGRAMMES IN SOUTH AFRICA AND MOZAMBIQUE: MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH STRENGTHENED THEMATIC EXPERTISE

During its 2019 session in South Africa and Mozambique, the Board met with State institutions, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), international community and civil society organizations. Discussions focused on the comparative advantage of UN Human Rights with respect to technical cooperation and how its expertise on thematic issues, particularly in monitoring human rights and providing analysis on the ground, contributes to the development of sound technical cooperation programmes that address challenges, maximize opportunities and yield positive and impactful results. Southern Africa is a region where a number of countries have some of the highest levels of inequality in the world and there are real opportunities to demonstrate how human rights considerations can accelerate the implementation and progress of the SDGs in the Decade of Action.

All partners emphasized to the Board that UN Human Rights had been effective in building bridges, convening stakeholders and establishing partnerships, increasing human rights knowledge through undertaking capacity-building activities and promoting and protecting human rights. Partners valued the technical expertise provided by UN Human Rights to assist States with ratification and the domestication of international human rights treaties, the development of policies and practices that contribute to the realization of human rights for all and in developing “Leave No One Behind” strategies that address challenges faced by spotlight populations, including women and girls who experience violence.

The physical presence of UN Human Rights in the region and its strategy to expand its regional presence, technical and thematic expertise enabled the Office to enhance the value of its unique mandate and actively engage with key partners in the region. UN Human Rights is frequently approached in the region to provide direction on the human rights dimensions of numerous thematic areas, such as economic, social and cultural rights, integrating human rights into UN development programmes, humanitarian action and responses to deteriorating

situations. In Mozambique, both national and UN partners highlighted the technical expertise and relevance of the technical cooperation provided by the Office to support the analysis of protection challenges, including in the context of the violence experienced in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, and to identify the groups at risk of being left behind.

The Regional Office for Southern Africa and relevant UN entities are supporting the preparation of the Southern African Development Community Model Law on gender-based violence, as well as a comprehensive UN framework of support to South Africa on addressing gender-based violence, following the President’s declaration of emergency on this topic. The Regional Office supported the strengthening of the capacities of the judiciary on gender stereotyping and the Board visited the Bienvenu Shelter, a project in South Africa that is supported by the VFTC, where it witnessed how the Office directly assists victims. The Regional Office and Board also met with refugee women and children who escaped from violence and observed how the support of UN Human Rights helps to rebuild the lives of torture victims.



VFTC Board of Trustees visit the Bienvenu Shelter in Johannesburg, South Africa. © OHCHR

## United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia

In 1992, the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia was established by the Secretary-General. The aim of the Trust Fund was to contribute to the development and implementation of a human rights education programme that would promote the understanding of and respect for human rights in Cambodia. Since then, it has been used to implement all of the activities of the Office in Cambodia. In 2019, the Trust Fund received US\$891,609 in voluntary contributions. For more information, see pages 306-311 of the online report.

### TRUST FUND FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN CAMBODIA

#### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

Donor	US\$
Australia <sup>1</sup>	67,797
Sweden	823,812
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>891,609</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>972,472</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allocated from a contribution earmarked for activities in the Asia-Pacific region.

## United Nations Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism was established by the Secretary-General in 2008, pursuant to Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 6/17. The Voluntary Fund facilitates the participation of developing States, particularly Least Developed Countries, in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. Under its terms of reference, the Voluntary Fund enables funding for a delegate to present the national report from her/his country and participate in the interactive dialogue at the Working Group session during which the delegate's country is being considered. The delegate also attends the plenary session of the Human Rights Council when the UPR outcome is adopted.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$147,167 in pledges and contributions compared to US\$29,240 in 2018. In 2019, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$309,562 compared to US\$349,157 in 2018.

Through the Voluntary Fund, UN Human Rights facilitated the participation of government representatives from 26 States that were under review during the thirty-second, thirty-third and thirty-fourth UPR Working Group sessions as well as in the fortieth, forty-first and forty-second sessions of the Human Rights Council, which adopted the corresponding UPR outcomes.

The Voluntary Fund provided financial assistance for global activities involving 90 Members of Parliament from 36 countries, in June, with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the International Organization of Francophone Countries (OIF). These activities aimed to promote the establishment of parliamentary human rights committees in compliance with the draft principles on parliamentary human rights committees (A/HRC/38/25) and to increase the awareness of parliamentarians about good practices regarding the engagement of States in the UPR cycle and the implementation of its recommendations at the national level.

### UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE UPR

#### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

Donor	US\$
China <sup>1</sup>	100,000
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie	47,167
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>147,167</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>309,562</b>

<sup>1</sup> China made an unallocated contribution to OHCHR in December 2018, which was registered as such in the UN Human Rights Report 2018. However, China decided in October 2019 to allocate the 2018 contribution retroactively, including an amount of \$150,000 to this Trust Fund. China decided to renew its support with a contribution of \$100,000 in 2019, which appears in the above table. Hence, although only the 2019 contribution can be reported in the above table, China's total support available to this Trust Fund in 2019 amounts to \$250,000.

## United Nations Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review was established, in 2008, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 6/17. This financial mechanism was created to provide a source of financial and technical assistance to help countries implement the recommendations emanating from the UPR, with the consent of and in consultation with the countries concerned. Since its establishment, the UPR has completed two cycles and the human rights record of every Member State has been reviewed at least twice. The focus of the third cycle, which began in May 2017, is the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$417,362 in pledges and contributions compared to US\$889,541 in 2018. In 2019, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$585,112 compared to US\$16,143 in 2018.

In 2013, the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights (see p. 112) has been entrusted by the Secretary-General to also serve as a Board of Trustees for the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the UPR.

In 2019, the Fund provided financial and technical assistance for activities in Afghanistan, Argentina, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Fiji, Guatemala, Jamaica, Maldives, Mauritania, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Peru, the Republic of Moldova, Samoa and Uruguay. The Fund's strategic focus in 2019 was on assisting States in the implementation of key UPR recommendations, the establishment and/or strengthening of the NMRFs, the creation of recommendation implementation plans and databases, as well as strengthening the UNCTs and parliamentary capacities for implementation.

Supported by the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the UPR, UN Human Rights organized a regional consultation on "UPR: Good practices, follow-up mechanisms and synergies with the 2030 Agenda," in Panama, in October. With the consent of the Government of Panama and in partnership with the DCO, the UNDP Regional Centre in Panama and the RCO, the activity gathered 70 representatives from 17 Spanish-speaking countries, including senior government officials from NMRF- and SDG-related structures, representatives from NHRIs, parliaments, civil society and officers from the UN system.

The objectives of the regional consultation were to share good practices and lessons learned at the various stages of the UPR process, especially regarding implementation of recommendations, and to identify challenges and opportunities in order to align initiatives to achieve human rights and the SDGs at the national level. It included the use of recommendations issued by the UPR and other human rights mechanisms in the preparation of voluntary national reports on SDGs.

The consultations produced an important number of good practices, which will serve as a reference for similar regional workshops for the Asia-Pacific and Eastern Europe regions, to be conducted in 2020.

### UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UPR

#### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

Donor	US\$
France	142,854
Germany	114,155
Pakistan	3,000
Republic of Korea	50,000
Saudi Arabia	75,000
Singapore	5,000
Spain	27,352
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>417,362</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>585,112</b>

## Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council

The Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the work of the Human Rights Council was established under HRC resolution 19/26, in 2012. The Fund became operational in 2014. The objective of the Fund is to enhance the institutional and human rights capacities of LDCs and SIDS through targeted training courses and travel assistance for delegates attending regular Council sessions and fellowship programmes. In 2019, the Trust Fund received US\$648,991 in voluntary contributions compared to US\$1,194,314 in 2018.

In 2019, 17 countries, including one new donor, contributed to the Trust Fund (there were only three in 2015). Since it became operational in 2014, the Trust Fund has provided support to 143 delegates and fellows, including 89 women, from 71 of the 72 eligible LDCs/SIDS. In 2019, the Trust Fund provided support to 33 delegates from 32 LDCs/SIDS (13 from Africa, 12 from Asia and the Pacific and seven from the Caribbean and Latin America). Among the 33 delegates and fellows, 23 were women. Nine of them represented SIDS that do not have

permanent representation in Geneva, namely, Dominica, Grenada, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa and Suriname, while two of them represented SIDS that opened permanent missions in Geneva during the reporting period, namely, Marshall Islands and Nauru.<sup>4</sup> For all delegates, it was their first time attending a regular session of the Council. They were able to fully participate in and contribute to the discussions and delivered a total of 112 statements (89 in their national capacities and 23 joint statements).

In 2019, the Trust Fund continued to follow up with Caribbean Member States on the action points of the Georgetown Declaration Towards 2022. Approximately 60 per cent of the action points have been implemented by the end of 2019. In May, the Trust Fund held consultations in New York with the Caucus of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Pacific Small Islands Developing States and other interested stakeholders, including UN partners and donor and beneficiary countries. Furthermore, on 16 September, the General Assembly adopted, by consensus, a resolution on “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community,” calling for continued cooperation between CARICOM and UN Human Rights through the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund and the HRC.

<sup>4</sup> The Trust Fund has supported the participation of nine delegates from these two SIDS since 2016 and strongly advocated for the establishment of permanent missions in Geneva. Marshall Islands was elected to the HRC in October (2020-2022).

## VOLUNTARY FUND FOR PARTICIPATION OF LDCs AND SIDS IN THE WORK OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

Donor	US\$
Australia	33,898
Canada	78,555
China <sup>1</sup>	100,000
Denmark <sup>2</sup>	0
France	55,741
Georgia	5,000
Germany	79,545
Ireland	55,741
Italy	22,002
Pakistan	3,000
Poland	77,363
Portugal	22,002
Republic of Korea	50,000
Singapore	10,000
Spain	10,941
Switzerland	10,000
Turkey	10,000
United Kingdom	25,202
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>648,991</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>629,575</b>

In November, following the adoption of the “Georgetown Declaration Towards 2020,” a three-day workshop aimed at enhancing participation of SIDS and LDCs from the Pacific region in the Human Rights Council was held in Fiji. The workshop was organized pursuant to HRC resolution 34/40 of 6 April 2017. This resolution, the second most sponsored resolution since the HRC was established, attracted the support of 120 countries, including all 12 Member States of the Pacific SIDS. The resolution encouraged the Trust Fund to hold a series of workshops, prior to its tenth anniversary in March 2022, in the three regions that the Trust Fund supports, namely Africa, Asia and the Pacific and the Caribbean.

The workshop focused on four key themes that are of particular importance to the Pacific region, namely the climate change crisis (noting that climate change affects fundamental human rights), the conservation, protection and sustainable use of our oceans and marine resources, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SAMOA Pathway on gender equality and empowerment, with a focus on how to combat gender-based violence. It was attended by the 2019 HRC President, H.E. Ambassador Mr. Coly Seck of Senegal, the first LDC representative to assume the Presidency of the Council since its establishment.

The participants of the workshop adopted the “Nadi Declaration Towards 2022,” which sets out a series of recommendations and priorities looking towards 2022, when UN Human Rights will produce a report outlining the activities of the Trust Fund. These priorities include undertaking concerted efforts to improve the Trust Fund, which has been operational since 2014, and ensuring that topics of particular relevance to the Pacific SIDS are discussed at the Council.

The Nadi Declaration recognizes the Pacific Workshop is the second of a series of four such gatherings to be organized before 2022. In this vein, meeting participants requested the convening of a universal session of the Human Rights Council on the occasion of the Trust Fund’s tenth anniversary, in March 2022.

At the request of the Government of Vanuatu, the Trust Fund also conducted a two-day induction course, in Port Vila, from 26 to 27 November. It was fully funded by the Government of Vanuatu and is the first time that a course on the HRC and its mechanisms was held in the country. The primary participants were members of the Vanuatu National Human Rights Committee, comprised of both government and NGO representatives, who increased their understanding of the HRC and its mechanisms.

<sup>1</sup> China made an unallocated contribution to OHCHR in December 2018, which was registered as such in the UN Human Rights Report 2018. However, China decided in October 2019 to allocate the 2018 contribution retroactively, including an amount of \$100,000 to this Trust Fund. China decided to renew its support with a similar contribution in 2019, which appears in the above table. Hence, although only the 2019 contribution can be reported in the above table, China’s total support available to this Trust Fund in 2019 amounts to \$200,000.

<sup>2</sup> Denmark made a contribution in 2018 (DKK2m/\$329,425) which was reported in the UN Human Rights Report 2018, but was meant to support this Trust Fund over 2018-2019 (DKK1m/year).

## United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples was established by General Assembly resolution 40/131, in 1985, to ensure that the voices of indigenous peoples are heard within the UN system. Since then, the mandate and scope of the Fund have been significantly expanded by the General Assembly.

Today, the Fund provides support for the representatives of indigenous peoples to participate in various key meetings of the United Nations, such as the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII), the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), the Human Rights Council, including the UPR process, the human rights treaty bodies and the consultation processes on enabling the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives in the UN that is led by the President of the General Assembly. In December, the General Assembly expanded the Fund's mandate to include the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights and meetings of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Over the past 34 years, the Fund has supported the participation of over 2,500 representatives of indigenous peoples from all regions of the world.

The development of the rights of indigenous peoples has been driven by a united and transnational movement of indigenous peoples, enabling them to bring their issues to the attention of the international community. Through the support of the Fund, the participation of indigenous peoples at the United Nations over the last three decades has led to considerable developments in international human rights standards,

including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and the creation of key UN mechanisms, such as the PFII, the EMRIP and the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples.

The Fund is administered by UN Human Rights on behalf of the Secretary-General and is advised by a five-member Board of Trustees. The Board members appointed by the Secretary-General for the period 1 January 2018 – 31 December 2020 are Mr. Diel Mochire (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Ms. Myrna Cunningham (Nicaragua), Ms. Anne Nuorgam (Finland), Mr. Binota Dhamai (Bangladesh) and Ms. Claire Charters (New Zealand).

The Board of Trustees participated in the regular coordination meetings of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples, the PFII and the EMRIP, which in turn disseminated information on the activities of the Fund to their respective networks. Moreover, the Special Rapporteur established an important practice of holding meetings with the beneficiaries of the Fund in parallel to the sessions of the EMRIP and the PFII.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$470,763 in pledges and contributions compared to US\$1,011,105 in 2018. In 2019, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$759,114 compared to US\$326,988 in 2018.

In 2019, the Fund allocated 144 travel grants to enable indigenous representatives to participate in the sessions of the PFII in New York (45), the EMRIP in Geneva (45) and the HRC, its UPR Working Group and the UN human rights treaty bodies in Geneva (40).

Additionally, 14 indigenous representatives were supported by the Fund to attend a General Assembly consultative process/interactive hearing session, in New York.

### UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

#### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

Donor	US\$
Australia	33,898
Chile	5,000
Estonia	22,222
Finland	55,741
Holy See	4,000
Norway	324,957
Peru	2,943
Spain	22,002
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>470,763</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>759,114</b>

## TUKUMMINGUAQ OLSEN: THE VOICE OF THE INUIT FROM THE ARTIC IN THE UN PERMANENT FORUM



Tukumminnguaq Olsen © OHCHR

I belong to the Inuit people of Greenland and I was a grantee of the Fund to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2019, with my organization, the Inuit Circumpolar Council. Before the Forum, I worked closely with my organization to prepare our participation, including our participation in the Arctic Regional Caucus, the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus and the Global Indigenous Caucus.

The Arctic Caucus enabled me to introduce myself and to prepare for the weeks of the Forum. A meeting was held every morning with the Caucus. I helped them to finalize statements and I was appointed as the head of communications. Since I am the Arctic focal point in the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, I was also able to help and advise the Inuit youth members.

The support of the Fund was paramount because our capacity to participate is limited by the availability of resources, considering how expensive it is for us to travel from Greenland to anywhere else in the world. Our participation was very valuable as our voice was less heard than the voice of others. Personally, my participation in the Forum brought me considerable knowledge. The Fund's support for our organization enabled us to organize a side event on the situation of indigenous children in the Arctic Region, which focused on how to engage with small indigenous communities. The Inuit presence in the Forum and our active participation in several discussions, side events and informal meetings around the Forum certainly added greater diversity to the substantive work of the Permanent Forum.

Upon our return from New York, several media outlets interviewed me to share my experience of participation in the Forum. I also made a presentation to the Board of my organization about the knowledge I gained and the lessons learned from my participation in the Forum. Conveying and sharing the knowledge we received is one of the key principles that enable the effective engagement of indigenous peoples with the UN system. The next generation that I represent is committed to never giving up this principle.

## UN Human Rights Humanitarian Funds

UN Human Rights provides joint secretariat support to two grant-making funds, namely the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and the Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery. Together, they are known as the UN Human Rights Humanitarian Funds. They were established by the General Assembly with the purpose of providing direct assistance and rehabilitation to individuals whose rights have been violated in the context of torture and contemporary forms of slavery, respectively. This assistance translates into yearly grants that are primarily awarded to civil society organizations that provide humanitarian, medical, psychological, social and legal aid to victims. They are financed through voluntary contributions and are formally administered by

the Secretary-General, who acts on the advice of Boards of Trustees. The Boards distribute the grants in accordance with the mandates of the UN Human Rights Humanitarian Funds. In 2019, 31 Member States and two private donors made contributions to the two Funds for a total of US\$10.1 million. As of 31 December 2019, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture had received a total of US\$9,225,449 in pledges and contributions compared to US\$9,413,584 in 2018. The total expenditure of the Fund in 2019 amounted to US\$9,222,001 compared to US\$9,166,265 in 2018. As of 31 December 2019, the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery had received a total of US\$872,728 in pledges and contributions compared to US\$722,326 in 2018. The total expenditure of the Fund in 2019 amounted to US\$721,382 compared to US\$601,683 in 2018.

### UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, established by General Assembly resolution 36/151, in 1981, is mandated to provide direct assistance to victims of torture and their families. The Fund awards annual and emergency grants to civil society organizations, including to support rehabilitation centres, grassroots organizations and legal aid programmes.

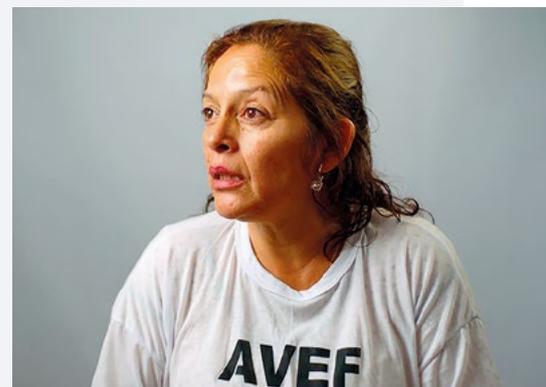
The Fund is managed with the advice of a Board of Trustees that is composed of independent experts from the five world regions: Ms. Vivienne Nathanson (United Kingdom, Chair), Mr. Lawrence Mute (Kenya), Ms. Gaby Ore Aguilar (Peru), Mr. Mikolaj Pietrzak (Poland) and Ms. Sara Hossein (Bangladesh).

### FORCED STERILIZATIONS IN PERU: ONE WOMAN'S FIGHT FOR JUSTICE AND REDRESS

“All of us victims of forced sterilization have been experiencing trauma for more than 20 years as a consequence of forced sterilizations... Health is definitely paramount to keep living and not to give up. I received support and it has given me the strength and power to face everything that comes our way.” Ms. Maria Elena Carbajal.

For the past 19 years, the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture has been providing support to the Psychosocial Care Centre (Centro de Atención Psicosocial (CAPS)) in Peru. The project “Rehabilitation of torture victims and promotion of justice and redress in Peru”

provides psychological, medical and social assistance to an estimated 120 torture victims, including victims of sexual violence, detainees and relatives of victims of enforced disappearance (whose remains are in the process of exhumation and restitution) in Quechua communities. Ms. Maria Elena Carbajal was one of hundreds of thousands of women who was subjected to sterilization under a Peruvian government family planning programme to address poverty. In recent years, she has received psychological support through CAPS, which has given her the “strength and power” to go on.



Maria Elena Carbajal Cepeda, survivor of forced sterilization in Peru. © OHCHR

## UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

Donor	US\$
Andorra	10,941
Austria	32,823
Canada <sup>1</sup>	76,859
Chile	10,000
Czech Republic	8,703
Denmark	762,311
Egypt	10,000
France	78,038
Germany	777,328
Holy See	4,000
India	50,000
Ireland	94,760
Italy	27,503
Kuwait	10,000
Liechtenstein	25,025
Luxembourg	16,411
Mexico	10,000
Norway	324,957
Pakistan	3,000
Peru	2,264
Portugal	22,002
Saudi Arabia	75,000
Switzerland	201,613
United Arab Emirates	10,000
United Kingdom	31,606
United States of America	6,550,000
Individual donors	305
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,225,449</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>9,222,001</b>

At the fiftieth Board Session of the Fund, held in Geneva from 7 to 11 October, the Board of Trustees recommended that 171 annual grants be awarded in 2020, in 78 countries, reaching approximately 40,000 torture victims, for a total of US\$7,303,850 (with an average grant size of US\$42,713). Of those projects, 164 are for the delivery of direct assistance to victims of torture and their families (US\$7,059,500) and seven are for training and capacity-building projects (US\$244,350) aimed at strengthening the capacity of organizations to deliver such services. In addition, through its emergency grants procedure, the Fund supported seven emergency projects (US\$417,313) in all five regions of the world to respond to urgent humanitarian and human rights situations in 2019.

### UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND ON CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery was established by General Assembly resolution 46/122, in 1991, with the mandate of providing direct assistance to victims of contemporary forms of slavery. It awards annual grants to civil society organizations, including rehabilitation centres, trade unions, shelters for victims and legal redress programmes. Modern forms of slavery are brought to light on a regular basis, including serfdom, forced labour, bonded labour, trafficking in persons and in human organs, sexual slavery, the worst forms of child labour, early and forced marriage, inherited widows, the sale of wives and other forms of slavery.

<sup>1</sup>Includes a contribution of CAD 30,000 from the Government of Québec.

The Trust Fund acts on the advice of a Board of Trustees. The Board meets annually to determine priorities and policies, review working methods and adopt recommendations on new grants. In 2019, the Board was composed of independent experts from the five world regions: Ms. Georgina Vaz Cabral (France, Chair), Mr. Danwood Mzikenge Chirwa (Malawi), Ms. Nevena Vučković Šahović (Serbia), Ms. Renu Rajbhandari (Nepal) and Mr. Leonardo Sakamoto (Brazil).

At the twenty-fourth session of the Board of the Trust Fund, held in Geneva from 25 to 29 November, the Board of Trustees approved 37 annual grants to be awarded in 2020 in 33 countries (Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cambodia,

Chile, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, France, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Mauritania, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Togo, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Vietnam) for a total of US\$674,000 with an average grant size of US\$18,000. The Trust Fund assists approximately 10,000 victims of slavery every year.

In 2019, the Trust Fund prioritized projects supporting victims of slavery in supply chains, situations of conflict and humanitarian crises and women and children.

### IMPACT OF THE TRUST FUND ON CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

The UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery has been supporting the National Council of the Displaced in Guatemala (Consejo Nacional de Desplazados de Guatemala (CONDEG)) since 2016. The project “Assistance to workers in the palm oil industry” is located in the remote area of Sayaxché, Department of Petén, Guatemala, an area crippled by the palm oil industry. The organization provides legal and social assistance to 700 indigenous Mayan Q’eqchi victims of forced labour in the palm oil industry in the country. CONDEG was established in 1989 by the Maya indigenous peoples to defend the rights of its displaced population. It is the only civil society organization that is working against the labour exploitation and human trafficking of indigenous palm workers and denouncing the environmental devastation in the departments of Petén and Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. The organization works closely with UN Human Rights in Guatemala.



Helmer L. Velasquez Herrera, lead lawyer and representative of CONDEG in Guatemala.  
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## UN VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND ON CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

Donor	US\$
Andorra	16,502
Australia	101,695
Germany	203,016
Holy See	5,000
India	50,000
Luxembourg	16,411
Portugal	22,002
Qatar	30,000
Republic of Korea	50,000
Saudi Arabia	75,000
Spain	27,352
Turkey	10,000
United Arab Emirates	30,000
United Kingdom	234,109
Private donors	1,641
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>872,728</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>721,382</b>

## Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) was adopted by the General Assembly in December 2002 and entered into force in June 2006. OP-CAT created a two-pillar system at the international and national levels to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment in places where persons may be deprived of their liberty.

At the international level, it established the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT), which has been in operation since February 2007. SPT is mandated to visit all places of detention in States Parties and provide assistance and advice to States Parties and NPMs.

The Special Fund was established by article 26 of OP-CAT to help finance the implementation of recommendations issued by SPT after a visit to a State Party and to support education programmes for NPMs. The Fund became operational in 2011. During the period 2014-2018, the OP-CAT Special Fund supported 72 projects in 22 countries with grants amounting to US\$1,850,780. In 2019, the Fund awarded grants amounting

to US\$276,494 to support 12 prevention projects in 10 States Parties to the Optional Protocol. In 2019, the Fund received contributions and pledges of US\$290,814, which enabled the launch of the 2020 Call for Applications.

The projects that were supported by the Fund resulted in legislative, institutional and operational changes, as well as concrete changes in people's lives. Since 2017, the projects supported by the Fund have focused on the establishment or strengthening of the effective functioning of NPMs with a view to increasing the preventive impact of the Fund. The projects included drafting laws to establish NPMs in accordance with the Optional Protocol; elaborating calls for nominations, terms of reference and the organization of public hearings on NPM candidates; the training of NPM members on international standards concerning torture and ill-treatment, reporting and monitoring techniques; developing strategic plans for NPMs and supporting operational efficiency; elaborating NPM documents (annual reports, leaflets, posters); supporting collaboration between NPMs and other stakeholders; and promoting the visibility of NPMs through public meetings and radio campaigns.

### OP-CAT SPECIAL FUND

#### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

Donor	US\$
Czech Republic	8,703
France	55,741
Germany	85,227
Norway	108,319
Spain	32,823
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>290,814</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>134,898</b>

## Contingency Fund

The Contingency Fund is a flexible funding mechanism that was established in 2006 to carry out activities and implement the priorities and strategies of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, particularly in response to human rights emergencies. This was primarily achieved by the rapid deployment of human rights staff and the provision of necessary logistical support.

The Fund, which is financed through voluntary contributions, aims to maintain a balance of approximately US\$1 million at all times. Cash advances are withdrawn from the Fund to enable the implementation of emergency response activities without administrative delays. When subsequent funding is received from other sources, the Fund is reimbursed. Since the inception of the Fund, the capacity of UN Human Rights to provide conceptual and operational support to unforeseen mandates or situations requiring rapid response has significantly increased.

In 2019, the Contingency Fund facilitated the emergency deployments of UN Human Rights' teams in nine countries with deteriorating human rights situations: Burkina Faso (to support the Resident Coordinator and the UNCT to mainstream human rights in peace-building); Venezuela (to conduct remote monitoring of serious violations of international human rights law); Cameroon (to conduct human rights monitoring in Anglophone regions); Mozambique (to advise the regional Humanitarian Country Teams on human rights); Sudan (to conduct enhanced human rights remote monitoring); Mexico (to monitor the human rights situation of migrants in detention centres); Sri Lanka (to strengthen the Resident Coordinator's early warning and prevention tools

### UN HUMAN RIGHTS' RAPID DEPLOYMENT IN CABO DELGADO, MOZAMBIQUE



Kieren Duarte-Costa, Human Rights Officer. © Kieren Duarte-Costa

I was deployed to Mozambique, in June, for one month, to reinforce the UN protection response co-led by UNFPA and UNICEF after Cyclone Kenneth hit the northern province of Cabo Delgado, in April.

Having previously worked in the north of Mozambique, I was able to use my knowledge and experience to support UNFPA, UNICEF and other partner organizations in the Cabo Delgado

Protection Cluster to respond to the needs for protection and reinforce the human rights capacity. Cyclone Kenneth caused floods and landslides, affecting 286,282 people in the north of Mozambique and resulting in the deaths of 45 people in the province of Cabo Delgado alone. The humanitarian crisis was exacerbated by the continuing displacement in certain districts due to regular armed attacks on villages by unidentified assailants.

UN partner agencies and NGOs joined forces to provide humanitarian assistance to the population in the worst-affected areas. The primary aim of the UN Human Rights rapid deployment was to ensure that vulnerable groups in Cabo Delgado were not left behind. My role was to monitor that they had access to aid and their specific needs were addressed. Cabo Delgado is one of the poorest provinces of the country and the devastation caused by the cyclone added to the social and economic difficulties that vulnerable groups were already facing. These groups included persons with disabilities, older persons who did not have support from family members, orphaned or lost children, single/female headed households and persons living with HIV. The most affected were those displaced in rural areas since many no longer had access to State benefits and healthcare.

I worked together with UN partners to assess the needs of vulnerable groups and identify local organizations which could provide humanitarian assistance in more remote areas. Information collected was fed into the UN Humanitarian Response Plan and bilaterally shared with partner agencies.

## CONTINGENCY FUND

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

Donor	US\$
France	89,186
Norway	108,319
Republic of Korea	100,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>297,505</b>

and monitor the human rights situation); Chile (to monitor human rights in the context of demonstrations); and Bolivia (to monitor human rights in the context of demonstrations in the aftermath of elections). In addition, OHCHR staff were deployed to Mali to assist the International Commission of Inquiry on Mali and to South Sudan to assist the UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan. In total, the Office deployed 34 human rights and support staff, 15 of whom were from the Internal Rapid Deployment Roster.

As of 31 December, the Fund had received a total of US\$297,505 in pledges and contributions to enable these deployments compared to US\$108,072 in 2018. In 2019, the total expenditure of the Fund amounted to US\$405,606 compared to US\$749,745 in 2018.

As of 31 December, the remaining balance of US\$213,145 was significantly below the target of maintaining a reserve of US\$1 million at all times, thus undermining the capacity of UN Human Rights to implement rapid response deployments.

## Special Fund for the Participation of Civil Society in the Social Forum, the Forum on Minority Issues and the Forum on Business and Human Rights

The Special Fund for the Participation of Civil Society in the Social Forum, the Forum on Minority Issues and the Forum on Business and Human Rights was established by HRC decision 24/118 of 27 September 2013. The aim of the Fund is to facilitate the broadest possible participation of civil society representatives and other relevant stakeholders in the annual meetings of the three forums. In 2019, the Special Fund received US\$50,000 in new contributions.

From 28-29 November, the **UN Forum on Minority Issues** held its twelfth session on “Education, language and the human rights of minorities” for more than 500 representatives from States, international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders. Invited expert panellists representing the world’s five regions shared their expertise and experiences regarding the recognition, promotion of education in and teaching of minority languages and legislative and policy initiatives, with a particular focus on minority women and girls.

UN Human Rights organized the **Eighth Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights**, the largest annual gathering on business and human rights, in Geneva, from 25-27 November. It was chaired by the Working Group on the issue of

human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises. The Forum brought together approximately 2,500 participants from more than 130 countries, including representatives from governments, UN bodies, CSOs, NHRIs, trade unions, academia and the media. It also achieved the highest level of private sector participation to date, at over 30 per cent, equalling the representation of civil society for the first time. The three-day programme offered more than 60 thematic sessions on current and emerging business-related human rights issues under the title “Time to act: Governments as catalysts for business respect for human rights.” States and business were urged to implement the “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Following the Forum, the Working Group and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and several NGOs issued a joint statement to protect defenders who speak up about the impact of business on people and the planet.

### SPECIAL FUND FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE SOCIAL FORUM, THE FORUM ON MINORITY ISSUES AND THE FORUM ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

#### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

Donor	US\$
Russian Federation	50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50,000</b>

Each year, the **Social Forum**, which is convened by the HRC, provides a unique space for open and interactive dialogue between civil society actors, representatives of Member States and intergovernmental organizations on a theme that is chosen by the Council. The 2019 Social Forum gathered together over 600 participants to engage on topics related to the promotion and protection of the rights of children and youth through education. The Special Fund was used to promote the participation of seven representatives from India, Jamaica, Kenya, Niger, Senegal, Slovenia and the Syrian Arab Republic.

#### KRISTEENA MONTEITH: “ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. IT’S TIME FOR CHANGE”



Kristeena Monteith.  
© OHCHR

Kristeena Monteith, 25, was born and raised in Jamaica. Today, she is the creative producer of a youth-led radio show called “Talk Up Radio.” The show is broadcast from the country’s only radio station, which is run entirely by a staff of people under the age of 25. Their mission is to use youth media to raise youth voices and engage and empower young people to speak about their rights. She believes that many issues facing youth in the world come down to a lack of creativity or an ignorance of culture. “When we are more aware of other people and other cultures, we have a gateway to understanding humanity.”

She has also been appointed as a UN Young Leader for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Monteith maintains that people who are more in tune with their own culture have a greater respect for others. “If a young person understands the hybrid nature of being human, then they are able to respect other’s rights and their own. Once a person can say, “I

am inherently valuable and my culture is one of the ways I can understand my value,” then it is really a short step from there to understanding the gravity of human rights atrocities.”

Speaking at the **Social Forum** in Geneva, which focused on children, youth and education in 2019, Monteith addressed the urgent need to adapt education in the context of the climate crisis and human rights abuses. She called on policymakers to think with a long term, sustainable vision about the way education is designed and to take into account the fact that we are facing a future that is not climate resilient. Monteith also questioned the current digital focus in school curricula. “It doesn’t make sense that we are all tech savvy but then have no energy or no planet. We need to design education in a way that recognizes these problems are enormous and require systemic action. It is incumbent on us to use education in a way that will make it accessible for young people everywhere in the world.”

# FINANCIAL REPORTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

## SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019 ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

This summary financial report indicates total funds available for activities in 2019, inclusive of new contributions carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during the period and total funds balance at the end of the fiscal year 2019

	EXTRABUDGETARY	REGULAR BUDGET	TOTAL
<b>SUMMARY</b>			
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	127,811,705	7,293,588	135,105,293
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	(1,660,306)	n/a	(1,660,306)
Income from contributions / Allotments <sup>3</sup>	178,991,420	105,587,200	284,578,620
Other income <sup>4</sup>	2,293,746	n/a	2,293,746
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>307,436,565</b>	<b>112,880,788</b>	<b>420,317,353</b>
Expenditure <sup>5</sup>	182,950,588	113,172,458	296,123,046
<b>CLOSING BALANCE<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>124,485,977</b>	<b>(291,670)</b>	<b>124,194,307</b>

## Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to the final 2018 closing balance, as reported in the UN Human Rights Report 2018.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments of income, refunds to donors, and write-off of unpaid pledges from past period.

<sup>3</sup> For extrabudgetary, includes all donor contributions and pledges received in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts for fiscal year 2019. Excludes future donor pledges and commitments. For Regular Budget, corresponds to the amount allotted to OHCHR for 2019.

<sup>4</sup> Gain/(Loss) on exchange from contributions and interest income.

<sup>5</sup> Includes disbursements and commitments for fiscal year 2019; excludes future commitments and liabilities.

<sup>6</sup> The extrabudgetary amount corresponds to all funds held in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts at the end of the fiscal year 2019.

The above summary financial report of income and expenditure in 2019 is materially correct and expenditures were incurred in connection with the purpose of the extrabudgetary contributions received and the regular budget amount allotted to OHCHR for 2019.

## Notes: ▶

<sup>1</sup> Corresponds to the final 2018 closing balance, as reported in the UN Human Rights Report 2018.

<sup>2</sup> Includes adjustments of income, transfer between trust funds, refunds to donors, and write-off of unpaid pledges from past period.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all contributions and pledges received in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts for fiscal year 2019; excludes future donor pledges and commitments.

<sup>4</sup> Includes gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions and interest income.

<sup>5</sup> = opening balance + adjustment + income from contributions + other income available.

<sup>6</sup> Includes disbursements and commitments for fiscal year 2019; excludes future commitments and liabilities.

<sup>7</sup> Corresponds to all funds held in the UNOG/OHCHR accounts at the end of the fiscal year 2019.

The summary financial report of extrabudgetary income and expenditure in 2019 is materially correct and expenditures were incurred in connection with the purpose of the trust funds for which contributions were received.

## SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT OF EXTRABUDGETARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

### ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS BY TRUST FUND

This summary financial report indicates total funds available for activities in 2019, inclusive of new contributions carry-over, overall expenditure incurred during 2019 and total funds balance at the end of the fiscal year 2019

	VF for victims of torture	VTF on contemporary forms of slavery	VF for indigenous peoples	VF for participation in the Universal Periodic Review	VF for financial and technical assistance in the implementation of the Universal Periodic Review	TF for participation of LDCs and SIDS in the work of HRC	VF for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights	TF for human rights education in Cambodia	TF for support activities of OHCHR	Total OHCHR Trust Funds
SUMMARY	CHA	SHA	IHA	VPU	UPR	VTA	AHA	CIA	HCA	TOTAL
Opening balance <sup>1</sup>	11,455,248	924,821	1,912,775	904,639	2,455,318	1,726,172	13,633,846	1,091,914	93,706,972	127,811,705
<i>Fund balance</i>	11,455,248	924,821	1,912,775	904,639	2,355,318	1,726,172	13,470,446	1,091,914	92,486,089	126,327,422
<i>Unpaid pledges past period</i>	0	0	0	0	100,000	0	163,400	0	1,220,883	1,484,283
Adjustment <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	150,000	0	100,000	1,285,976	0	(1,977,796)	(1,443,717)
and write-off (unpaid pledges) <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(226,589)	(226,589)
Income from contributions <sup>3</sup>	9,225,449	872,728	470,763	147,167	417,362	648,991	17,208,002	891,609	149,109,349	178,991,420
<i>Paid contributions 2019</i>	8,237,949	872,728	465,763	147,167	412,362	616,989	16,770,460	891,609	133,201,329	161,616,356
<i>Unpaid pledges 2019</i>	987,500	0	5,000	0	5,000	32,002	437,542	0	15,908,020	17,375,064
Other income available <sup>4</sup>	161,114	17,467	46,885	21,223	65,425	41,142	447,644	(27,934)	1,520,779	2,293,746
<i>Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions</i>	(5,814)	676	6,010	297	2,265	(1,780)	9,142	(68,855)	(644,554)	(702,613)
<i>Interest income</i>	166,928	16,791	40,875	20,927	63,161	42,922	438,502	40,922	2,165,333	2,996,360
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>20,841,810</b>	<b>1,815,017</b>	<b>2,430,423</b>	<b>1,223,029</b>	<b>2,938,105</b>	<b>2,516,305</b>	<b>31,583,572</b>	<b>1,955,589</b>	<b>242,132,715</b>	<b>307,436,565</b>
Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	9,222,001	721,382	759,114	309,562	585,112	629,575	15,498,086	972,472	154,253,283	182,950,588
<b>CLOSING BALANCE<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>11,619,809</b>	<b>1,093,635</b>	<b>1,671,309</b>	<b>913,467</b>	<b>2,352,993</b>	<b>1,886,730</b>	<b>16,085,486</b>	<b>983,116</b>	<b>87,879,432</b>	<b>124,485,977</b>

## REGULAR BUDGET ALLOTMENT AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019 (SUMMARY BY PROGRAMME, IN THOUSANDS OF US\$)

	ALLOTMENT	EXPENDITURE
<b>HEADQUARTERS</b>		
Executive Direction and Management	7,659.2	8,153.7
Policymaking Organs	7,122.8	7,618.8
<b>Programme of Work</b>		
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis	11,582.2	13,240.7
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies	14,166.9	14,548.2
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation <sup>1</sup>	24,259.2	28,021.3
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures		
- Human Rights Council and the UPR	7,002.0	7,590.0
- Special Procedures	13,647.6	14,090.0
<b>Total Programme of Work: Headquarters</b>	<b>70,657.9</b>	<b>77,490.2</b>
Programme Support and Management Services	5,557.9	4,493.0
<b>Subtotal: Headquarters Operating Resources</b>	<b>90,997.8</b>	<b>97,755.7</b>
<b>Field Presences</b>		
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services, Technical Cooperation and Field Activities <sup>2</sup>		
- Africa	2,275.8	2,481.7
- Americas	1,923.2	2,189.7
- Asia and the Pacific	3,246.2	3,363.7
- Europe and Central Asia	1,483.3	1,662.4
- Middle East and North Africa	3,496.9	3,199.6
Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (Sec. 23)	2,163.9	2,519.6
<b>Subtotal: Field Presences Operating Resources</b>	<b>14,589.3</b>	<b>15,416.7</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>105,587.1</b>	<b>113,172.4</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes allotments for mandated commissions of inquiry.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Cambodia, the Regional Office for Central Africa in Yaoundé, the field-based structure on the DPRK, the presence in the State of Palestine and the Regional Offices in Bangkok, Bishkek, Brussels, Dakar, Panama, Qatar and Santiago de Chile.

## EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019 (SUMMARY BY PROGRAMME, IN THOUSANDS OF US\$)

	REQUIREMENTS	EXPENDITURE
<b>HEADQUARTERS</b>		
Executive Direction and Management	21,865.3	18,308.6
<b>Programme of Work</b>		
Subprogramme 1: Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis	21,473.7	18,638.3
Subprogramme 2: Supporting the Human Rights Treaty Bodies	3,564.9	2,378.7
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation	14,974.3	11,554.7
Subprogramme 4: Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures		
- Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review	4,434.4	3,206.4
- Special Procedures	13,757.6	9,195.6
<b>Total Programme of Work: Headquarters</b>	<b>58,204.9</b>	<b>44,973.7</b>
Programme Support and Management Services	10,549.6	9,784.0
<b>Subtotal: Headquarters Operating Resources</b>	<b>90,619.8</b>	<b>73,066.3</b>
<b>Field Presences</b>		
Subprogramme 3: Advisory Services, Technical Cooperation and Field Activities		
- Africa	47,700.5	35,582.8
- Americas	30,033.5	24,000.9
- Asia and the Pacific	14,549.9	10,513.6
- Europe and Central Asia	13,373.7	10,557.5
- Middle East and North Africa	19,312.4	14,264.4
Contingency Fund - Emergency Response Projects	-	454.8
<b>Subtotal: Field Presences Operating Resources</b>	<b>124,970.0</b>	<b>95,374.0</b>
<b>Total: headquarters and field presences</b>	<b>215,589.8</b>	<b>168,440.3</b>

	REQUIREMENTS	EXPENDITURE
<b>Other Trust Funds</b>		
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	10,052.3	9,222.0
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	1,450.5	759.1
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	776.6	721.4
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	1,115.7	585.1
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	433.1	309.5
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the work of the HRC	1,313.8	629.6
<b>Total: other Trust Funds</b>	<b>15,142.0</b>	<b>12,226.7</b>
Other expenditure and adjustments not reported above	3,270.0	2,282.6
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>234,001.8</b>	<b>182,950.6</b>

## EXTRABUDGETARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2019

### OVERALL SUMMARY (IN US\$)

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
<b>HEADQUARTERS</b>			
<b>Executive Direction and Management</b>			
EO - Executive Office of the High Commissioner	1,312,256.00	1,290,966.66	1,204,573.17
EOS - Communications Section	5,245,318.00	3,993,608.50	3,966,635.32
EOS - Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the UDHR	71,116.00	142,748.07	55,061.39
EOS - Donor and External Relations Section	4,004,186.00	2,917,700.00	2,926,532.97
EOS - External Outreach Service	628,727.00	567,400.00	566,543.69
EOS - Media and Public Positioning Section	1,820,268.00	1,743,400.00	1,477,580.53
EOS - Meetings, Documents and Publications Unit	1,735,702.00	1,388,200.00	1,483,806.19
NYO - New York Office	2,726,890.00	2,776,008.98	2,847,626.10
NYO - HR Conflict Risk Tool Project (new project)	303,970.00	0.00	0.00
NYO - (MPTF) Joint Project for UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict	274,866.00	267,174.00	314,904.10
NYO - UN's Response on Reprisals	523,760.00	679,934.61	585,368.19
PPMES - Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service	1,900,694.00	1,796,600.00	1,718,835.47
SSS - Safety and Security Section	1,317,522.00	1,177,800.00	1,161,170.21
<b>Subtotal EDM</b>	<b>21,865,275.00</b>	<b>18,741,540.82</b>	<b>18,308,637.33</b>
<b>PROGRAMME OF WORK (SUBPROGAMME 1 TO 4)</b>			
<b>Subprogramme 1 - Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis (RRDD)</b>			
Director Office - Coordination and Management	1,553,004.00	1,497,997.00	1,509,510.93
Civic Space Unit	1,193,637.00	1,189,576.15	1,121,752.88
Human Rights online, innovation and technology outreach	898,538.00	850,000.00	729,394.10
ARDS - Anti-Discrimination	1,283,277.00	1,371,619.14	1,066,314.13
HRESIS - Business and Human Rights (new project)	n/a	199,975.00	0.00
HRESIS - Disabilities	517,418.00	323,081.84	412,953.87
HRESIS - Economic and Social Issues	480,296.00	622,380.46	474,721.60

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
HRESIS - Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty	163,889.00	50,000.00	162,071.86
HRESIS - Human Rights Indicators for Convention on the Right/Persons with Disabilities	547,361.00	165,321.91	446,835.67
HRESIS - HR at international borders focus on the MENA region	748,221.00	1,619,583.40	451,026.82
HRESIS - Migration	506,709.00	304,269.00	464,065.45
HRESIS - Support of Activities by SRSG on Business and Human Rights	129,726.00	198,219.59	153,072.42
HRESIS - Child and youth rights	699,130.00	683,306.89	562,281.84
IPMS - Indigenous Peoples and Minorities	1,438,112.00	1,104,194.64	1,152,779.59
IPMS - Protection of religious minorities	398,110.00	39,459.13	295,113.28
METS - Methodology, Education and Training	1,933,112.00	1,888,200.00	1,932,740.35
METS - Human Rights Indicators	429,731.00	272,095.07	293,578.58
METS - IACT Image Authentication/Categorization Tool Project	231,424.00	46,500.00	188,520.16
METS - (EU) Human Rights Indicators	527,582.00	473,852.72	448,122.67
ROLDs - Rule of Law and Democracy	1,737,922.00	652,468.59	1,539,255.28
ROLDs - Support to OHCHR's work on accountability	489,288.00	0.00	457,995.00
ROLDs - (EU) Torture-free Trade (new project)	n/a	165,647.78	0.00
RTDS - Right to Development	342,675.00	801,200.00	305,569.49
RTDS - Corruption and Human Rights	107,000.00	107,000.00	83,615.72
RTDS - Corruption and Human Rights (new project)	n/a	598,425.00	0.00
RTDS - Environment and Climate Change (new project)	n/a	0.00	0.00
RTDS - SFP Participation of Civil Society at the Social Forum, Forum on Minority Issues and Forum on Business and Human Rights	26,678.00	29,142.02	18,575.36
SDGs - Washington Liaison Office	413,919.00	375,100.00	340,079.85
SDGs - SDGs and Human Rights-Based Approach	391,297.00	285,700.00	307,458.78
WHRG - Conflict Related Sexual and Gender-Based Violence	1,020,634.00	599,169.68	836,161.54
WHRG - Criminal Laws Project	87,202.00	0.00	63,263.87
WHRG - Project for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (LGBT)	1,024,654.00	2,350,828.15	840,048.51
WHRG - Regional Gender Advisers	261,836.00	278,706.80	234,210.95

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
WHRG - Women's Human Rights and Gender	1,891,265.00	1,719,325.44	1,747,223.28
<b>Subtotal subprog. 1</b>	<b>21,473,647.00</b>	<b>20,862,345.40</b>	<b>18,638,313.83</b>

### Subprogramme 2 - Supporting the Human Rights Treaties Bodies (HRTB)

Support to Treaty Bodies and Organs	2,674,622.00	2,014,794.93	1,843,285.96
Human Rights Treaties Branch (new project)	122,875.00	177,103.77	17,543.38
Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture	440,998.00	294,095.84	134,898.22
Treaty Bodies Webcasting Arrangements	326,420.00	0.00	382,956.10
<b>Subtotal subprog. 2</b>	<b>3,564,915.00</b>	<b>2,485,994.54</b>	<b>2,378,683.66</b>

### Subprogramme 3 - Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation (FOTCD)

Director Office - Coordination and Management	1,222,549.00	803,100.00	786,127.54
Africa Branch	2,469,091.00	2,255,700.00	2,104,536.57
Americas Branch	645,384.00	746,300.00	580,906.58
Europe and Central Asia	1,611,719.00	1,235,000.00	1,179,671.59
Asia-Pacific Branch	2,368,579.00	2,253,933.73	1,887,125.19
Middle East and North Africa	1,459,122.00	952,700.00	1,129,367.39
ERS - Emergency Response Section	1,371,043.00	1,188,100.00	1,278,462.28
ERS - HRuF initiative - Light Teams Deployments	318,660.00	0.00	152,159.13
ERS - Investigative Capacity	249,730.00	2,352,940.00	9,280.58
ERS - Prevention and Early Warning Capacity - Emergency Response Teams	113,581.00	376,548.05	133,619.44
MENA - Database production and work support	410,621.00	174,600.00	367,962.81
MENA - Protection of Human Rights in Arab Region	783,576.00	0.00	311,385.74
MENA - Strengthening Human Rights in Iran	66,958.00	255,016.41	49,889.63
National Institutions, Regional Mechanisms, Civil Society	912,809.00	755,770.57	859,848.15
PMSS - Peace Missions Support Section	533,557.00	514,700.00	504,502.75
PMSS - HR Protection and Peace Operations	437,349.00	668,201.05	219,809.83
<b>Subtotal subprog. 3</b>	<b>14,974,328.00</b>	<b>14,532,609.81</b>	<b>11,554,655.20</b>

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
<b>Subprogramme 4 - Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures</b>			
Director's Office - Coordination and Management	1,867,192.00	1,279,800.00	1,250,278.54
HRCB - Human Rights Council Activities	1,937,931.00	1,324,800.00	1,382,080.50
HRCB - HRC and UPR Webcasting	251,507.00	237,500.00	239,386.55
UPRB - Universal Periodic Review Branch	377,805.00	340,500.00	334,673.46
SPB - Support to Special Procedures	6,721,451.00	6,119,539.96	5,071,255.06
SPB - Support to Special Procedures Mandates	7,036,162.00	4,476,661.35	4,124,389.07
<b>Subtotal subprog. 4</b>	<b>18,192,048.00</b>	<b>13,778,801.31</b>	<b>12,402,063.18</b>
<b>Total Programme of Work (subprogramme 1 to 4)</b>	<b>58,204,938.00</b>	<b>51,659,751.06</b>	<b>44,973,715.87</b>
<b>Programme Support and Management Services</b>			
PSMS - Information Technologies Section	2,803,074.00	2,552,600.00	2,523,391.53
PSMS - Programme Support and Management Services	7,445,698.00	7,087,100.00	6,966,891.69
PSMS - OIOS/Auditor (UNOG)	300,857.00	282,700.00	293,692.89
<b>Subtotal PSMS</b>	<b>10,549,629.00</b>	<b>9,922,400.00</b>	<b>9,783,976.11</b>
<b>TOTAL HEADQUARTERS</b>	<b>90,619,842.00</b>	<b>80,323,691.88</b>	<b>73,066,329.31</b>
<b>FIELD PRESENCES</b>			
<b>Africa</b>			
Burkina Faso - Human Rights Adviser (new project)	n/a	457,404.00	0.00
Burundi - Country Office*	2,916,206.00	-83,118.18	2,131,907.97
Burundi - (EU) Human Rights Protection	313,243.00	425,449.88	2,677.42
Central Africa (Yaoundé) - Sub-Regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy	341,994.00	270,095.44	321,880.49
Central African Republic - Peace Mission support	87,010.00	0.00	44,102.18
Chad - Country Office	1,213,443.00	1,097,736.30	1,247,266.26
Chad - (PBF) Peace Consolidation	139,795.00	141,429.00	103,047.04
DRC - Support to the Electoral Process	955,486.00	0.00	692,675.23

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
DRC - HR Promotion and Protection in the electoral context (Election II)	1,166,894.00	910,000.00	407,774.43
DRC - Human Rights Due Diligence and Profiling (HRDDP)	1,406,337.00	1,076,212.80	946,348.59
DRC - (MPTF) Lutte contre les VBG-Justice	142,462.00	62,159.00	88,956.51
DRC - Protection Mechanisms	1,100,046.00	333,333.33	1,100,844.66
DRC - (PBF) Reconciliation in Kasai	400,331.00	174,960.00	65,760.19
DRC - Women Protection Adviser	251,666.00	219,065.75	146,836.01
East Africa (Addis Ababa) - Regional Office	2,951,793.00	2,219,222.57	2,557,295.04
Ethiopia - Human Rights Priorities (new project)	n/a	1,275,696.82	0.00
Ethiopia - (OCHA) Protection and monitoring in West Guji	166,206.00	0.00	163,816.45
Ethiopia - (OCHA) Protection and monitoring in Oromia, Amhara, Somali regions	193,296.00	209,987.50	94,487.48
Gambia - (PBF) Transitional Justice	398,173.00	135,000.00	109,027.38
Guinea - Country Office	2,780,817.00	2,647,717.82	2,799,161.15
Guinea - (PBF) Appui au dialogue politique	100,000.00	0.00	97,467.70
Guinea - (PBF) Lutte contre l'impunité	100,000.00	155,303.96	95,946.04
Guinea - (PBF) Projet de Transition	100,000.00	0.00	0.00
Guinea Bissau - Peace Mission support	97,350.00	66,185.72	55,735.80
Kenya - Human Rights Adviser	712,322.00	506,446.30	751,165.38
Liberia - Country Office	1,499,853.00	1,232,786.04	1,826,856.86
Liberia - (MPTF/EU) Spotlight initiative for SGBV Programme	420,819.00	420,819.00	319,233.69
Liberia - (PBF) Reconciliation	540,000.00	162,475.15	196,164.20
Liberia - (PBF) Support to national peacebuilding priorities	869,823.00	600,000.00	758,609.01
Madagascar - Human Rights Adviser	214,784.00	107,300.00	168,759.44
Madagascar - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	229,895.00	227,500.00	249,888.61
Madagascar - (PBF) Appui au processus RRS	30,000.00	0.00	14,459.23
Madagascar - (PBF) Institutions démocratiques IDIRC	100,000.00	0.00	58,191.16
Madagascar - (PBF) Radio Sifaka	121,691.00	149,690.00	115,649.40

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Malawi - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	237,092.00	220,651.00	117,474.17
Mali - Force Conjointe G5-Sahel	3,173,641.00	551,053.95	2,148,618.44
Mali - (PBF) Force Conjointe G5-Sahel	85,190.00	0.00	11,285.46
Mali - (EU) Force Conjointe G5-Sahel	7,125,989.00	5,619,103.77	4,527,834.31
Mali - Joint Project for Activities on Promotion and Protection of HR	68,000.00	0.00	0.00
Mali - Peace Mission support	206,000.00	0.00	113,082.21
Mauritania - Country Office	1,305,560.00	1,263,151.80	927,274.06
Mauritania - (PBF) Moughataa Bassikouno	268,594.00	233,450.00	186,047.40
Mozambique - Advancing Human Rights agenda	678,000.00	308,238.43	566,375.16
Niger - Human Rights Adviser	404,839.00	158,010.79	212,469.90
Niger - (PBF) Peace Consolidation in Diffa	147,608.00	36,600.00	72,117.67
Nigeria - Human Rights Adviser	14,263.00	0.00	0.00
Nigeria - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	312,636.00	344,504.00	297,509.81
Nigeria - (PBF) Farmer-Herder crisis	264,834.00	302,767.20	233,912.96
Nigeria - (OCHA) Humanitarian Response	214,779.00	0.00	128,799.36
Nigeria - (OCHA) Integrating Human Rights in the Humanitarian Response in Middle Belt	199,921.00	0.00	17,836.72
Rwanda - Human Rights Adviser	222,849.00	139,800.00	197,199.41
Rwanda - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	235,006.00	137,515.00	210,261.13
Sierra Leone - (PBF) Conflict Prevention	92,359.00	0.00	88,996.11
Somalia - Peace Mission support	238,276.00	295,622.71	202,364.01
Southern Africa (Pretoria) - Regional Office	1,241,617.00	864,800.00	969,842.46
South Africa - (MPTF) SDGs Joint Programme (new project)	n/a	100,000.00	0.00
South Sudan - Peace Mission support	98,248.00	106,200.00	89,451.82
Sudan (Darfur) - Peace Mission support*	78,387.00	2,532.01	-6,785.27
Sudan - Country Office	310,950.00	300,000.00	18,660.01
Uganda - Country Office	2,801,662.00	646,546.97	2,899,162.50

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Uganda - (PBF) Harnessing the youth's potential (new project)	n/a	172,187.20	0.00
Uganda - Programme Activities in Northern Uganda and Karamoja	771,486.00	0.00	306,654.60
West Africa (Dakar) - Regional Office	835,789.00	66,000.00	567,146.19
West Africa (Dakar) - Appui à la protection des enfants	2,042,098.00	1,184,834.12	1,306,216.27
West Africa (Dakar) - Appui à l'eradication de la mendicité et maltraitance des enfants	217,587.00	0.00	180,915.73
West Africa (Dakar) - HR Based Response to Smuggling of Migrants	1,447,057.00	0.00	977,036.54
Zimbabwe - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	298,416.00	223,374.00	283,006.81
<b>Subtotal Africa</b>	<b>47,700,468.00</b>	<b>28,477,801.15</b>	<b>35,582,756.95</b>
<b>Americas</b>			
Americas - (MPTF) National Human Rights Advisers	841,899.00	903,018.00	603,103.06
Chile - Regional Office for South America	871,326.00	779,000.00	818,982.58
Colombia - Country Office	11,087,409.00	7,408,740.71	8,757,857.32
Colombia - (EU) Strengthening of HR Prevention and Protection Work	145,206.00	231,000.00	97,141.75
Colombia - (PBF) Territorial model	198,853.00	107,074.00	173,750.82
Guatemala - Country Office	4,528,786.00	4,378,623.67	3,852,697.96
Guatemala - (EU) Country Office (new project)	n/a	140,611.36	13,491.46
Guatemala - (MPTF) Contribution for Peace Building	194,953.00	230,050.00	183,263.79
Guatemala - (MPTF/UNPRPD) Disability Activities	107,642.00	0.00	101,528.55
Guatemala - (PBF) Maya Programme for Indigenous People's Rights	545,141.00	517,093.63	128,235.13
Guatemala - (PBF) Sepur Zarco Reparation Sentence	171,002.00	0.00	12,701.32
Haiti - Peace Mission support	790,434.00	367,432.36	731,815.02
Honduras - Country Office	3,516,611.00	3,125,128.83	2,332,099.62
Jamaica - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	227,394.00	375,712.00	335,350.50
Mexico - Country Office	2,801,286.00	2,387,600.00	2,455,025.83
Mexico - National Law on Disappearances (new project)	n/a	40,000.00	0.00
Mexico - (MPTF/EU) Spotlight initiative for SGBV Programme	263,066.00	171,368.00	152,835.90
Mexico - Support to victims of forced disappearances to defend their rights	72,352.00	52,150.00	21,306.64

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Mexico - Support to the Justice System's Forensic Sciences	159,536.00	0.00	155,589.88
Nicaragua - Monitoring, documenting and reporting on HR situation	814,305.00	209,300.61	766,448.85
Panama - Regional Office for Central America	640,960.00	468,011.00	518,591.77
Panama - El Salvador - HR Engagement	513,184.00	342,976.99	374,059.22
Panama - El Salvador - Transitional Justice	264,256.00	128,568.83	254,682.44
Paraguay - Human Rights Adviser	190,928.00	111,000.00	149,260.33
Venezuela - (UNHCR) Migration and Refugee Crisis	124,431.00	124,361.82	120,531.08
Venezuela - Monitoring, Documentation and Reporting on Human Rights Situation	962,542.00	925,823.33	890,501.96
<b>Subtotal Americas</b>	<b>30,033,502.00</b>	<b>23,524,645.14</b>	<b>24,000,852.78</b>

#### Asia and The Pacific

Afghanistan - Peace Mission support	301,399.00	250,898.06	203,320.10
Asia - (MPTF) National Human Rights Advisers	142,898.00	136,736.00	108,476.68
Bangladesh - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	238,993.00	299,320.00	227,636.03
Cambodia - Country Office	1,571,139.00	863,675.11	972,472.42
Cambodia- (MPTF/UNPRPD) Disability Activities	90,248.00	0.00	48,687.69
Cambodia - (UNOPS) Human Rights Monitoring of the 2017-2018 Elections	1,189,826.00	1,104,675.00	982,800.05
Cambodia - (EU) Protection on Land and Natural Resources	199,528.00	404,895.91	76,781.30
DPRK - Field-based Structure (based in Seoul)	151,302.00	152,698.06	118,026.49
Malaysia - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser (new project)	n/a	203,319.00	0.00
Maldives - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	215,341.00	260,000.00	2,826.28
Myanmar - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	262,227.00	100,472.00	0.00
Myanmar - Promotion and protection of Human Rights	904,713.00	1,430,553.09	545,425.18
Myanmar - Protection of Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazaar	925,229.00	0.00	379,263.18
Pacific Region (Suva) - Regional Office	1,357,392.00	1,039,594.17	1,032,386.80
Pacific Region (Suva) - (UNTFHS) Migrants and communities affected by climate change	75,010.00	75,010.68	74,904.28

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Pacific Region (Suva) - Women Human Rights Defenders in the Pacific Region (new project)	n/a	103,760.00	0.00
Pacific Region (Suva) - (MPTF/UNPRPD) Work on disability*	30,121.00	0.00	-17,815.34
Papua New Guinea - Human Rights Adviser	460,650.00	68,465.37	260,017.50
Papua New Guinea - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	258,270.00	210,000.00	292,688.10
Papua New Guinea - (PBF) Empower women and youth	157,174.00	0.00	139,303.67
Papua New Guinea - (PBF) UN Country Fund - Outcome 1.1 Governance	76,341.00	0.00	49,459.39
Papua New Guinea - (PBF) UN Country Programme - Access to basic health services	41,730.00	0.00	30,563.50
Philippines - Human Rights Adviser	276,342.00	166,807.64	251,622.68
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Regional Office	1,351,621.00	1,135,596.11	1,164,036.98
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Access to Justice for Women in AP	125,630.00	125,630.00	70,757.96
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - (EU) Democratic Space in Thailand	860,823.00	840,020.88	711,420.74
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Early warning -Regional Emergency Response Teams	469,670.00	274,505.89	387,478.42
South-East Asia (Bangkok) - Strengthening Capacity of Regional Actors to Promote Human Rights and Accountability	1,723,123.00	1,679,321.63	1,530,811.68
Sri Lanka - Human Rights Adviser	577,951.00	268,792.56	555,352.50
Sri Lanka - (PBF) Transitional Justice*	n/a	0.00	-53,941.82
Timor Leste - Human Rights Adviser	287,177.00	68,465.37	213,940.43
Timor Leste - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	228,013.00	228,064.00	154,947.01
<b>Subtotal Asia and the Pacific</b>	<b>14,549,881.00</b>	<b>11,491,276.53</b>	<b>10,513,649.88</b>
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>			
Azerbaijan - (EU) Support to Human Rights Activities	399,757.00	755,244.54	366,206.06
Belarus - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	234,376.00	107,203.00	128,433.30
Belarus - Human Rights Adviser/ HR National Action Plan	429,349.00	500,800.00	180,086.75
Central Asia (Bishkek) - Regional Office	740,906.00	393,800.00	601,956.98
Central Asia (Kazakhstan) - Civil Society Capacity Building	118,578.00	81,380.75	64,783.81

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Central Asia (location to be confirmed) - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser (new project)	177,575.00	0.00	0.00
Europe (Brussels) - Regional Office	896,662.00	958,300.00	863,641.82
Georgia - (UNDP/EU) Contribution for UN Joint Programme	71,270.00	59,199.71	129,761.69
Georgia - (MPTF) SDGs Joint Programme (new project)	n/a	101,222.00	0.00
Kyrgyzstan - (PBF) Violent Extremism	468,330.00	242,440.00	348,529.27
Kyrgyzstan - (EU) Project	624,111.00	116,144.02	724,838.03
Moldova (Republic of) - Human Rights Adviser	265,179.00	236,600.00	221,756.24
Moldova (Republic of) - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	144,400.00	201,800.00	92,151.58
Moldova (Republic of) - (MPTF) Transnistria	158,383.00	192,075.00	24,281.51
Moldova (Republic of) - (EU) Sustainable Development and Human Rights	148,995.00	47,770.70	45,691.58
Montenegro - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	176,632.00	201,800.00	107,600.04
Russian Federation - Human Rights Adviser	920,546.00	1,113,100.00	836,122.70
Russian Federation - Projects on Human Rights Awareness Raising and Training Activities	67,800.00	65,000.00	53,502.36
Serbia - Human Rights Adviser	460,026.00	349,600.00	353,303.38
Serbia - (MPTF/UNPRPD) Disability Activities	65,372.00	0.00	38,408.93
Southern Caucasus - Human Rights Adviser	749,333.00	737,880.36	700,003.83
Ukraine - HRMM/Protection Cluster	3,818,679.00	4,469,950.19	2,661,283.30
Ukraine - (EU) Human Rights Monitoring Mission	1,823,130.00	1,821,920.00	1,609,601.30
Ukraine - (CERF) Human Rights Life-Saving Activities in East Ukraine	414,346.00	414,346.00	405,555.44
<b>Subtotal Europe and Central Asia</b>	<b>13,373,735.00</b>	<b>13,167,576.27</b>	<b>10,557,499.90</b>

#### Middle East and North Africa

Iraq - Peace Mission support	335,480.00	0.00	43,162.62
Iraq - Peace Mission support - Protection of religious minorities	484,205.00	32,358.34	163,542.65
Jordan - (MPTF) Human Rights Adviser	253,995.00	169,458.00	208,930.90
Libya - Peace Mission support	195,829.00	24,300.00	75,926.14

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Middle East (Beirut) - Regional Office	1,720,683.00	1,472,981.58	1,417,864.27
Middle East (Beirut) - (EU) Project for Assisting Lebanon in the Implementation of IHRM and UPR Recommendations	67,667.00	0.00	63,312.11
Middle East (Beirut) - Protection and Promotion of the Rights of People on the Move	106,000.00	0.00	48,737.09
Middle East (Beirut) - Protection of religious minorities	1,169,863.00	435,337.81	817,674.82
Saudi Arabia - Financial and Technical Assistance through the Saudi Human Rights Commission (in coordination with ROME)	1,167,130.00	0.00	681,052.48
South West and Arab Region (Doha) - Training and Documentation Centre	309,609.00	297,100.00	284,052.09
State of Palestine <sup>1</sup> - Stand-Alone Office	1,352,842.00	662,885.31	831,716.40
State of Palestine - Promotion and Protection of HR in the oPt	605,886.00	602,409.64	590,442.00
State of Palestine - (EU) Human Rights Treaty Obligations	497,318.00	142,168.37	555,502.77
Syria - Intl. Response to the Human Rights Situation in Syria (Refugees/IDPs/TJ)	644,225.43	1,479,595.58	679,269.82
Syria - (EU) Advancing Justice and Human Rights	233,477.21	2,777,777.78	84,367.90
Syria - (EU) Support to Human Rights Activities	1,369,684.00	928,554.50	1,276,634.11
Tunisia - Country Office	2,553,099.00	1,418,426.03	1,639,734.46
Tunisia - (MPTF/UNPRPD) Disability Activities	108,410.00	0.00	57,343.50
Tunisia - Migration and Protection	97,375.00	24,768.00	90,590.02
Yemen - Country Office	3,654,107.00	4,059,299.11	2,781,996.06
Yemen - Country Office in Aden	1,134,621.00	0.00	881,731.55
Yemen - (OCHA) Human Rights Activities	465,614.00	0.00	423,766.31
Yemen - (EU) Human Rights Protection	785,279.00	927,738.79	567,054.27
<b>Subtotal Middle East and North Africa</b>	<b>19,312,398.64</b>	<b>15,455,158.84</b>	<b>14,264,404.34</b>
<b>Contingency Fund</b>			
Contingency Fund - Emergency Response Projects	n/a	446,932.78	454,796.83
<b>Subtotal Contingency Fund</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>446,932.78</b>	<b>454,796.83</b>
<b>TOTAL FIELD PRESENCES</b>	<b>124,969,984.64</b>	<b>92,522,469.13</b>	<b>95,373,798.82</b>

<sup>1</sup>Reference to State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

	REQUIREMENTS	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
<b>Cross Entities Global Projects</b>			
Human Rights Up Front Action Plan	1,201,662.00	824,223.19	1,199,371.52
Programme on Conflict Prevention and Human Rights	1,253,495.00	761,821.76	1,027,030.92
Task Force ESCR, SDGs and Prevention	794,324.00	529,300.00	459,057.31
Human Rights Advisers - (MPTF) HRM workshops, operating costs (new project)	n/a	513,338.50	120,257.85
<b>Subtotal Cross Entities Global Projects</b>	<b>3,249,481.00</b>	<b>2,628,683.45</b>	<b>2,805,717.60</b>
<b>TOTAL HEADQUARTERS AND FIELD PRESENCES</b>	<b>218,839,307.64</b>	<b>175,515,766.05</b>	<b>171,246,007.59</b>
<b>OTHER TRUST FUNDS</b>			
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	10,052,338.00	9,386,562.74	9,222,001.35
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	1,450,492.00	517,648.27	759,114.16
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	776,628.00	890,195.39	721,381.59
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	1,115,675.00	482,786.74	585,112.27
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	433,128.00	318,390.18	309,562.22
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the work of the HRC	1,313,768.00	790,132.91	629,574.82
<b>Total Other Trust Funds</b>	<b>15,142,029.00</b>	<b>12,385,716.23</b>	<b>12,226,746.41</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME/EXPENDITURE</b>			
Unearmarked reserves allocated to project requirements	n/a	-4,830,438.83	0.00
Other income/expenditure not reported above**	20,547.00	-1,785,877.01	-522,165.82
<b>Subtotal Other Income/Expenditure</b>	<b>20,547.00</b>	<b>-6,616,315.84</b>	<b>-522,165.82</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>234,001,883.64</b>	<b>181,285,166.44</b>	<b>182,950,588.18</b>

\* Includes prior period income and/or expenditure adjustments.

\*\* Includes miscellaneous income and interest for 2019, and prior period expenditure adjustments not reported above.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT (EDM)

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Saudi Arabia	149,867	EDM
<b>(a) total contributions to EDM</b>	<b>149,867</b>	
Australia	135,593	Response to reprisals
Austria	10,941	Response to reprisals
Italy	27,548	Response to reprisals
Liechtenstein	25,025	Response to reprisals
Norway	194,974	Response to reprisals
Switzerland	62,000	70th anniversary celebration for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
United Kingdom	90,000	Response to reprisals
UNDP (UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict)	267,174	Team of experts and rule of law
<b>(b) total contributions to specific sections/projects</b>	<b>813,255</b>	
<b>(c) TOTAL contributions earmarked to EDM (a) + (b)</b>	<b>963,121</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to EDM*	12,970,263	Unearmarked
<b>(d) total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>12,970,263</b>	
<b>(e) TOTAL XB FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR EDM (c) + (d)</b>	<b>13,933,384</b>	

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2019.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT (EDM)

### RB & XB FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR EDM IN 2019

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for EDM	7,659,208	100.0%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>7,659,208</b>	<b>29.0%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to EDM	149,867	0.8%
Earmarked funds for specific sections/projects	813,255	4.3%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	5,334	0.0%
Unearmarked funds from 2019 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to EDM	12,970,263	69.2%
Funds from prior years, including unearmarked funds allocated by OHCHR to EDM	4,802,823	25.6%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>18,741,541</b>	<b>71.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL RB + XB FUNDS</b>	<b>26,400,749</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## RESEARCH AND RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT (RRDD)

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
-	0	
<b>(a) total contributions to RRDD</b>	<b>0</b>	
Auckland Law School	10,484	Indigenous Fellowship Programme
Australia	33,898	Activities in the Asia-Pacific region (allocated to the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section)
Austria	10,940	Study on normative standards in international human rights law in relation to older persons
	200,000	OHCHR's work related to combating racial discrimination and hate speech
China	100,000	OHCHR's work related to economic, social and cultural rights
	250,000	Right to Development Section

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Czech Republic	13,055	Draft guidelines on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs
Denmark	1,529,988	Human rights at international borders: building the capacity of border officials, with a focus on the Middle East and North Africa region 2019-2020
	123,797	Strengthen the protection of human rights in the digital age
European Commission	160,120	Bridging the gap: HR indicators for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in support of a disability-inclusive 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
	164,008	Implementing the UN resolution on Torture-Free Trade
	473,853	Supporting the deployment of human rights indicators
Finland	79,545	Activities related to indigenous peoples
	284,091	OHCHR's regional gender adviser in Addis Ababa
Germany	88,009	Business and human rights in technology
	5,470	Study on normative standards in international human rights law in relation to older persons
Iceland	1,601	The right to privacy in the digital age
	100,000	OHCHR's work in the Middle East and North African Region protecting the rights of people on the move
Ireland	100,000	UN Free & Equal
	330,033	Civic space
Microsoft	850,000	To support OHCHR's work relating to human rights online, innovation and technology, business and human rights, and outreach
Netherlands	46,500	Image authentication and categorization tool
	1,619,985	UN Free & Equal
	108,319	Accountability and remedy project
	433,276	Counter discrimination against individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity
	194,974	Expert mechanism on the rights of indigenous peoples
Norway	671,577	OHCHR's work for child and youth rights
	433,276	Protecting and expanding civil society space
	292,461	Support of freedom of religion and belief and the protection of religious minorities
	151,646	Sustainable Development Goals and human rights indicators
	433,276	Women's rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
	50,000	Rule of Law and Democracy Section
Republic of Korea	200,000	"New technologies and human rights" initiative (including the 7 June 2019 Panel discussion)
Open Society Foundations (FPOS)	107,000	Research on the social costs of corruption
Qatar	50,000	Global Study on children deprived of liberty
	9,911	Social Forum
	600,000	Anti-discrimination
	16,667	Special Fund for the participation of civil society in the Forum on minority issues, the Forum on business and human rights, and the Social Forum
Russian Federation	125,000	Training activities for representatives of national, ethnic or linguistic minorities
	90,000	Training and study activities for the representatives of Russian indigenous peoples
	20,000	Anti-discrimination
	25,000	Combatting trafficking
Saudi Arabia	25,000	Disabilities
	25,000	Methodology, education and training
	50,000	Right to development
Spain	109,409	Regional gender advisers
	200,000	Business and human rights in technology
Switzerland	130,869	Promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants in Libya and the neighbouring region
	579,911	Sexual and gender-based violence
United Kingdom	190,000	UN Free & Equal
United Arab Emirates	598,425	Corruption and human rights
United States of America	1,218,000	Civic space, disabilities, rule of law and democracy, and violence against women
University of Exeter	1,333	Editing costs for OHCHR publication: "Report on guidance on the use of less-lethal weapons and related equipment"
<b>(b) total contributions to specific sections/projects</b>	<b>13,715,705</b>	
<b>(c) TOTAL contributions earmarked to RRDD (a) + (b)</b>	<b>13,715,705</b>	

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Unearmarked funds allocated to RRDD projects*	5,135,547	Unearmarked
<b>(d) total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>5,135,547</b>	
<b>(e) TOTAL XB FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR RRDD (c) + (d)</b>	<b>18,851,251</b>	

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2019.

## RESEARCH AND RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT (RRDD)

### RB & XB FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR RRDD IN 2019

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for RRDD	11,582,234	100.0%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>11,582,234</b>	<b>35.7%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to RRDD - all projects	0	0.0%
Earmarked funds for specific sections/projects	13,715,705	65.7%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	57,074	0.3%
Unearmarked funds from 2019 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to RRDD	5,135,547	24.6%
Funds from prior years, including unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to RRDD	1,954,020	9.4%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>20,862,345</b>	<b>64.3%</b>
<b>TOTAL RB + XB FUNDS</b>	<b>32,444,579</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES BRANCH (HRTB)

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Germany	825,550	HRTB
Liechtenstein	40,040	HRTB
Netherlands	882,353	HRTB
<b>(a) total contributions to HRTB - all bodies</b>	<b>1,747,943</b>	
Czech Republic	8,703	OP-CAT Special Fund
France	55,741	OP-CAT Special Fund
Germany	85,227	OP-CAT Special Fund
Japan	117,133	Strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system
Mexico	78,288	Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
Norway	108,319	OP-CAT Special Fund
Republic of Korea	150,000	Petitions and Urgent Actions Section in its support of CEDAW, CERD, CESC and CRPD
Spain	32,823	OP-CAT Special Fund
Switzerland	100,000	CEDAW- general recommendation on trafficking of women and girls in the context of global migration
<b>(b) total contributions to specific bodies/projects</b>	<b>736,235</b>	
<b>(c) TOTAL contributions earmarked to HRTB (a) + (b)</b>	<b>2,484,177</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to HRTB*	0	Unearmarked
<b>(d) total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>(e) TOTAL XB FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR HRTB (c) + (d)</b>	<b>2,484,177</b>	

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2019.

## HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES BRANCH (HRTB)

### RB & XB FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR HRTB IN 2019

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for HRTB	14,166,919	100.0%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>14,166,919</b>	<b>85.1%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to HRTB - all bodies	1,747,943	70.3%
Earmarked funds for HRTB specific bodies/projects	445,421	17.9%
Earmarked funds to OPCAT Special Fund	290,814	11.7%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	1,817	0.1%
Unearmarked funds from 2019 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to HRTB	0	0.0%
Unearmarked funds from prior years allocated by OHCHR to HRTB returned and used for other requirements	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>2,485,995</b>	<b>14.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL RB + XB FUNDS</b>	<b>16,652,914</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION (FOTCD)

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
	866,441	Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region
Australia	305,085	Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region*
	188,395	Human Rights Adviser in the Philippines*
	237,288	National Human Rights Institutions
	584,795	Burundi
Belgium	370,370	Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <i>protection of civilians</i> )
	392,773	Guatemala ( <i>strengthening rights of indigenous and other discriminated women</i> )
Canada	526,742	Honduras ( <i>strengthening the promotion, monitoring and respect for women, girl and LGBTI rights</i> )
	682,926	Human Rights up Front
CERF	414,346	Ukraine ( <i>Protection of civilians along the “contact line”, including non-Government controlled area of Eastern Ukraine</i> )
Counterpart International	118,569	El Salvador ( <i>supporting transitional justice</i> )
	686,080	Human rights protection in stabilization and peace operations
Denmark	294,507	Somalia*
	4,209,893	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
Estonia	33,003	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	755,245	Azerbaijan ( <i>enhancing the capacity of national actors in promoting and effectively protecting human rights</i> )
European Commission	425,450	Burundi
	377,607	Cambodia ( <i>strengthening human rights protection on land and natural resources issues</i> )
	5,619,104	G5 Sahel ( <i>support to the establishment and implementation of human rights and humanitarian law compliance framework for the operations of the G5 Sahel Joint Force</i> )
	135,381	Guatemala ( <i>protection of human rights defenders</i> )
	1,821,920	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
European Commission	31,381	Kazakhstan ( <i>civil society support for freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association</i> )
	116,144	Kyrgyzstan ( <i>judicial and social action for enduring stability and peace</i> )
	47,771	Republic of Moldova ( <i>towards a cross-river partnership for sustainable development and human rights</i> )
	142,168	occupied Palestinian territory ( <i>implementing the State of Palestine's human rights treaty obligations</i> )
	528,555	Syria
	2,777,778	Syria ( <i>advancing justice and human rights</i> )
	840,021	Thailand ( <i>widening democratic space</i> )
Finland	927,739	Yemen
	909,091	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
Ford Foundation	52,150	Mexico ( <i>strengthen capacities of victims of forced disappearances to defend their rights</i> )*
	66,890	Chad*
France	89,186	Contingency Fund
	111,483	Guinea
	78,038	Mauritania*
	144,928	Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
	234,114	Tunisia
	218,818	Colombia
	856,164	Field Presences
Germany	465,476	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	55,625	Iran
	466,843	National Human Rights Institutions
	228,311	Syria
	1,104,452	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
India	200,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	277,778	Colombia
Ireland	68,929	Liberia ( <i>strengthening civil society, the protection of human rights defenders and human rights education</i> )
Italy	1,184,834	WARO ( <i>project for protection of children in West Africa</i> )
	5,501	Georgia*
Lithuania	11,001	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
MacArthur Foundation	40,000	Mexico ( <i>promote a network of forensic science experts and facilitate Mexico's adoption of policies to improve the justice system's forensic sciences</i> )*
	910,000	Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <i>human rights promotion and protection in the electoral context</i> )
Netherlands	202,546	Kenya ( <i>strengthening the UN response to shrinking democratic space and police impunity</i> )*
	2,352,940	Strengthening OHCHR's investigative capacity
	1,202,340	Colombia
	108,319	Contingency Fund
	628,250	Ethiopia
	541,594	G5 Sahel
	324,957	Haiti*
	819,576	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
Norway	216,638	Human Rights up Front
	327,830	Mozambique
	151,646	Nicaragua
	454,939	OHCHR's work in the occupied Palestinian territory*
	996,534	Protection of religious minorities
	974,870	Sahel region ( <i>Chad, Mauritania and Niger</i> )*
	108,319	Sahel region ( <i>West Africa Regional Office</i> )

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Norway	433,276	Strengthening early warning and response
	194,974	Venezuela
OCHA	209,988	Ethiopia ( <i>protection monitoring in areas of return</i> )
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie	19,664	Central Africa ( <i>promotion of respect of human rights with regard to the exploitation of natural resources</i> )
Poland	77,363	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	100,000	Contingency Fund
	200,000	Emergency Response Section
	50,000	Field-based structure on DPRK
Republic of Korea	50,000	National Human Rights Institutions
	50,000	OHCHR's partnership activities with Justice Rapid Response
	500,000	Syria
	200,000	Belarus ( <i>implementation of the National Action Plan on human rights</i> )*
Russian Federation	50,000	Russian Federation ( <i>activities of Federal and Regional Ombudspersons for human rights in the Russian Federation</i> )*
	400,000	Russian Federation ( <i>consolidation of the Human Rights Master's Programme</i> )*
	65,000	Training activities, fellowship programmes and seminars
	100,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation, in particular for its work in Africa*
Saudi Arabia	190,000	Middle East and North Africa Section ( <i>conducting study visits for government officials from the region</i> )
	200,000	OHCHR's work in the occupied Palestinian territory*
	240,000	Technical assistance for the MENA Region
Spain	170,455	Colombia
	164,114	Country Offices ( <i>allocated to Guatemala, Honduras, Venezuela</i> )
	192,519	Honduras ( <i>protection of human rights defenders</i> )
	164,114	Regional Offices ( <i>allocated to Regional Office in Panama, Nicaragua</i> )

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Sweden	1,915,938	Asia-Pacific ( <i>strengthening capacity of regional actors to promote human rights, accountability, democratic space and gender equality in the region</i> )
	823,812	Cambodia
	1,196,172	Colombia
	216,092	Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <i>women's protection adviser</i> )
	1,251,173	Ethiopia
	382,775	El Salvador ( <i>strengthening and supporting human rights</i> )
	1,913,876	Guatemala ( <i>countering racial discrimination and combating impunity</i> )
	358,852	Honduras ( <i>supporting Honduras in advancing the human rights agenda</i> )
	957,969	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	1,213,325	Liberia ( <i>support to the Independent National Human Rights Commission</i> )
	838,223	Uganda
Switzerland	120,000	Colombia
	1,100,000	Honduras
	550,000	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	200,000	Iran
	602,410	OHCHR's work in the occupied Palestinian territory ( <i>Protection Cluster</i> )
	103,760	Promote and protect the rights of women human rights defenders in the Pacific Region
	200,000	Syria
	24,768	Tunisia ( <i>human rights protection at borders</i> )
Ukraine	35,000	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
UNHCR	124,362	Regional workshop for strengthening of National Human Rights Institutions of South America

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
United Kingdom	765,547	Colombia ( <i>enhancing institutional capacity and accompanying victims in the search for truth, justice, reparation and non-recurrence</i> )
	1,080,247	Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <i>profiling project</i> )
	634,559	Early warning and early action in Africa
	701,036	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	443,350	Programme on conflict prevention and human rights
	552,404	Syria
	121,445	Yemen
United States of America	1,000,000	Colombia
	1,000,000	Honduras
	1,000,211	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine
	4,324,500	Myanmar, Sudan, Yemen, field support from HQ
	175,500	Libya, Sri Lanka*
	1,150,000	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation*
	139,762	Bangladesh ( <i>UNDP</i> )*
UNDP (UN pooled and trust funds funding)	141,429	Chad ( <i>PBF</i> )
	107,074	Colombia ( <i>PBF</i> )
	62,159	Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <i>JP</i> )
	174,960	Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <i>PBF</i> )
	4,991,230	Deployment of Human Rights Advisers*
	135,000	Gambia ( <i>PBF</i> )
	101,222	Georgia ( <i>Joint SDG Fund</i> )
	59,200	Georgia ( <i>UNDP</i> )
	517,094	Guatemala ( <i>JP</i> )
	230,050	Guatemala ( <i>PBF</i> )
155,304	Guinea ( <i>PBF</i> )	

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
UNDP (UN pooled and trust funds funding)	306,934	Human rights mainstreaming CPL workshop*
	242,440	Kyrgyzstan (PBF)
	762,475	Liberia (PBF)
	420,819	Liberia (Spotlight)
	149,690	Madagascar (PBF)
	83,263	Malawi (UNDP)*
	233,450	Mauritania (PBF)
	171,368	Mexico (Spotlight)
	192,075	Republic of Moldova (2030 SDGs Partnership)
	302,767	Nigeria (PBF)
	100,000	South Africa (Joint SDG Fund)
UN Women	125,630	Access to justice for women in the Asia and the Pacific Region
UNOPS	1,104,675	Cambodia (elections)
UNTF for Human Security	75,011	Communities affected by climate change in the Asia and the Pacific Region
<b>Total earmarked contributions</b>	<b>84,004,423</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to FOTCD**	21,241,300	Unearmarked
<b>Total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>21,241,300</b>	
<b>TOTAL XB FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FOTCD</b>	<b>105,245,723</b>	

\* Project financed/implemented through the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

\*\* Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2019.

## FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION (FOTCD)

### RB & XB FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR FOTCD IN 2019

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for FOTCD - Headquarters	24,259,173	62.4%
Regular budget allotment for FOTCD - field presences	12,425,474	32.0%
Regular programme of technical cooperation for FOTCD - field presences	2,163,900	5.6%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>38,848,547</b>	<b>26.1%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to field presences	856,164	0.8%
Earmarked funds to VFTC	7,573,436	6.9%
Earmarked funds for specific field presences/activities	74,852,361	68.0%
Earmarked funds for the Contingency Fund	722,462	0.7%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	(511,616)	-0.5%
Unearmarked funds from 2019 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to FOTCD	21,241,300	19.3%
Funds from prior years, including unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to FOTCD	5,284,010	4.8%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>110,018,117</b>	<b>73.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL RB + XB FUNDS</b>	<b>148,866,664</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL BRANCH AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW BRANCH (HRCB/UPRB)

### VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
-	0	
<b>(a) total contributions to HRCB/UPRB</b>	<b>0</b>	
Republic of Korea	50,000	HRCB/Support to the work of the Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council
<b>(b) total specifically earmarked contributions</b>	<b>50,000</b>	
<b>(c) TOTAL contributions earmarked to HRCB/UPRB (a) + (b)</b>	<b>50,000</b>	
Unearmarked funds allocated to HRCB*	2,212,000	Unearmarked
Unearmarked funds allocated to UPRB*	235,200	Unearmarked
<b>(d) total unearmarked funds</b>	<b>2,447,200</b>	
<b>(e) TOTAL XB FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR HRCB (c) + (d)</b>	<b>2,497,200</b>	

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2019.

## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL BRANCH AND UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW BRANCH (HRCB/UPRB)

### RB & XB FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR HRCB AND UPRB IN 2019

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for HRCB	2,884,611	41.2%
Regular budget allotment for UPRB	4,117,411	58.8%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>7,002,022</b>	<b>68.8%</b>
<b>XB funds</b>		
Earmarked funds to HRCB/UPRB	0	0.0%
Earmarked funds for HRCB-specific activities	50,000	1.6%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	0	0.0%
Unearmarked funds from 2019 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to HRCB	2,212,000	69.5%
Unearmarked funds from 2019 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to UPRB	235,200	7.4%
Funds from prior years, including unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to HRCB	580,100	18.2%
Funds from prior years, including unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to UPRB	105,300	3.3%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>3,182,600</b>	<b>31.2%</b>
<b>TOTAL RB + XB FUNDS</b>	<b>10,184,622</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH (SPB)

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2019

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Germany	825,550	SPB
Netherlands	2,058,823	SPB
Norway	108,319	SPB
United States of America	1,782,000	SPB
<b>(a) total contributions to SPB - all mandates</b>	<b>4,774,691</b>	<b>MANDATE / EARMARKING</b>
Austria	54,705	Forum on minority issues
	10,941	Minority issues
China	50,000	Right to development
Egypt	10,000	Right to development
European Commission	174,863	Special Rapporteurs on human rights defenders, freedom of association and freedom of expression
	79,545	Extreme poverty
Finland	113,636	Rights of persons with disabilities
	34,091	Sexual orientation and gender identity
	33,445	Sexual orientation and gender identity
France	111,483	WG on arbitrary detention
	111,483	WG on enforced and involuntary disappearances
	55,195	Forum on business and human rights
Germany	19,509	Promotion of the human rights and business agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean
International Labour Organization	1,048,024	Responsible business conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean
Liechtenstein	40,040	Trafficking in persons
Luxembourg	27,902	Violence against women
Monaco	11,377	Environment

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
Norway	54,159	Cultural rights
	64,991	Support of freedom of religion and belief and the protection of religious minorities
	758,232	WG on discrimination against women
	54,159	WG (incl. Forum) on business and human rights
	25,000	Adequate housing
Republic of Korea	50,000	Coordination Committee
	50,000	Promotion of truth, justice, reparation
	25,000	Rights of persons with disabilities
	50,000	Violence against women
	50,000	WG on discrimination against women
	50,000	WG on arbitrary detention
	50,000	WG on enforced and involuntary disappearances
	50,000	Minority issues
	50,000	Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures
	50,000	Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance
Russian Federation	40,000	WG on business and human rights
	30,000	Rights of persons with disabilities
	33,333	Special Fund for the participation of civil society in the Forum on minority issues, the Forum on business and human rights, and the Social Forum
	32,823	Rights of persons with disabilities
Spain	10,941	Violence against women
	32,823	Water and sanitation
	76,000	Right to food
Switzerland	100,000	Rights of migrants
	200,000	Trafficking in persons
	20,325	Violence against women
	46,140	WG on business and human rights

FUNDING

DONOR	US\$	EARMARKING
(b) total contributions to specific mandates	4,040,166	
(c) TOTAL contributions earmarked to SPB (a) + (b)	8,814,858	
Unearmarked funds allocated to SPB*	1,444,700	Unearmarked
Unearmarked funds allocated to specific mandates*	180,900	Unearmarked
(d) total unearmarked funds	1,625,600	
(e) TOTAL XB FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SPB (c) + (d)	10,440,458	

\*Includes only allocations from unearmarked funds received in 2019.

## SPECIAL PROCEDURES BRANCH (SPB)

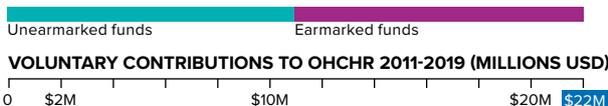
### RB & XB FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR SPB IN 2019

	US\$	% OF TOTAL
<b>RB funds</b>		
Regular budget allotment for SPB	13,647,617	100.0%
<b>Subtotal RB funds</b>	<b>13,647,617</b>	<b>56.3%</b>
<b>XB funds*</b>		
Earmarked funds to SPB - all mandates	4,774,691	45.1%
Earmarked funds for specific mandates	4,040,166	38.1%
Gain/(loss) on exchange from contributions	10,913	0.1%
Unearmarked funds from 2019 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to SPB	1,444,700	13.6%
Unearmarked funds from 2019 voluntary contributions allocated by OHCHR to specific mandates*	180,900	1.7%
Funds from prior years, including unearmarked funds, allocated by OHCHR to specific mandates	144,830	1.4%
<b>Subtotal XB funds</b>	<b>10,596,201</b>	<b>43.7%</b>
<b>TOTAL RB + XB FUNDS</b>	<b>24,243,818</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\*Allocations include temporary advances made pending receipt of outstanding earmarked contributions receivable.

# DONOR PROFILES

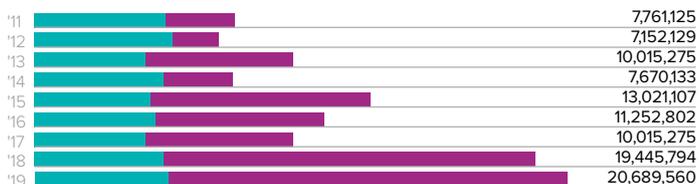
Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

1/84

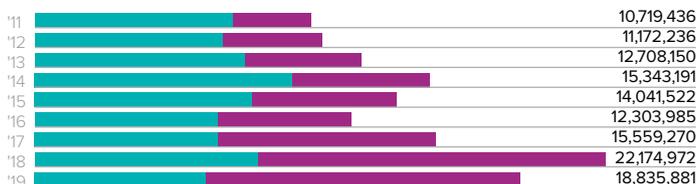
**20,689,560** ▶  
18,119,180 (EUR)



## NORWAY

2/84

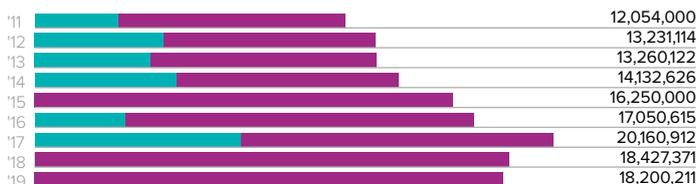
**18,835,881** ▶  
173,100,000 (NOK)



## UNITED STATES

3/84

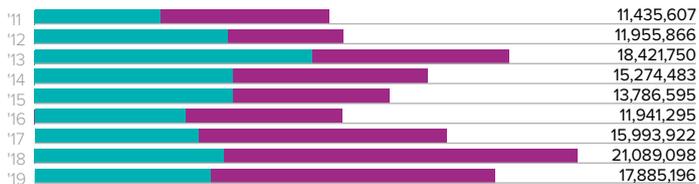
**18,200,211** ▶



## SWEDEN

4/84

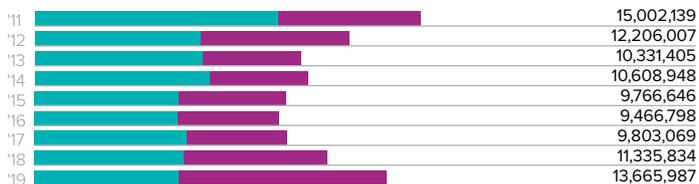
**17,885,196** ▶  
164,329,496 (SEK)



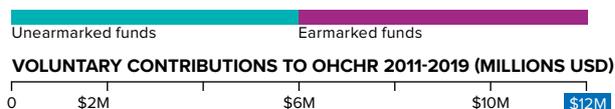
## NETHERLANDS

5/84

**13,665,987** ▶  
12,219,253 (EUR)



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD Donor ranking Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



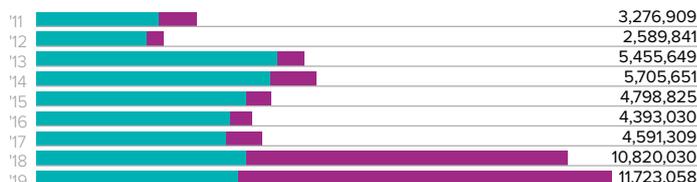
### DENMARK

6/84

**11,723,058**

77,323,585 (DKK)

4

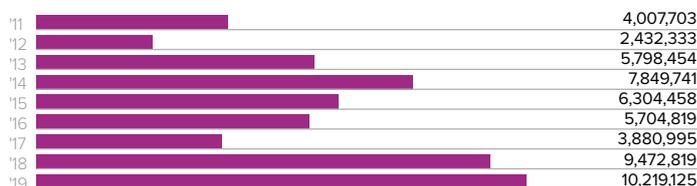


### UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

7/84

**10,219,125**

4



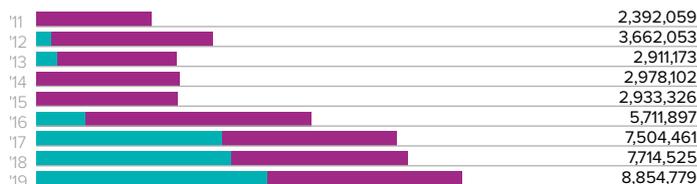
### SWITZERLAND

8/84

**8,854,779**

8,778,535 (CHF)

6



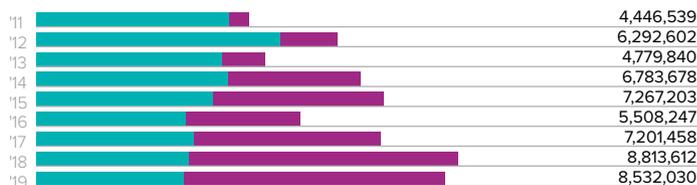
### UNITED KINGDOM

9/84

**8,532,030**

6,750,244 (GBP)

6



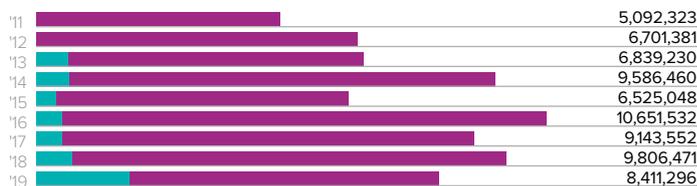
### GERMANY

10/84

**8,411,296**

7,436,858 (EUR)

1



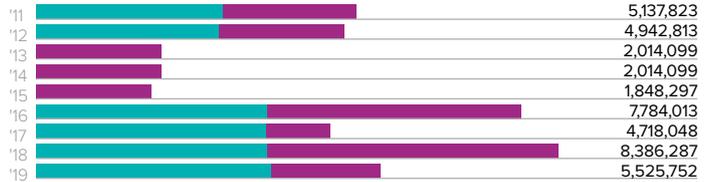
Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**CANADA**

11/84

**5,525,752**  
 7,250,730 (CAD)

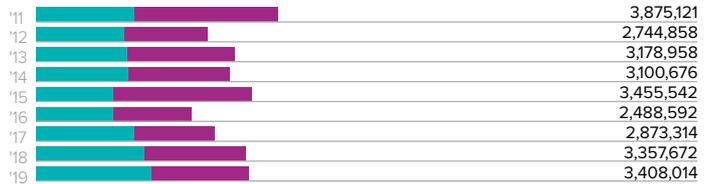


**FINLAND**

12/84

**3,408,014**  
 3,000,000 (EUR)

1

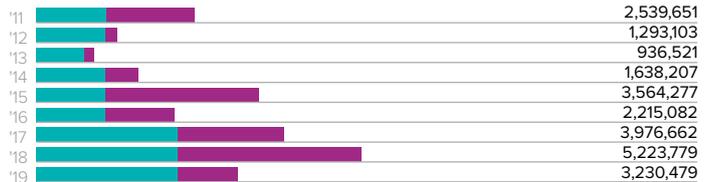


**BELGIUM**

13/84

**3,230,479**  
 2,800,000 (EUR)

1



**FRANCE**

14/84

**3,119,443**  
 2,800,000 (EUR)



**IRELAND**

15/84

**2,906,394**  
 2,610,588 (EUR)



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD Donor ranking Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



### REPUBLIC OF KOREA

16/84

**2,500,000**

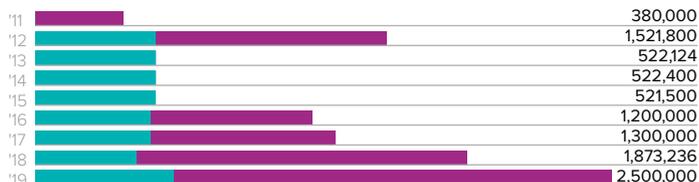
▶ 24%

\$600k

76%

\$1.9M

2



### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

17/84

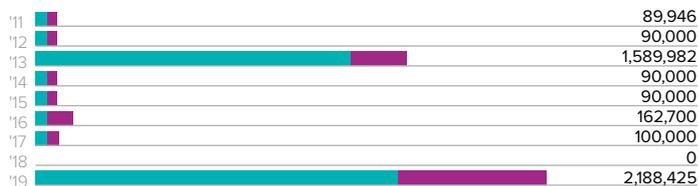
**2,188,425**

▶ 71%

\$1.5M

29%

\$638K



### NEW ZEALAND

18/84

**2,051,984**  
3,000,000 (NZD)

▶ 100%

\$2M



### RUSSIAN FEDERATION

19/84

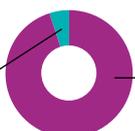
**2,000,000**

▶ 5%

\$100K

95%

\$1.9M



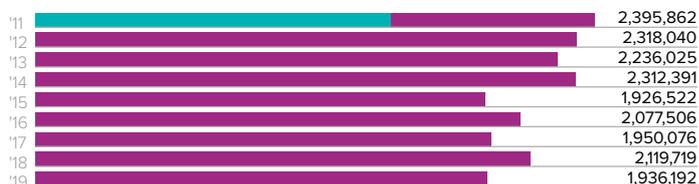
### AUSTRALIA

20/84

**1,936,192**  
2,828,000 (AUD)

100%

\$1.9M



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor

■ Unearmarked funds
 ■ Earmarked funds

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (MILLIONS USD)**

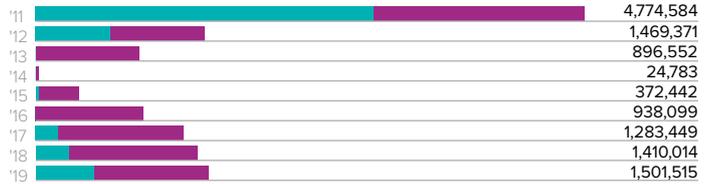
0 \$1M \$2M \$3M \$4M \$5M



**SPAIN**

21/84

**1,501,515**  
 1,365,000 (EUR)

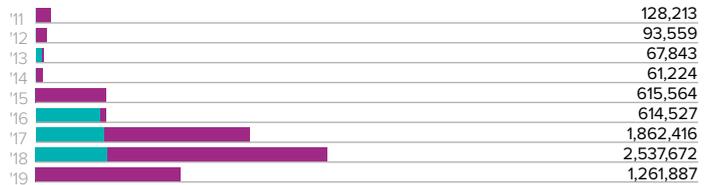
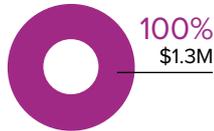


**ITALY**

22/84

**1,261,887**  
 1,069,683 (EUR)

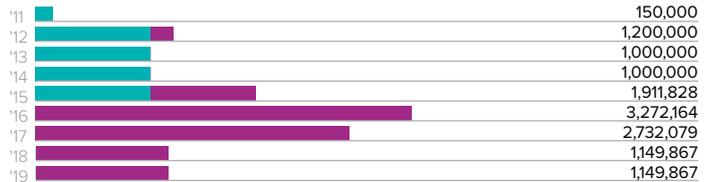
1



**SAUDI ARABIA**

23/84

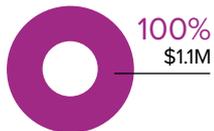
**1,149,867**



**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR PROJECT SERVICES**

24/84

**1,104,675**



**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION**

25/84

**1,048,024**  
 912,829 (EUR)



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



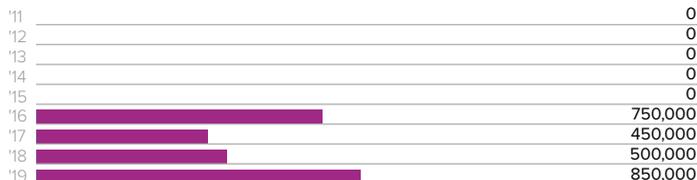
**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (MILLIONS USD)**



**MICROSOFT**

26/84

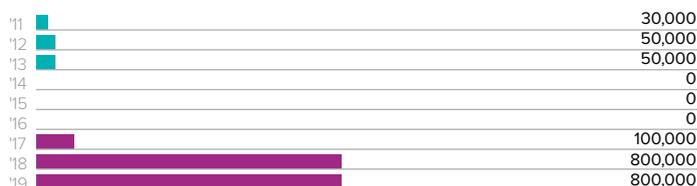
**850,000**



**CHINA**

27/84

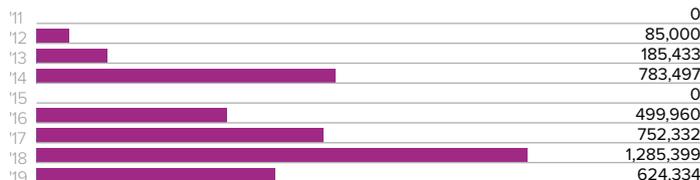
**800,000**



**OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS**

28/84

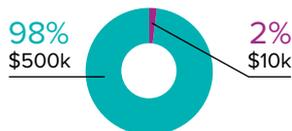
**624,334**



**KUWAIT**

29/84

**510,000**



**PORTUGAL**

30/84

**375,028**  
339,700 (EUR)



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**POLAND**

31/84

**335,239**  
332,557 (CHF)



**INDIA**

32/84

**300,000**



**MOROCCO**

32/84

**300,000**



**LUXEMBOURG**

34/84

**268,602**  
245,000 (EUR)



**MEXICO**

35/84

**238,288**



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**ICELAND**

36/84

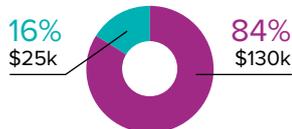
**200,000**



**LIECHTENSTEIN**

37/84

**155,155**  
155,000 (CHF)



**UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

38/84

**125,630**



**UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES**

39/84

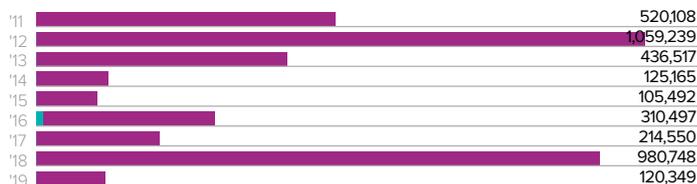
**124,362**



**AUSTRIA**

40/84

**120,349**  
109,999 (EUR)



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD Donor ranking Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)**



**TURKEY**

41/84

**120,000**



'11	360,000
'12	166,000
'13	156,000
'14	196,000
'15	250,000
'16	270,000
'17	290,000
'18	120,000
'19	120,000



**COUNTERPART INTERNATIONAL**

42/84

**118,569**



'11	0
'12	0
'13	0
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	0
'18	611,887
'19	118,569



**CZECH REPUBLIC**

43/84

**117,296**  
2,700,000 (CZK)



'11	18,867
'12	20,439
'13	19,555
'14	73,632
'15	58,657
'16	64,757
'17	88,939
'18	96,407
'19	117,296



**JAPAN**

44/84

**117,133**

2



'11	679,089
'12	577,226
'13	0
'14	481,135
'15	2,285,329
'16	119,263
'17	109,325
'18	1,937,444
'19	117,133



**OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS**

45/84

**107,000**



'11	0
'12	0
'13	0
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	0
'18	0
'19	107,000

Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD Donor ranking Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)**

Year	Contribution (Thousands USD)
'11	0
'12	0
'13	0
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	0
'18	25,000
'19	105,000



**CALL FOR CODE**



'11	0
'12	0
'13	0
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	0
'18	25,000
'19	105,000



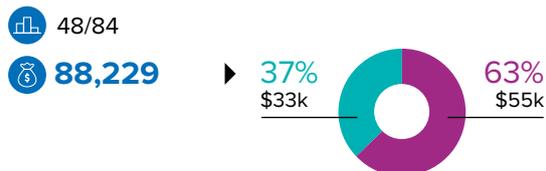
**QATAR**



'11	80,000
'12	500,000
'13	0
'14	10,000
'15	10,870
'16	1,246,000
'17	2,026,499
'18	1,031,561
'19	89,911



**ESTONIA**



'11	25,670
'12	23,897
'13	49,544
'14	88,186
'15	76,923
'16	106,157
'17	94,787
'18	90,987
'19	88,229



**UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR HUMAN SECURITY**



'11	0
'12	0
'13	0
'14	0
'15	0
'16	0
'17	0
'18	0
'19	75,011



**ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE**



'11	156,786
'12	194,930
'13	211,666
'14	201,968
'15	114,716
'16	99,558
'17	99,758
'18	120,293
'19	66,831

Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor

■ Unearmarked funds
 ■ Earmarked funds

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)**

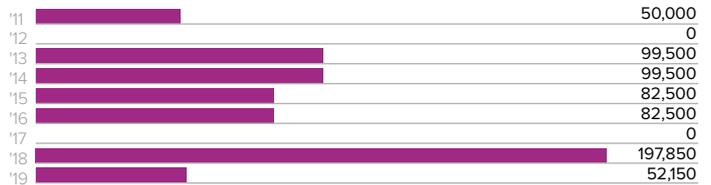
0 \$40k \$80k \$120k \$160k \$200k



**PAKISTAN**

51/84

**65,000**



**FORD FOUNDATION**

52/84

**52,150**



**MONACO**

53/84

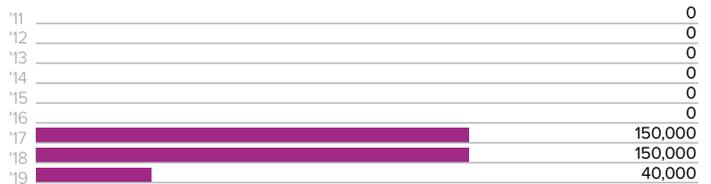
**45,820**  
40,000 (EUR)



**MACARTHUR FOUNDATION**

54/84

**40,000**



**PERU**

55/84

**35,795**



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD Donor ranking Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)**

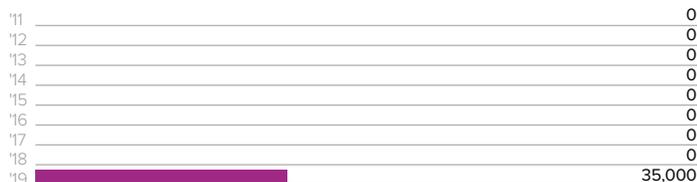
0 \$16k \$32k \$48k \$64k \$80k



**UKRAINE**

56/84

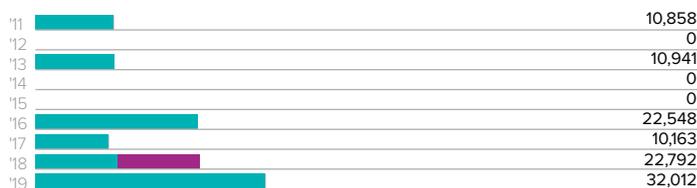
**35,000**



**SLOVAKIA**

57/84

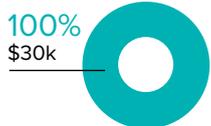
**32,012**  
29,009 (EUR)



**BULGARIA**

58/84

**30,000**



**EGYPT**

58/84

**30,000**



**URUGUAY**

58/84

**30,000**



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



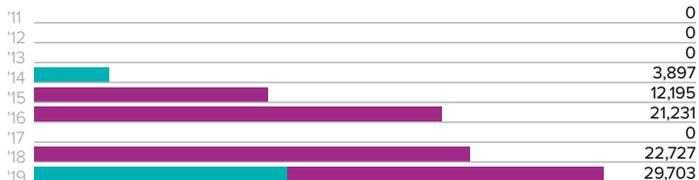
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)



**LITHUANIA**

62/84

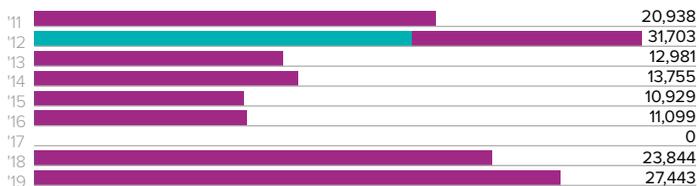
**29,703**  
27,000 (EUR)



**ANDORRA**

62/84

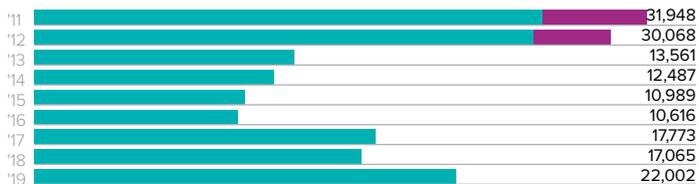
**27,443**  
25,000 (EUR)



**CYPRUS**

63/84

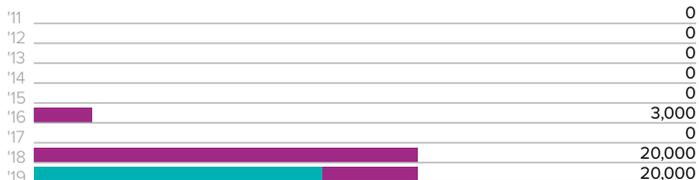
**22,002**  
20,000 (EUR)



**GEORGIA**

64/84

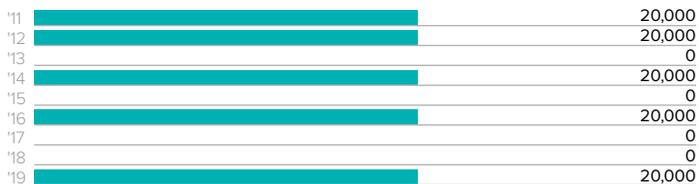
**20,000**



**INDONESIA**

64/84

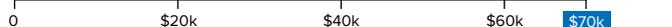
**20,000**



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD Donor ranking Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)**



**MALAYSIA**

64/84

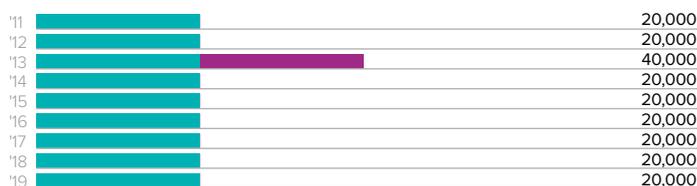
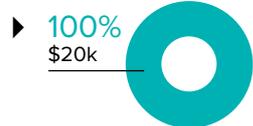
**20,000**



**THAILAND**

64/84

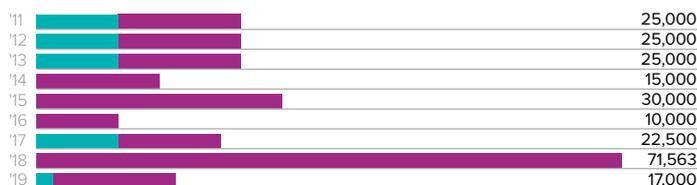
**20,000**



**CHILE**

68/84

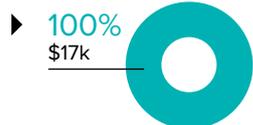
**17,000**



**SRI LANKA**

68/84

**17,000**



**SINGAPORE**

70/84

**15,000**



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)**



**HOLY SEE**

71/84

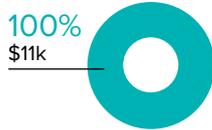
**13,000**



**LATVIA**

72/84

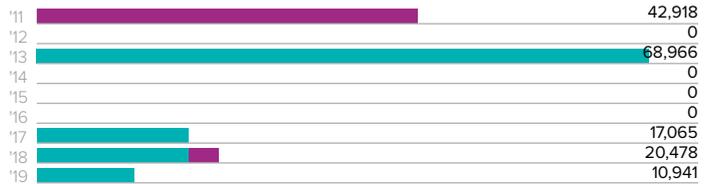
**11,001**  
10,000 (EUR)



**SLOVENIA**

73/84

**10,941**  
10,000 (EUR)



**AUCKLAND LAW SCHOOL**

74/84

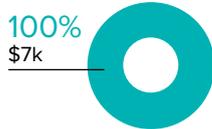
**10,484**  
10,400 (CHF)



**COSTA RICA**

75/84

**6,727**



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD Donor ranking Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)**



**MONTENEGRO**

76/84

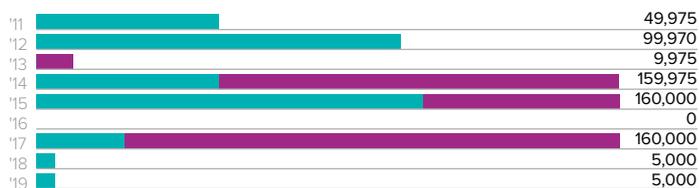
**5,470**  
5,000 (EUR)



**KAZAKHSTAN**

77/84

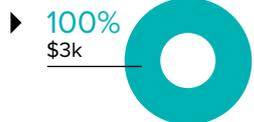
**5,000**



**REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

78/84

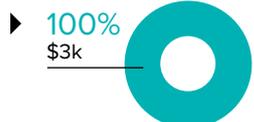
**3,000**



**ARMENIA**

79/84

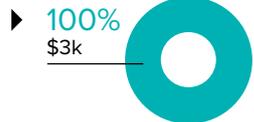
**2,500**



**PHILIPPINES**

79/84

**2,500**



Total voluntary contribution in 2019, in USD
 Donor ranking
 Junior Professional Officers funded by the donor



**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OHCHR 2011-2019 (THOUSANDS USD)**



**ALBANIA**

81/84

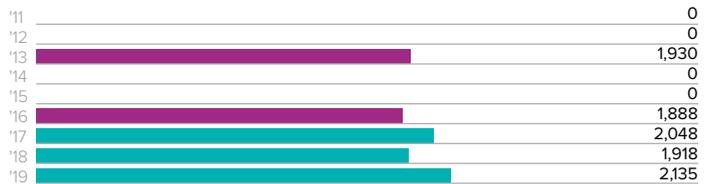
**2,283**  
2,000 (EUR)



**CUBA**

82/84

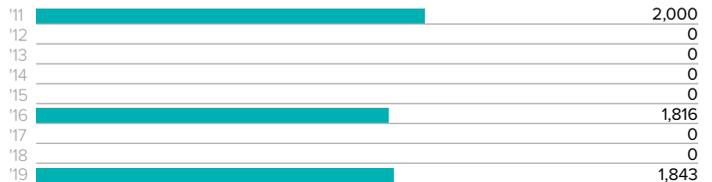
**2,135**  
2,075 (CHF)



**MAURITIUS**

83/84

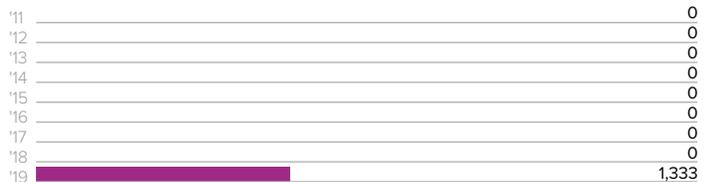
**1,843**  
1,881 (CHF)

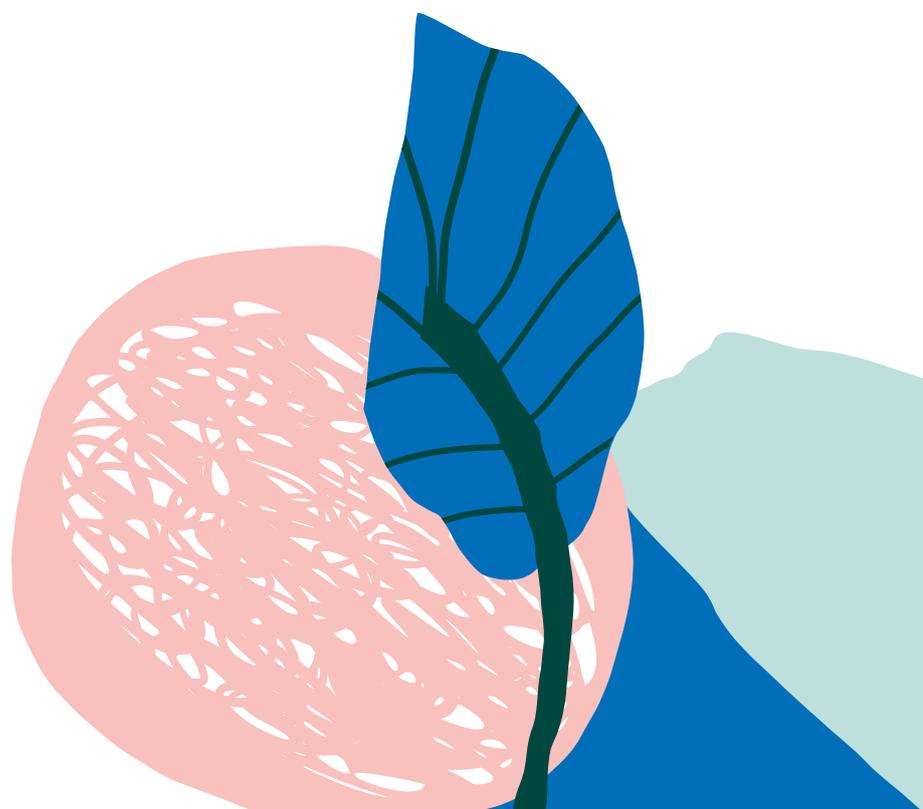


**UNIVERSITY OF EXETER**

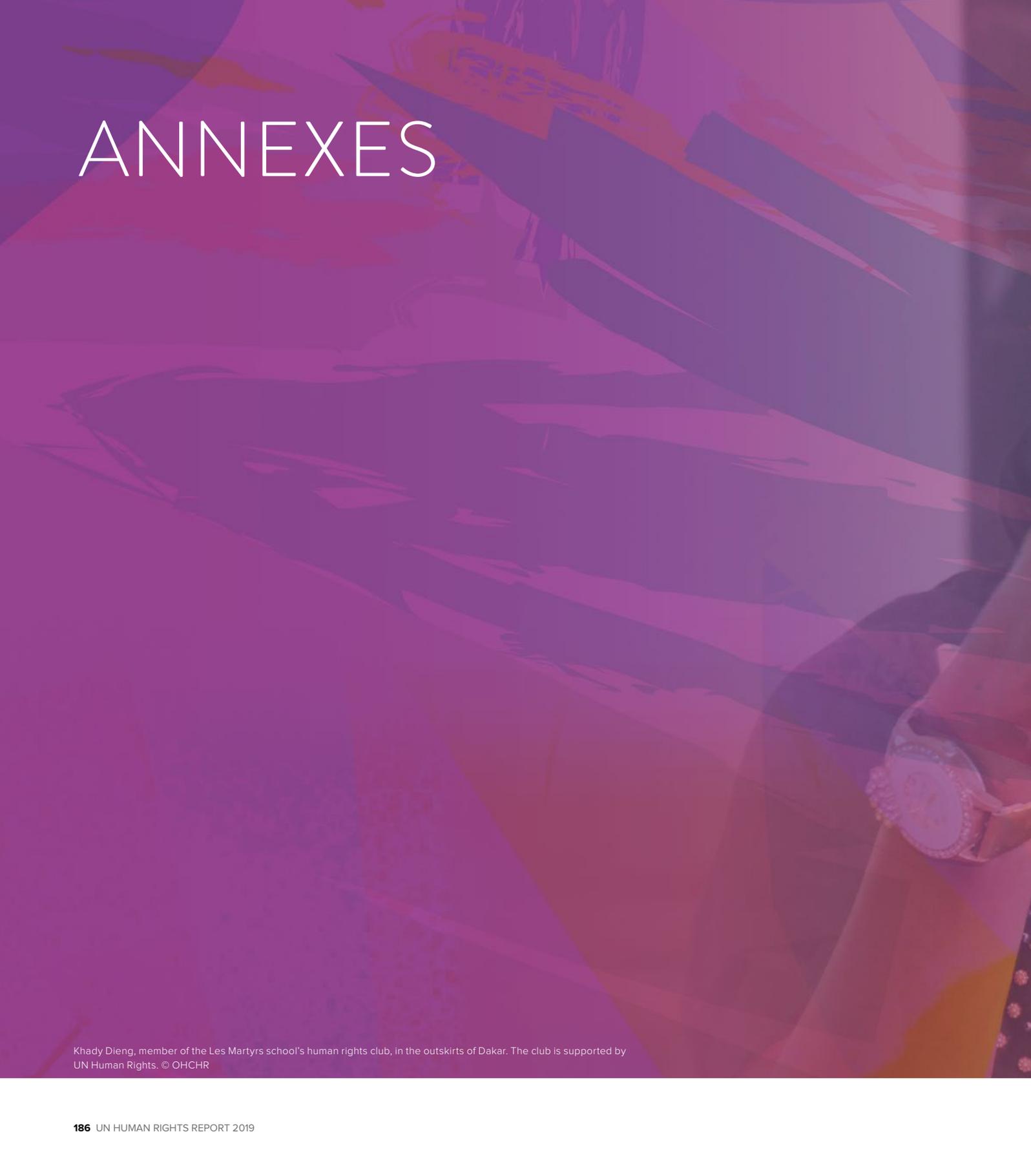
84/84

**1,333**  
1,033 (CHF)





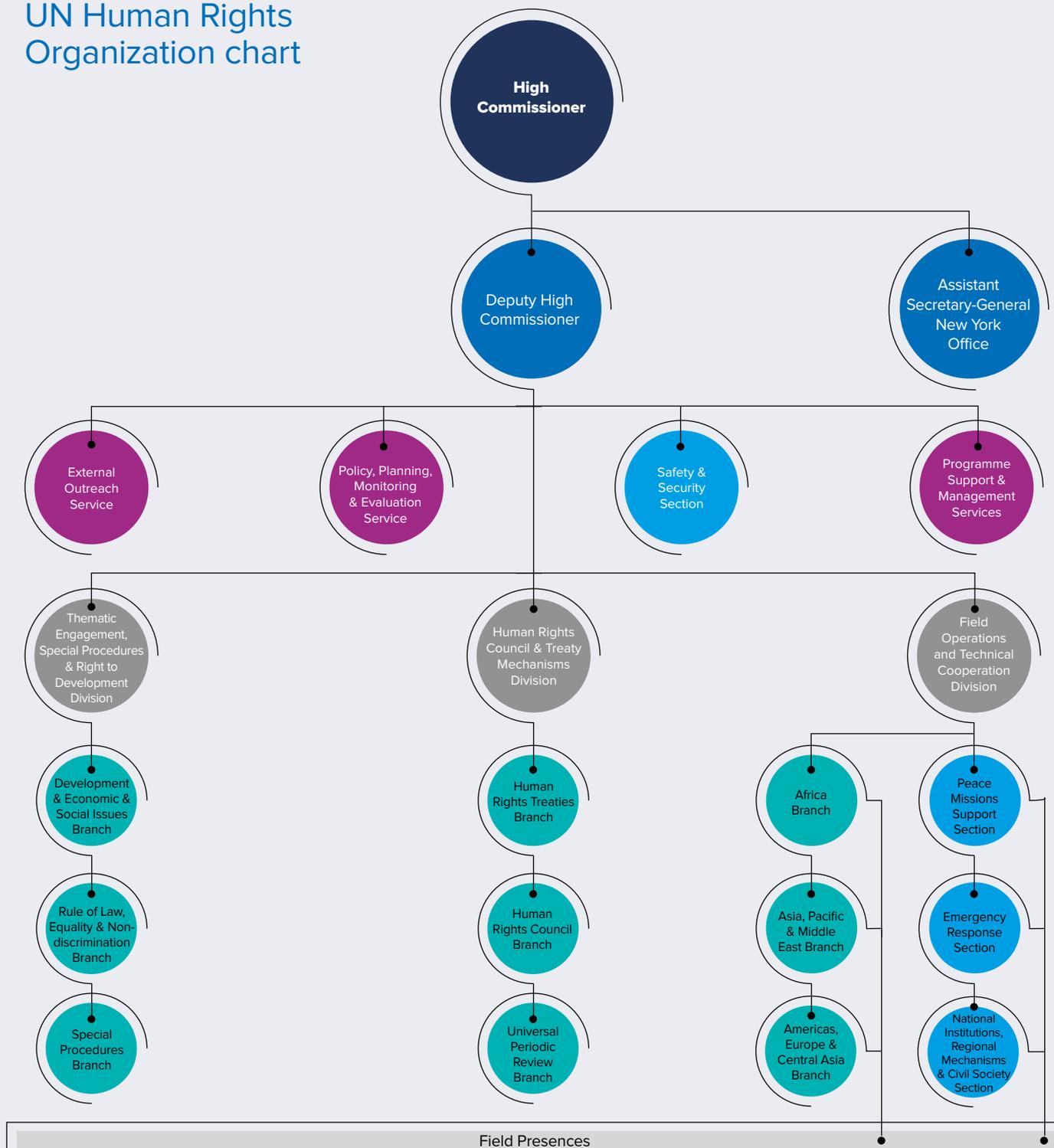
# ANNEXES



Khady Dieng, member of the Les Martyrs school's human rights club, in the outskirts of Dakar. The club is supported by UN Human Rights. © OHCHR



# UN Human Rights Organization chart



# UN HUMAN RIGHTS THEORY OF CHANGE AND RESULTS FRAMEWORK



# ACHIEVEMENT OF OHCHR TARGETS FOR 2018-2021 – PROGRESS IN 2019

THE TYPE OF RESULTS WE CONTRIBUTE TO	OHCHR PROGRAMME INDICATOR	WHAT WE EXPECT TO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO BY 2021, IN COOPERATION WITH OUR PARTNERS	REPORTED PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT <sup>1</sup>	PILLARS
<b>State laws and policies protect and promote human rights.</b>	# of countries of engagement* where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights standards in selected human rights areas has significantly improved.	In 63 countries*, laws and policies will have significantly increased protection and promotion of human rights in selected human rights areas. <sup>3</sup>	35 countries* (29 in 2018)	
	# of countries of engagement where NHRIs have been established or have improved compliance with international standards (Paris Principles).	In 35 countries*, national human rights institutions will have been established or will have improved their compliance with international standards (the Paris Principles).	19 countries* (16 in 2018)	
<b>State institutions, non-State actors and the private sector, promote, protect and respect human rights.</b>	# of countries of engagement where the level of compliance of selected State institutions and programmes with international human rights standards has significantly improved.	In 54 countries*, state institutions, non-State actors or the private sector will have increased their contribution to the promotion, protection and respect of human rights.	27 countries* (20 in 2018)	
	# of countries of engagement where human rights trainings have been institutionalized in one or more selected human rights areas.	In 15 countries*, human rights education and training programmes will have been institutionalized.	10 countries* (8 in 2018)	
	# of countries of engagement where the use of international human rights law in court proceedings and decisions has increased to a significant extent.	In 15 countries*, the use of international human rights law and jurisprudence will have increased in court proceedings and decisions.	6 countries* (5 in 2018)	
<b>State accountability mechanisms monitor, investigate and redress human rights violations.</b>	# of countries of engagement where oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms have been established or have improved compliance with international human rights standards	In 46 countries*, oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms will have been established or improved their compliance with international human rights standards.	28 countries* (19 in 2018)	

\* Refers to countries in which the Office plans to undertake activities towards a planned result. It is not limited to countries where OHCHR has a presence.

<sup>1</sup> Full or partial achievement of results or good progress made in achieving results.

<sup>2</sup> Due to potentially shifting priorities, these targets should not be understood as the baselines for upcoming programming cycle. Similarly, the achievements from the previous programme cycle cannot be understood as the baseline. Baselines have been provided for those targets that are cumulative, i.e., ratification.



	# of countries of engagement where transitional justice mechanisms which conform to international human rights standards have been established or have improved compliance with international human rights standards.	In 24 countries*, transitional justice mechanisms will have been established or improved their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.	9 countries* (5 in 2018)	  
	# of countries of engagement where the number of human rights violation cases raised by OHCHR which are positively addressed by the government has significantly increased.	In 33 countries*, an increased number of cases of human rights violation raised by OHCHR will have been positively addressed.	17 countries* (15 in 2018)	    
<b>Public participation in policymaking processes grows, particularly by women and members of groups facing discrimination.</b>	# of countries of engagement demonstrating significant improvement in the level of meaningful participation in selected public processes.	In 35 countries*, the level of meaningful participation by selected groups in public processes will have improved significantly.	29 countries* (20 in 2018)	    
	# of countries of engagement where the level of use of national protection systems has increased significantly.	In 23 countries*, the use of national protection systems will have increased significantly.	15 countries* (14 in 2018)	    
<b>The international community responds effectively to critical human rights situations and issues.</b>	# of countries of engagement where the international community has engaged in an objective and constructive way on specific issues raised by OHCHR.	In 13 countries*, the international community will have engaged objectively and constructively on issues raised by OHCHR.	8 countries* (6 in 2018)	    
<b>Human rights are effectively integrated into UN policies and programmes.</b>	# of countries of engagement with UN peace missions which have integrated international human rights standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, into their work to a significant extent.	16 UN peace and political missions will have integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, into their work.	14 countries* (10 in 2018)	  
	# of countries of engagement with humanitarian operations which have integrated international human rights standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, into their work to a significant extent.	12 humanitarian operations will have integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, into their work.	5 countries* (6 in 2018)	 



	# of UN country teams where human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, have been integrated to a significant extent.	50 UN country teams will have satisfactorily integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, into their work.	42 countries* (30 in 2018)	
	# of UN policies and programmes at the global level which integrate a human rights based approach to a significant extent	25 UN policies and programmes at global level will have significantly integrated a human rights-based approach.	22 UN policies have significantly integrated HRBA (In 2018 15 UN policies had significantly integrated HRBA)	
<b>Widespread public support for protection of human rights.</b>	# of countries of engagement where the narrative on selected HR topics has significantly improved.	In 23 countries*, the narrative on selected human rights topics will have improved significantly.	12 countries* (9 in 2018)	
	# of countries of engagement where mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or implementation of outstanding recommendations of treaty bodies, special procedures or Human Rights Council are in place or increasingly functioning.	In 68 countries*, mechanisms for integrated reporting or implementation of recommendations of international human rights mechanisms will have been put in place or have improved functioning.	41 countries (22 in 2018)	
	Total number of international human rights treaties ratified.	100 additional ratifications of international human rights treaties. Baseline: 2,233	69 ratifications in 2018/19	
<b>Member States and other actors (regional organizations, NHRIs, civil society, UN) engage positively with UN human rights mechanisms.</b>	Total number of reservations withdrawn from international human rights treaties	10 reservations will have been withdrawn from international human rights treaties.	1	
	Percentage of countries that submit reports to treaty bodies on time.	35% of countries will have submitted reports to treaty bodies in a timely manner. Baseline: 32%	38% of reports submitted on time in 2019	
	# of countries, which have issued a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders.	125 countries will have issued a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders. Baseline: 118	126 Member States and one non-Member Observer State	
	# of countries for which requests for visits of thematic special procedures have resulted in at least one visit.	In 63 countries, requests for visits of thematic special procedures will have resulted in a visit.	168 visits to 79 countries in 18/19	
	Rate of response from governments to special procedures communications.	60% of special procedures' communications will have received a response from Governments. Baseline: 57.6%	45% per cent	



	Percentage of reprisals raised by OHCHR, which are positively addressed by the Government.	50% of the cases of reprisals against individuals for cooperation with HR mechanisms that are reported by OHCHR will have been addressed.	The 2019 report (A/HRC/42/30) included public allegations pertaining to 48 States, including summaries of formal responses to OHCHR from a third of total States on new and ongoing cases during the reporting period (1 June 2018 to 31 May 2019).	
	# of countries of engagement with a significant number of substantive submissions or submitting actors to UN human rights mechanisms.	In 51 countries* the number of submissions to UN human rights mechanisms will have increased significantly.	33 countries (27 in 2018)	
	Total number of substantive submissions from national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, UN entities and individuals to UN human rights mechanisms.	15,000 substantive submissions to UN human rights mechanisms will have been received from national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, UN entities and individuals.	14,055 submissions to UN Human rights mechanisms in 2018/19	
<b>International human rights laws and standards are elaborated.</b>	# of thematic areas where international and/or regional human rights law or standards have been strengthened/ developed.	In 12 areas, international/ regional human rights law/ standards will have been strengthened.	9 areas	
	# of countries which submitted or updated common core documents.	85 countries will have submitted or updated their common core documents.	33 common core documents submitted in 2018/19	
<b>International and regional human rights mechanisms and bodies promote and protect human rights effectively.</b>	Degree of progress made in improving the level of harmonization of treaty bodies' work.	Harmonization of treaty bodies' work will have improved significantly.	252 (226 in 2018) State parties availing themselves to the simplified reporting procedure and all committees having adopted and endorsed the framework for concluding observations.	
	Degree of coordination among the special procedures	A high degree of coordination among the special procedures will have been achieved.	79% of communications were issued jointly by two or more mandate holders	



# ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

## AI

Artificial intelligence

## AU

African Union

## AWPs

Annual Workplans

## BINUH

United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti

## CAT

- Committee against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

- Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

## CCA

Common Country Analysis

## CED

Committee on Enforced Disappearances

## CEDAW

- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

## CERD

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

## CESCR

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

## CMW

Committee on Migrant Workers

## CRC

- Committee on the Rights of the Child  
- Convention on the Rights of the Child

## CRPD

- Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

## CSO

Civil society organization

## DCO

UN Development Coordination Office

## DFS

Department of Field Support

## DPA

Department of Political Affairs

## DPO

Department of Peacekeeping Operations

## ECLAC

United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

## EMRIP

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## ERT

Emergency Response Team

## ESCR

Economic, social and cultural rights

## EU

European Union

## FAO

Food and Agriculture Organization

## FFM

Fact-Finding Mission

## FGM

Female genital mutilation

## GANHRI

Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions

## GCM

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

## HRA

Human rights adviser

## HRBA

Human rights-based approach

## HRC

Human Rights Council

## HRD

Human rights defender

## HRDDP

Human Rights Due Diligence Policy

## HRMMU

Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

## HRUF

Human Rights up Front Initiative

## IASC

Inter-Agency Standing Committee

## ICPPED

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

## ICCPR

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

## ICCPR-OP1

First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

## ICCPR-OP2

Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty

## ICERD

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

## ICESCR

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

## ICRMW

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families

## ICRC

International Committee of the Red Cross

## ICT

Information and communication technology

## ILO

International Labour Organization

## IOM

International Organization for Migration

**ITU**

International Telecommunication Unit

**JPO**

Junior Professional Officer

**LDCs**

Least Developed Countries

**LGBTI**

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex persons

**MINUJUSTH**

United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti

**MINUSCA**

United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic

**MINUSMA**

United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

**MENA**

Middle East and North Africa

**MONUSCO**

United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

**MOPAN**

Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network

**MoU**

Memorandum of Understanding

**MDTF**

Multi-Donor Trust Fund

**MPTFO**

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office

**NGO**

Non-Governmental Organization

**NHRI**

National human rights institution

**NMRF**

National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up

**NRDT**

National Recommendations Tracking Database

**NPM**

National Preventive Mechanism

**OCHA**

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

**OEAP**

Organizational Effectiveness Action Plan

**OHCHR**

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

**OMP**

OHCHR Management Plan

**OP-CAT**

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

**OP-CEDAW**

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

**OP-CRC-AC**

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict

**OP-CRC-SC**

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

**OP-CRC-IC**

Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure

**OPDs**

Organizations of persons with disabilities

**OP-ICESCR**

Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**PBF**

Peacebuilding Fund

**PBSO**

Peacebuilding Support Office

**PMS**

Performance Monitoring System

**RBM**

Results-Based Management

**RC**

Resident Coordinator

**SDGs**

Sustainable Development Goals

**SIDS**

Small Island Developing States

**SGBV**

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

**SMT**

Senior Management Team

**SOPs**

Standard operating procedures

**SPT**

Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

**SWAP**

UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

**UDHR**

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

**UHRI**

Universal Human Rights Index

**UNAMA**

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

**UNAMID**

African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

**UNAMI**

United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

**UNCT**

UN Country Team

**UNDAF**

United Nations Development Assistance Framework

**UNDP**

United Nations Development Programme

**UNDIS**

United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy

**UNECE**

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

**UNESCO**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**UNFCCC**

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

**UNFPA**

United Nations Population Fund

**UNGPs**

United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

**UNHCR**

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

**UNICEF**

United Nations Children's Fund

**UNIOGBIS**

United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau

**UNIPP**

United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership

**UNJHRO**

United Nations Joint Human Rights Office

**UNMIL**

United Nations Mission in Liberia

**UNMISS**

United Nations Mission in South Sudan

**UNMSDF**

United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework

**UNOCI**

United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**UNOG**

United Nations Office at Geneva

**UNPRPD**

United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

**UNSDCF**

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

**UNSDG**

United Nations Sustainable Development Group

**UNSMIL**

United Nations Support Mission in Libya

**UNSOM**

United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia

**UNSSC**

United Nations System Staff College

**UPR**

Universal Periodic Review

**UNV**

United Nations Volunteer

**VFTC**

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

**VNR**

Voluntary National Review

**WHO**

World Health Organization

**WHRD**

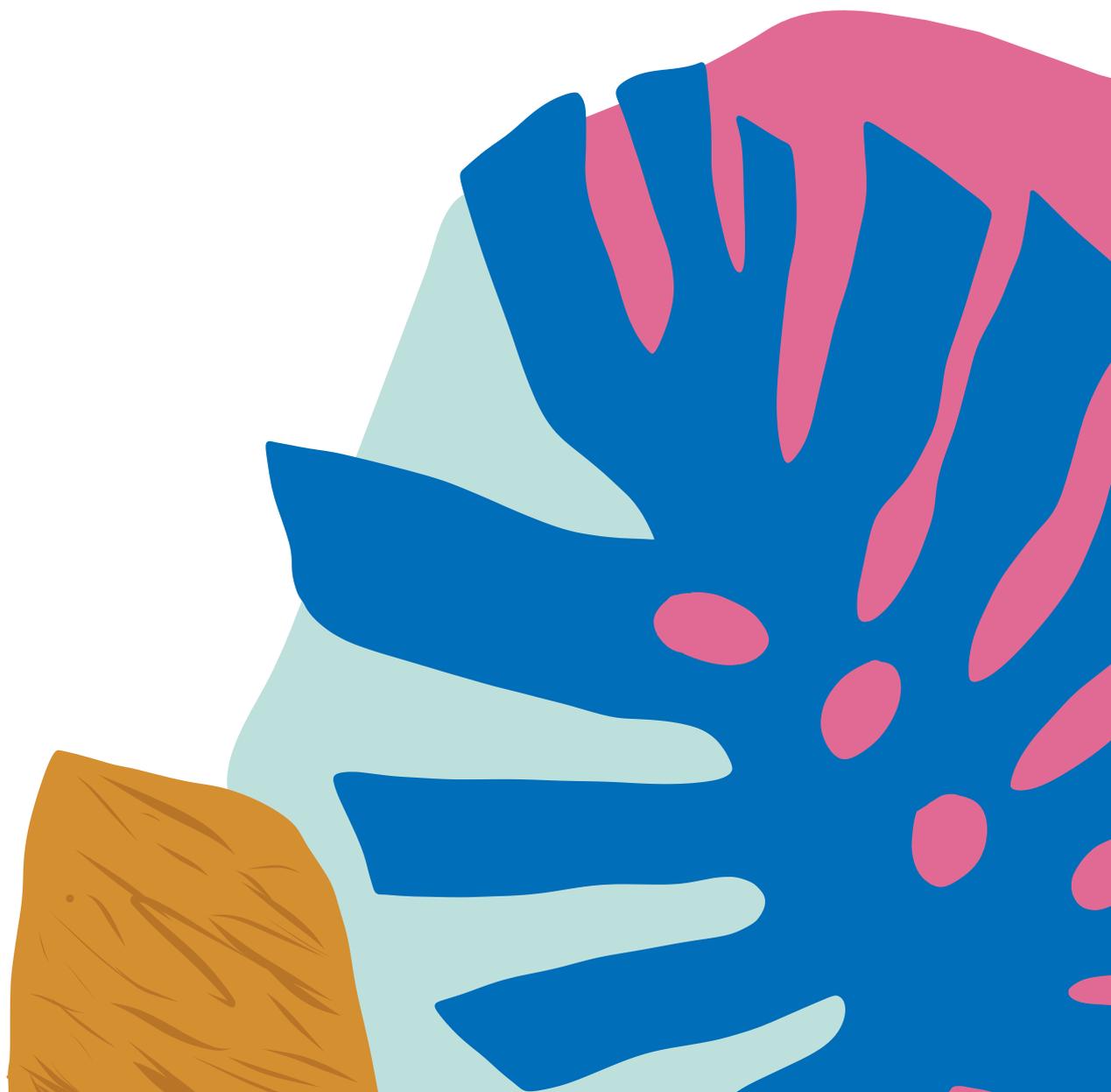
Woman human rights defender

**WIPO**

World Intellectual Property Organization



# ONLINE CONTENT



## UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE FIELD



The OHCHR Representative in Mexico speaks at a demonstration of families of victims of enforced disappearance. © OHCHR/Mexico

## BACKGROUND

The deployment of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in countries and regions through its field presences is central to implementing the High Commissioner's global mandate, under General Assembly resolution 48/141, to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all human rights, everywhere. The impartial work of field presences is critical to supporting the High Commissioner's independent, objective voice in her dialogue and advocacy on human rights with all counterparts.

OHCHR's field engagement is based on interaction, dialogue and cooperation with a wide range of actors, including governments, national institutions, civil society (including community and religious groups and the private sector), non-State actors (armed groups, de facto authorities), United Nations entities, international military coalitions, regional and subregional organizations, victims of human rights violations and abuses and other affected people and communities. As impartial interlocutors, OHCHR's field presences serve as conveners and foster dialogue among different stakeholders.

OHCHR field presences also contribute to broader United Nations efforts on human rights, peace and security and development (the three United Nations pillars), including through the integration of human rights across and within all pillars and by providing assistance in relation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

OHCHR operates through two main categories of field presences, namely, stand-alone offices and collaborative arrangements. The first category is composed of country and regional offices. The second category consists of human rights components of peace or political missions and Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) in UN Resident Coordinator Offices and UN Country Teams (UNCTs).

As of 31 December, OHCHR was operating in **84** field presences globally, consisting of **17** country offices, **12** regional offices, **37** HRAs, **12** human rights components in United Nations peace operations and six other types of field presences. In addition, OHCHR closed its Country Office in Burundi, in March.

## TYPES OF FIELD PRESENCES



### COUNTRY AND STAND-ALONE OFFICES

OHCHR country and stand-alone offices are established on the basis of an agreement between the host State and the High Commissioner. A mandate typically includes human rights monitoring and analysis, protection, interaction with and the provision of assistance to the host government, national authorities, civil society, victims and other relevant counterparts through targeted technical cooperation activities, capacity-building, as well as public reporting. These offices are primarily funded through voluntary contributions.

OHCHR has 17 country or stand-alone offices. This number includes 15 country offices in Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Liberia, Mauritania, Mexico, State of Palestine<sup>5</sup>, Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut), Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and Yemen, one field-based structure in Seoul that covers the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU).



### REGIONAL OFFICES AND CENTRES

Regional offices cover multiple countries and are instrumental in integrating human rights into broader development, peace-building and humanitarian programming of the United Nations and Member States.

OHCHR maintains 12 regional presences, which includes 10 regional offices, one Sub-Regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (Yaoundé) and one Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha). The regional offices are based in East Africa (Addis Ababa), Southern Africa (Pretoria), West Africa (Dakar) South-East Asia (Bangkok), the Pacific (Suva), the Middle East and North Africa (Beirut), Central Asia (Bishkek), Europe (Brussels), Central America (Panama City) and South America (Santiago de Chile). Regional offices are funded by the UN regular budget and voluntary contributions.

Regional offices focus on cross-cutting regional human rights issues, in close cooperation with UNCTs in the region, regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and civil society. In addition, they play an important role in supporting governments in their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, specifically the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

OHCHR strengthened its regional offices, including by establishing early warning/emergency response teams in the Regional Offices for Southern Africa in 2017, South-East Asia in 2018 and West Africa in 2019 and integrating expertise, for example, on migration in Southeast Asia. OHCHR's efforts to strengthen its regional presence are consistent with the Secretary-General's plans to increase the UN's engagement at the regional level and reinforce cooperation with regional organizations.

<sup>5</sup> Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.



## HUMAN RIGHTS COMPONENTS OF UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS

The promotion and protection of human rights are a core mandate and function of UN peace operations (peacekeeping operations and special political missions). OHCHR facilitates the political, strategic and operational integration of human rights into the United Nations peace and security agenda and supports the implementation of Security Council mandates for UN peace operations.

The integration of human rights into peace operations is governed by a 2005 decision of the Secretary-General and the 2011 OHCHR/DPKO/DPA/DFS (now DOS) Policy on Human Rights in United Nations Peace Operations and Political Missions. The latter recognizes the centrality of human rights in integrated and multidimensional missions, outlines the roles and responsibilities of mission leadership and human rights and other components in promoting and protecting human rights and assigns backstopping responsibilities to OHCHR.

In 2019, human rights components were integrated into 12 UN peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandated by the Security Council in order to promote and protect human rights in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iraq, Kosovo<sup>6</sup>, Libya, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan (Darfur). The

Head of the human rights component serves as the representative of the High Commissioner, with reporting lines to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner.

Human rights components in peace operations document, prevent and follow up on violations of human rights law and international humanitarian law through monitoring and investigations, by undertaking early warning analysis for the protection of civilians and reporting publicly. In addition to monitoring and reporting, human rights components conduct a wide range of activities, including building the capacity of civil society and national institutions, advocating for accountability, supporting transitional justice programmes, training military, police and law enforcement, advocating for legislative and rule of law reforms and supporting the implementation of peace agreements and the UN's Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) by peace operations.

<sup>6</sup> All references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.



## HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISERS IN UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAMS

HRAs are deployed at the request of RCs and UNCTs under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG).

HRAs are essential catalysts of human rights mainstreaming. Advisers support and assist the UN RCs, Heads of UN agencies and members of UNCTs to integrate human rights into UN programmes and activities at the country level and ensure coordinated UN responses to requests for technical cooperation and advisory services from State institutions.

HRAs provide human rights expertise in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which places human rights at the core of the UN's development efforts. They play a critical early warning and prevention role as part of UNCTs and when applicable, provide advice on integrating human rights into humanitarian response and post-crisis recovery processes.

In addition, HRAs provide support to State actors, advise and train NHRIs and build networks with and provide practical support to civil society actors in the promotion and protection of human rights, including with regard to follow-up on engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

HRAs are funded through extrabudgetary contributions. In some instances, the posts are funded through cost-sharing agreements with UNDP or relevant UNCTs or

with other UN entities at the country level. Since 2012, all deployments have been aligned with the UNSDG Strategy for the Deployment of HRAs. In addition, the Multi Donor Trust Fund established to support the deployment of human rights expertise to RC offices and UNCTs has been critical in ensuring the sustainability of this effort.

Requests for and the number of HRAs have steadily increased, including in relation to reform of the UN Development System and interest in supporting follow-up to the recommendations issued by the UPR. Support has also been requested with regard to the implementation of the SDGs, Common Country Analysis (CCA) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

By the end of 2019, the Office had deployed HRAs and/or undertook human rights mainstreaming projects in 37 countries supporting the respective RCs and UNCTs through the enhanced integration of human rights into their programmes. This included Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Brazil, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of North Macedonia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Serbia, South Caucasus (based in Tbilisi and covering Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia), Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Zimbabwe. The consolidation of support to RCs and UNCTs is occurring at a critical juncture when the UN Development System is being reformed and the new CCAs and UNSDCFs are being implemented.

## **ENGAGEMENT IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION**

The Office maintained strong engagement in humanitarian action at the global and field levels, with a view to ensuring that the protection of human rights remained a central tenet of humanitarian action, in line with the UN's Human Rights up Front (HRuF) action plan and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) Agenda on the Centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action. During the reporting period, OHCHR participated in global humanitarian leadership forums, including the Joint Steering Committee to Advance Humanitarian Development Collaboration and the IASC Principals, Working Group and Emergency Directors Group, as well as IASC subsidiary bodies, such as the Task Team on strengthening the humanitarian and development nexus with a focus on protracted crises and the Task Team on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

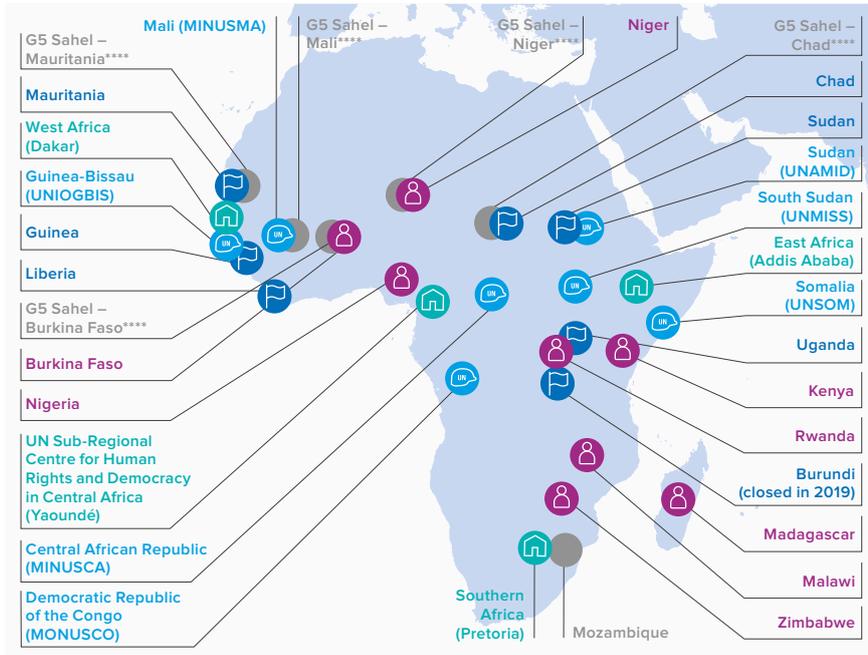
At the country level, OHCHR integrated human rights into the overall efforts of the Protection Clusters, Humanitarian Country Teams and related humanitarian coordination structures. OHCHR contributed to humanitarian action in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, Comoros, DRC, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Ukraine, Yemen and the Pacific. It also contributed to the work of humanitarian regional networks in Central America (REDLAC) and East-Western Africa (RIASCO). It continued to lead the Protection Cluster in the State of Palestine, co-led the Cluster in

Guatemala and deployed three staff to support and advise the humanitarian leadership on the crisis in Syria.

In 2019, following Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas, OHCHR deployed surge capacity to the humanitarian response, inter alia, to ensure a non-discriminatory approach to humanitarian assistance and address protection risks related to undocumented migrants from Haiti. OHCHR continued to implement its World Humanitarian Summit commitments, including by strengthening national protection capacity and preparedness. Working in cooperation with the Asia Pacific Forum of NHRIs, OHCHR implemented a pilot project to strengthen the capacity of 11 NHRIs from South Asia and Southeast Asia to engage in humanitarian action.

During the reporting period, the Central Emergency Response Fund supported the Office's engagement in Ukraine. Moreover, the model of deploying regional Emergency Response Teams continued to be valuable in prevention efforts. Their delivery of early warning analysis informed preventive action and humanitarian response. In addition, the linkage between an information management officer and a human rights officer empowered the teams to engage UNCTs, RCs and other stakeholders with actionable evidence.

# UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA



## LEGEND:

### Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

### Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

## TYPE OF PRESENCE

## LOCATION

Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions	Burundi (closed in March 2019), Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Sudan, Uganda
Regional Offices/Centres	Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon), East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa), West Africa (Dakar, Senegal)
Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions	Central African Republic (MINUSCA), Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO/ UNJHRO), Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), Mali (MINUSMA), Somalia (UNSOM), South Sudan (UNMISS), Sudan (Darfur) (UNAMID)
Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG	Burkina Faso (under recruitment), Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Zimbabwe
Other types of field presences	G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project <sup>1</sup> , Mozambique

## SDGs:



<sup>1</sup> Further to Security Council resolution 2391 (December 2017), OHCHR has been working with the G5 Sahel Joint Force to develop and implement a “Compliance Framework” to ensure that military operations to combat terrorism in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

The OHCHR Africa programme covers 49 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and consists of 27 field presences, including four regional offices in Central Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa; six country offices in Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Sudan and Uganda; eight Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) in the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in Burkina Faso (agreement reached in 2019 with the UNCT to deploy an HRA, which is under recruitment at the time of writing this report), Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda and Zimbabwe; and seven human rights presences in UN peace missions in the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan (Darfur).

In Geneva, OHCHR provides support to five special procedures country mandates, namely, Somalia (1993), Sudan (2009), Eritrea (2012), Mali (2013) and CAR (2013) and to the work of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi (2016), the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan (2016) and the Team of International Experts on the situation of human rights in the Kasai in the DRC (2017).

During 2019, in the horn of Africa, ethnic violence and extreme poverty were major challenges. Weak governance, corruption and marginalization, compounded by the effects of climate change, impaired the enjoyment of basic and fundamental economic and social rights and fuelled discrimination in the subregion. In West and Central Africa, considerable challenges were faced due to an increase in conflict and violence throughout the Sahel region, which was exacerbated by climate change and extreme poverty. Moreover, the African continent experienced widespread restrictions related

to political and civic spaces, including limitations on the exercise of freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association that were targeted at political opponents, journalists and human rights defenders (HRDs). Protracted armed conflicts in the CAR, the DRC, South Sudan and Somalia continued to expose the civilian population to extrajudicial executions, abductions, torture and unlawful detention carried out by violent extremist groups, State and non-State actors. A high prevalence of conflict-related sexual violence against civilian populations was also reported.

Violent extremism in the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin continued to be a major challenge for the security situation. Boko Haram and other violent extremist groups remained a threat in Cameroon, Chad, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria, leading to the deaths of civilians and causing a dire humanitarian crisis with millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in need of assistance. Weak justice systems and the absence or limited implementation of transitional justice processes contributed to a high level of impunity for grave human rights violations. On a positive note, some steps were taken regarding the fight against impunity in CAR with the operationalization of the Special Criminal Court, the establishment of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission in Mali and the establishment of a War and Economic Crimes Court in Liberia to enable victims to obtain justice for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

OHCHR field presences continued to support governments, civil society organizations and other actors to strengthen their capacity to engage with the international human rights mechanisms and address human rights concerns at the regional and country levels. Particular

areas of focus included issues of violence against civilians, impunity, respect for the rule of law, discrimination and threats against fundamental freedoms and civil society. OHCHR also provided technical advice on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA).

OHCHR established an Enhanced Human Rights Monitoring Team from August to October to research and review information related to alleged human rights violations that were committed during the crackdown on protestors, in Sudan, on 3 June and immediately thereafter. This information guided OHCHR's strategy for Sudan and led to the establishment of a new OHCHR Country Office. OHCHR is present in Sudan through its Country Office start-up team and the Human Rights Component of the African Union (AU)-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur. On 25 September, the Government of Sudan and OHCHR signed a Host Country Agreement on the creation of the Country Office and a start-up team has been operating in Khartoum since 26 December. The Country Office is working on four key areas that correspond with the Government's priorities and vision for the transition period and are laid out in a constitutional document, namely, (1) social and economic rights; (2) legal and institutional reform and transitional justice; (3) civic and democratic space; and (4) monitoring and advocacy.

As a follow-up to the High Commissioner's mission to Cameroon, in May, OHCHR sent a technical team, in September, to prepare an assessment of the current human rights situation in the north-west and south-west regions of Cameroon and to undertake a human rights needs assessment aimed at providing technical support to various State institutions.

As part of United Nations efforts in Burkina Faso, CAR, the DRC, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Nigeria, OHCHR contributed to early warning, prevention and resolution initiatives in collaboration with governments, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and other stakeholders.

In the DRC and Sudan, OHCHR supported the national police in the development of an action plan to fight sexual violence. In CAR, it supported the establishment of a shelter for victims of sexual violence. In South Africa, OHCHR supported the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide. In Liberia, OHCHR strengthened its activities to prevent and address violence against women and girls.

OHCHR worked on enhancing partnerships with regional and subregional organizations, including the AU and its human rights bodies, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States, the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community.

OHCHR also worked on strengthening cooperation with the AU for enhanced human rights integration in to conflict prevention and sustaining peace programmes and activities. OHCHR successfully led the process towards signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the ICGLR. It also concluded, with the Commission (AUC), the drafting process of the African Union-United Nations Joint Framework on Human Rights that complements the two existing African Union-United Nations frameworks on peace and security and development.

OHCHR provided substantive and programmatic support to further develop the Compliance Framework of the G5 Sahel Joint Force, pursuant to Security Council resolution 2391. The Compliance Framework is a mechanism of the G5 Sahel to prevent, investigate, address and publicly report violations and abuses of human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law related to the Joint Force. It seeks to provide the Joint Force with guidance on planning and conducting its operations in a manner that respects international humanitarian law and international human rights law, thereby minimizing adverse consequences for local communities.

## BURUNDI

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
11.53 million	28,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.423 (rank: 185/188 in 2018)	Status B, 2017
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office		
<b>Year established</b>	2015 (closed in March 2019)		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Bujumbura		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	1		

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$342,332</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$3,543,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$2,134,585</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Non-personnel</b>	<b>PSC<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>65%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>12%</b>
\$1,384,925	\$502,634	\$247,026

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



#### Data sources and notes:

- <sup>1</sup> UN (2019), Statistical Yearbook 2019: Sixty-Second Issue, UN, New York.
- <sup>2</sup> UNDP (2019), Human Development Report 2019, "Beyond income, beyond averages, beyond today: Inequalities in human development in the 21st century".
- <sup>3</sup> Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), Chart of the Status of National Institutions.  
4 March 2019: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/nhri/pages/nhrimain.aspx>
- <sup>4</sup> OHCHR, as part of the UN Secretariat, charges 13 per cent of Programme Support Cost (PSC) on all direct costs as per General Assembly resolution 35/217 of December 1980. However, for activities implemented jointly with other UN partners, the related indirect PSC is reduced to 7 per cent. This explains a lower PSC percentage average.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – The justice system and the administration establish and apply laws, policies and practices that address human rights violations effectively, protect victims and others at risk, and ensure that human rights complaints are investigated.**



OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards by building the capacity of lawyers in Burundi.

In November, OHCHR facilitated a training workshop for a group of 60 Burundian lawyers, including 20 women. As a result

of the training, the participants were empowered to ensure the protection of witnesses, victims and other persons at risk in judicial and non-judicial proceedings. During the training, the lawyers committed to using the Law of 27 June 2016 on the protection of witnesses, victims and other persons at risk to claim their right to protection as needed.

#### **Participation (P)**

**P2 – Civil society actors participate freely in public life, including during election periods.**



Through advocacy and outreach, OHCHR contributed to the increased participation of rights-holders, especially women, in selected public processes.

Within the framework of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, key actors discussed challenges hindering the implementation of the Law on the fight against gender-based violence of 22 September 2016. These actors also developed strategies on how to advocate with authorities and more actively involve them in the fight against gender-based violence. A strong stand was taken and authorities were called upon to ensure the widespread dissemination of the Law, combat impunity and facilitate remedial actions and the reintegration of victims facing intimidation for participating in judicial procedures. During the campaign, printed promotional materials that were developed by the Office were distributed to human rights NGOs, academic institutions, embassies, UN agencies and international organizations.

## Development (D)

D3 –Civil society is more able to participate in the formation of development policies and in decision-making. Civil society organizations work to promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights. Policies are in place that ensure that all stakeholders enjoy equal participation, access and opportunities with respect to education, health, food, land, and employment.

**1 11**

OHCHR provided technical guidance to stakeholders to support the meaningful participation of rights-holders in public processes.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Human Rights and development partners, a road map was adopted, in September, on the implementation of and follow-up to recommendations issued by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in relation to Burundi. The road map provides details on concrete actions, timelines and the distribution of tasks related to monitoring this implementation. It also outlines actions to be taken to implement the SDGs.

In addition, under the Mechanisms pillar, the Office built the capacity of the members of the Interministerial Committee and other institutions to facilitate their interaction with the international human rights mechanisms and to follow up on the implementation of recommendations issued by the treaty bodies. As a result of these efforts, a road map was adopted that features concrete actions and a defined timeframe.

## CENTRAL AFRICA

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Príncipe
<b>Year established</b>	2001
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Yaoundé, Cameroon
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	14

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$270,095</b>
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$555,000</b>

<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$321,880</b>	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC*
<b>35%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>12%</b>
\$111,494	\$173,356	\$37,031

<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,244,827</b>	
Personnel	Non-personnel	
<b>84%</b>	<b>16%</b>	
\$1,039,433	\$205,394	

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



\* Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to ‘leave no one behind’, including by addressing the root causes of inequality.

**5 10 16** 

With OHCHR support, selected anti-discrimination policies were amended to increase their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The Office trained 81 journalists (26 women) from Cameroon on freedom of expression and international human

rights law, journalism and ethics; media, conflicts and conflict resolution; media and elections; and media and national legislation. A total of 26 participants established an internal self-regulatory mechanism against hate speech in the form a peer oversight mechanism. The mechanism was entrusted with ensuring that journalists and media organs abide by ethics. More specifically, a journalist or media outlet can be held accountable by peers in case of a failure to comply with journalistic ethics. OHCHR will continue supporting these journalists in the effective operationalization of this mechanism

by facilitating and hosting their meetings, providing technical advice and reviewing its terms of reference.

### Development (D)

D8 – Relevant official institutions and civil society actors systematically collect and analyse data, particularly data that relates to natural resource exploitation and social expenditure.



With OHCHR’s guidance, oversight mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards were established in the region.

In Cameroon, the National Institute of Statistics, which is the cross-sectoral platform for economic, social and cultural rights and other concerned stakeholders,

established a mechanism to enhance collaboration on data collection and analysis on economic social and cultural rights, particularly regarding the level of realization of these rights. OHCHR will continue providing technical support for its operationalization and for the establishment of a similar mechanism in Sao Tomé and Príncipe.

### Accountability (A)

A1 – The decisions of judicial actors increasingly reference human rights principles and standards. Law enforcement institutions are taking steps to comply with international human rights norms and standards, notably those that concern torture and ill-treatment and the deprivation of liberty.

### 16

In Cameroon and Gabon, selected State institutions improved their compliance with international human rights norms and standards, due in part to technical support provided by OHCHR.

In July, a new law was adopted in Cameroon to strengthen the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission and reinforce its mandate with new functions as the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). OHCHR provided

## CAMEROON’S GOVERNMENT SHOWS OPENNESS AFTER OFFICIAL VISIT

“Less than a week after the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, conducted a visit to Cameroon, President Paul Biya requested his Prime Minister to conduct a dialogue mission to the conflict-hit north-west and south-west regions to find a political solution to the escalating violence and the ensuing humanitarian crisis.

The High Commissioner was invited by the Government to visit the country from 1 to 4 May. During meetings and consultations in the capital, Yaoundé, the High Commissioner had an in-depth discussion with the President on the human rights challenges facing the country, the initiatives being taken by the Government and their broader linkages with peace, security and development.

She also met with the Prime Minister, representatives of the Government, the President of the National Assembly and the Vice-President of the Senate, civil society organizations, members of the media, the National Commission of Human

Rights and Freedoms, members of the opposition and ruling party, senior leaders of religious communities and the diplomatic community. She engaged with the presidents of two new bodies, which were established by President Biya to tackle issues related to the crisis in the north-west and the south-west, namely, the National Commission for the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism and the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Committee. Following her visit, staff of the Central Africa Regional Office facilitated difficult conversations within the country, including at a High-level Round-Table for political parties and other political actors on their role in the promotion of human rights, peacebuilding and democracy.

The High Commissioner’s statement at the end of her mission underlined the importance of adopting a prevention mindset in order to halt violations and improve security. “I believe,” she said, “that there is a clear – if possibly short – window of opportunity to arrest the crises.”

advice and technical assistance during the drafting of the law to ensure its compliance with international standards. OHCHR will work to strengthen the capacities of the commissioners and staff of the Commission to enable them to effectively discharge their functions. In Gabon, OHCHR facilitated a consultation workshop and contributed with technical inputs for the drafting of amendments to the enabling legislation of the National Human Rights Commission, which will strengthen its institutional and operational capacities and bring it in line with the Paris Principles.

Additionally, under the Mechanisms pillar, OHCHR trained the members of seven national human rights committees on reporting to the international human rights mechanisms. Moreover, the Office provided technical guidance to the interministerial committees of Burundi, Cameroon and Sao Tomé and Príncipe for the development and adoption of road maps for the drafting of reports to the international human rights mechanisms.

## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: UNITED NATIONS MULTIDIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILIZATION MISSION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (MINUSCA)

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
4.75 million	623,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.381 (rank: 188/188 in 2018)	
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Peace Mission	
<b>Year established</b>		2000	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Bambari, Bangassou, Bangui, Berberati, Birao, Bossangoa, Bria, Kaga-Bandoro, Ndele, Obo, Paoua	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		65	

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$129,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – The actions of judicial institutions and defence and security forces increasingly comply with human rights.**

**16** 

The Human Rights Division (HRD) of MINUSCA contributed to the improved compliance of State institutions with international human rights norms and standards by providing technical support and advice on these standards.

The Government continued its efforts to gradually deploy defence and security forces and administrative and judicial authorities beyond the capital, which is expected to enhance the State's capacity to protect civilians and address impunity. To support these efforts, the HRD applied the United Nations Human

Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) in response to 132 requests for support from the defence and security forces. This resulted in the production of risk assessments and proposals for mitigating measures to prevent human rights violations. The HRD screened 4,399 members of the defence and security forces who were to benefit from UN support. A total of 74 of those who were screened were excluded when it was determined that they were responsible for human rights violations. The HRD continued to provide technical support for the integration of human rights into security sector reform through trainings, workshops and expert advice. The HRD organized 60 training sessions and 10 workshops on international human rights law and international humanitarian law

for 1,796 defence and security officers, including 287 women, in Bangui and the regions across the country.

### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS1 – As a component of CAR’s national infrastructure for peace and human rights, the National Committee on the Prevention of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and Discrimination is fully operational. The Committee’s capacity is strengthened to enable it to implement its road map. A national multifunctional mechanism to protect victims and witnesses is established: it is able to hold accountable those responsible for violations of international humanitarian and human rights law and protect and assist victims of gender-based violence and sexual violence in conflict.**

**5 16**

The HRD contributed to the increased compliance of national protection systems with international human rights standards by providing technical support to these mechanisms.

Since the 2018 nomination of the members of the Steering Committee, the HRD has provided technical support to ensure its full operationalization. The Steering Committee is composed of an Executive Board and a Technical Secretariat with 25 members from the Presidency, Government and Parliament of CAR, as well as political parties, CSOs and members of the international community, including MINUSCA and the AU. It is mandated to support the initiation of a truth-seeking process through the preparation of legislation on the organization and functioning of a Truth Commission in CAR. To this end, the HRD facilitated nine

meetings of the Steering Committee, which led to the review of policy documents and the adoption of a framework for national consultations on the future Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The HRD continued to support the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on the elaboration of its three-year Plan of Action for the promotion and protection of human rights, a communication strategy, a complaints procedure and the review and adoption of its manual on administrative procedures. In June and July, the HRD supported the NHRC to organize a series of activities in line with the Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation and contributed to the creation of local committees to support the work of the Commission.

The HRD also provided technical assistance to the National Committee on the Prevention of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and Discrimination during its field visits to 17 localities in the country. During these visits, members of the Committee raised awareness about international standards of human rights law and humanitarian law, the exercise of universal jurisdiction for serious international crimes, including genocide, prevention mechanisms and measures to be taken by the State and international partners.

**PS4 – A comprehensive national transitional justice strategy is developed and implemented; it is gender-sensitive.**

**16** 

A comprehensive national transitional justice strategy continued to be developed by the Government with the technical support of the HRD.

The national consultative process on the draft law establishing the proposed Truth

and Reconciliation Commission in CAR was held in June. The consultation, which is a critical element of applying a human rights-based approach to transitional justice, enabled approximately 3,000 citizens to provide feedback on the design of the draft law, which is being finalized.

Furthermore, following the signing of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, on 6 February, the Government established an Inclusive Commission composed of representatives of signatory armed groups and national authorities. The Inclusive Commission is mandated to develop recommendations on justice for crimes committed in the context of the armed conflict. Those cases will be transmitted to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission once it is established. The HRD supported the work of the Inclusive Commission by providing documentation on human rights, including reports on human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law committed by all parties to the conflict. Moreover, the HRD supported five field missions of the Inclusive Commission to gather information on human rights violations.

**PS5 – National institutions and non-State actors increase their capacity to protect and promote human rights more effectively.**

**3 5 8 10 13 16 17**

The HRD contributed to the increased compliance of State institutions with international human rights standards through its monitoring and reporting and by providing tailored recommendations to relevant authorities.

In 2019, the HRD conducted 164 field missions in all 16 prefectures in CAR to monitor and verify allegations of

violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses. These missions contributed to the protection of civilians through early warning monitoring and reporting, including tailored recommendations targeting perpetrators of human rights violations and abuses. The HRD also conducted 383 visits to detention centres that are controlled by the State and facilities that are controlled by armed groups in order to monitor the human rights situation for persons who are deprived of their liberty. During these visits, the HRD advocated with relevant authorities for compliance with international standards related to arrests and detention.

Finally, in 2019, the HRD documented 1,017 incidents of human rights violations and abuses, including 320 conflict-related civilian deaths, which affected 1,831 victims. In contrast, in 2018, the HRD documented 2,457 incidents against 4,266 victims and 688 civilian deaths. This decrease suggests that despite the grave human rights abuses and violations recorded in 2019, there is evidence of relative improvement of the situation, which can be partially attributed to the signing of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation and the efforts of facilitators related to its implementation.

## CHAD

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
15.95 million	1,284,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.401 (187/188 in 2018)	Status B, 2009

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2018
<b>Field office(s)</b>	N'Djamena
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017–2021
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	7

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$1,239,165</b>
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<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$1,847,000</b>
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Total XB expenditure		US\$1,350,313
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>4</sup>
48%	41%	11%
\$650,792	\$549,289	\$150,232

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1234</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Accountability (A)

**A1 – The National Human Rights Commission is established and functions in conformity with the Paris Principles.**



OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in increased conformity with the Paris Principles, including by supporting the process for the selection of commissioners.

Following the approval of the 2018 Law for the functioning of the NHRC, commissioners were nominated in accordance with the Presidential Act of 15 August 2019. During the selection

and nomination process, OHCHR provided technical advice on the Paris Principles through participation in relevant meetings and briefings to the Ad Hoc Committee that was established for the selection of commissioners.


**Non-discrimination (ND)**

ND3 – The Government, civil society organizations, women and other actors have become more familiar with the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and resolution 1325 of the UN Security Council.



OHCHR contributed to the increased participation of rights-holders across the country, especially women, in public processes by raising their awareness about the implementation of relevant international human rights instruments.

Through cooperation with the Women's Associations Liaison and Information Unit, OHCHR organized workshops and public awareness campaigns on CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325, in Mongo and Banda. The activities brought together approximately 2,680 people, including 1,000 women, from local governments, women's organizations, youth associations and local NGOs. Participants improved their understanding of the Government's obligations under these two instruments and local authorities committed to undertaking initiatives to increase respect for women's rights.


**Mechanisms (M)**

M1 – Chad submits six reports to treaty bodies that are due, in compliance with reporting guidelines.



In 2019, the Office provided technical support to the Government to ensure that at least 60 per cent of its reports to the human rights treaty bodies comply with reporting guidelines.

With OHCHR's guidance, the Government submitted its report under the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), along with its common core document. Furthermore, OHCHR provided technical support to enable the Government to prepare and submit combined reports from 1998 to 2015 under the ACHPR. OHCHR continued to encourage the Government to draft an action plan for the implementation of the recommendations issued by the UPR.

Finally, under the Development pillar, OHCHR-Chad supported the UNCT to mainstream human rights and gender perspectives into strategic documents, such as the workplans of the Gender and Human Rights Cluster and the Protection Cluster.

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE (UNJHRO)

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
86.79 million	2,345,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.459 (179/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2018
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Peace Mission		
<b>Year established</b>	2008		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Bandundu, Beni, Bukavu, Bunia, Butembo, Dungu, Goma, Kalemie, Kananga, Kindu, Kinshasa, Kisangani, Lubumbashi, Matadi, Mbandaka, Mbuji-Mayi, Thsikapa, Uvira		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2013-2018		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	96		

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$ 8,746,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup>Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:



#### Participation (P)

**P1 – The NHRC fulfils its mandate and is in compliance with the Paris Principles. Its mandate includes responding to complaints.**

**16**



Due in part to technical assistance provided by the Office, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) worked to increase conformity with international standards. After being accredited with “A” status by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, in 2018, in recognition of its full compliance with the Paris Principles, the NHRC stepped up its monitoring and awareness-raising activities in 2019. The UNJHRO organized six training sessions for the members of the NHRC to strengthen their skills in relation

to human rights. Particular emphasis was placed on human rights and elections; election observation; monitoring and reporting techniques of human rights mechanisms, including with regard to detention centres and monitoring the rights of specific groups, such as refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, victims of sexual violence, witnesses and human rights defenders (HRDs). The NHRC also increased its institutional communication capacities and implemented its strategic communications plan, which was adopted in 2018. Thanks to support from the UNJHRO, the NHRC published five reports, including on visits to detention centres, the investigation of human rights violations in Yumbi

and alternative reports to CAT, CEDAW and the UPR.

Moreover, the UNJHRO provided technical and financial support to the organization of “NHRC Open Days” in five communes of the city of Kinshasa, in September. This increased the visibility of the NHRC mandate for HRDs among the general population. The NHRC received cases on human rights violations and recorded approximately 200 complaints.

**P4 – With UNJHRO support, civil society networks assist a larger number of victims of human rights violations.**

**8 16**

Through capacity-building initiatives, the UNJHRO helped to increase the knowledge and skills of civil society actors in relation to protective measures. In 2019, the UNJHRO conducted 76 capacity-building activities for 4,274 participants (945 women, 3,329 men) from CSOs, including HRDs, local protection committees, community leaders and local authorities. The objective was to foster collaboration and effectiveness in protecting and assisting victims of human rights violations, including in Bunia, Goma, Kananga, Kinshasa and Tshikapa.

As a result of the UNJHRO’s advocacy, the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of the Congo established a Human Rights Commission and its members benefited from an introduction to human rights to develop their skills as human rights advocates. Particular emphasis was placed on supporting the adoption of four pending bills, the protection and responsibilities of HRDs, non-profit associations and public benefit institutions, the freedom of assembly and the right to access to information.

A total of 426 HRDs, victims and witnesses of human rights violations or abuses, 31 of whom were women, benefited from protective measures, compared to 258 in 2018.

**P5 – Citizens are able to exercise their rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association. The security forces show more respect for these rights and for human rights standards and principles.**



Many human rights violations committed in the context of restrictions on democratic space were documented before, during and after the December 2018 elections. Following commitments made by President Tshisekedi to improve the human rights situation, there was a widening of democratic space. The most visible sign of this positive development was the release of political prisoners, the return of political exiles and the holding of several peaceful demonstrations. In this context, the UNJHRO observed a 26 per cent decrease in the number of human rights violations related to democratic space compared to 2018 (from 1,054 in 2018 to 778 in 2019).



### Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND1 – Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to “Leave No One Behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality**



The UNJHRO contributed to the establishment and functioning of protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards. For example,

the UNJHRO facilitated several meetings between the Minister Delegate for Persons with Disabilities and Other Vulnerable Persons, a new position created within the Government, in August, and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, as part of its technical cooperation mandate for the development of a National Policy and Strategy for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, in order to raise awareness about vulnerable groups, the UNJHRO organized many activities, including Albinism Awareness Day, in collaboration with the Albino Network Association and national authorities. It also organized White Cane Awareness Day, with the participation of the Ministry for Persons with Disabilities and CSOs, such as the National Institute for the Blind and the NGO House of the Blind, to sensitize the general public about the human rights of people who are visually impaired.



### Development (D)

**D7 – The next UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2018-2023) integrates relevant human rights standards and principles and references recommendations by the human rights mechanisms.**

The UNJHRO contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the Common Country Analysis (CCA), which served as a basis for the development of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). This latter framework was largely informed by reports from the UNJHRO. As a result, its outcomes and outputs are fully aligned with the recommendations issued by the human rights

mechanisms that are relevant for the DRC and the SDGs. This key achievement was possible thanks to the UNJHRO’s large dissemination of a comprehensive matrix that set out this information in detail.



### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS5 – DRC security forces increase the number of mitigation and corrective measures they adopt, on the basis of risk assessments that comply with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.**



To strengthen the fight against impunity within the country’s security institutions, the UNJHRO continued its sensitization work and enhanced collaboration and dialogue with entities that provide support. This led to strengthened implementation and ownership of HRDDP clearance decisions. Through its mitigating measures, the HRDDP Secretariat advocated for the provision of support to DRC Defence and Security Forces in order to improve the human rights situation on the ground, encourage efforts to fight against impunity and establish channels of communication between the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and Congolese authorities regarding human rights and the protection of civilian concerns. In 2019, the HRDDP Secretariat conducted 53 comprehensive risk assessments through the screening of 1,117 officers who were to be deployed for air transportation service, joint MONUSCO-Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) military operations and to support the police. In 2019, the UNJHRO created a total of 784 profiles.

**PS6 – Decisions made by MONUSCO in support of the political process or on the protection of civilians are guided by relevant human rights standards and principles. This is particularly true of the good offices of the mission leadership and provision of support to the security forces.**



The UNJHRO contributed to the increased compliance of MONUSCO interventions with international human rights norms, principles and standards, through the handling of protection incidents during 59 joint civilian protection missions that were undertaken in 2019 (37 joint assessment missions and 22 joint protection missions) alongside Force deployments (rapidly deployable battalions or standing combat deployments) in priority protection areas. In addition, the UNJHRO trained 148 officers to sensitize MONUSCO components on the HRDDP, its main risk assessments, possible mitigation measures to prevent violations and potential leverage to improve cooperation on human rights protection.

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The interministerial committee responsible for coordinating DRC’s reporting to the Treaty Bodies has become permanent and operational.**



The UNJHRO contributed to strengthening the capacity of the members of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights to fulfil their mandate. With the UNJHRO’s technical, logistical and financial assistance to the Interministerial Committee, the DRC submitted its combined second, third, fourth and

fifth periodic reports on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). The Committee also benefited from the UNJHRO’s support to draft and validate the additional report to the fourth periodic report to the Human Rights Committee.

**M2 – The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), civil society organizations and human rights defenders submit reports on serious human rights issues in the DRC to the international human rights mechanisms more frequently.**



The UNJHRO contributed to the submission of reports by CSOs, including by co-organizing two training sessions with the Carter Centre for the NHRC, CSOs and the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights. The focus of the training was interacting with the UPR and the formulation of targeted recommendations. As a result, the NHRC and civil society submitted nine alternative reports to the international human rights mechanisms (human rights treaty bodies and the UPR) and followed up on several recommendations.

Furthermore, the UNJHRO provided financial and technical support, such as coaching, data collection and advocacy, to human rights NGOs and the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights for the organization of large consultations that were held prior to the drafting of the UPR report. The report was reviewed and adopted in 2019. Out of 267 recommendations made to the DRC, 239 were adopted and 28 were noted. In collaboration with the Carter Centre, the UNJHRO organized a workshop on the implementation of 239 UPR

recommendations, which were endorsed by the Government, for new members of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights in order to discuss their role in the implementation of the recommendations.

## EASTERN AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Tanzania
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Addis Ababa
Staff as of 31 December 2019	20

Total income	<b>US\$2,429,210</b>
XB requirements 2019	<b>US\$4,181,000</b>

Total XB expenditure		<b>US\$2,815,599</b>
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC*
55%	34%	11%
\$1,555,978	\$948,793	\$310,827

Total RB expenditure		<b>US\$156,971</b>
Personnel		
100%		
\$156,971		

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



\* Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Participation (P)

P1 – CSOs, women human rights defenders (WHRDs), and other relevant stakeholders advocate for human rights, and especially women’s rights, more often and more effectively. The African Union’s manuals and guidelines, including those on elections, integrate human rights standards and norms.



Through strengthening the capacities of civil society actors, OHCHR sought to support their meaningful participation in selected public processes. This included support to finalize the terms of reference of the East Africa Network of Women

Human Rights Defenders and facilitate their engagement with the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls. The outcome of the consultative meeting will inform the thematic report of the Working Group on sexual reproductive health and rights in conflict settings and women in the workplace. The Office successfully expanded the Network by including young women from **South Sudan** and **Uganda**. It also supported women activists from **Sudan** to draft and present a statement before a session of the African Union Peace and Security Council. In addition, the AU finalized its election observation manual,

with guidance from the Office, which integrates regional and international human rights standards. Furthermore, OHCHR supported the Government of **Ethiopia** to revise its draft legislation on NGOs, which was adopted, in March, by the Ethiopian Parliament. This major achievement led to a significant widening of the space within which civil society can engage in human rights work. For instance, in May, OHCHR convened an unprecedented countrywide gathering of CSOs to discuss, among other issues, efforts to build a strong and effective constituent of human rights CSOs and to identify how the Office can enhance the capacity of CSOs to engage and work on human rights following years of repression of civil space in the country.

#### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND6 – African Union policies and migration governance measures more fully integrate international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of international human rights standards into AU policies and migration governance measures and the compliance of protection mechanisms with international human rights standards on migration. In 2019, the Office supported the development of the AU’s three-year Implementation Plan of Action for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in Africa (2020-2022). In collaboration with UN agencies, OHCHR supported the integration of human rights considerations into the Plan of Action. Once adopted, it is expected to provide strategic direction and guidance to AU Member States

on the implementation of the GCM. Additionally, the Office continued to provide technical support to national human rights institutions in the region, specifically to the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions in the context of its work related to the GCM.

**ND3 – In cases that concern women and girls, the decisions of national human rights and justice mechanisms comply with international and regional human rights standards.**



OHCHR assisted national justice mechanisms to apply international and regional standards in their decision-making in cases related to women and girls. In October, the Office supported the AU in training women CSOs and WHRDs in post-conflict countries to increase their skills and knowledge about gender equality and women's rights. In accordance with the recommendations outlined in the AU-OHCHR 2017 joint report on the rights of women in Africa, OHCHR, the AU, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UN Women prepared a groundbreaking report about women refugees, IDPs and returnees and a guidance tool for the AU on the integration of IDP women and girls in the AU Governance and Peace and Security Architecture to support the AU theme of the year. The report involved field visits to the **Central African Republic, Ethiopia and Nigeria** to gain first-hand knowledge about the experiences and situations faced by displaced women and girls in order to identify effective solutions. In 2020, the report and guidance tool will be submitted to the AU for endorsement and subsequent implementation.

**ND4 – The decisions of national human rights and justice mechanisms increasingly promote gender equality and comply with international and regional human rights standards.**



OHCHR facilitated compliance with international human rights norms by convening judicial dialogues with over 230 judges from supreme courts, courts of appeal, high courts, registrars and magistrates from **Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia**, in partnership with the Centre for Reproductive Rights. The discussions focused on challenging judicial stereotyping and strengthening the capacity of African judges to vote or rule on issues related to reproductive rights.

The Office also provided technical support to the AUC of the Department of Social Affairs in the elaboration of a continental draft programme and Plan of Action 2019-2023 on eliminating female genital mutilation (FGM), known as the Seleema Initiative. The draft programme seeks to provide strategic-level policy directives to AU Member States on how to tackle issues related to FGM while also establishing a comprehensive multisectoral stakeholder prevention and response strategy to fight the practice.

## Accountability (A)

**A1 – Regional human rights mechanisms are increasingly accessible to all. Countries in the region increasingly domesticate and comply with international standards on capital punishment.**

**16**

The Office contributed to the functioning of national protection systems in compliance with international human

rights norms and standards by training law enforcement agencies and providing advice on related legislation and policies.

In 2019, following the signing of the MoU with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Office increased its advocacy with national and continental actors to engage with the Court. For instance, OHCHR convened members of the Pan-African Parliament to discuss their role in improving access to the Court for individuals and groups. Following the withdrawal of **Tanzania** from article 34(6) of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which allows individuals and NGOs to directly access the Court, the Office engaged with partners and relevant stakeholders to determine how to secure access to justice for victims of human rights violations in Tanzania. Subsequently, the Court decided to expedite cases filed against Tanzania. OHCHR continues to engage in advocacy with the government to strengthen its domestic judicial system and facilitate access to justice.

In 2019, the Office conducted workshops, meetings, dialogues and sensitization programmes, including through radio transmissions for justice sector officials. OHCHR provided training on the human rights of IDPs and human rights in peace building for: 60 police and public prosecutors in West Guji (three women, 57 men); 60 police and public prosecutors in Gedeo (13 women, 47 men); 49 militia members from West Guji and Gedeo (five women, 44 men); and 36 judges and prosecutors in Jigjiga, Somali region (two women, 34 men). As a result of this training, justice sector officials repeatedly reported an increased level of knowledge and understanding about the rights of IDPs, including vulnerable groups, and their duties and responsibilities as State actors. Furthermore, the training enabled the Office to identify emerging human

rights concerns, such as those arising within the context of displacement. In Ethiopia, the Office consistently referred cases of human rights violations, which primarily related to ethnic clashes and displacement, to the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. The Office strengthened its partnership with the Office of the Attorney General and the Agency for Civil Society Organizations and facilitated their participation in OHCHR activities involving CSOs.

### A3 – Governments report, investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more consistently.



OHCHR contributed to the increased reporting, investigation and prosecution of cases of gender-related crimes in the Eastern Africa region. This was accomplished by successfully including women victims in criminal justice processes and integrating a gender perspective into the work of prosecutors, judges and law enforcement officials in **Cameroon, Chad, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania** and **Uganda** and from ECOWAS countries and members of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF). The Office also supported the Women, Peace and Security Programme of the AU Peace and Security Department to help integrate women's rights and gender into its training for AU troop-contributing countries and assessment missions in post-conflict countries and to improve the efficacy of AU operations related to conflict-related sexual violence.

The Office continued to provide support to the AU, national governments and UNCTs to integrate women's rights and gender into policies and programmes. The Office supported government authorities to integrate a gender

perspective into humanitarian responses and women, peace and security and gender dimensions into criminal justice responses on terrorism. It also supported engagement with the judiciary and actions to ensure women's access to sexual and reproductive health services, including in conflict settings and in relation to capacity-building for women CSOs. At the regional level, the Office identified new opportunities for mainstreaming women's rights into the AU's programmes and projects in areas such as early warning and prevention, comprehensive sexuality education and joint advocacy missions on the ratification and implementation of the Maputo Protocol and in collaborative activities on women, peace and security, including when providing support to the MNJTF. In **Sudan**, the Office facilitated the participation of women CSOs in the AU peace and security process. Moreover, it partnered with the AU to convene a capacity-building workshop and develop an online training package on how women CSOs can engage with regional and international human rights mechanisms on women, peace and security.

### Development (D)

#### D4 – Sexual and reproductive health policies in the region increasingly comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacities of civil society and other actors to link human rights norms and apply an HRBA to their work on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNFPA and Ethiopia's Ministry of Health, OHCHR conducted a national analysis on the

application of an HRBA to maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity in Ethiopia. The outcome of the analysis is expected to generate transformative, evidence-based programming that will support the application of an HRBA in sexual and reproductive maternal child health interventions to accelerate the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity rates. The Office also paid particular attention to SRHR in conflict settings and, in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), supported the development of a tool on discrimination between girls and boys related to the age of sexual consent. Specifically, the tool will assist CSOs, governments and the UN to assess the implementation of laws and regulations on adolescent SRHR in East and Southern Africa that promote the full realization of these rights, such as the criminalization of child marriage. Finally, the Office co-organized a panel on SRHR in conflict settings during the November session of the ACHPR. This resulted in a commitment from the ACHPR to begin elaborating a general recommendation on article 11 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol).

D7 – When they implement the SDGs, UN Country Teams and the Governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania take fully into account human rights principles, including the right to development, as well as recommendations that have been made by the UN human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of UN entities and relevant government actors to accommodate human rights, including the right to development and outcomes of human rights mechanisms in their programmes and strategies. The Office strengthened its engagement with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) regarding trade and the implementation of the SDGs through the joint publication on human rights in digital space by OHCHR, UNECA and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Office. This was partially achieved by unpacking, in collaboration with UNECA, the human rights implications of the Continental Free Trade Agreement, including through a work stream on informal trade focusing on women along the Lagos-Abidjan corridor. In addition, OHCHR built the capacity of the AUC to integrate the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) into its policy framework and roll-out by providing technical support and helping to develop the draft Business and Human Rights Policy Framework.

D8 – State institutions pay increasing attention to discrimination (as defined in international law) when they collect, analyse and disseminate data.



OHCHR contributed to raising the visibility of the role of human rights in the implementation of the SDGs through country-level interventions directed at ensuring the rights-based planning and implementation of SDGs have gained impetus, including through collaborations with UNECA and others at the continental level. For instance, OHCHR and the Danish Institute for Human Rights organized a consultation on a rights-based approach to SDG implementation as a side event at the Fifth Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in April. The activity bolstered the visibility of the Office and opened avenues for further collaboration under this theme. There has been wide recognition by partners of the work of OHCHR, UNECA and others, to integrate human rights considerations into digital trade in Africa. OHCHR and the UNCT in Ethiopia co-organized briefings, which led to improved know-how and understanding among members about how to integrate human rights considerations into the design process and ongoing roll-out of the UNSDCF, including through the preparation of the CCA and strategic prioritization. OHCHR organized subregional trainings for UNCTs from 10 countries in the sub-region, including the three focus countries, namely Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania. More specifically, participants were encouraged to consider innovative ways of forging synergies between the SDGs and the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and link them to their country programming.



## Mechanisms (M)

M1 – National mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (NMRFs) are established and strengthened in two countries in the sub-region; their mandates are comprehensive and clear. One to two States in the region improve their capacity to implement and follow up on the recommendations of international human rights mechanisms, including by submitting reports to the Treaty Bodies. Three to five outstanding human rights treaties or optional protocols are ratified without reservations.



OHCHR contributed to the increased capacity of NMRFs in Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania to systematically pursue the implementation of recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms and submit timely and quality reports to those mechanisms.

Following technical advice from OHCHR and its training workshop on reporting under CAT and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the NMRF in Ethiopia showed improvement in its capacity to prepare reports for the international human rights mechanisms. This was manifested in the submission of the State Party report under ICCPR, the draft report to CAT and the consultative report preparation process in anticipation of the country's third UPR cycle. The Office advocated for the development of implementation plans, including for recommendations issued by the UPR, as a more efficient conduit for systematizing the follow-up process beyond the National Human Rights Action Plan II (2016-2020) framework. The Office of the Attorney General, which coordinates the NMRF in Ethiopia, officially requested assistance from OHCHR to establish a National

Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) to strengthen its information management capacity. The Office is in the process of identifying the extent of the support that is required. OHCHR will continue providing support to the functioning of the NMRF, including the full set-up of the NRTD, based on an earlier analysis of needs.

In all of the abovementioned capacity-building efforts, the Office systematically advocated for and shared skill sets on leveraging synergies between the review procedures and the implementation of the SDGs and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. To this end, the Office reached out to numerous African countries at the Fifth Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in Morocco, particularly during the speaking slot at the Voluntary National Review (VNR) workshop and at the side event on rights-based implementation of the SDGs.

In addition, in 2019, the Office provided technical support to the AU on the finalization of the road map for the implementation of the AU Transitional Justice Policy.

## GUINEA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
12.77 million	246,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.466 (175/188 in 2018)	

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2010
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Conakry, Nzérékoré
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	19

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$2,803,022</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$3,244,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$2,992,575</b>	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>4</sup>
<b>57%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>11%</b>
\$1,701,055	\$956,909	\$334,611

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1 2 3 4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Accountability (A)

**A1 – The justice sector is reformed. National courts increasingly reference human rights principles and standards in their proceedings and decisions. They investigate and prosecute alleged perpetrators of serious crimes.**

#### **16**

OHCHR contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings through advice and capacity-building sessions.

As a result of eight training sessions, on-the-job coaching and the facilitation of oversight by judicial inspectors and the Parliament, civilian and military

magistrates in Guinea are increasingly using human rights standards in their proceedings. The Office monitored six emblematic cases and observed that some rights were upheld in all of the cases. Four training sessions for civil society actors on the administration of justice and trial monitoring contributed to these improvements. In addition, the Office conducted an assessment of public access to justice and the perception of progress achieved. The results corroborated the reported improvements in respect for human rights in court proceedings. Efforts are still required, however, to ensure full respect for all rights in court proceedings, particularly as frequent staff turnover in

the sector demands continuous training and support for newly recruited magistrates and lawyers.

## Participation (P)

**P1** – A law that protects human rights defenders has been adopted.

### 16

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation and policies on gender equality, the rights of women and of the child with international human rights norms and standards, including through advocacy and technical and financial assistance.

With support from the Office, a new civil code was enacted to improve gender equality and human rights for women, the national policy on human rights was updated, a national strategy for conflict prevention was developed and a new Child Code was reviewed by the National Assembly. In cooperation with national NGOs and CSOs, and by providing information on relevant human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR advocated against envisioned amendments to a draft CSO Act that would have negatively impacted on the right of freedom of expression. As a result, the draft was not adopted. The Office also facilitated two working sessions with the NHRI and the Ministry for Human Rights and Public Freedoms and two working sessions with CSOs to advocate for the creation of a legal framework for the protection of HRDs. In December, the Ministry pledged to secure the adoption of a law as soon as possible.

**P6** – By 2021, the participation in public life of discriminated groups, including women, youth, and people living with albinism, has increased. These groups are able to claim their rights.



OHCHR contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders in public processes, especially women and discriminated groups, including persons with disabilities, by raising their awareness about relevant human rights principles and standards.

The Office organized three workshops for youth on human rights and civic participation. The participants subsequently established a coordination group to channel their claims. Women also benefited from the Office's awareness-raising campaigns. For instance, following outreach activities on human rights and traditional practices that were held in the areas of Kankan, Faranah and Nzérékoré, leaders of local communities realized that most of their traditional practices were contrary to the human rights of women and girls and pledged to abandon these practices.

Furthermore, technical support provided by OHCHR contributed to the enactment, in May, of the Law on Gender Parity in Elective Positions. On the other hand, the expected enactment of the draft Law on the Rights of Persons with Albinism did not take place in 2019.

## Peace and Security (PS)

**PS1** – National authorities are regularly informed about human rights violations and take appropriate measures to investigate and prosecute them.



Through monitoring and sharing of information, OHCHR contributed to the increased investigation and prosecution, by national authorities, of cases of human rights violations.

The Office systematically referred observed violations to and discussed recurrent issues and potential remedies with the committee that is responsible for following up on these cases. As a result of these activities, 35 persons being held in unlawful detention were released, seven lactating mothers who were being detained in conditions that were harmful for their infants were provisionally released, redress was granted to 15 suspects who were being detained without case files, medical treatment was provided to sick inmates and attention was brought to the cases of 386 inmates being held in prolonged pretrial detention.

**PS6** – The national plan for the security sector has been implemented by 2020.

### 16

By providing technical guidance, OHCHR contributed to the increased institutionalization of human rights modules in the academic curricula of defence and security institutions.

During meetings with the army's Chief of Staff and following an evaluation of the Office's security sector reform programme, the human rights modules developed by OHCHR were praised

for contributing to building a culture of respect for human rights among security forces. In addition, a decrease in violations accredited to the security forces may be partially attributed to the training sessions facilitated by OHCHR. The Office will train army trainers in 2020 and gradually hand over the training for security forces and other institutions.

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – Reports are submitted promptly to human rights mechanisms including Treaty Bodies; overdue reports have been submitted.**

**16 17**

Following two OHCHR training workshops and a report drafting retreat for members of the interministerial mechanism in charge of integrated reporting, a road map was approved for the drafting and submission of delayed and overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies. The initial report under ICESCR and the report to the third UPR cycle were submitted during the reporting period.

## GUINEA-BISSAU: UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED PEACEBUILDING OFFICE IN GUINEA-BISSAU (UNIOGBIS)

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
1.92 million	36,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.461 (177/188 in 2018)	
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Special Political Mission	
<b>Year established</b>		2009	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Bissau, Bafata	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Partnership Framework 2016-2020	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		11	

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$97,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>123\*</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – Reports are submitted promptly to human rights mechanisms including treaty bodies; overdue reports have been submitted**

**16 17**

The Human Rights Section (HRS) of UNIOGBIS contributed to the increased capacity of State officials and other stakeholders to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. More specifically, the HRS supported the Government in the elaboration and submission of its State report to the third UPR cycle, which was submitted on 1 October, in anticipation of its scheduled review on 24 January 2020. The HRS also provided technical advice and assistance to the UNCT and CSOs in the preparation of their reports, which included a

validation workshop for 50 representatives (18 of whom were women) from 27 CSOs.

**M2 – Civil society provides information to the treaty bodies, special procedures and UPR.**

**17**

Through collaboration with non-traditional actors, the HRS contributed to building networks for the exchange of information and resources while simultaneously building on existing engagements with CSOs and national institutions.

The HRS ensured cross-learning by convening a round-table on hate speech for members of the media. It also contributed to a radio programme on the role

of the media in the application of and respect for human rights. In the context of inflammatory remarks by presidential candidates and their supporters during the pre-electoral period, the HRS held seven advocacy meetings with members of the media, specifically the Monitoring Group, under the auspices of the National Council on Social Communication, Radio Africa FM, Radio Capital FM and Radio Bombolom.

### Participation (P)

**P5 – OHCHR’s case database is fully functional; national authorities address all cases that OHCHR brings to their attention. A protection mechanism for human rights defenders is in place.**

The HRS contributed to the establishment of a protection mechanism for HRDs by producing a draft bill for the protection of witnesses and victims, which is yet to be validated by national stakeholders. This would offer protection to HRDs acting as witnesses. The issue was discussed, in December, at the Second Strategic Retreat of the Human Rights Defenders Network, which was established and formalized in 2017 with the support of UNIOGBIS.

**P6 – The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard.**

The HRS significantly contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes. Following the mentoring efforts of the HRS, which targeted a core group of 41 HRDs, including 19 women, on human rights monitoring and elections and early warning, the Human Rights Defenders

Network monitored the presidential elections in all regions of the country, in November and December, to identify and address threats of human rights violations. In addition, six networks of CSOs were mobilized with the assistance of the European Union, UN Women, UNFPA and UNIOGBIS. The networks received support from the Peacebuilding Fund for the joint development and monitoring of an electoral Code of Conduct for the presidential elections, to establish a situation room to identify and monitor possible risks and provide early warning on threats to the electoral process. The situation room was set up during the first and second rounds of the presidential elections, in November and December. The civil society initiatives were lauded by stakeholders for their significant contribution to a peaceful environment for the presidential elections and the reduction in post-electoral social conflicts. Those capacities were also developed in relation to the legislative elections held in early 2019.

### Accountability (A)

**A1 – A national human rights institution is established that complies with the Paris Principles. Human rights training and education is institutionalized in the justice, health, education, and defence and security sectors. The Government adopts a national policy on human rights, a strategic plan to combat impunity, and a law that protects victims and witnesses.**

**16**

The HRS contributed to reducing human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems. Specifically, the HRS carried out regular monitoring and advocacy related to the rights of persons deprived of their liberty. As a result, 194 out of a total 338 detainees

(all adult men), who were being held in arbitrary/prolonged detention, were released in 2019 and the case files for 64 other detainees were referred to the Office of the Prosecutor General for a decision on pretrial detention.

Regarding the institutionalization of Human Rights Education (HRE) in the Defence Sector, targeted capacity-building efforts were undertaken to strengthen the competencies of armed forces officers. A training of trainers on human rights was held for 30 officers, including 14 female military officers, and trainers from the Ministry of Defence and the National Defence Institute. The Ministry of Defence subsequently committed to the inclusion of HRE in its ongoing training for the armed forces.

Building on the work initiated in 2018 in the Education Sector, various tools were finalized in 2019 for teaching human rights in the educational system, including referential manuals on Education for Citizenship and Human Rights and Peace for education professionals, such as primary school teachers. The HRS also trained six representatives from the National Institute of Education Development and 123 teachers across the country.

Furthermore, the HRS produced a draft bill for a Human Rights Institution that is compliant with the Paris Principles. The draft will be discussed with the Government in order to seek its support prior to its presentation to the Parliament in 2020.

## KENYA

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
52.57 million	592,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.579 (143/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2014
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser		
<b>Year established</b>	2008		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Nairobi		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	5		

## XB requirements 2019

US\$1,070,000

## Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:


**Accountability (A)**

**A2 – Kenyan authorities strengthen and enforce measures to prevent human rights violations by police and other security agencies, including sexual and gender-based violence. Those responsible for violations are held accountable and prosecuted.**



OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) in the collection of SDG indicators.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support to KNCHR for the review of practices, methodologies and challenges in collecting data on SDG indicators 16.1.1, 16.1.3, 16.3.1, 16.10.1 and 16.b.1/10.3.1. In 2017, OHCHR played a key role in facilitating a partnership between the KNBS and the KNCHR on SDG data collection

and indicators. In the context of this partnership, a list of population groups that are frequently left behind was identified. OHCHR is the UN system's custodian agency for four official SDG indicators under SDG 10 and SDG 16. In Kenya, OHCHR focused on making two of these goals a reality, namely, 10.3.1/16.b.1 on the prevalence of discrimination and harassment and 16.10.1 on violence against HRDs. In 2019, OHCHR established a list of action points and outputs to operationalize its Guidance Note on a Human Rights-Based Approach to Data and the 2017 MoU between the KNBS and the KNCHR to mainstream a human rights-based approach to the collection of data. The MoU aimed at improving data collection, disaggregation, dissemination and/or analysis of groups being left behind in relation to national censuses, household surveys and other sources. In this unique partnership, a statistics

institution and a human rights institution are collaborating to ensure that a human rights-based approach is being applied to data and statistics.

OHCHR also supported the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) to review its operational capacity, physical structures and resources to deal with cases of serious human rights violations. For the first time, a comprehensive review was undertaken to assess its capacity to prosecute serious human rights violations. The final report was presented to and fully endorsed by the ODPP, in June. The report highlighted the ODPP's capacity gaps and made recommendations to address structural gaps, develop its expertise with regard to focused prosecutorial strategies and strengthen data collection and crime analysis to enhance its newly established Civil Rights Division. Following the review, the ODPP requested additional support and prosecutorial advice for the Civil Rights Division on landmark cases of unlawful killings, test cases involving serious human rights violations, including the case of extrajudicial killings during the 2017 elections, and to assist with the establishment of standard operating procedures between the ODPP, the police service and the Independent Policing Oversight Authority.

## Participation (P)

**P1 – The Kenyan authorities put measures in place to protect civic space, including the Public Benefits and Organizations Act. The measures, and policies on public participation, comply with international human rights standards.**

### **16**

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the protection and empowerment of civil society actors, including journalists. Civic space continued to be a priority for Kenya and the Office conducted extensive advocacy on laws, including by securing a civic space component in the UNDAF. It also conducted a survey on the engagement of the UNCT on civic space, which provides a good overview of how OHCHR worked with other parts of the UN system on this issue.

In 2018, OHCHR provided substantive input to the draft Policy on Public Participation to ensure that it reflects the Human Rights Council's Guidelines on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs. In 2019, the draft was completed and endorsed by the Attorney General and it is currently awaiting adoption by the Cabinet before it is gazetted for implementation. Once adopted, OHCHR will support its implementation and a baseline survey on the status of public participation in selected counties.

The capacity of the Media Council of Kenya was enhanced following a round-table meeting held with CSOs working on freedom of information. The meeting provided a forum for discussions on practical ways of enhancing the safety of journalists and utilizing the international human rights mechanisms to advocate for the safety of journalists in Kenya. The event was convened

by OHCHR in response to unprecedented attacks on freedom of the media that occurred in the electoral period. Participants prepared a position paper geared towards securing the promotion and protection of media freedoms, including the safety and security of journalists, and ensuring that these concerns were adequately reflected in the reports submitted prior to Kenya's third UPR cycle, in January 2020, and CAT's review of Kenya's third periodic report, which is scheduled for April 2020.

## Development (D)

**D1 – Two landmark litigation cases are successfully completed, and victims receive remedies.**

### **2 3 5 8 16 17**

OHCHR helped to ensure that oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are functioning in Kenya.

In 2019, the Centre for Justice Governance and Environmental Action (CJGEA) continued litigating a case on environmental rights. The case involves two companies that are being sued for polluting the environment. Specifically, the two companies were smelting lead as their core business in the Owino Uhuru community where 3,000 residents and 200 former staff members suffered lead poisoning. As part of its mandate to support the implementation of the UNGPs and protect civic space, OHCHR has provided technical and financial support for the case since 2016. In addition to securing a grant, OHCHR worked closely with Kenyan authorities to urge protection for the CJGEA and the members of the Owino Uhuru community when they were threatened for filing and pursuing the case. The Director of Public Prosecution took up the issue of threats and offered witness

protection for the duration of the case. The case challenges the responsibility of the State and non-State actors to respect, protect and fulfil the right to a clean and healthy environment as provided by the Kenyan Constitution. The case sought declarations on procedural environmental rights, access to information, public participation and access to effective remedy. The case was concluded in November and the decision is expected to be handed down in 2020.

**D2 – The courts and State non-judicial mechanisms hold businesses and other economic actors accountable, in accordance with human rights standards and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.**

### **1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16**

Through consistent advocacy, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards.

Over the last three years, OHCHR has supported government efforts to put in place a National Action Plan (NAP) and Policy on Business and Human Rights in line with the UNGPs. As a member of the Government Steering Committee, OHCHR provided technical and financial support for the development of the NAP. This is the first of its kind in Africa and once adopted, it will provide a model for other countries in the region. The report of the Working Group on business and human rights, which was submitted to the Human Rights Council in 2019, provided timely recommendations and an impetus to the NAP as it entered its final phase. The NAP has been submitted to the Attorney General's Office and is awaiting adoption. OHCHR will support its implementation, including with the private sector and business associations.

D3 – Kenya implements the decisions of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights with respect to Endorois and Ogiek rights to land and housing.



OHCHR contributed to the strengthened capacity of State institutions to implement court decisions.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support to a government-established Task Force on the implementation of the decision of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights issued against the Government of Kenya in respect of the rights of the Ogiek Community of Mau Complex and enhancing the participation of indigenous communities in the sustainable management of forests. OHCHR ensured that the Task Force partnered with experts on indigenous rights, such as Minority Rights Group International. In addition to its engagement with the Task Force, OHCHR partnered with the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) in developing countries. The Programme supports nationally-led REDD+ processes and promotes the informed and meaningful involvement of all stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities.

## EXPANDING CIVIC SPACE AND THE SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT IN KENYA

Over the last two years, OHCHR has worked with and supported the 27 social justice centres that have been functioning in informal settlements across Kenya since 2015. The centres are primarily formed by young human rights defenders to establish civic space where they can organize to advocate against human rights violations and promote social justice in their communities. This is done by documenting human rights violations and undertaking participatory action research, community dialogue, advocacy and campaigns on a variety of human rights issues, including police violence, extrajudicial killings and sexual and gender-based violence. They also focus on economic and social rights, such as the rights to water and adequate housing.

All of the centres are networked through the Social Justice Centres Working Group, which is comprised of two representatives from each centre, and functions as a collective voice for the social justice movement. OHCHR supports the engagement of the Working Group with the international human rights mechanisms, forums, donors and the diplomatic community to raise the profile of their work and the human rights issues affecting informal settlements. In 2019, the Working Group made its first submission in anticipation of Kenya's third UPR cycle. In addition, the Working Group and Wilfred Olal, their national coordinator, received the Human Rights Defender of the Year award for their community activism.

According to Olal, "because of OHCHR, we are now recognized by other players and we are participating in the Working Group on Human Rights Defenders. With the support of OHCHR, we engaged with the UPR process for the first time, which contributed to the capacity-building of our members. Without OHCHR, I don't know where we would be today."

As a result of this recognition and support and the tireless activism of their members, the social justice centres movement is flourishing and new centres are opening across the country. OHCHR will continue to support their human rights work, seek out opportunities to promote their efforts and amplify the voices of the communities they serve.

 **Mechanisms (M)**

**M1 – Kenya creates a formal national reporting mechanism and a recommendations database.**

**16 17**

OHCHR played an instrumental role in setting up an NMRF, the National Committee on International and Regional Human Rights Obligations, which is composed of 17 government ministries, agencies and departments. The establishment of the NMRF follows two years of OHCHR's technical advice and robust advocacy efforts and represents an important achievement for OHCHR. In addition, it supported the drafting of the NMRF's terms of reference in compliance with good practices. The mechanism is a game changer for strengthening reporting, data collection and engagement with the international human rights machinery. The Government has indicated it is ready to develop a recommendations database, which has been included in the planned activities for 2020.

**M2 – The Government, national human rights institution, civil society organizations and the UN Country Team regularly submit reports to the international human rights mechanisms.**

**17** 

OHCHR contributed to the increased capacity of the Government and civil society to prepare and submit reports in the context of Kenya's third UPR cycle. OHCHR worked closely with the Attorney General's Office, which is the main government entity responsible for engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, and 67 civil society partners, which submitted a joint report to the UPR. A total of 22 CSOs submitted individual reports. For the first time, CSOs working on disabilities, sexual orientation and gender identity and sexual and reproductive health and rights participated in the preparation of the joint report. Other civil society partners included Grace Agenda, a network of survivors of sexual violence and social justice centres in informal urban settlements. Grace Agenda engaged in reporting to the international human rights mechanisms for the first time to highlight issues of extrajudicial executions and economic, social and cultural rights, such as the right to water and sanitation.

## LIBERIA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
4.94 million	111,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.465 (rank: 173/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2017
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office		
<b>Year established</b>	2018		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Monrovia		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2013-2019		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	7		
<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$2,416,080</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$4,734,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$3,100,864</b>		
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Non-personnel</b>	<b>PSC<sup>4</sup></b>	
<b>37%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>9%</b>	
\$1,147,105	\$1,660,243	\$293,516	

## Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1234</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability (A)**

**A4 – The Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) assists and advises members and committees of the Legislature and the Human Rights Legislative Association on human rights to prepare relevant bills, for example bills on domestic violence and on female genital mutilation.**

 **16**

With technical support for and capacity-building of relevant stakeholders, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of selected legislation with international human rights norms and standards.

Following many recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR, the Domestic Violence Bill was adopted, in August. The legislation is a landmark for gender equality in Liberia and seeks to address physical, emotional, verbal and psychological abuse, dowry-related violence, offenses against the family and harassment, among other violations. Due to advocacy from traditional leaders, however, the criminalization of FGM was excluded from the Bill. OHCHR provided technical support to the INCHR during the drafting and consultation process. This support led to the establishment of the Working Group on FGM, which is advocating for the adoption of

legislation on FGM that is being reviewed by the Liberian Parliament.

**A5 – The INCHR will implement the 2009 recommendation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia (TRC) to ensure accountability for crimes of the past.**

**5 10 16**

By providing technical support to the INCHR, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms in conformity with international human rights standards.

OHCHR provided technical guidance to the INCHR to support the civil society Transitional Justice Working Group in the development and implementation of an engagement strategy to advocate with relevant ministries, agencies and commissions for the implementation of the TRC's recommendations. The Office further supported the INCHR to convene a national colloquium that brought together 200 Liberians, including 85 women, from all backgrounds to discuss how the Government should implement the recommendations. The participants produced a communique that requested the Government to take steps to implement the TRC's recommendations, including the establishment of a War and Economic Crimes Court. The Liberian National Bar Association was mandated to prepare draft legislation for the establishment of the Court, which was finalized and will be submitted to the Parliament for its review and approval.

## Participation (P)

P1 – Government ministries and the Parliament consult and cooperate with the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and National Civil Society Council of Liberia (NCSCCL), including the Civil Society Organization Human Rights Advocacy Platform, when they draft legislation that relates to human rights and act to create a safe and enabling environment for civil society.

16

OHCHR advocated with relevant stakeholders for the compliance of legislation and policies with international human rights norms and standards.

On 7 June, approximately 20,000 Liberians took to the streets to express their discontent over the economic and social situation of the country. It was the largest protest to have taken place since the end of the civil war. OHCHR and other UN agencies played an important role in ensuring that the Government complied with its commitment to respect the rights of protestors. Despite initial concerns about political instability and the Government's ability to police the protests while also respecting human rights obligations, the demonstration was peaceful and no serious human rights violations were reported. OHCHR provided technical and financial support to train and deploy 50 monitors from the INCHR and civil society to monitor the protest.

## Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Liberia complies more fully with its international human rights obligations, including by reporting to the treaty bodies and the UPR and implementing their recommendations. To this end, the Government ratifies more human rights instruments, creates a national human rights action plan (NHRAP) and appoints a drafting committee and NHRAP steering committee.

16 17

The mechanisms for implementing and reporting on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms improved their functioning with OHCHR's technical support.

OHCHR provided INCHR with financial and technical guidance to support the preparation of its first UPR submission. To this end, the Office facilitated joint fact-finding missions to six counties, a regional consultation to validate the report and a technical session for the INCHR drafting team to finalize the report, which was submitted, in October. OHCHR also supported the Government of Liberia to draft its report for the third UPR cycle following organized regional consultations and the validation of the document prior to its submission, in March 2020.

Regarding the implementation of recommendations, OHCHR supported the reorganization of the NHRAP Steering Committee and the reactivation of its regular bimonthly meetings.

The Office provided advice on the drafting, validation and finalization of the new NHRAP for 2019-2024 that will be submitted for final endorsement and nationwide dissemination in 2020. The second five-year National Human Rights Action Plan was officially launched, on 10 December, during the official national celebration of Human Rights Day.

## MADAGASCAR

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
26.97 million	587,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.521 (rank: 162/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2019
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser		
<b>Year established</b>	2011		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Antananarivo		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	4		

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$474,000**

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Accountability (A)

**A1 – The Independent National Human Rights Commission is fully operational by 2020.**



The Office contributed to the functioning of the Independent National Human Rights Commission (INHRC), in compliance with the Paris Principles, by strengthening the capacity of its members and providing technical support for its institution building.

The INHRC was accredited with “A” status by GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation. Following appropriate legislative amendments in 2018, the INHRC was tasked with the role of NPM. Since the swearing-in of the 11 commissioners in October 2016, OHCHR has been providing support to the INHRC to ensure that it is functioning in accordance with the Paris Principles, including by

advocating with State authorities on the measures that need to be implemented and the importance of developing an accurate budget. Technical support and guidance from OHCHR enabled the INHRC to establish a database and a manual on the handling of complaints, which are now being systematically used by the Commission.

#### Development (D)

**D3 – National legislation and development policies comply more fully with international human rights norms and principles, notably in regard to land and housing.**



By providing technical guidance, OHCHR sought to facilitate the development of policies and legislation in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In December, the Tripartite Charter for sustainable development and respect for human rights in the framework of private investments in Madagascar was finalized. Its signature ceremony will take place in 2020. With support from OHCHR, the Charter was drafted by representatives of civil society, the Government and mining companies to promote the integration of the principles of participation, transparency and accountability into law and policymaking and ensure that the Government’s general policy and sector-based policies incorporate a human rights-based approach.

#### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The government committee in charge of drafting State reports to the human rights mechanisms is effective. It has established a monitoring mechanism.**



OHCHR supported the establishment and functioning of an NMRF on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In February, at the request of the Minister of Justice and in preparation

for Madagascar's participation in the third UPR cycle, which took place in November, OHCHR facilitated two workshops to familiarize government officials, in particular members of the Interministerial Committee, with the UPR process. Participants included 20 staff members, including 12 women, from the Human Rights Directorate of the Ministry of Justice and 54 members, including 32 women, from the Interministerial Committee tasked with drafting State reports and following up on recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms. At the end of the two workshops, the participants developed action plans related to the establishment of a data collection system and report drafting schedules and adopted a road map for the preparation of the UPR report. This led the UNCT to provide financial and technical support for the organization of several workshops that were needed for collecting relevant information and drafting the State report to the UPR.



### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS4 – Madagascar's post-crisis reconstruction includes a genuine reconciliation process that complies with international transitional justice principles.**



The Office contributed to the increased compliance of transitional justice mechanisms with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR cooperated with the National Reconciliation Council and the INHRC to support the Government in implementing a comprehensive human rights-based monitoring and prevention system during the elections.

A joint OHCHR-INHRC Human Rights Centre for Collecting, Compiling and Alerting on Human Rights Violations was set up in the OHCHR Office, in Antananarivo, during legislative elections that were held, in May. A total of 15 persons, composed of staff from OHCHR and the INHRC, including its President, were present at the Centre to receive and compile information on human rights violations documented by 220 human rights monitors deployed across the country.

The Centre participated in the human rights monitoring strategy for the presidential elections that were held in November and December 2018. The strategy was shared with all key partners within the framework of the Gender and Human Rights Working Group, including CSOs, the INHRC, the National Reconciliation Council, the Bar Association, the Association of Journalists, the donor community and UN agencies. Each entity was solicited to appoint two monitors per region, which resulted in the designation of 220 monitors, including 140 women, across the country.

OHCHR developed a handbook for monitors, which was distributed to the participants during the training sessions that were held in six provinces. Each monitor was also provided with an introduction letter to facilitate their monitoring work and the means to enable them to communicate relevant findings in a timely manner.

OHCHR's collaborative work with the INHRC increased the visibility and credibility of the INHRC. Focus groups that were organized to assess human rights monitoring in the context of elections revealed that the monitors played a dissuasive role and that the monitoring strategy proved to be an effective tool in preventing electoral fraud and violence.

The presence of the monitors also helped to restore the population's confidence

in the electoral process and served to strengthen the credibility of the monitors, primarily those who were members of civil society organizations working in remote areas.

First-hand information provided by the joint OHCHR-INHRC Human Rights Centre for Collecting, Compiling and Alerting on Human Rights Violations contributed to UNCT reports on the electoral process. The only other available information came from the National Independent Electoral Commission.

## MALI: UNITED NATIONS MULTIDIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILIZATION MISSION IN MALI (MINUSMA)

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
19.66 million	1,240,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.427 (rank: 184/188 in 2018)	Status B, 2012
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Peace Mission		
<b>Year established</b>	2013		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Bamako, Gao, Kidal, Ménaka, Mopti, Timbuktu		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	66		

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$74,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – The internal oversight mechanisms of Mali’s Defence and Security Forces (MDSF) are operational and comply with international human rights standards.**

**16**

The Human Rights and Protection Division (HRPD) of MINUSMA contributed to the increased compliance of the MDSF with international standards through technical cooperation and advocacy.

The HRPD facilitated the establishment of a mechanism for tracking missing persons who were arrested during counter-terrorism operations that were conducted by the MDSF. Thanks to this tracking system, the HRPD, in collaboration with the army’s Chief of Staff, was able to determine the status of 27 reportedly missing individuals, thereby helping to prevent those persons from

being forcibly disappeared. In addition, the HRPD facilitated the deployment of legal advisers to the Chief of Staff to ensure the effective functioning of the tracking mechanism, particularly in the Gao and Mopti regions.

**A2 – Criminal courts increasingly process human rights-related cases promptly and in compliance with international due process standards. Serious violations that occurred after 2012 are prosecuted, whether they involve members of armed groups or members of the MDSF.**

**10 16**

The HRPD monitored the trials of human rights violation cases to determine if they were conducted in compliance with international standards.

Specifically, the HRPD monitored the two sessions of the Court of Assizes that were held in 2019 to ensure that international fair trial standards were observed. Out of 244 cases that were before the courts during those sessions, the HRPD monitored and assessed 19 cases of alleged terrorist acts and five cases of trafficking in persons. Although the HRPD reported an improvement in the observance of the three-year time limit for pretrial detention, it noted other human rights concerns regarding these cases.

In December, the Minister of Justice and Human Rights issued a letter to prosecutors in Mali that requested that they take “all necessary measures to engage appropriate criminal proceedings with due diligence and firmness against all persons” involved in any form of violence directed at anyone taking a stand against contemporary forms of slavery. The Minister also instructed prosecutors to regularly update him on actions taken to address this phenomenon, which is particularly prevalent in the Kayes region. This action follows sustained engagement by the HRPD with relevant authorities.

#### **Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS2 – Mali’s defence and security forces and G5 Sahel Joint Force comply with international human rights law and humanitarian law when they conduct counter-terrorism operations.**

**16** 

Through information-sharing and advocacy, the HRPD contributed to the improvement in the compliance of State institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

The information-sharing mechanism with the army’s Chief of Staff, initiated

by the HRPD, helped to facilitate significant advances in the protection of human rights and the fight against impunity. As a result of the HRPD's rigorous work in investigating, documenting and sharing information on human rights violations with the army's Chief of Staff, the armed forces significantly changed their behaviour with regard to allegations of human rights violations committed by elements of the Malian Army. While it was common for them to deny allegations of human rights violations presumably committed by the Malian Army, the HRPD noted that authorities began to seriously consider cases submitted by the HRPD, initiate investigations and request technical and logistical assistance from MINUSMA.

In June, the HRDP collaborated with United Nations Police (UNPOL), the Justice and Corrections Section of MINUSMA and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to organize a workshop on human rights and detention in relation to terrorism. The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of the personnel of the Pôle Judiciaire Spécialisé (PJS), the leading entity in the fight against terrorism, money laundering and transborder criminality in Mali. The workshop facilitated a debate on illegal detentions in relation to the fight against terrorism, as well as challenges faced by the PJS in handling the cases of persons arrested during counter-terrorism operations. Participants also explored possible avenues to improve detention conditions in compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law. As a result of this workshop and various visits and advocacy meetings that were conducted by the HRPD, 321 detainees who had been illegally detained in facilities under the responsibility of the PJS were released.

**PS4 – The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission fulfils its mandate and issues its final report. The Malian authorities implement their key recommendations, prioritizing victims' rights, in accordance with Mali's international obligations.**

## 16

With technical support from the HRPD, transitional justice mechanisms in Mali increasingly operate in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) made some progress towards the fulfilment of its mandate, which was extended until December 2021 and expanded to include acts committed between 1960 and 2019. The HRDP provided technical and logistical support to the Commission and was actively involved in the organization of the first public hearing. The hearing was held in Bamako, on 8 December, during which 13 witnesses (two women, 11 men) testified regarding the harm they had endured, including arbitrary detention and abductions. Moreover, the HRPD supported 14 victims' associations to increase their participation in various activities organized by the TJRC aimed at preparing victims' associations and other key partners for the hearing. To this end, the HRPD facilitated the participation of 70 persons (23 women, 47 men) in a public hearing workshop that was organized in Bamako, in May, by the TJRC. The workshop gathered together representatives of victims' associations, representatives of human rights organizations, commissioners of the TJRC, as well as advisers on reparations and reconciliation. The HRPD also contributed to the organization of a workshop on public hearings for women and child victims that was organized by the TJRC, in June,

which brought together 62 participants (28 women, 34 men) representing CSOs and associations on the rights of women and of the child.

In addition, under the Mechanisms pillar, the HRPD supported the Interministerial Committee in charge of reporting to the human rights treaty bodies in the drafting of two periodic reports under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

## MAURITANIA

**Population size<sup>1</sup>** 4.53 million **Surface area<sup>1</sup>** 1,031,000 km<sup>2</sup> **Human Development Index<sup>2</sup>** 0.527 (rank: 159/188 in 2016) **NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup>** Status B, 2018

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2010
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Nouakchott
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018-2022
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	10

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$1,496,602</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$1,979,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,113,321</b>		
	<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Non-personnel</b>	<b>PSC<sup>4</sup></b>
	<b>54%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>11%</b>
	\$601,678	\$392,795	\$118,849

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – Prison conditions increasingly comply with international standards due to monitoring and coordination of assistance efforts.**

**16**

Through monitoring, technical support and advocacy activities, OHCHR contributed to the improvement of detention facilities in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, OHCHR was able to undertake, for the first time, visits to a number of detention facilities, such as Selibali in the south and the women's prison in Nouakchott. The Office facilitated various trainings, alone or in partnership with

governmental institutions, that targeted members of the penitentiary system and magistrates to disseminate knowledge about human rights standards related to the treatment of prisoners. The Office continued engaging on a number of emblematic cases, including that of journalist Mohamed M'Kheidir, who was arrested in 2014, sentenced to death, then received a reduced sentence of two years in prison and a fine, which was followed by administrative detention. Mr. M'Kheidir was released in July. The Office also monitored the trials of nine men and two boys, who were tried in relation to demonstrations during and after the presidential elections. They were ultimately released.

### **Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS3 – The host population affected by the presence of Malian refugees and victims of other humanitarian emergencies are increasingly involved in the development and implementation of response strategies.**

**16**

OHCHR supported the increased participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected processes in order to prevent conflicts between host populations and refugees. This was primarily done through capacity-building and awareness-raising activities.

OHCHR facilitated the creation of a women's network in host communities in Bassikounou. Furthermore, a number of women and girls in the network were identified and trained to become trainers on human rights. Their awareness was raised on issues such as gender-based violence, legal referrals, early and forced marriage and discrimination and other forms of human rights violations. OHCHR will continue strengthening this network through trainings, regular visits and by facilitating interactions between members of the network with relevant stakeholders at the local and central levels.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The Interministerial Committee coordinates the preparation of State reports to human rights mechanisms and follows up on their recommendations, based on a national action plan. It adopts a participatory approach.**

**16 17**

Through consistent technical support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the NMRF on the implementation of recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms.

Mauritania prepared its submission to the UPR, which was shared with the Office in 2019. In addition, OHCHR collaborated with the Commission for Human Rights, Humanitarian Action and Civil Society Relations to co-organize a number of trainings and workshops to monitor the implementation of the National Plan of Action to follow up on the UPR recommendations that were issued in 2015. A final assessment on the status of implementation of the recommendations will be made in 2020.

## NIGER

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
23.31 million	1,267,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.377 (rank: 189/189 in 2018)	Status A, 2017
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights Adviser	
<b>Year established</b>		2008	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Niamey	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2021	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		3	

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$538,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>123</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Non-discrimination (ND)**

**ND3 – Niger fully implements the National Policy on Gender, reduces discrimination against women, and increases the participation of women in public life.**

**5 9 10** 

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the enhanced compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR successfully engaged with the National Human Rights Commission and CSOs to advocate for enhancing the participation of women in public space in Niger. OHCHR's advocacy contributed to the adoption by Parliament, on 6 December, of the bill amending Law No. 2000-008 of June 2000 to establish the quota system in elective, government and State administration positions. The

revised legislation institutes a quota system for the participation of women in elective, government and State administration functions. The objective is to increase the quotas from 15 to 25 per cent for elective positions and from 25 to 30 per cent for appointments to senior government positions. It is anticipated that this legislation will strengthen the participation of women in public and political life in Niger.

**ND6 – The Government and other relevant actors adopt a human rights-based response to combat migrant smuggling and human rights violations associated with irregular migration; particular attention is given to protecting women's and children's rights**

**1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11**  
**13 16** 

OHCHR contributed to the protection of groups in vulnerable situations from human rights violations by supporting

the establishment of appropriate protection systems and procedures.

OHCHR provided technical support to the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants to develop the National Plan of Action to combat the smuggling of migrants. This support primarily consisted of ensuring the integration of an HRBA into the strategic axes of the Action Plan. Specifically, OHCHR focused on enhancing national legal frameworks and policies on the protection of the human rights of migrants, in line with the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICMRW) and other international human rights instruments, and enhancing the national capacities in Mali and Niger to increase the protection of the human rights of migrants and their access to justice, in accordance with international human rights law and standards.

Furthermore, OHCHR analysed the conformity of the Labour Code with the standards established in ICRMW, which was ratified by Niger in 2009. The review demonstrated that the Labour Code is not in line with certain provisions related to non-discrimination in ICRMW, that it does not define migrant workers or refer to legal provisions relating to family reunification for migrant workers. As a result, the Office made proposals to the Government for corrective measures, which were integrated into the draft National Action Plan.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – Niger submits reports promptly to the UPR and to the treaty bodies, engages with and responds to special procedures, and implements their recommendations.**

16 17

OHCHR provided technical support to Niger to encourage the timely submission of its reports.

In 2019, Niger continued its efforts to submit outstanding reports to the human rights treaty bodies. As a result, the Government finalized and submitted its second periodic report on the implementation of ICCPR and its initial reports under CAT and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). OHCHR trained members of the NMRF on the drafting guidelines and provided technical support in finalizing and validating the reports and responding to the lists of issues.

**M2 – UN agencies, civil society organizations, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and other key actors prepare and submit at least one contribution or shadow report to the UPR, Treaty Bodies or special procedures annually.**

17 

Technical guidance was provided by OHCHR to the NHRC and other actors to increase the substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR provided substantive guidance to the NHRC for the development of its report under CAT and to civil society organizations in the preparation of their joint alternative reports on the implementation of ICCPR. The report, which

included OHCHR's inputs, was considered in November.

## Peace and Security (PS)

**PS4 – The Government promotes peace processes and justice reforms; these recognize the rights of victims and comply with international human rights norms and standards.**

16 

Through research and advocacy, OHCHR contributed to the establishment of national systems and procedures for protection from human rights violations.

OHCHR carried out a study to identify the profiles of victims of human rights violations in the Boko Haram conflict in the Diffa region. The main objectives of the study were to identify the types of human rights violations that occurred in the context of the conflict, determine the profile of the victims and propose means of compensation for the damage suffered.

Through the study, OHCHR sought to ensure that the rights of victims were taken into account in the context of the amnesty process that was initiated by the Government. In addition, OHCHR urged the importance of respecting the principles of human rights in conducting this process. As a result, the penal code was revised to exclude from amnesty the perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and all other serious crimes.

## NIGERIA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
200.96 million	924,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.534 (rank: 157/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2016
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser		
<b>Year established</b>	2014		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Abuja, Lafia, Maiduguri, Makurdi		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework 2018-2022		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	1		

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$ 1,300,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A2 – Nigeria domesticates at least one human rights treaty and accepts at least two additional individual complaints and inquiry procedures by 2021.**

**10 16** 

Through technical support and guidance, OHCHR contributed to the domestication and ratification of international and regional human rights treaties by the country.

In 2019, the President signed into law the Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, which domesticated CRPD. This came about following advocacy that was undertaken by the UN, its partners and stakeholders. To prepare for this achievement, OHCHR organized a workshop on CRPD, in 2018, which brought together relevant stakeholders and government representatives.

Furthermore, in response to recommendations issued by the UPR, the President signed into law the Corrections Service Act, which reformed the Nigerian penitentiary system and brought it in line with current global practices that emphasize rehabilitation and establish mechanisms for non-custodial sentences.

#### **Mechanisms (M)**

**M1 – The Government responds more swiftly to requests to visit by mandate holders and accepts 80 per cent of requests.**

**16 17**

Through targeted advocacy and outreach, OHCHR encouraged the Government to increase its acceptance of special procedures visit requests.

As a result, the Government of Nigeria hosted two special procedures visits in 2019, namely, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, in August, and the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, in September. OHCHR provided technical and logistic support for both missions and will follow up with the concerned parties on the implementation of the recommendations resulting from these visits.

## RWANDA

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
12.63 million	26,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.536 (158/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2018
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights Adviser	
<b>Year established</b>		2007	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Kigali	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Development Assistance Plan 2018-2023	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		2	

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$ 488,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Development (D)

**D2 – By 2021, a law regulates the compliance of business with human rights.** OHCHR and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) help to train corporations in human rights, with the objective of ensuring that all economic actors and businesses adhere to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

**1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17**



OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of relevant legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards by providing technical guidance and building the capacity of partners.

In 2019, the Office focused on building the capacity of business players and the NHRC related to business and human rights. The NHRC and its partners are

familiar with the UNGPs, able to conduct investigations into human rights violations in the business sector and claim redress for violations of their rights. The Office further engaged in an analysis of existing policies, programmes and laws on business and human rights and provided inputs into the Labour Law, which is currently being revised, to ensure that the labour rights of individuals are better protected and that businesses are held accountable. The NHRC provided its inputs and views during the review of the National Employment Policy, which was promulgated in 2019 and addresses respect for human rights in relation to employment. OHCHR also monitored major development and infrastructure projects with regard to involuntary displacement, resettlement and compensation, with a view to ensuring that affected populations have relevant information and are supported in claiming their rights.

## G5 SAHEL JOINT FORCE COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORK PROJECT

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Project (Other type of field presence)
<b>Year established</b>	2018
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	28

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$6,170,158</b>
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$10,300,000</b>
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$6,687,738</b>

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>†</sup>
54%	38%	8%
\$3,598,842	\$2,545,689	\$543,207

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>†</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:



#### Peace and Security (PS)

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has established mechanisms for the arrest, detention, interrogation and transfer of those apprehended during operations in accordance with international human rights and humanitarian laws and standards.

16

Through the provision of technical advice, OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms, which conform to international human rights standards.

In March, detailed standard operating procedures on capture and detention were finalized and signed by the Force Commander. OHCHR supported efforts

to ensure that they will be implemented by the G5 Sahel Joint Force, including through advocacy during workshops and trainings that led to their dissemination to sector and battalion officers before military operations were conducted. Furthermore, the Joint Force developed a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), which sets out the immunities and privileges for the Joint Force troops and aims at ensuring compliance with international legal standards, including on the capture, detention and transfer of detainees. As a result of OHCHR's advocacy, the provisions of SOFA on the arrest and detention of suspects, screening and identification of soldiers and redress were brought closer in line to international standards. A provision on the non-execution of the death penalty

was included as a requirement of the transfer of suspects between the G5 Sahel countries.

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has integrated pre-deployment, preventative and mitigation mechanisms and measures.

16

OHCHR contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training by providing technical support.

The OHCHR-G5 Sahel team in Bamako also contributed to the amendment of the Force Generation Protocol by encouraging the inclusion of criteria aimed at enhancing the selection process, namely, requiring that candidates do not have a criminal record or a pending case and that they have demonstrated good conduct and discipline. Military headquarters in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger are now following the same process as the United Nations screening procedures.

PS2 – Political and strategic support to the implementation and maintenance of the Compliance Framework is maintained.

16

Through advocacy and outreach, OHCHR helped to ensure that critical human rights issues were raised and taken up in international forums in a timely manner.

In 2019, the OHCHR-G5 Sahel team routinely engaged members of the Security Council, Member States of the UN and AU and other UN entities at strategic levels in order to provide consistent political and technical support for its work with the G5 Sahel countries. In May, briefings

were organized, in New York, for Security Council members and representatives of the G5 Sahel countries. At the end of March, the High Commissioner briefed the Security Council on the Compliance Framework during a ministerial meeting that was organized by Burkina Faso and France on the establishment of the G5 Sahel Joint Force. On 12 February, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights delivered an informal briefing to Security Council members, the AU, the G5 Sahel and some permanent representatives from the European Union on the Compliance Framework. In coordination with the UN Department of Peace Operations, OHCHR provided inputs to the Secretary-General's report to the Security Council on the G5 Sahel Joint Force, which was presented to the Security Council on 16 May. Following the presentation, 11 Security Council members referred to the Compliance Framework as a positive initiative. Recommendations were put forward to fully operationalize its measures and mechanisms. The Compliance Framework is increasingly considered by UN Member States to be a tool that can help mitigate harm to civilians in the context of conflict and counter-terrorism operations in the Sahel.

The Compliance Framework has been similarly identified as a positive approach in documents or policies of other partners, for instance, in the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) policy paper entitled *Building a culture of protection: 20 years of Security Council engagement on the protection of civilians*. The paper documents the achievements and good practices that may serve as a foundation for achieving tangible protection for civilians in the years ahead.

**PS6 – United Nations support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.**

**16**

Through technical advice and training, OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights standards and compliance with the HRDDP by relevant actors.

Following the extension of the geographical scope of MINUSMA to support the G5 Sahel Joint Force outside of Mali, OHCHR provided technical and operational guidance to the Human Rights Division of MINUSMA for the organization of regional consultations on the implementation of the HRDDP. Pending the full deployment of the HRDDP team, tools, recommendations and a temporary plan for its implementation were shared with MINUSMA. Furthermore, a draft General and Preliminary Risk Assessment Framework on MINUSMA support to G5 Sahel Joint Force was finalized, in December, with technical guidance from OHCHR. This Framework will serve as the basis for required HRDDP risk assessments.

## SOMALIA: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SOMALIA (UNSOM)

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
15.44 million	638,000 km <sup>2</sup>	-	-
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Peace Mission	
<b>Year established</b>		2008	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Mogadishu, Puntland, Somaliland, South West State	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Integrated Strategic Framework 2017-2020	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		26	

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$ 270,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A2 – A functioning and independent National Human Rights Commission is established. It reports annually on the human rights situation. At least two functioning rule of law institutions with oversight and accountability powers are established.**

**10 16**

The Human Rights and Protection Group (HRPG) of UNSOM contributed to the strengthening of existing protection mechanisms to promote their compliance with international human rights standards by building the capacity of national mechanisms.

In order to strengthen the capacity of national mechanisms providing redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, the HRPG facilitated two

workshops, one for the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights and one for the Parliamentary Committee on Justice in the South West State of Somalia, on the implementation of recommendations issued by the UPR and accountability for human rights violations. Participants discussed topics such as the role of Members of Parliament in promoting and protecting human rights, accountability and the human rights obligations of the State as the primary duty-bearer. In Puntland, a total of 15 members of the Parliamentary Committee on Justice and Human Rights were supported by the HRPG in conducting outreach on prisons and IDPs. The findings on the human rights conditions of those being detained will be used to urge the Parliament to undertake effective measures to promote human rights and encourage policy

development on compensation for victims of human rights violations.

In September, the HRPG contributed to a meeting on endorsing and implementing the draft IDP Policy, which involved 55 participants from the Parliamentary Committee on Refugees and IDPs, the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs and CSOs. Land rights, tenure security, development and social inclusion, political participation and access to services were among the topics discussed for inclusion in the draft. In addition, the State's role in adopting the policy and ending the suffering of refugees and IDPs was underscored. At the end of the meeting, State representatives recognized the responsibilities of national and local authorities to protect IDPs and create conditions for adequate and durable solutions.

#### **Participation (P)**

**P5 – Four thematic civil society networks are established or strengthened. Five civil society networks are able to monitor, report on and advocate for human rights effectively.**

The HRPG continued to encourage the increased use of national protection systems by civil society actors through training sessions that were facilitated to enhance their capacity to advocate for their rights.

The HRPG facilitated a panel discussion, which took place in Mogadishu, in August, on increasing youth participation in political and economic development. Approximately 110 participants engaged in discussions related to the role of the Government in developing initiatives and ensuring the active participation of youth in ongoing political processes, including the constitutional review process, the national reconciliation dialogue

and preparations for the national elections in 2020. The meeting also enabled participants to identify impediments to their participation in the economic development of the country, such as high unemployment rates and an absence of national policies addressing youth issues.

Moreover, the HRPG contributed to awareness-raising activities for civil society, national authorities and the general public regarding CRPD. For instance, a seven-day community outreach was organized for six districts. Three schools for the deaf participated in the events and mobilized their local communities of parents, families and friends. The events reached over 100 persons and focused on the importance of the ratification of CRPD, which took place on 6 August.



### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS6 – Six risk assessments are conducted and at least 40 per cent of mitigation measures are implemented.**

16

The HRPG contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards, principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the work of the Peace Mission.

In May, the United Nations-African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) Joint Working Group on the HRDDP met to discuss progress made on the implementation of agreed mitigation measures to address violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law. This included a presentation on the actions taken by AMISOM to monitor air asset mitigation measures. On 8 July, a joint assessment was carried out to support the implementation of these

measures in view of the anticipated possible new air assets. Recommendations were made for further training on human rights and international humanitarian law for air crew, standard operating procedures for air assets and enhanced incident reporting.

The Joint Working Group met on 10 October to discuss progress and challenges in the implementation of key mitigation measures to prevent and respond to violations allegedly committed by security forces, including the role of AMISOM Boards of Inquiry, ex gratia payments and the work of the Civilian Casualty Tracking, Analysis and Response Cell. Progress was noted with regard to ex gratia payments for affected victims and relatives. In addition, AMISOM established Boards of Inquiry for two incidents involving the alleged killing of five civilians by AMISOM troops. The HRPG supported the implementation of mitigation measures by UN entities providing support to non-United Nations security forces, including the United Nations Mine Action Service, through training of trainers in Mogadishu and Puntland.



### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – Support is provided for one annual visit by the Independent Expert on Somalia. Somalia submits one UPR report and at least one periodic report to human rights mechanisms.**

16 17

The HRPG supported the increased engagement of the Federal Government with the international human rights mechanisms.

The advocacy and technical guidance provided by the HRPG contributed to the ratification of CRPD on 6 August, the

enactment of legislation that was signed on 31 December 2018 to establish a disability agency and the process of drafting legislation on the rights of persons with disabilities. The HRPG's technical support was also pivotal in the submission of the first UPR mid-term review report, in January, and the submission of reports under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and CAT, on 19 September and 10 December, respectively. In July, the HRPG provided support to the sixth visit to Mogadishu and Hargeisa of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia. This support included logistical, administrative and substantive support, especially in facilitating consultations with the Federal Government, Federal Member States, UNSOM, UN agencies, AMISOM, trade unions and humanitarian and civil society organizations.

## SOUTHERN AFRICA

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe
<b>Year established</b>	1998
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Pretoria
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	12

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$864,800</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$2,471,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$969,842</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>†</sup>
	51%	37%	12%
	\$498,713	\$359,349	\$111,780
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$166,653</b>		
	Personnel		
	100%		
	\$166,653		

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>†</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Participation (P)

P6 – Civil society organizations are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.



The Office continued enhancing the meaningful participation of civil society actors in public processes and the protection of civic space in Southern Africa.

In 2019, the Office supported the Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders Network (SAHRDN) in developing strategies for the promotion and protection of

human rights in the region. The SAHRDN is a network comprising representatives of human rights organizations in 10 Southern African countries.

OHCHR undertook strategic research relating to laws and policies that shrink civic space and conducted a survey to identify the challenges faced by CSOs and HRDs in the subregion, which will inform the future work of the Office.

The Office continued enhancing the capacity of CSOs and networks, particularly in **Lesotho, Malawi** and

**Mozambique**, through its monitoring work, the development of new partnerships, trainings and technical advice.

#### Peace and Security (PS)

PS5 – In at least four countries, UN Country Teams integrate human rights in their early warning, prevention, preparedness and response plans.



OHCHR strengthened the prevention agenda and operationalization of the Human Rights up Front Initiative in Southern Africa through support to Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UNCTs on early warning and prevention. This was achieved by conducting integrated human rights monitoring and analysis prior to and during elections (**Comoros, Malawi and Mozambique**) and after elections (**Malawi and Zimbabwe**), as well as through country visits, briefings, technical cooperation, remote monitoring and the establishment of cooperation platforms, such as integrated information and risk analysis mechanisms. The methodology used included open source media and social media monitoring, targeted data collection and engagement with RCs/UNCTs and networks of civil society partners.

OHCHR convened its partners working on early warning, early action and prevention in Southern Africa to discuss their experiences with prevention strategies in the region, review approaches, tools and practices for early warning and establish a regional knowledge-sharing network to exchange views and possibilities for enhancing early warning and early action. These experiences will feed into ongoing consultations on the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture Review.

Humanitarian Country Teams in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe incorporated human rights analysis into their discussions and strategies related to the response to Cyclones Idai and Kenneth, including as a result of OHCHR inputs and participation. The Office also supported the integration of human rights in to Post-Disaster Needs Assessments in Malawi and Mozambique, with a focus on people with disabilities, older persons and persons with albinism. In Mozambique, the Regional Office for Southern Africa participated in the Operational Peer Review that followed the scale-up response to Cyclone Idai and recommended strengthening the Protection Cluster.

Following a marked increase in civil unrest throughout Malawi, which began in September, OHCHR contributed to designing a prevention strategy to address the most urgent gaps in human rights protection. The strategy was adopted by the UNCT and recommends the provision of support to help increase the capacity of the Malawi police to manage violent demonstrations and strengthen their internal professional standards and mechanisms to enable them to manage internal misconduct.

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – Three countries strengthen or legally establish National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up.**

**16 17**

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacity of States in the subregion to effectively engage with international human rights mechanisms and fostered initiatives to enhance the implementation of their recommendations in Southern Africa.

With technical support from OHCHR, such as training of relevant government officials, technical guidance and advisory services, NMRFs and other structures have been strengthened in **Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia**. The Office also supported **Eswatini** in the establishment of an NMRF. The mechanisms have been instrumental in building national ownership, empowering line ministries, enhancing human rights expertise in a sustainable manner, stimulating national dialogue on human rights and facilitating communication between the Government and the Parliament, the judiciary, NHRIs and CSOs.

The Office spearheaded work on an NRTD, an electronic system that facilitates recording, tracking and reporting on the implementation of human rights recommendations emanating from international, regional and national human rights mechanisms linked to the SDGs. Mauritius is the first country in Africa to have instituted an NRTD and subsequent support was provided to Botswana. Experience to date demonstrates that using an NRTD requires the institutionalization of existing structures and processes for engagement with human rights mechanisms and the implementation of recommendations issued by NMRFs.

OHCHR provided technical support to Botswana, **Lesotho**, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia to facilitate the preparation of their reports to the international human rights mechanisms. This resulted in greater appreciation for the simplified reporting procedure that is available for reports to the human rights treaty bodies. Support was also provided to States for the preparation of State Party reports in Botswana, Lesotho and South Africa. In addition, OHCHR provided support to Lesotho and Mauritius

for the preparation their respective State reports to the third UPR cycle.

OHCHR also provided support to States in the subregion to promote the ratification of the international human rights treaties, resulting in the ratification of CAT, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR on the abolition of the death penalty in **Angola**.

Some progress continued to be made with regard to State engagement with special procedures mandate holders in the subregion. Special procedures visits were undertaken in the region by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to water and sanitation to Lesotho (February), the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons to Mozambique (April/May), the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to Comoros (June, suspended midway), the International Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism to South Africa (September), the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association to Zimbabwe (September) and the Special Rapporteur on the right to food to Zimbabwe (November).

Moreover, support was provided to governments and UNCTs in Angola, Lesotho and Madagascar in the preparation of their national reports to the UPR.

In Mozambique, OHCHR focused its efforts in supporting the National Human Rights Directorate in the Ministry of Justice in relation to their promotional activities and as Chair of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights.

M2 – More NGOs and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) engage with the UN human rights mechanisms.

17

OHCHR effectively engaged with CSOs to promote their interaction with the international human rights mechanisms. Progress was made in relation to the submission of alternative reports by CSOs in the subregion to the human rights treaty bodies. Representatives from CSOs are regularly invited to attend national trainings on State Party reporting in order to promote consultations with CSOs in the process of preparing State reports.

OHCHR enhanced the capacity of representatives of CSOs to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. A one-day subregional training on this topic was organized in the margins of the Southern African Human Rights Defenders annual meeting in **South Africa**. In addition, a three-day training was organized in **Zambia** to promote engagement with the mechanisms. As a result of these trainings, CSOs enhanced their understanding of the various mechanisms and their working methods, as well as the functions of the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

Support and guidance were also provided to UNCTs and CSOs in **Lesotho** in the preparation of their submissions to the UPR.

In Mozambique, OHCHR provided information and guidance to CSOs on treaty body engagement in the context of CEDAW's review of Mozambique's combined third to fifth periodic reports.



Development (D)

D7 – All UNDAF roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach to programming; all link the SDGs to human rights standards.

With support from OHCHR, four countries in the subregion, namely, **Angola, Eswatini, Madagascar and South Africa**, rolled out new UNSDCF.

The Office participated in the development of new Cooperation Frameworks in these countries and played a leading role in ensuring that human rights were mainstreamed into the new UNSDCFs. In Eswatini and South Africa, recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms were incorporated into their respective CCAs. OHCHR will continue to provide technical support to the UNCTs in both countries to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed into the CCAs in 2020.

The Office collaborated with UNCTs in Mozambique and Zimbabwe by facilitating workshops and trainings on the application of a human rights lens to programme development, including through stakeholder mapping and consultations. This also addressed the linkages between the SDGs and human rights, integrating human rights and the SDGs into peace and development work on international human rights mechanisms and the role of the UNCTs in engaging with them, including in the implementation of their issued recommendations.

## SOUTH SUDAN: UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SOUTH SUDAN (UNMISS)

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
11.06 million	659,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.413 (186/188 in 2018)	
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Peace Mission		
<b>Year established</b>	2011		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Aweil, Bentiu, Bor, Juba, Kuajok, Malakai, Pibor, Rumbek, Torit, Wau, Yambio and Yei		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Cooperation Framework 2019-2021		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	88		

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$940,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Accountability (A)

**A1 – The Government strengthens national human rights protection systems and the administration of justice.**

**16**

Technical support provided by the Human Rights Division (HRD) of UNMISS contributed to the improved compliance of legislation with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRD and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict provided technical support to the South Sudan People's Defence Forces. As a result, an Action Plan was launched, on 14 March, to address conflict-related sexual violence. The development and implementation of the Action Plan is a necessary step for a potential delisting of the South Sudan

People's Defence Forces from the annex of the Secretary-General's annual report on conflict-related sexual violence. Furthermore, the HRD supported the drafting of South Sudan's National Police Service Action Plan, which was launched on 19 November.

**A1 – South Sudan authorities release individuals who are arbitrarily detained or held incommunicado; provide information on disappeared persons; and grant access to rule of law institutions, including detention facilities.**

**16**

State institutions sought to improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards with the support of the HRD.

The HRD provided technical support to the national South Sudan Human Rights Commission to develop a checklist to facilitate its monitoring of detention facilities in Juba. Similar support was provided to the South Sudan Human Rights Defenders Network to undertake monitoring, investigation and reporting of conflict-related violations in Yei (Central Equatoria). Regarding its own monitoring, each field office of the HRD carried out an average of four weekly visits to prisons and detention facilities. During the visits, the HRD engaged and advocated with prison and justice authorities to ensure greater compliance with international human rights standards in the administration of justice and help secure the release of individuals being arbitrarily detained.

In addition, UNMISS and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) agreed to coordinate their efforts on mobile courts to provide increased support to the national justice system. Mobile courts were deployed to Bentiu and Malakal in order to open a referral pathway for national authorities regarding suspected criminal incidents that are committed in UNMISS Protection of Civilian sites. This cooperation included assistance for the transportation of judges, prosecutors, defence counsel and investigators. In addition, UNMISS provided logistical support to facilitate court hearings and the HRD followed proceedings to ensure that fair trial standards were respected.

## Peace and Security (PS)

**PS4 – The Transitional Government of National Unity identifies human rights violations and takes administrative and legal action to hold perpetrators accountable. It establishes transitional justice institutions that comply with international human rights norms, standards and good practices.**

16

The HRD contributed to the establishment of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards, including by facilitating capacity-building activities.

No significant progress was made in 2019 towards the establishment of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan or the Commission on Truth, Reconciliation and Healing. The Ministry of Justice was unwilling to carry out any sensitization or consultation activities related to the Commission until after the revitalized Transitional Government was formed. Since this was postponed twice in 2019, no technical support was provided during the reporting period.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – South Sudan ratifies at least two human rights treaties or optional protocols without reservations.**

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 13

16 17

Through outreach and advocacy activities, the HRD contributed to the increased ratification of international and regional human rights mechanisms.

As a result of continued advocacy and engagement with State authorities and

relevant partners, South Sudan ratified ICCPR and ICESCR and their first Optional Protocols, on 3 June. Throughout April and May, the HRD facilitated weekly meetings to advocate for the ratification of these treaties with the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Committee, as well as the Justice and Legislation Committee of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly. In addition, with the technical support of the HRD, the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Committee presented a report to the Legislative Assembly and recommended the ratification of the two treaties. Furthermore, the HRD supported the Legislative Assembly to hold public consultations with CSOs and other key stakeholders, including the Union of Persons with Disabilities, to pursue the ratification of CRPD and its first Optional Protocol, which is still pending.

**M1 – South Sudan implements UPR recommendations that it has accepted.**

16 17

Technical support was provided by the HRD to the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up and implementation of the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR to contribute to its adequate functioning.

In August, the HRD collaborated with the South Sudan Human Rights Commission and other partners to support the Government of South Sudan's Interministerial Committee on the UPR to provide training on the preparation and submission of the UPR mid-term review report in accordance with the *South Sudan Matrix of Implementation of UPR Recommendations*. The report was drafted and endorsed by the Government of South Sudan, in February. Similar

support was provided to CSOs to draft and submit their mid-term alternative report to the UPR.

## SUDAN: AFRICAN UNION-UNITED NATIONS HYBRID OPERATION IN DARFUR (UNAMID)

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
42.81 million		0.507 (168/188 in 2018)	
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Peace Mission		
<b>Year established</b>	2008		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Addis Abeba, El Daein, El Fasher, El Geneina, Khartoum, Nyala, Port Sudan, Zalingei		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	33		

**XB requirements 2019**

**US\$187,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – Transitional justice and other mechanisms of redress are fully operational and comply with international human rights norms and standards.**

**16**

Through technical assistance, the Human Rights Section (HRS) of UNAMID continued to contribute to the functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

Specifically, through 20 meetings and four workshops, the HRS provided technical support for 195 participants (70 women, 125 men) from the National Commission for Human Rights, the General Prosecutor for Darfur Crimes and the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration

Commission to broaden their human rights knowledge, enable them to more effectively discharge their mandates and strengthen the national transitional justice programme. The HRS also supported two workshops for 40 transitional justice personnel in Khartoum, in September, to assist transitional justice mechanisms and enable the National Commission for Human Rights to address past human rights violations and combat impunity. The second workshop for the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission targeted 40 persons and encouraged the Government to conduct a comprehensive disarmament process that is consistent with international standards. Furthermore, the HRS and UNDP provided support to the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission to conduct

a study tour in Liberia to share lessons learned on transitional justice mechanisms. These capacity-building activities led to a strengthening of the protection mandates of the respective entities. In addition, the workshops recommended that the National Commission for Human Rights review and update its transitional justice programme.

**A1 – Courts and traditional justice mechanisms significantly increase their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.**

**16**

By enhancing the capacity of judges and prosecutors on human rights, the HRS contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings and decisions.

The prolonged conflict in Darfur has had a negative impact on access to justice, including judicial infrastructure. As a result, courts continued to be affected by capacity constraints and undue delays. UNAMID and the UNCT supported the strengthening of the criminal justice chain by facilitating the construction of rural courts and police posts in Gaida, Um Dafok, Wad Hagam, Al-Radoum and Sirba and Sisi localities and a child prosecution office and a child court in El Geneina. The construction of the rural courts provided essential facilities for the functionality of the justice chain. This consequently increased access to justice and made it easier for victims of human rights violations and abuses to pursue their rights to remedy.

The HRS continued to enhance the capacity of judges and prosecutors to mainstream human rights principles into judicial processes.


**Participation (P)**

**P6** – An enabling environment has been established that is conducive to dialogue and respect for human rights. It includes the implementation of peace agreements.

The HRS sought to contribute to the increased meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

The HRS implemented capacity-building and awareness-raising activities for non-State actors to increase their knowledge about human rights. Particular emphasis was placed on vulnerable groups in camps for IDPs and rural communities at the frontline of localized violence between nomads and farmers. Such sensitization activities helped rights-holders in the exercise of their rights to freedom of assembly as manifested during and in the aftermath of the mass protests. There was also a more visible participation of women in public life, which was enhanced by the political transformation and stated commitment of the Transitional Government to promote women's rights. These developments helped to expand the civic space and promote an enabling environment for civilians to exercise their rights.


**Development (D)**

**D7** – Human rights considerations are integrated in the post-2015 Development Agenda and actions to implement it.

By providing technical assistance, the HRS contributed to the increased compliance of selected policy areas with international human rights norms and standards.

The Transitional authorities adopted a Constitutional Document with strong human rights elements. It provides for legislative reform to enlarge freedom and prohibit all forms of gender-based discrimination, as well as a transitional justice agenda to promote accountability on the basis of investigating past crimes and bringing alleged perpetrators to justice. In addition, the Constitutional Document provides for the creation of 12 independent thematic commissions to consolidate a human rights and rule of law protection framework to promote and protect women's rights and combat all forms of discrimination against women. The HRS engaged with authorities on the realization of economic and social rights, including through the integration of the SDGs into the transition agenda, as well as the implementation of integrated activities under the "Sudan in Transition" initiative.


**Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS3** – The UN Country Team integrates human rights considerations in its policies and programmes for humanitarian action, early recovery, and security in Darfur.

**16**

UN common country programmes increasingly incorporated international human rights norms, standards and principles. Through the integration of a human rights-based approach and capacity-building activities, the HRS ensured a strengthened human rights presence in the operation areas of the State Liaison Functions (SLF). The SLF is a cooperation framework through which UNAMID co-locates staff with the UNCT to facilitate the joint implementation of programmes under peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction initiatives. Since January, HRS staff have been co-located with agencies, in particular UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, in SLF operation areas to support their national partners, including government entities and civil society groups. Through the integration of a human rights-based approach, SLF programmes and activities contributed to the development of sustainable solutions to the drivers of conflict through joint analysis, planning and delivery on activities in order to avoid conflict relapse.

## UGANDA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
44.27 million	242,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.528 (rank: 160/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2018

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2005
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Gulu, Kampala, Moroto
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	30

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$646,547</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$5,108,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$3,205,817</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Non-personnel</b>	<b>PSC<sup>1</sup></b>
59%	30%	12%
\$1,890,833	\$946,173	\$368,811

## Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Accountability (A)

**A1 – State and non-State actors enhance their capacity to institute legal and policy reforms and implement and enforce existing laws. They improve the investigation and adjudication of cases that entail human rights violations, including within their own ranks.**

16

With technical support from OHCHR, selected policies were amended to more fully comply with international human rights norms and standards.

In February, in the absence of a national legal framework, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) launched

the Witness Protection Guidelines and the Victims' Rights and Empowerment Guidelines, which are in line with international human rights norms and standards. OHCHR provided technical and financial support for the development of both of these documents, which will facilitate the establishment of a standard procedure for dealing with victims. It will also enable prosecutors to determine witness protection perimeters and the scope of protection and help them to recognize and implement victims' rights during investigations and during and after trials. In 2020, OHCHR will follow up with the ODPP to ensure that the Guidelines are disseminated and implemented and

continue to advocate for the adoption of the pending Witness Protection Bill.

The National Transitional Justice Policy (NTJP) was approved by the Cabinet. Over the last several years, OHCHR and its CSO partners and others advocated for the adoption of the NTJP and the Transitional Justice Bill, which is mostly in line with human rights standards, however it is still pending finalization and adoption.

Building on the momentum created by the adoption of the NTJP, OHCHR-Uganda produced a public report on national transitional justice processes, with a specific focus on survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in northern Uganda. The report will be published in the second quarter of 2020 and will serve as an advocacy tool in OHCHR's future engagements on the implementation of the NTJP and the adoption of the Transitional Justice Bill.

**A2 – National justice and human rights mechanisms, including the Uganda Human Rights Commission and the judiciary, provide redress and accountability to victims in an increased number of cases reported.**

10 16

OHCHR contributed to strengthening national accountability and protection mechanisms to ensure they are functioning in increased compliance with international human rights standards. These efforts included providing technical support for the review of guidance books used by the judiciary, and advocating for the implementation of relevant legislation.

Building on its work carried out in 2018, OHCHR and the Judicial Training Institute launched the *Resource Book*

on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for judicial officers and court users. The Resource Book compiles international and regional human rights treaties, general comments and domestic and international jurisprudence and offers guidance on the adjudication of economic, social and cultural rights. Following the launch, 30 judicial officers (13 women, 17 men) at a training discussed challenges and opportunities in taking forward cases on economic, social and cultural rights in Uganda. They also committed to using the Resource Book in their respective jurisdictions.

OHCHR collaborated with the Judicial Service Commission to produce a new edition of the *Citizens' Handbook on Law and the Administration of Justice*, which assists the general public to better understand the Justice, Law and Order Sector. To assess its clarity and user-friendliness for end users, OHCHR undertook pretesting in three target districts with 43 participants. The Handbook will integrate the received feedback and will be launched in 2020. Following the launch, it will be disseminated at local levels.

## Participation (P)

**P2 – The Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) increasingly fulfils its mandate in conformity with the Paris Principles.**



OHCHR continued supporting the UHRC to strengthen its capacity to work in conformity with the Paris Principles, including by collaborating in joint monitoring missions. Monitoring missions were undertaken with the support of OHCHR on a wide range of human rights issues in Karamoja, northern Uganda and

Kampala, including remote areas. Information gathered from these missions was used to undertake action in relation to alleged violations committed by the State apparatus.

During the missions, the UHRC and OHCHR visited detention facilities and raised human rights concerns with relevant local authorities, including extended detention beyond the 48-hour rule, the lack of separation of female and male detainees and the number of minors being held in detention on charges of petty offences. Following the inspection of a police detention facility in West Nile, and as a result of joint UHRC and OHCHR advocacy, five juveniles were released who had been detained on minor theft offences. In Karamoja, information gathered from the field missions was used to initiate action in UHRC tribunals on alleged violations committed by law enforcement agencies, resulting in the payment of reparations to at least 26 victims. The report from the mission in the Lango subregion provided substantive information on mob activities. This informed a UHRC-OHCHR round-table discussion with key stakeholders from Justice, Law and Order Sector institutions, in Lira, on the increasing trend of mob activities in the Lango subregion. The dialogue identified strategies to minimize mob activities through real-time responses by the respective duty-bearers. Follow-up forums with the duty-bearers in areas most affected have been planned in 2020 to assess the extent to which different actions have been successfully undertaken by various actors

**P4 – Civil society monitors more systematically and is in a position to raise human rights concerns. Women human rights defenders are able to raise concerns affecting them, and enhance their ability to seek redress for threats and attacks against them.**



The Office helped to facilitate the increasingly meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in public processes. This was primarily achieved by training civil society representatives on human rights issues relevant to their work and supporting their monitoring and advocacy efforts.

During 2019, the Office continued increasing the capacity of HRDs, WHRDs and journalists to report and advocate on human rights issues to enhance their meaningful participation and engagement in monitoring and advocacy efforts.

Building on the 2018 establishment of the Women Human Rights Defenders Network-Uganda (WHRDN), OHCHR strengthened the capacity of 42 members of the Network to advocate on human rights issues and engage with the international human rights mechanisms and other networks in the region. OHCHR launched a project through which it will organize, in 2020, capacity-building activities for grass-roots members of the WHRDN in the Karamoja, Busoga and Rwenzori subregions.

In addition, through four training activities, the Office built the capacity of 145 HRDs, including 66 women, on the use of the updated version of the human rights case database, engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and advocacy regarding public freedoms in the context of elections.

OHCHR also trained 112 journalists and media professionals, including 61 women, to increase their understanding of public freedoms, the linkages between the SDGs and human rights, as well as on women's rights and gender equality, and to encourage reflection there of regarding editorial content and news reporting. Following the trainings, there was an increase in articles on human rights concerns in the print media.

### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices increasingly comply with international human rights norms and standards on equality and non-discrimination, in particular with regard to persons with disabilities, minorities and women's rights.



Through advocacy efforts and by building the capacity of relevant stakeholders, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of selected legislation and policies with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR supported the development, through a consultative process, of a situational analysis on the human rights situation of persons with albinism in Uganda. The report, which was launched on 13 June on the occasion of International Albinism Awareness Day, recommends strategies to address challenges affecting persons with albinism. Building on the report, OHCHR cooperated with the Open Society Initiative for East Africa to launch a joint initiative to foster collaboration within the albinism community with a view to identifying future priorities and actions. In this context, the First National Meeting of CSOs of Persons with Albinism brought

together 23 leaders, including eight women, from across the country to discuss common challenges and explore national strategic interventions targeted towards the promotion of their human rights. The participants identified eight priority areas for intervention and established a task force to develop a draft National Action Plan on Albinism, based on a national adaptation of the AU Regional Action Plan on Albinism. A draft was discussed at the second national CSO meeting, which was held in December. OHCHR will engage with authorities in 2020 to advocate for the adoption and implementation of the draft National Action Plan.

In February, OHCHR and the Uganda Equal Opportunities Commission launched the *Report on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Uganda*. The report provides a legal analysis of Ugandan disability legislation in relation to CRPD, identifies gaps and makes specific recommendations to align national legislation with the Convention. The report was issued when the Parliament was deliberating on the draft 2019 Persons with Disability Bill, which failed to address major concerns and minimized the Government's obligations to fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities. Based on the findings of the report, the Equal Opportunities Commission presented its recommendations to the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Gender, Labour and Social Development. The Committee included some of these views in the adopted 2019 Persons with Disabilities Act.

### Development (D)

D2 – The Government has approved a dedicated National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights; national programmes and mechanisms are increasingly compliant with international human rights norms and standards on business and human rights, including the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.



OHCHR convened meetings and facilitated consultations to contribute to the improved compliance of selected programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR supported the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to develop a draft National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, in line with relevant recommendations that were issued by the UPR and accepted by Uganda in 2016. OHCHR supported the convening of several meetings of a resource group, composed of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UHRC and leading CSOs in the field. Furthermore, in order to inform the prioritization of issues in the draft Action Plan, OHCHR organized a series of regional consultations in Kampala, Gulu, Jinja, Masaka, Mbarara, Moroto and Soroti, bringing together more than 400 representatives from local governments, the UHRC, business actors and CSOs from nine districts in each region. The participants considered key human rights challenges resulting from existing business operations, prevailing gaps in the regulation of business activities and appropriate measures that need to be integrated into the draft in order to address these challenges. A further consultation was organized

for business entities and trade union leaders to share findings from the nine regional consultations.

In October, OHCHR assisted the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to hold an editing retreat to work on the draft. Participants included the Office of the President, the Office of the Prime Minister, the UNHC, the Equal Opportunities Commission, the national chapter of the UN Global Compact and CSOs. The draft outlines land-, environmental- and labour-related concerns, provides for access to remedies and identifies measures to address the impact of business operations on marginalized and vulnerable groups. It is anticipated that the draft will be finalized in 2020 and will be submitted to the senior leadership of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development for approval.

#### D4 – Government offices increasingly apply a human rights-based approach to maternal health when they formulate and implement policies and programmes.



OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of Health to develop a draft national multi-sectoral strategy that applies an HRBA to reduce maternal mortality rates. OHCHR facilitated five coordination meetings of the HRBA Working Group, composed of representatives from the Ministry of Health, the UHRC, CSOs, UNFPA, WHO and UN Women, which provided substantive inputs during the drafting process. In addition, OHCHR piloted the draft strategy in five different districts to solicit feedback from local government officials, CSOs and community members. Participants shared the specific challenges they face in providing maternal health services and noted the lack of access to adequate information

regarding sexual and reproductive health rights, among other issues of concern. It is expected that the strategy will be adopted by the Ministry of Health in 2020.

OHCHR joined the efforts of the Global Fund Technical Working Group on Human Rights and provided technical support for the drafting of the National Plan for achieving equity in access to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services. The plan was launched by the Ministry of Health, on 10 December, and sets out key interventions to address barriers that impede the enjoyment of human rights of people living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Particular attention is paid to the needs of key populations, such as LGBTI persons, drug users and other vulnerable groups, with a view to ensuring that “No One is Left Behind.” OHCHR provided inputs related to empowering communities to know their rights and demand services; strengthening legal aid providers to support women living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria; creating a referral pathway to ensure people have access to legal, psychosocial and health services as required; and reviewing legislation that is discriminatory to key populations.

#### D8 – The State’s statistical frameworks, including the national standards indicator framework (NSI) and the results and resources framework (RRF), increasingly comply with international human rights norms, standards and principles with respect to data for national development.



In its efforts to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Office advocated for

the increased compliance of selected State programmes with international human rights standards, including by providing technical advice on an HRBA.

On 28 June, four key Ugandan national institutions signed a MoU on the application of an HRBA to data in order to “Leave No One Behind” when implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Uganda. The MoU, supported through training activities by OHCHR, establishes cooperation between the Office of the Prime Minister, the UHRC, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics and the National Planning Authority. These four institutions committed to working cooperatively to apply an HRBA to data collection, analysis and dissemination to help improve the quality of service delivery by relevant stakeholders for the benefit of the general public. OHCHR will continue supporting the operationalization of the MoU, including with a view to addressing data gaps regarding marginalized and vulnerable groups.

#### Mechanisms (M)

M1 – The Government has approved a National Human Rights Action Plan and has access to sufficient data to enable it to report appropriately to human rights mechanisms, including by making effective use of the database on national, regional and international human rights recommendations.



Through technical support, OHCHR aimed to contribute to the effective functioning of mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR continued to build the capacity of government ministries, departments and agencies to track and report on progress made in the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. Since 2014, OHCHR has been progressively supporting the UHRC and the Government to develop a database/search engine, which consolidates recommendations emanating from the international, regional and national human rights mechanisms. After the database was updated to incorporate a monitoring and evaluation framework, a new version was launched, in March. The launch was followed by two trainings, in April and September, on the use of the database for the designated technical focal points.

Furthermore, as result of OHCHR's support, the Government made significant advances in submitting long overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies. During 2019, OHCHR supported the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights, coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to collect data for the development of State Party reports under CAT and ICCPR. Furthermore, OHCHR and UN Women facilitated a validation meeting for the State Party report under CEDAW. In addition, technical support was provided for the validation of the draft initial report under ICERD. The four reports were finalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and are awaiting Cabinet approval before being submitted to the respective human rights treaty bodies. In March 2020, the periodic report was submitted to CEDAW, with the others expected to follow.

## WEST AFRICA

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
<b>Year established</b>	2007
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Dakar
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	19

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$1,250,834</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$8,665,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$3,031,315</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC†
	28%	63%	9%
	\$847,316	\$1,924,719	\$259,280
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$913,288</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	
	88%	12%	
	\$805,124	\$108,164	

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – In the Economic Community of West African States, national laws, policies and programmes increasingly protect children from abuse and exploitation.

**5** **10** **16** 

Through a series of activities, including capacity-building and technical cooperation, OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of national programmes and institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

A number of results were achieved in the context of a project to support the eradication of begging and child abuse in **Senegal**, including the development of standard operating procedures for the care of children in danger and a national action plan for child protection that has been endorsed by the Government. A Children's Code has also been finalized and is under consideration at the Ministry of Justice. Furthermore, a methodological tool that will be used in conducting a national survey on child begging in Senegal was developed with

the technical assistance of the Office and approved by the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender and Child Protection. The provision of equipment (bedding and medicine) for 10 reception centres that were established to promote access to protection services for 500 children in vulnerable situations is another significant achievement. Finally, the Office carried out three studies linked to the implementation of this project, including a mapping of actors and initiatives to combat begging and child abuse, an analysis of Senegal's international, regional and national legal framework on the rights of the child and the implementation status of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms on the rights of the child and a study on the status of data collection related to child begging in Senegal.

The Office also facilitated training to enhance the capacity of national actors to better protect the rights of children in Senegal. During the reporting period, OHCHR trained 60 members of the Departmental Child Protection Committees on research and data collection techniques related to child protection issues; 20 educators from Koranic schools (“daaras”) on the psychosocial care of children to improve their practices in the protection of child victims of abuse; 90 child protection actors on the legal framework, human rights and human rights mechanisms; 70 actors from the judicial system on the legal framework for child protection and the international and national legal frameworks to combat trafficking in persons, including the exploitation of children through forced begging; and 20 community actors on the harmful consequences related to the persistent practice of begging and child abuse.

The project made progress at the regional level. In **the Gambia, Guinea,**

**Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal,** national steering committees and technical committees, composed of key child protection actors, were established as main consultation mechanisms on the rights of the child. In **Guinea-Bissau,** the Office supported the drafting of the Children's Code, including by disseminating the recommendations issued by regional and international mechanisms on the rights of the child to relevant actors in **Guinea and Niger.** It is also supporting the development of national action plans for both countries and has helped care centres to strengthen their communication skills through the production of information materials on the services offered to children in danger.

**ND6 – Legal frameworks and protection mechanisms protect and promote the human rights of migrants in their countries of origin and in transit.**



Through enhanced coordination and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of protection mechanisms for migrants that conform to international human rights standards.

Significant progress has been achieved on the enhanced coordination and exchange of information aimed at increasing the promotion and protection of the rights of migrants. OHCHR was active in the establishment of the Regional Network on Migration. Its terms of reference were finalized and the Network began functioning in 2019. The Office similarly contributed to the establishment of the National Network on Migration in **the Gambia.**

In **Niger,** OHCHR and UNODC helped to develop an action plan to counter the smuggling of migrants. They also

collaborated to enhance the capacities of judges and prosecutors on the application of a human rights-based approach to migration in their daily work. Furthermore, in **the Gambia, Mali and Senegal,** OHCHR and UNODC worked with national authorities to develop draft legislation and policies on the smuggling of migrants in line with international human rights standards.

## **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – In three countries, National Human Rights Institutions operate effectively, or have been strengthened, in accordance with the Paris Principles.**

**16**

The Office contributed to the increased establishment and functioning of NHRIs, in line with international standards, including by providing technical advice and advocating with authorities for the reform of related legislation.

In **Burkina Faso,** following the 2018 adoption of legislation to increase the independence of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), OHCHR trained its staff to enhance its management capacities and skills to monitor and report on human rights violations. The NHRC carried out one fact-finding mission but did not produce a substantive report on the human rights violations that occurred in 2019. In **Côte d'Ivoire,** the National Council on Human Rights received technical assistance to develop a report on good practices for monitoring human rights violations and to submit its report to the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation in order to be accredited with “A” status. In **the Gambia,** OHCHR provided substantive support to the NHRC to strengthen its capacities to function in compliance with the Paris

Principles. This led to the drafting and approval of a bill on the establishment of an independent NHRI in accordance with the Paris Principles, followed by the operationalization of the NHRC with the appointment of its commissioners, in February. OHCHR supported the organization of an orientation retreat and the drafting of internal policies and provided office space, furniture and equipment for the functioning of the NHRC.

**A2 – In three countries, transitional justice mechanisms are in place and functioning in line with international human rights norms and standards.**

**10 16**

As a result of technical support from the Office, transitional justice mechanisms were established and/or strengthened in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In the Gambia, OHCHR supported the operationalization of the transitional justice process. The Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission, established in 2017, began to implement its mandate, in 2019, and made use of the knowledge it had gained through the capacity-building activities that were facilitated by the Office. Between January and October, the Commission conducted a number of public hearings to enable the participation of 129 witnesses, 21 of whom were women and 31 of whom were alleged perpetrators. The Minister of Justice has not yet acted on a proposal to enact a government-led coordination mechanism on transitional justice that would facilitate a more coordinated and shared effort to implement the transitional justice process, particularly now that a National Strategy on Transitional Justice and Resource Mobilization plan has been adopted.

In the Gambia, civil society organizations, victims' associations, media professionals, women and youth groups were provided with adequate training to participate in transitional justice processes. From June 2018 to January 2019, 28 media bodies, 44 representatives from victims' associations, 66 religious and traditional leaders and 119 youth leaders received training to enhance their participation in transitional justice processes.



### **Mechanisms (M)**

**M1 – In four countries, the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up is established or strengthened; NMRFs set out a plan for implementing recommendations.**

**16 17**

Following technical guidance provided by the Office, NMRFs on the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR were developed or strengthened.

With support from OHCHR, the NMRF in **Burkina Faso** finalized its National Strategic Plan for the implementation of recommendations emanating from the treaty bodies and the UPR, in October. In **Côte d'Ivoire**, as a result of the strengthened capacity of the NMRF in relation to reporting to the human rights treaty bodies, the mechanism replied to the list of issues issued by CEDAW and CRC. In **Senegal**, the NMRF made good progress in reporting to the treaty bodies and, as of the end of 2019, it had finalized all of its outstanding reports, including a report under CEDAW. OHCHR enhanced the NMRF's capacity to draft a National Action Plan on implementing the recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms.

In addition, under the Non-discrimination pillar, OHCHR continued to undertake activities to ensure that rights-holders, particularly youth and women, are sensitized to the importance of their participation in the public arena. In this respect, the Office worked closely with UNESCO and other partners to co-organize the third African Regional Youth Forum, in Banjul, the Gambia from 28 to 30 October. The Forum gathered together nearly 150 young leaders from across the continent, including 60 women, to discuss issues of common interest, including governance, gender, climate change and artificial intelligence. In the outcome document, the participants requested support to build their capacities and knowledge related to their rights and to learn how to use the recommendations issued from international human rights mechanisms to claim those rights.

Furthermore, under the Development pillar, OHCHR encouraged UNCTs to identify those furthest left behind on the basis of recommendations stemming from the international human rights mechanisms and advocated for the integration of these recommendations into all UN programmatic frameworks. In **Senegal**, OHCHR contributed to the UNCT's revision of the "Leaving No One Behind" strategy. In **Ghana**, at the request of the RC, OHCHR provided an analysis of the outcomes of the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership as they relate to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

## ZIMBABWE

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
14.65 million	391,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.563 (153/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2016
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights Adviser	
<b>Year established</b>		2018	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Harare	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		1	

**XB requirements 2019**

**US\$298,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>123</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Participation (P)

**P6 – Civil society organizations are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.**



OHCHR provided technical support to empower rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, to participate in public processes and engage with the international human rights mechanisms to claim their rights.

The Office provided support and technical expertise to CSOs regarding their engagement with the special procedures. This resulted in four communications that were issued by special procedures on behalf of individuals whose rights were alleged to have been violated by the Government and an increased number of inputs and reports that were shared with special rapporteurs in relation to human rights issues of concern in the country.

OHCHR briefed two civil society organizations that support victims of torture on how to access the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. One of the organizations received a grant from the Fund to support its activities.

OHCHR advocated with the Government and provided technical inputs for the drafting of a disability bill and policy that is compliant with CRPD and international human rights principles. More specifically, organizations of persons with disabilities were consulted during the drafting process of the draft bill and policy. The Government then launched countrywide consultations to collect feedback on the drafts.


**Development (D)**

**D7 – All UNDAF roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach to programming; all link the SDGs to human rights standards.**

In 2019, all UN common country programmes integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles resulting from workshops that were facilitated by OHCHR and tools that it shared.

With OHCHR's support and advice, the UN Human Rights Working Group was reactivated. The Office led the drafting of the Working Group's terms of reference and 2019 annual workplan, both of which were endorsed by the UN Country Team.

OHCHR also conducted a training session on human rights and the SDGs for civil society organizations. The objective of the training was to encourage CSOs to provide inputs for Zimbabwe's reporting process and engage in the implementation of the SDGs. Zimbabwe plans to submit a VNR at the 2020 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and it is in the process of drafting a progress report that will feed into the drafting process.

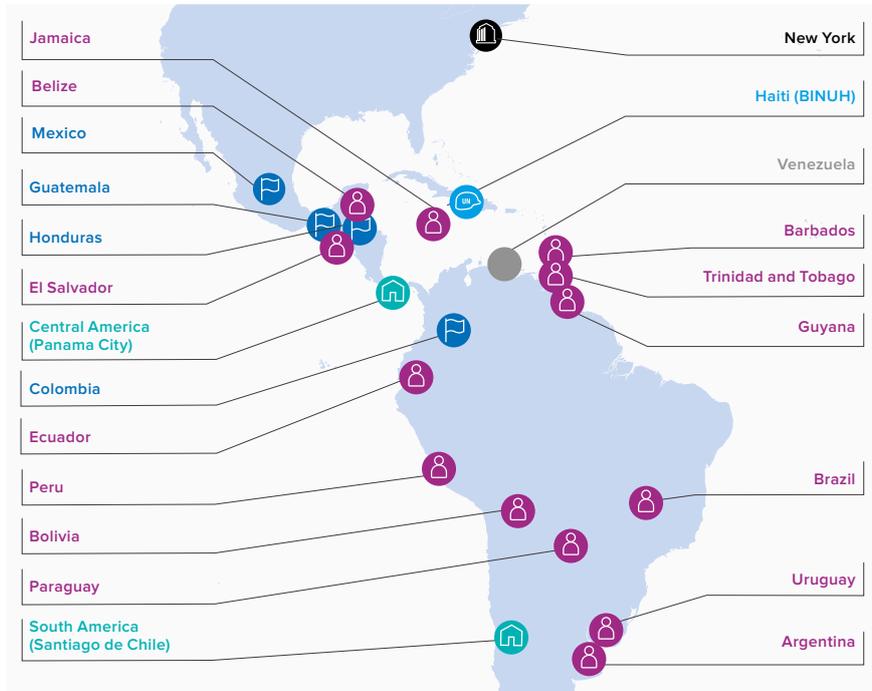

**Mechanisms (M)**

**M1 – The country strengthens or legally establishes a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up.**

By providing technical support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of an NMRF to facilitate the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR participated in the revision of the National Plan of Action and advocated for an inclusive approach to implementing and reporting on the UPR recommendations. While the Plan has not yet been formally approved, it has been published and is guiding the implementation of the UPR recommendations. Specifically, it lays out the planned actions and timelines for the implementation of the recommendations, and identifies the lead agencies and stakeholders. Furthermore, OHCHR conducted training sessions for CSOs and the Zimbabwe Gender Commission on reporting to CEDAW and how they can engage with the CEDAW Committee during its seventieth pre-sessional working group. Consequently, the Gender Commission, the Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association and the Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe (with a membership of 116 organizations) made submissions to CEDAW.

# UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE AMERICAS



## TYPE OF PRESENCE

	Headquarters
	Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions
	Regional Offices/Centres
	Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions
	Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG
	Other types of field presences

## LOCATION

New York
Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico
Central America, Panama and Dominican Republic (Panama City, Panama)
South America (Santiago de Chile, Chile)
Haiti (MINUJUSTH until 15 October 2019; BINUH as of 16 October 2019)
Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay
Venezuela

## LEGEND:

### Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

### Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

### SDGs:



The work of OHCHR in the region covered 35 countries. The Office supported two regional offices (Central America based in Panama City and South America based in Santiago de Chile); four country offices (Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico); one Human Rights Adviser (HRA) in Jamaica; and nine Human Rights Advisers/Officers in Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay; and one human rights component in a United Nations Peace Mission in Haiti (MINUJUSTH until 15 October/BINUH as of 16 October). In 2019, the Office led operations towards the establishment of a new field presence in Venezuela.

The year was marked by social grievances that were exacerbated by persistent inequalities and weak institutional trust due to corruption, discriminatory policies and, in some places, by violence generated by organized crime and drug-trafficking. In the last four months of 2019, several countries in the region experienced an increase in social protests and observed patterns of excessive use of force against protesters. Despite some progress that had been made in recent years, impunity related to past and present human rights violations prevails and access to justice remains limited. Amnesty laws, a lack of independence of the judiciary and ongoing corruption continue to be obstacles to justice, redress and reparation.

The defence of human rights continues to be extremely perilous in the region. An alarming number of human rights defenders (HRDs) are reported to have been victims of homicides, attacks, threats, harassment, stigmatization and judicial persecution. There are more HRDs and journalists reportedly killed in this region than anywhere else in the world. Those involved in environmental rights, land

conflicts and members of marginalized groups, such as indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants, peasants and LGBTI activists, are among those who are most at risk. OHCHR continued supporting authorities to strengthen national protection mechanisms and accountability.

During the reporting period, OHCHR continued supporting State institutions, civil society organizations and national human rights organizations (NHRIs) to adopt a human rights perspective to strengthen accountability systems, improve access to justice and reparations for victims of gross human rights violations, expand civic space and support technical cooperation and institution-building. OHCHR's early warning, monitoring and reporting mandate enabled it to identify and assess human rights protection gaps and shortcomings and make appropriate recommendations.

Given the important impact of non-State actors on the human rights situation in the region, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), OHCHR implemented the project "Responsible business conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean." The overarching objective of the project is to promote inclusive and smart economic growth by creating enabling conditions for sustainable businesses and supporting target countries to make responsible business conduct a policy priority. Country-specific activities were implemented in nine countries of the region, namely, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Peru.

In addition, OHCHR continued to closely monitor and report on the deteriorating human rights situation in Venezuela. In June, the High Commissioner conducted

an official visit to Caracas. In September, OHCHR and the Government of Venezuela signed a Letter of Understanding to establish a framework for cooperation and a presence in the country, including through the deployment of two Human Rights Officers to the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO). In compliance with Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 39/1, the High Commissioner presented a comprehensive report on the human rights situation, in June. Oral updates were delivered in March and September. HRC resolution 42/4, which was adopted in September, requested that the High Commissioner present another report to the HRC in 2020. HRC resolution 42/25, which was also adopted in September, requested the presentation of a second report in June 2020 and the establishment of an independent international fact-finding mission on Venezuela.

The Regional Office for Central America continued to remotely monitor and report on the human rights situation in Nicaragua and engage with the State and national institutions. In line with Human HRC resolution 40/2, the High Commissioner presented a comprehensive report on the human rights situation in Nicaragua, in September. Oral updates were delivered in June 2019 and March 2020. Monthly bulletins on the human rights situation were also issued by OHCHR. The High Commissioner and the Office maintained a dialogue with senior government officials to obtain access to the country, address specific situations and provide technical assistance, including to the NHRI and National Preventive Mechanism (NPM).

During the period leading up to the 2019 general elections in Bolivia, OHCHR increased its remote human rights monitoring and reporting activities in the country. In response to increased violence and information received about human rights violations and abuses occurring in the electoral context, OHCHR deployed a small team to the country, on 11 November. The team continues to operate under the global OHCHR mandate and as part of the UN system's Peace Consolidation Initiative for Bolivia. OHCHR is working towards ensuring a sustained presence in the country in order to contribute to conflict prevention and the national dialogue.

The Office responded to emerging crises by strengthening early warning and prevention responses. Surge capacity was provided to respond to emerging situations in the Bahamas, Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador. Surge capacity was also provided to OHCHR-Mexico to assist in monitoring and documenting the rapidly evolving human rights situation for people on the move and to the OHCHR presence in Haiti to support the transition of the UN presence. OHCHR actively contributed to prevention mechanisms under the umbrella of the Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Initiative, including in regional monthly reviews, meetings of the Deputies Committee on Prevention and meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. It identified situations in the Americas where there was a potential risk for the deterioration of the protection of human rights and recommended appropriate UN integrated responses.

The region experienced an unprecedented movement of migrants and asylum seekers from different countries/subregions, particularly Central America, Haiti and Venezuela, placing untenable pressure on already stretched resources and services. OHCHR continued to monitor the

impact on human rights of new migration policies, such as the “Safe Third Country Agreements” between the United States of America and several Central American countries. The Office coordinated the work on migrant rights of OHCHR presences, including to contribute to the Comprehensive Development Plan (Plan de Desarrollo Integral) developed by El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, with the support of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and other UN entities in the region. With regard to migration from Venezuela, OHCHR conducted missions to assess the human rights challenges being faced by Venezuelans on the move and the impact of national migration policies. It also cooperated with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the implementation of capacity-building activities with civil society and NHRIs to address protection issues.

OHCHR maintained close contact with regional organizations, especially the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. This collaboration led to strengthened monitoring and reporting by and capacity-building of HRDs in the region, including two extended press releases on the situation of HRDs in the Americas, three joint meetings with CSOs during the HRC sessions and cooperation on the monitoring of the human rights situation in Nicaragua. During the reporting period, OHCHR also strengthened its partnership with ECLAC, focusing on two main areas. With regard to environmental rights, the Escazú Agreement (on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean) gained 22 signatures and 8 ratifications. The Office and ECLAC also launched a joint publication on *Climate change and human rights: Contributions from Latin America and the Caribbean*. With regard to

migration, a Comprehensive Development Plan is being developed in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador with partners from the UN system under the auspices of ECLAC, to address the root causes of forced human mobility by improving the economic and human rights situation in countries of origin. OHCHR advocated and provided input for the integration of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) into this plan.

## BARBADOS

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser for English-speaking Caribbean
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
<b>Year established</b>	2012
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Bridgetown
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	UN Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF) in the Caribbean 2017-2021
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	1

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$125,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – At least four Caribbean countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Jamaica) have established mechanisms for human rights reporting and follow-up.**

**16 17**

The Office advocated for the establishment of a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) on the implementation of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, including by raising awareness and building capacity on human rights reporting and implementation.

Building on 2018 efforts to establish and strengthen the NMRF, OHCHR convened a series of workshops for over 200 government officials working in

social services, the judiciary, law enforcement, finance, child protection and gender affairs in Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The focus of the workshops included human rights mechanisms and human rights reporting, examining recommendations from human rights mechanisms, methodologies for drafting reports to the human rights treaty bodies, good practices in establishing and managing the NMRF, linking human rights recommendations to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national development plans and developing human rights action plans. These workshops resulted in the completion of reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Committee

on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and, in the case of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the development of an action plan to implement human rights recommendations. Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines requested support from the Office in developing a National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD).

#### Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND1 – In at least three countries (Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago), laws and policies protect the rights of women, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV, LGBTI persons and religious minorities.**

**5 10 16** 

The Office contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards in relation to the rights of LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities in three countries of the subregion.

Building on previous efforts to support the rights of LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities in Barbados, the Office supported the first joint consultation on the socio economic and cultural inclusion of LGBTI persons in the Caribbean region, which took place in Bridgetown, Barbados, in October. The consultation was led by Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz, the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and Ms. Flavia Piovesan, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Rapporteur on the rights of LGBTI persons. The consultation provided an opportunity for the experts to become familiar with good practices and many of the barriers people face in gaining access to education, housing, health,

employment and justice. It also provided a forum for LGBTI persons and other stakeholders to share their perspectives and experiences on these issues. In addition, OHCHR participated in the Global Convening on the Decriminalization of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, in Barbados, during which international participants discussed various litigation strategies that have been used to challenge anti-LGBTI legislation across the world. In Saint Kitts and Nevis, the Office provided technical assistance and advice to the USAID/UNDP project entitled “Being LGBTI in the Caribbean: Reducing inequality and exclusion experienced by LGBTI people.” The project addressed LGBTI issues in the region from a development perspective. It also contextualized these issues against the backdrop of civil society capacity-development, community mobilization and government engagement.

In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, OHCHR provided training to government officials on their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and their implementation at the national level. In Barbados, the Office conducted a workshop for government officials and civil society representatives on CRPD, the rights of persons with disabilities and SDG implementation, with an emphasis on reforming discriminatory laws and practices. Regrettably, no progress was made in relation to the draft disabilities policy, which has been pending before the Cabinet in Saint Kitts and Nevis since the end of 2018. Similarly, no progress was reported regarding the pending legislation on disabilities in Barbados and Suriname.

Finally, OHCHR organized a photo competition for young people, in Barbados, to celebrate Human Rights Day. Young people were invited to submit a photo

that depicted what the “Leaving No One Behind” (LNOB) principle meant to them within the human rights context of their respective countries in order to explore anti-discrimination and inclusion. The competition received over 40 entries from participants ranging in age from 10 to 19 years. Their photographs touched on the themes of racism, gender inequality, social exclusion, the rights of persons with disabilities and the elderly.



### Accountability (A)

**A1 – In at least one country (Jamaica), law enforcement authorities and the judiciary have adopted in-house training on human rights. Barbados, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines have taken steps to provide human rights training to law enforcement officials.**

16



OHCHR supported the institutionalization of human rights training in key human rights areas.

Within the framework of a larger effort to sensitize law enforcement officials about gender equality issues and to assess progress made in Saint Lucia and in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to address domestic and gender-based violence (GBV), OHCHR conducted capacity-building workshops for over 30 police officers and immigration officials on gender equality in national legislation and law enforcement. The workshops enabled participants to reflect and provide feedback on some of the cultural and institutional challenges faced in addressing family and domestic violence, sexual harassment and marital rape.

## CENTRAL AMERICA, PANAMA AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama
<b>Year established</b>	2007
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Panama City, Panama
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	16

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$939,557</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$1,990,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,147,333</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>1</sup>	
<b>68%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>11%</b>	
\$776,205	\$239,417	\$131,711	
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,052,858</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
<b>90%</b>	<b>10%</b>		
\$949,098	\$103,760		

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Accountability (A)

**A2 – The Attorney General’s Office increasingly investigates and prosecutes cases of human rights violations to combat past and present impunity.**

**10** **16** 

Through capacity-building, technical assistance and an exchange of experiences with public prosecutors offices, OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of the Attorney General’s Office in **El Salvador** to investigate and prosecute human rights violations as a means to combat past and present impunity, in

compliance with international human rights norms. This was evidenced in a number of emblematic cases, such as the “Mozote’s Massacre case.”

In El Salvador, following the 2018 adoption of the Policy on the Investigation and Criminal Prosecution of Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes Constituting Serious Violations of Human Rights Committed in the El Salvador Armed Conflict by the Attorney General, in 2019, the Office developed an Action Plan to facilitate its implementation. This road map for the Attorney General’s Office has

been crucial in combating impunity and guaranteeing redress for victims.

OHCHR also provided advice and technical assistance on transitional justice issues to CSOs through a “Platform to combat impunity” in order to coordinate efforts to address impunity and increase their capacity to represent the interests of victims in criminal matters.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR provided technical assistance and advice to the Legislative Assembly in the context of the consultation process on the proposed National Reconciliation Law to ensure its legitimacy and compliance with international human rights instruments. The draft has been the subject of public criticism, including in two statements issued by the High Commissioner for Human Rights. This was followed by a series of other statements from international/national human rights organizations that indicated that the draft violated the decision of the Supreme Court’s Constitutional Chamber and was not in line with international human rights law. The Legislative Assembly was granted an extension to revise the draft, until 28 February 2020, providing it with a second chance to fully address the concerns raised in the Court’s rulings.

The visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence generated opportunities for significant advancements in the area of transitional justice. Following meetings with authorities, victims and CSOs, the Special Rapporteur issued a preliminary report with recommendations for State institutions. The report highlights that transitional justice is not an issue of the past, that violence and impunity in the present has its roots in impunity of the armed conflict and that the only way to build a society that is free of violence and to consolidate the rule

of law is through the implementation of an adequate comprehensive policy on truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence. It also addresses necessary institutional reforms.

The Public Forum entitled “Unearthing the truth: The search for disappeared persons in the context of the armed conflict in El Salvador,” organized by OHCHR, in May, provided an opportunity to present and validate the National Plan for the Search for Disappeared Persons.

OHCHR’s report on the *Forced disappearance of persons in El Salvador in the context of the armed conflict*, which was published and presented in January 2020, constitutes one of the main tools to enhance accountability for grave human rights violations. The report provides essential input to the elaboration of more effective plans, strategies and working methodologies related to the search for and identification of disappeared persons and the dignified return of the remains of those who are deceased to their families.

**A1 – A mobile monitoring team has been established that strengthens OHCHR’s capacity to gather information on the human rights situation in countries of the region and report on cases and situations; its work enables the international community to make more effective representations to Government on a wide range of concerns.**

**16**

OHCHR conducted remote monitoring on the human rights situation in **Nicaragua** and issued bi-monthly bulletins and regular updates to the HRC, in accordance with resolution 40/2. It also presented a public report to the forty-third session of the HRC and

addressed urgent individual cases and situations with the Government.

In **El Salvador**, OHCHR conducted a study on due process and human rights violations linked to the rights of women facing trials for crimes related to abortion. As a follow-up to observations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR systematized information on the situation of HRDs, journalists, LGBTI activists, internally displaced persons (IDPs), migrants, persons in detention and other individuals and groups in situations of vulnerability.

OHCHR reviewed 20 judicial files regarding the cases of women serving long prison sentences for homicide convictions after suffering obstetric emergencies. It also engaged with key stakeholders to advocate for the release of women in cases where there is a lack of sufficient evidence and shortcomings related to international standards of due process. Due to coordinated efforts, five women were released after the Supreme Court of Justice commuted their sentences.

**A3 – The decisions of judicial institutions increasingly reference international human rights standards and principles of gender equality in cases of femicide and violence against women.**



OHCHR promoted the use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards through capacity-building and advocacy efforts.

In **Costa Rica**, OHCHR cooperated with the Attorney General’s Office to strengthen the capacities of public prosecutors, forensic experts, psychologists, police officers and social

workers to identify negative gender stereotypes and refrain from applying those stereotypes while conducting their investigative functions. These interventions paved the way for the development of a guide on national protocols for judges on judicial gender stereotyping, which was undertaken in coordination with the Gender Secretariat of the Judiciary and the National Bar Association of Judges.

In **El Salvador**, the Office collaborated with UN Women to support the Attorney General’s Office in the elaboration of a draft Investigative Protocol on Femicide to ensure the effective investigation of femicide cases. The Protocol will constitute a new tool in tackling these cases and envisions increased cooperation between key institutions in charge of the investigation of these crimes, including public prosecutors, the police and forensic personnel. The final version of the Investigative Protocol is expected to be concluded during 2020.

During 2019, the Office continued to promote the Latin American Model Protocol for the investigation of the gender-related killings of women. Virtual training courses were available in **Costa Rica** and **El Salvador** to reinforce the capacities of key judicial authorities in the investigation of femicide cases. OHCHR continued its advisory role in UN regional inter-agency settings and in national inter-agency groups on gender in **Costa Rica, El Salvador** and **Panama**.

## Non-discrimination (ND)

ND5 – States, civil society and the public increasingly recognize that hate speech, disseminated via digital platforms such as social media, fuels discrimination and other human rights abuses, undermining efforts to achieve the SDGs.

### 9

OHCHR contributed to a significant improvement of the narrative on selected human rights issues.

OHCHR supported the global campaign #IStandWithHer to highlight the work of women's human rights defenders (WHRDs). A particular focus on women defenders of sexual and reproductive health rights in the Central America region, as well as women indigenous leaders in **Panama**, enhanced their visibility and contributed to their empowerment and leadership.

Similarly, under the UN Free & Equal campaign, the Office launched a sub-regional campaign, in May, that was aimed at raising awareness about the human rights concerns of LGBTI persons in Central American countries and advocating for the adoption of adequate public policies and legislation to tackle discrimination, stigma and violence against this population in **Costa Rica**, **El Salvador** and **Panama**. Furthermore, OHCHR partnered with EFE to produce and disseminate four videos that feature the stories of LGBTI activists from **Costa Rica**, **El Salvador**, **Honduras** and **Panama** and promote their work in their respective countries.

The Regional Forum on emerging challenges to the human rights of LGBTI persons, which was organized by Fundación Iguales with OHCHR's support, highlighted the need to address the situation of LGBTI persons in the context

of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the importance of the inclusion of LGBTI persons in public development policies for the achievement of all SDGs under the LNOB principle.

Finally, in the context of the rampant discourse emanating from conservative religious and political groups opposing gender equality, OHCHR implemented activities aimed at countering the prevalence of hate speech and negative stereotyping directed towards women, LGBTI persons and groups that are frequently subject to discrimination. Within the context of Human Rights Day, OHCHR and Panama's Museum of Contemporary Arts co-organized a digital arts exhibition, which included a specific segment emphasizing the need to combat the use of harmful stereotyping and its negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights of discriminated persons and groups.

ND6 – Official migration policies and programmes recognize the need to protect the human rights of migrants, especially those who are in situations of vulnerability, and have taken steps to do so.



OHCHR supported selected State institutions and programmes to significantly improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards on migration.

Through monitoring activities, in cooperation with the Defensoría del Pueblo, the Office documented the dire humanitarian situation of migrants in transit and their lack of access to health, food, water, sanitation and adequate shelter in the region. In addition, although migrants were regularly victims of robbery, assaults,

killings and sexual abuses during their transit in the deep rainforest bordering **Colombia** and **Panama**, the cases were not promptly investigated. OHCHR advocated with authorities for the human rights of migrants, including their fundamental right to access to justice. The Office also shared its findings with the UN Country Team (UNCT) to ensure the integration of a human rights perspective into the humanitarian response.

OHCHR enhanced access to justice for migrants who were victims of crimes during their transit in **El Salvador**. Specifically, the Office facilitated the engagement of CSOs and families of disappeared migrants with the Attorney General's Office, the National Migration Institution and the NHRI to raise awareness about the human rights violations that were committed against migrants and to involve them in the investigations and searching process of disappearance cases in the region.

In **Costa Rica**, OHCHR contributed to preventing the adoption of a draft bill that could have negatively affected the rights of migrants. It submitted a technical note detailing international human rights standards on migration and the Resident Coordinator (RC) presented the document to the Parliament.

The Office also contributed to raising the awareness of the international human rights mechanisms and special procedures about the human rights situation of migrants and asylum seekers in the region. The High Commissioner for called on the States in Central America to enhance the protection of migrants in transit and ensure the inclusion of international human rights standards in legislation and policy.

OHCHR strongly advocated for the inclusion of an HRBA in the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) for **El Salvador**,

**Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico**, which is being prepared with the technical support of ECLAC. The Office collaborated with other UN agencies to develop a strategy to support the implementation of the CDP.

### **Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS5** – The Regional Office has increased its capacity to gather, analyse and manage information relevant to early warning, advocacy and response to critical situations of violence and insecurity; as a result, it has contributed significantly to key regional and national processes and discussions. Relevant security institutions receive political and technical advice enabling them to protect citizens' security in a manner that complies with international human rights standards.

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OHCHR worked to significantly improve the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards in specific policy areas, including by monitoring and reporting on human rights situations, providing technical advice and promoting human rights issues.

In **Nicaragua**, the Office issued monthly bulletins to inform the international community, Nicaraguan authorities and CSOs about patterns of human rights violations. This contributed to actions that were undertaken by the international community to prevent further violations, including the adoption of HRC resolution 40/2, in March. Remote monitoring activities provided essential inputs to oral updates and the drafting of a High Commissioner's report on the human rights situation in Nicaragua to the HRC. The information was used by the special procedures to initiate a number of

targeted actions, including communications that were sent to the Government requesting information on specific cases, and informed a joint public statement. In addition, information was provided to the human rights treaty bodies, including in the context of the adoption of lists of issues prior to reporting. Based on this information, the High Commissioner and OHCHR publicly expressed concerns about particular issues, including an amnesty law and the rights of victims of gross human rights violations, through three press releases and at three press briefings.

### **Mechanisms (M)**

**M2** – Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and UN Country Teams have increased by at least 25 per cent the number of contributions they submit to the UN human rights mechanisms.

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OHCHR contributed to increasing the number of substantive reports submitted to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by the NHRI, CSOs, individuals and UN entities.

OHCHR reinforced its cooperation with the United Nations Development Coordination Office's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (DCO LAC) to strengthen the capacity of the UN to effectively prevent and respond to human rights violations and crises by supporting the mainstreaming of human rights into the work of DCO LAC with regional coordinators and UNCTs in the region. Specifically, OHCHR participated in the Peer Support Group to UNCTs to provide the necessary tools to introduce an HRBA into their planning and integrate

international human rights recommendations into their planning processes, namely, the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and cooperation frameworks.

The Office also participated in the drafting group to update the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Common Learning Package to ensure that an HRBA is integrated into development so that it is in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This update is crucial as the Guidance for the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) identifies an HRBA as one of its six guiding principles.

In **Belize**, the Office provided inputs on the 2019 revision of the national implementation programme, with the aim of strengthening the capacities of key stakeholders to improve the compliance of legislation and policies with human rights obligations and standards.

In **Panama**, OHCHR supported civil society organizations and indigenous peoples' organizations to participate in the country's third UPR cycle by building their capacity to effectively use this mechanism and create spaces for dialogue and coordination in the preparation of CSO contributions. The NHRI of Panama was also trained on how to contribute to and participate in the third UPR cycle.

In **El Salvador**, the Office facilitated the process of discussing recommendations issued during the second UPR cycle with the UNCT, the Office of the Procurator for the Defence of Human Rights (the NHRI of El Salvador) and CSOs on issues related to citizen security, justice, women's rights and the LGBTI population. These three stakeholders submitted contributions to the third UPR cycle and actively participated in the follow-up to the interactive dialogue.

Furthermore, the Office contributed to the participation of non-traditional actors (organizational structures of indigenous peoples and committees of relatives of missing migrants) through the submission of information to the human rights treaty bodies and special procedures.

In **Costa Rica**, OHCHR, through the Regional Gender Adviser's participation in the UNCT's Interagency Gender Working Group, supported the UNCT to report to CEDAW, under the follow-up procedure related to the Committee's 2017 concluding observations on Costa Rica (under article 18 of the CEDAW Convention).

In the **Dominican Republic**, the Office strengthened the capacity of the Government and CSOs to prepare and submit reports to the Committee against Torture (CAT) and CEDAW and take better advantage of the UPR follow-up process through a workshop organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## COLOMBIA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
50.34 million	1,142,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.761 (78/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2017
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office		
<b>Year established</b>	1997		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Bogotá, Barrancabermeja, Barranquilla, Cali, Cúcuta, Florencia, Medellín, Mocoa, Neiva, Quibdó, Villavicencio; Apartadó, Buenaventura, Montería, Tumaco (satellite offices); Arauca, Amazonas (presences)		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	66		

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$7,746,815</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$14,543,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$9,028,750</b>	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>4</sup>
70%	19%	11%
\$6,315,078	\$1,694,305	\$1,019,366

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS4 – Transitional justice mechanisms increase accountability for conflict-related violations of human rights and humanitarian law.**

**16**

The Office contributed to strengthening the capacity of the transitional justice mechanisms to incorporate international standards on the participation of victims into the different procedures they have established.

Building on its cooperation with the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) in 2018, the Office continued to strengthen the internal operations of the JEP and its capacity to respond to the demands and expectations of victims. It did so by providing technical assistance to the JEP, which included reinforcing its analytical and methodological capacities to address and process serious human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law that constitute international crimes.

In addition, OHCHR continued to support the JEP Chamber for the Acknowledgement of the Truth and Responsibility in its preparations to open hearings on Case No. 003 relating to the practice of the Colombian Army to present extrajudicial executions as combatants killed in combat. OHCHR is currently working with four magistrates and their teams as they document cases in various military brigades and prepare their case management strategy. This support will help to strengthen their capacity to process serious human rights violations in prioritized cases.

Following the groundwork laid during the last reporting period for the substantive and operative implementation of the Commission for the Clarification of Truth, Coexistence and Non-Recurrence (CEV), OHCHR promoted and increased the capacity of the CEV to use analytical and methodological tools to comply with the State's international obligations and the mandate of the Commission through 17 technical assistance meetings. Furthermore, the Office provided risk maps, stakeholder mapping and context analysis from 27 regional meetings for the preparation of updated contexts and stakeholder maps that will enable the CEV to conduct more accurate risk assessments before undertaking activities and interventions in the regions. OHCHR periodically met with the CEV's regional and national teams in Arauca, Cesar, Cucuta, Magdalena and Meta.

OHCHR continued to provide technical assistance to the Search Unit for Persons Deemed as Missing in the Context of the Armed Conflict (UBPD) in order to increase its analytical capacities to design strategies and methodologies for the search, location, identification and dignified delivery of remains, as well as the delimitation of the universe of persons deemed to have disappeared.

In addition, the Office provided technical assistance to the UBPD for the inclusion of international human rights standards of victim's participation in the autonomous and independent process of selecting delegates from the organizations of victims of kidnappings and enforced disappearance to serve on the UBPD Advisory Board.

To support the work of the regional UBPD teams, OHCHR conducted a stakeholder mapping and context analysis exercise. To this end, it accompanied teams in the documentation of cases of disappeared persons and obtained contextual information from former FARC-EP members who are being held in reclusion centres.

OHCHR also contributed to improving the UBPD's strategy on prevention and protection by hiring an expert consultant to formulate relevant guidelines, develop procedures to guarantee safe conditions for the field operation and establish partnerships with other UN agencies, services or departments (UNMAS and UNDSS).

### Participation (P)

**P2 – Institutions that are responsible for the protection of human rights defenders investigate and prosecute crimes against human rights defenders that are brought to their attention by OHCHR.**



Relevant actors positively addressed an increasing proportion of human rights violations cases that were identified by OHCHR.

During the reporting period, there was a reported increase in the violations of the rights of HRDs that often led to their deaths. At the same time, the institution responsible for protecting

these groups has not demonstrated an increase in the delivery of effective protection measures.

OHCHR's contributions to the Committee for Risk Assessment and Recommendation of Measures (CERREM) during the reporting period aimed to strengthen the Pathway for Collective Prevention, which would enable government institutions to adopt informed measures in response to threats being faced by HRDs. To date, OHCHR has conducted 23 workshops for 952 leaders and HRDs across the country to explain and disseminate the legislation and characteristics of the protection route (requirements, procedures and responsibilities) to local authorities and communities. In addition, OHCHR continued to provide assistance related to requests for individual protection. The CERREM submitted information provided by the field presences to relevant institutions. In 2019, the Office participated in 58 sessions of the CERREM and presented a total of 7,214 cases for risk assessment to determine the level of risk (extreme, extraordinary, ordinary).

Between January and December, OHCHR received reports regarding 186 cases of homicides of HRDs. OHCHR confirmed that 103 of these victims were HRDs. In 73 cases, the victims were not carrying out human rights work when they were killed and 10 cases are being verified. The cases were reported to the Office of the Attorney General, prioritized by the Delegate for Public Safety and assigned an assistant prosecutor from the Special Investigative Unit. These actions were part of a strategy to promote the prosecution of cases of the homicides of HRDs.

**P1 – Relevant national, regional and local institutions apply a human rights-based approach in public policies and programmes that result from implementation of the Peace Accords; they emphasize participation and accountability in particular.**

16



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards through technical assistance, guidance and monitoring activities.

Although the drafting of the National Action Plan on Human Rights (NAPHR) first began in 2018, under the direction of the Presidential Council on Human Rights and with support from OHCHR, the process has yielded limited results. The joint drafting of the document was suspended at the beginning of 2019. The Presidential Council then prepared its own document, in coordination with different ministries and other public institutions, which was presented to civil society organizations and OHCHR, in September. OHCHR reiterated its commitment to working with the State to improve the human rights situation in the country and will continue to offer technical assistance to the Government and civil society in the development of the NAPHR.

The Ministry of the Interior led the formulation of the “Public policy on respect and guarantees for the work of human rights defenders in Colombia.” During the year, the Ministry convened 11 monthly meetings with human rights platforms and public officials from different government and State institutions. At the request of the parties, OHCHR provided advice during the process. Regrettably, the regional processes that were supported by the Ministry of the Interior did not guarantee broad-based participation.

Consequently, the human rights platforms (i.e., the primary Colombian NGO coalitions) withdrew from the process and the Office decided to suspend its technical assistance until the dialogue is resumed between civil society and the Government.

The bills that were introduced in 2019 to revive the special transitory constituencies for peace suffered the same fate as those presented the previous year and the legislative process was not completed. The Office subsequently increased its support to the Office of the National Procurator, resulting in a joint analysis of the situation, which recommended that the Government guarantee the participation of victims in Congress. OHCHR will continue to monitor this issue.

OHCHR followed the social protests and mobilizations that took centre stage in the second half of 2019 and maintained contact with some of the protest leaders. The Office facilitated a unified front in response to the mobilizations, together with the country’s control entities (National Procurator, National Ombudsperson, Municipal Ombudsperson), to generate increased protection and deter further violence. The Office is closely monitoring some of the paradigmatic cases involving allegations that the State response included acts of violence and an excessive use of force.

**P6 – Victims, indigenous peoples and women participate more fully in decisions that concern them.**



OHCHR strengthened the establishment of spaces for the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially victims, ethnic groups, women and LGBTI

persons, in various public processes through advocacy, technical assistance and capacity-building.

Building on its support in 2018, OHCHR implemented strategies to increase the capacity of victims, their families, civil society organizations and national and regional collective processes to participate in the mechanisms of the System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Recurrence (SIVJRNR). In this regard, the Office supported spaces and opportunities for direct dialogue with the SIVJRNR mechanisms, including through participatory assessments and collective and individual interviews. It also advocated for the establishment of additional spaces for training and a reflection on the scope and content of the SIVJRNR mechanisms, including through regional workshops. More concretely, OHCHR provided technical assistance to nine of the 10 organizations that attended the “Space for strategic litigation” workshop to facilitate their participation in the SIVJRNR mechanisms, thus increasing their capacity to present reports to the JEP. As a result, the organizations prepared one report for the JEP on 23 cases of extrajudicial executions that were carried out in Cesar, between 2007 and 2009, and one report on 158 cases of extrajudicial executions that were carried out in Antioquia. Furthermore, OHCHR strengthened the capacity of the Coalición contra la vinculación de niños, niñas y jóvenes al conflicto armado en Colombia (COALICO) to actively participate in the SIVJRNR mechanisms. COALICO subsequently presented one report to the JEP, which in turn contributed to the opening of Case No. 007 on recruitment and the use of children in the Colombian armed conflict.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to the indigenous round-table of Putumayo that was organized to prepare

15 indigenous peoples from Putumayo to participate in the SIVJNR. This enabled the participants to directly engage with the JEP and learn how the ethnic approach is being incorporated into its work, thereby providing them with tools and methodologies to present recommendations to this organism.

Building on the results achieved in 2018, the protocols of indigenous peoples on interactions with third parties were further consolidated as tools to guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples and Afrodescendant communities to participate in the decisions that affect them and to strengthen the special indigenous jurisdiction. More specifically, after two communities of indigenous peoples and one community of Afrodescendant persons presented these protocols to the Ministry of the Interior as a viable option that would guarantee their rights, the Ministry provided support to the three communities for the formulation of the protocols. This action was in compliance with recent recommendations issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the UPR to promote the implementation of the protocols.

OHCHR promoted and strengthened six processes with women's organizations and two with LGBTI organizations to improve their capacity to engage with the State and society to demand the realization of their rights and overcome the barriers stemming from discrimination and gender-based violence in the departments of Antioquia, Bolívar, Córdoba, Huila, Putumayo and Tolima. In Bolívar and Meta, municipal and departmental institutions took steps to guarantee the participation of women in amending procedures to access and uphold the rights of women who are victims of sexual violence and/or enforced disappearance.

## Development (D)

D4 – The policies and programmes of the comprehensive health assistance system (MIAS) and the comprehensive indigenous intercultural health system (SISPI) increasingly comply with human rights standards.

**3 5**

OHCHR supported the Government to ensure that SISPI and the model for integration action in the territories (MAITE), which replaced MIAS, in October, increasingly comply with human rights standards, therefore enabling populations in situations of vulnerability to more fully participate in realizing their right to health.

The Ministry of Health presented a draft resolution on MAITE as the framework for the integrated health care policy. This change in policy raises concerns, including with regard to the transition of some projects from one system to the other and the lack of coordination of MAITE with SISPI in ethnic territories, such as Chocó.

OHCHR has been working with indigenous peoples and Afrodescendant communities in Amazonas, Chocó and Putumayo to document the impact of MAITE on the right to health, drinking water and the environment. It has also been providing technical assistance to develop strategies to address the negative consequences. In particular, OHCHR has sought to ensure that this information is reflected in different public policies, such as SISPI, MAITE, the National Mercury Plan and the Mercury Plan for the Health Sector.

In addition, OHCHR has coordinated with the regional offices of the Office of the Ombudsperson and the Delegate Ombudsperson on Collective and

Environmental Rights to monitor and make recommendations on compliance with judicial rulings, which ordered the adoption of measures to address environmental damage. These decisions include the Constitutional Court rulings T-730/2017 and SU 128/18 on contamination caused by hydro-carbons and Sentence 2018-00319-01 (4360), of 5 April 2018, of the Supreme Court Cassation Chamber, which declared the Amazon region as a subject of rights.

OHCHR conducted an assessment of the implementation of MAITE in Bolívar and Meta in relation to women's rights, especially women victims of sexual violence and/or enforced disappearance. On the basis of this assessment (lack of basic knowledge of proceedings, conflict of competencies, barriers to women in rural areas reporting incidents of GBV), OHCHR proposed a plan to work with the Fundación Saldarriaga Concha to disseminate MAITE among authorities and advance the implementation of the RIAS (pathways for integrated health care).

## GUATEMALA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
17.58 million	109,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.651 (rank: 127/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2018

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2005
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Guatemala City
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	29

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$5,266,379</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$5,133,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$4,291,918</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Non-personnel</b>	<b>PSC<sup>4</sup></b>
68%	21%	11%
\$2,910,781	\$909,274	\$471,863

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – The Attorney General’s Office, the Public Defence Institute, the judiciary, the Constitutional Court, Congress, and key State institutions increasingly integrate human rights standards in their policies and decisions. National and international civil society organizations, the Congress, and other actors, advocate for abolition of the death penalty and ratification of the second optional protocol of the ICCPR.**

**16** 

OHCHR contributed to the compliance of five State institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, OHCHR strengthened the capacities of the judiciary and prosecutors on transitional justice. Specifically, the Office assisted the Judicial Studies School to finalize the development of a training module on transitional justice. This module aims at building the capacity of justice system operators, primarily judges and prosecutors, to tackle systemic issues of impunity for human rights violations that occurred during the internal armed conflict.

In addition, the Office monitored the first hearings of two emblematic cases on genocide committed during the internal armed conflict. OHCHR provided technical assistance to justice operators

and victims’ legal representatives on relevant international human rights standards. OHCHR closely cooperated with the Attorney General’s Office (AGO), the National Human Rights Commission (the NHRI) and NGOs to promote the right of victims to access to justice. This has increased the capacities of victims to claim their rights to justice, truth and reparation and to fight for guarantees of non-recurrence.

OHCHR collaborated with the NHRI, the AGO and NGOs to support the preservation and protection of the Historical Archives of the National Civil Police, which contains over 80 million documents and critical information on severe human rights violations that were committed during the internal armed conflict. The Archives are crucial for both the litigation of transitional justice cases and the historical memory of the country.

OHCHR organized a series of training courses for the AGO, the Constitutional Court, the Public Defence Institute and the judiciary, thereby enhancing the capacities of the participants to effectively apply international human rights standards in cases involving indigenous peoples, women and vulnerable groups.

With technical assistance from OHCHR, the Court and the Ministry of Education developed and implemented a training programme for teachers and children about the human rights of the child in the Constitution. The Court also collaborated with OHCHR to present a child-friendly version of the Constitution in the Garifuna language in Livingston, Izabal. Following up on this work, the Court developed and launched a policy for access to constitutional justice for populations in situations of vulnerability.

OHCHR closely monitored the election process of judges to the High Courts and provided technical assistance to

relevant actors, including members of the nominating commissions and CSOs on international human rights standards. OHCHR supported the Judicial Career Council on international standards related to the performance evaluation of judges.

Furthermore, OHCHR monitored congressional discussions on various law initiatives and raised awareness at the national and international levels about serious risks of regression if certain bills under consideration were adopted due to their lack of compliance with international human rights standards. In January and March, the High Commissioner issued public statements denouncing the proposed reforms to the National Reconciliation Law, which would grant general amnesty for crimes committed during the internal armed conflict. The Office similarly denounced amendments to the Law on Non-Governmental Organizations for Development, which would introduce requirements and administrative controls for NGOs that could be applied in a discretionary or arbitrary manner to limit the activities of CSOs and curtail their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly. Other bills of concern would place limits on the sexual and reproductive rights of women and the right to freedom from discrimination based on sexual orientation. Finally, the Office monitored the discussions of the 2020 budget in light of serious concerns about a further reduction in the allocation of resources for the social sector. The budget was not adopted.



## Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND1 – Indigenous peoples, women, and other groups subject to discrimination make use of strategic litigation to demand their rights and hold to account individuals and institutions that violate human rights.**



OHCHR provided expert methodological and legal support to increase the knowledge of 37 organizations working on the rights of indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants, women and girls and persons with disabilities about relevant international human rights standards and the potential for strategic litigation.

The Office also developed and shared a practical tool for lawyers on strategic litigation based on emblematic cases related to the defence of the rights of indigenous peoples to land, territory and natural resources. As a result of these efforts, organizations and communities initiated legal proceedings to claim their rights. For example, the National Council of Women Weavers brought a claim against the Guatemalan Tourism Institute, in February, for cultural appropriation and the misrepresentation and inappropriate use of the imagery of indigenous peoples and their cultures in advertising.

Following the tragic volcano eruption in 2018, OHCHR provided technical assistance on access to housing and land to the victims of the affected indigenous communities. In coordination with the victims' lawyers, the Office provided support on the integration of international human rights standards into reparation agreements.

OHCHR continued providing technical assistance to the three organizations working with the families and survivors of the tragic 2017 orphanage fire, "Hogar

Seguro Virgen de la Asunción," in order to prepare legal, psychosocial and communication strategies for the case. The Office monitored the public hearings of the case throughout the year and met with survivors and their families to enhance their knowledge of human rights and ensure their active and informed participation in all decision-making processes.

Building on work it had undertaken in previous years, OHCHR provided technical assistance to 11 indigenous organizations, including those representing indigenous women and communities, with regard to litigation cases on the rights to land, territory, natural resources, intercultural education, health and collective intellectual property. This support contributed to favourable judicial decisions being handed down in all 11 cases. Three of the cases led to positive policy changes. In all 11 cases, OHCHR's technical assistance helped to strengthen the capacity of rights-holders to advocate with relevant State institutions at the national and local levels and ensure their participation in the implementation of judicial decisions.

For example, after the Constitutional Court recognized the right of the community of San José Poaquil to administer their own land and territories, OHCHR worked with the Indigenous Authorities of San José Poaquil to strengthen and enhance their capacities to fully exercise this right, including through the development of a census and a community-led cadastre.

Furthermore, OHCHR contributed to building a network of community radios, while strengthening their advocacy skills and developing strategies to prevent criminalization. Technical assistance was provided on legislative reforms to ensure the right to freedom of expression of indigenous peoples.

## INDIGENOUS MIDWIVES IN GUATEMALA: DEFENDERS OF LIFE

Indigenous midwives in Guatemala play a fundamental role in the integral health and ancestral health system of indigenous women, their families and communities. Indigenous peoples account for 43.6 per cent of the population.

The Ministry of Health estimates that the maternal death rate of indigenous women is more than double that of non-indigenous women. They face multiple challenges due to linguistic and cultural barriers, extreme poverty and long distances to public health services.

It is within this context that midwives provide culturally relevant family planning services, prenatal, childbirth, postpartum and neonatal care, in their own languages.

“The beneficiaries are women, children and the general population because the public health system does not reach them,” says Fermina López, coordinator of Asociación Ixmucané, an indigenous women’s NGO.

Despite their crucial role, indigenous midwives have documented multiple human rights concerns, including discrimination, ill-treatment and disqualification by the public health system. Their patients have reported acts of obstetric violence in that system.

Since 2014, with financial support from Canada and Norway, OHCHR has strengthened the capacities of indigenous midwives to claim their rights.

In 2016, indigenous midwives initiated strategic litigation to demand the sexual and reproductive rights of indigenous women, recognition and respect for their work and an end to the discrimination and violence they face in the public health system. They also requested basic care materials, such as alcohol, scissors and stethoscopes.

On 27 March, the Constitutional Court established nine reparation measures to be implemented by the Ministry of Health, in consensus with midwives, to ensure the customs, languages and traditions of indigenous women are fully integrated into maternal health care services in their communities. OHCHR is working closely with the NHRI and midwives organizations to promote the implementation of the ruling.

Finally, with OHCHR’s support, indigenous midwives of the Quiché and Totonicapán regions developed an advocacy plan on protocols and procedures to facilitate their inclusion in the provision of obstetric and gynaecological and neonatal care in the public health system. In 2020, the strategy will be piloted in Quiché and Totonicapán before being implemented across the country.

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices take a human rights-based approach, and in particular respect the rights of indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, women, LGBTI persons, and other groups that experience discrimination.



Through technical assistance, OHCHR contributed to increasing the capacity of 14 key State institutions to apply international human rights standards in relation to the collective rights of indigenous peoples and the rights of persons with disabilities, women, LGBTI persons and vulnerable groups and to eliminate all types of discrimination.

In December, the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) adopted a ministerial agreement for the implementation of the intercultural bilingual education model in 13 communities in Antigua Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán, Sololá. This ministerial agreement is the direct result of a strategic litigation case that was supported by OHCHR. Building on the favourable decision handed down by the Constitutional Court, in 2016, the Office provided technical assistance to the MINEDUC, indigenous authorities and affected communities regarding the design and implementation of the abovementioned intercultural bilingual education model, which includes a carefully prepared curriculum for indigenous children and scholarships for students.

OHCHR provided technical assistance and capacity-building to the Congress Board on Indigenous Peoples (CBIP), including the revision of proposed legislation on the collective intellectual property rights of indigenous women weavers. The CBIP is composed of representatives from the Presidential Commission against Discrimination

and Racism, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of the Economy, the NHRI and indigenous women weavers. The legislation was introduced in response to a decision handed down by the Constitutional Court in a strategic litigation case that was brought by indigenous women weavers, in 2017, with the support of OHCHR. Throughout 2019, the Office provided technical assistance for the revision of the legislation and strengthened the knowledge of the CBIP on international human rights standards and collective property rights. In order to ensure their effective participation in this process, OHCHR supported the national movement of women weavers, strengthened the local councils of women weavers and built alliances with indigenous authorities at the local and national levels.

OHCHR supported a strategic litigation case in which the Constitutional Court ruled in favour of indigenous Mayan midwives, in April. In the Court's decision, the Ministry of Health was instructed to apply an intercultural approach when reporting on the implementation status of its internal policies for the provision of sexual and reproductive healthcare. Furthermore, it ruled that the Ministry of Health must provide indigenous midwives with the tools and utensils they need to ensure quality, accessible and dignified reproductive healthcare. The Court ordered the Ministry of Health to develop adequate legal, technical and operational measures to ensure the effective inclusion of and respect for the customs, languages, practices and traditions of Maya, Garifuna, Xinca and Ladino women in the provision of maternal health services.

In June, OHCHR prepared guidance on the international standards related to decent work and the labour rights of persons with disabilities (PwDs). This document is a practical tool designed to assist public servants. In addition, the Office conducted a survey on access to work for PwDs, in August, to identify good practices and gaps within the NHRI, the Ministry of Labour and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities. A specific assessment was prepared for each institution on the basis of the survey results, which in turn formed the basis for suggestions and recommendations on internal reforms to improve accessibility for workers with disabilities.

### Development (D)

**D3 – Selected State institutions incorporate international human rights standards more consistently in their interventions and policies on land, housing, poverty and related rights.**



OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance with international human rights norms and standards of five policy areas.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to the AGO, the Presidential Commission on Human Rights (COPREDEH) and the NHRI to develop their institutional protocols on forced evictions, in line with international human rights standards, and to carry out an assessment of the human rights impact of forced evictions, with a focus on serious human rights violations.

With OHCHR's technical assistance, the NHRI and national organizations developed a strategy to monitor the implementation of a judicial decision on the violation of the right to food

of five children affected by malnutrition in Camotán, Chiquimula (<https://bit.ly/2M9uCOo>). In October, the first follow-up joint report on monitoring the implementation of the judicial decision was presented to relevant State authorities.

Throughout the year, OHCHR documented eight cases, involving at least 4,000 agricultural workers, of labour exploitation in the agricultural sector (particularly in palm tree plantations). The Office provided technical assistance to local organizations in the presentation of complaints to the International Certifiers Organization. Likewise, the Office documented child labour cases in the coffee and sugar sectors, as well as other possible violations of human rights and labour standards in monoculture plantations of the western regions of the country. OHCHR followed up on these cases with relevant State authorities. In addition, OHCHR documented 47 cases of the contamination of rivers caused by the activities of the agricultural industries.

**D7 – The SDG strategies of UN entities, the evaluation of the 2014-2019 UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), and the design of its successor (2020-2024), integrate a human rights-based approach.**

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which specific programmes of UN entities apply the UN's Common Understanding on a Human Rights-Based Approach to Development Cooperation.

As the lead of the Inter-Agency Human Rights Group in 2019, OHCHR provided inputs, suggested substantive revisions and advocated for the application of a human rights-based approach through the analysis and planning of the CCA.

The Office developed a specific section in the CCA about the rights of indigenous peoples and relevant international human rights law and standards. In coordination with other UN agencies of the Human Rights Group, a section on migration and people on the move was included in the CCA to raise awareness about the significant protection needs of all people on the move and to enhance the work of the UNCT in this regard.

OHCHR substantively contributed to the drafting of the new UNSDCF 2020-2024. Between October 2018 and December 2019, the Office participated in at least 15 multisectoral meetings and events with government officials, as well as consultations with the UNCT and various sectors of society, including six consultations that were held to discuss the application of an HRBA with rights-holders and CSOs, such as indigenous peoples, youth and CSOs working with people on the move. The Office and the UNCT participated in the presentation of the UNSDCF to over 30 members of the Government. Furthermore, OHCHR contributed to the review of several drafts of the theories of change and suggested the inclusion of specific human rights considerations, issues and priority population groups.

As part of the Inter-Agency Group on Economic and Financial Statistics, OHCHR strengthened the capacities of the Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Government and the National Statistical Institute to present disaggregated data, with a focus on human rights, in the second Voluntary National Review (VNR) (2019) of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

Finally, the Office provided extensive contributions for a confidential report to the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW) in its review of Guatemala's

second periodic report, in coordination with a number of UN agencies.



## Peace and Security (PS)

**PS3 – The policies and conduct of State institutions that are responsible for the security of citizens increasingly comply with international human rights standards; they give special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples, women, children, migrants and other groups subject to discrimination, as well as civil society organizations.**



OHCHR worked to increase the capacity of State institutions to comply with international human rights norms and standards by providing technical assistance and support and documenting human rights concerns.

The Office provided technical assistance to the National Civil Police (PNC), in coordination with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and COPREDEH, for the integration of human rights standards into the development of the Protocol on the Use of Force, with a view to improving the performance of their duties in the upcoming elections. The Ministry of the Interior adopted the Protocol, in June, prior to the general elections, during which the PNC played an important preventive role. The Office monitored the implementation of the Protocol during the elections and will continue to do so in all relevant situations, including demonstrations, protests, detentions and all other forms of police intervention.

Furthermore, OHCHR provided support to the PNC through capacity-building workshops and the development of three additional protocols on public demonstrations, road blockages and evictions.

Specifically, OHCHR coordinated with the PNC's Division on the Protection of Persons and Security to implement protection measures for HRDs. The Office monitored cases of allegations of human rights violations and intervened with the PNC to help de-escalate conflict situations, including in the context of forced evictions.

Moreover, the Office documented the internal situation of the PNC, with the arrival of new authorities in the Ministry of the Interior, which resulted in the dismissal of more than 180 staff members and the irregular promotion of 80 staff members, in August.

Finally, OHCHR monitored legislative activities related to proposals on pretrial detention and the penitentiary system, in coordination with civil society, the NHRI and the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala, to ensure their compliance with international human rights standards.

## HAITI: UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR JUSTICE SUPPORT IN HAITI (MINUJUSTH)

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
11.26 million	28,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.503 (rank: 169/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2013
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Peace Mission		
<b>Year established</b>	2004 as MINUSTAH; as MINUJUSTH since 2017; BINUH since July 2019		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Port-au-Prince		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2021		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	5		

### XB requirements 2019

**US\$1,534,000**

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:



### Accountability (A)

**A1 – The Inspectorate General for Police and the Conseil Supérieur du Pouvoir Judiciaire (CSPJ) function effectively and consistently investigate and prosecute serious violations.**



OHCHR supported the General Inspectorate of the Haitian National Police (IGPNH) to further improve its compliance with international human rights norms and standards in its investigation and prosecution of human rights violations.

The Human Rights Service (HRS) of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) supported the IGPNH in its ongoing efforts to standardize criteria for the definition of human rights violations committed by the national police in order to improve

accountability. In cooperation with the HRS, the IGPNH regularly followed up on human rights violations allegedly committed by officers of the Haitian National Police (HNP) and on actions taken, including investigations and the implementation of administrative sanctions levied against HNP officers. The IGPNH conducted administrative investigations in about 76 per cent of reported cases of alleged human rights violations. A total of 12 per cent of the investigations were transferred to the judiciary.

In addition, the HRS provided expertise and financial support for the creation of a database to enable the IGPNH to more effectively manage the investigation of cases. The HRS will monitor the use of the database in the context of the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH).



### Participation (P)

**P1 – The Office de la Protection du Citoyen (OPC) retains its legal standing and receives the resources it requires to operate independently in all departments.**



By providing technical assistance, MINUJUSTH contributed to the effective functioning of the OPC, in conformity with international standards.

The HRS continued to provide technical assistance to the OPC, including by deploying two expert consultants to support the institution in the preparation of a manual on internal rules and regulations and the elaboration of its 2019-2024 strategy. The strategy aims at improving the management of cases received by the NHRI and identifies the broad lines of its thematic priorities, such as economic and social rights, with a view to developing national and international partnerships.

In April, the OPC retained its “A” status under the Paris Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, the benchmarks for assessing NHRIs that was developed by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI).

The OPC released a report on the November 2018 events of La Saline, highlighting the positive actions taken by the national police and the judicial system. It also issued its annual report in 2017-2018. The report includes 20 recommendations to State authorities on a broad range of human rights issues, including prolonged pretrial detention, the protection of detainees and LGBTI rights. The report is the first of its kind produced by the OPC since 2012.

The head of the OPC attended the fortieth session of the Human Rights Council and intervened in the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities.



### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – Laws criminalize sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). No laws are discriminatory with respect to LGBTI persons. Incidents of SGBV and acts of violence against LGBTI persons are investigated and prosecuted. Women's groups and associations that represent LGBTI persons and children are entitled to advocate on behalf of those they represent.



To reduce discrimination, the Office endeavoured to improve the compliance with international human rights norms and standards of legislation and policies relating to the rights of women, LGBTI persons, persons living with disabilities and other minorities.

The HRS provided capacity-building activities to CSOs representing persons living with disabilities, the voodoo community and LGBTI persons. This enabled CSOs to engage in a range of advocacy activities, including promoting the rights of women living with disabilities, access to justice for LGBTI persons, the participation of women in political life and assistance for women who are victims of GBV. Although State authorities participated in these advocacy activities, particularly the Ministry of Women's Affairs, which was actively involved in initiatives to fight gender discrimination, this has not translated into concrete outcomes at the policy or legislative levels.

Furthermore, the HRS supported the OPC in the organization of a national

contest on human rights essays for youth and journalists.



### Peace and Security (PS)

PS6 – Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) implementation mechanisms and procedures have been established; these ensure that the HRDDP is implemented fully.

16

MINUJUSTH increasingly integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles into its work.

The HRDDP, in compliance with the standard operating procedures adopted in 2018, proved to be an effective tool for accountability and protection in the context of the peacekeeping mission and within the work of the UNCT.

The HRS contributed to the assessment of the support that the UN mission, agencies and programmes provided to national security forces, thereby placing the HRS in a strategic position to help ensure the accountability of UN interventions with national partners.



### Mechanisms (M)

M1 – The Inter-Ministerial Committee meets regularly and, basing itself on a national action plan, takes action to implement recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms.

16 17

OHCHR enhanced the capacity of the NMRF by providing specialized training.

The HRS organized a workshop for members of the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights (IMCHR) and representatives of other national institutions,

including the OPC and the IGPNH, to draft a government implementation plan on recommendations that were accepted during Haiti's second UPR cycle, in 2016. This implementation plan was included in a national human rights action plan, which was finalized by the IMCHR, in December. The HRS also trained CSOs on the vulgarization of UPR recommendations and access to judicial remedies in order to make them more accessible.

In addition, the HRS delivered training sessions for NGOs on human rights monitoring in seven departments. As a result, national NGOs provided reliable and critical information on human rights violations that were committed during the social and political unrest between September and November. This enabled the HRS to provide an accurate analysis of the human rights situation at the national level through a press briefing that was widely covered by national and international partners.

## HONDURAS

**Population size<sup>1</sup>** 9.75 million **Surface area<sup>1</sup>** 112,000 km<sup>2</sup> **Human Development Index<sup>2</sup>** 0.623 (rank: 133/188 in 2018) **NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup>** Status B, 2016

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2015
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Tegucigalpa
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017-2021
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	16

**Total income** **US\$3,125,129**

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$3,446,000**

**Total XB expenditure** **US\$2,332,100**

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>4</sup>
73%	15%	11%
\$1,708,137	\$359,310	\$264,653

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1234</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Development (D)

**D2 – The Government and businesses take steps to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.**

**1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17**

The Office contributed to increasing the level of compliance of the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Labour and the business sector with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) through capacity-building and the establishment of channels for technical cooperation and advocacy.

In 2019, within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed

by OHCHR and the Ministry of Human Rights, in December 2018, the Office continued to promote the implementation of the UNGPs in Honduras by using the multi-actor approach to build the capacities of State institutions, unions, CSOs, the private sector and staff members of the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Labour. The country visit of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, in August, which was facilitated by the Office, provided an excellent opportunity to continue advocating for the prioritization of this topic on the national agenda.

For instance, OHCHR and the Ministry of Human Rights successfully organized a national forum on business and human rights that was attended by over 200 participants, including CSOs, indigenous peoples, environmentalist groups, the business sector and government representatives. Furthermore, OHCHR provided ongoing technical assistance to the Ministry of Human Rights to conduct several multi-actor workshops to discuss and propose strategies to implement the recommendations emanating from the Working Group on business and human rights, especially on how to build trust among relevant actors. These workshops, attended by 95 participants (62 women, 33 men) were conducted in coordination with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and key stakeholders from CSOs, the private sector, academia and the Government.

OHCHR continued to closely monitor social unrest caused by the lack of consultation with indigenous communities in the approval and execution of hydroelectric and other types of development projects, such as the construction of a dam in Reitoca. The Office held regular meetings with “Espacio ACI,” a network of CSOs working on business and human rights to ensure an exchange of information. OHCHR held bilateral meetings with key stakeholders, such as unions and the private sector, to gather their perspectives on opportunities and challenges presented by the upcoming National Action Plan (NAP) on business and human rights and to review comparative experiences from the region.

Finally, OHCHR started preparing a report on the accountability of business associations, which will be published in 2020. The report will assess the current legal framework and identify gaps in the response to conflicts arising in the area of business and human rights.

It will also provide important guidance for the elaboration of a baseline for the NAP on business and human rights.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – An effective national monitoring and reporting mechanism is established.**

16 17

The Office continued supporting preparations for the establishment of the NMRF.

Although the Ministry of Human Rights continued to reaffirm the Government's interest and readiness to rapidly set up the NMRF throughout 2019, the NMRF was not formally established during the reporting period. OHCHR continued providing legal advice on the draft decree for its establishment and provided technical cooperation to help develop the capacity of the institutions that will form part of the NMRF to enable them to effectively assume their responsibilities once it is in place.

To this end, OHCHR continued implementing a training programme for government officials nominated as agency focal points for the NMRF. The programme was organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Human Rights between November 2018 and May 2019, and was attended by 50 participants (34 women, 16 men). It was comprised of 10 modules on human rights and public policy topics, including international human rights mechanisms, a human rights-based approach to budgeting, human rights indicators and training of trainers. In June, 36 out of the 50 focal points had completed the course and received a positive evaluation of their work.

In order to strengthen the capacity of the focal points to participate in the third

UPR cycle of Honduras, scheduled for May 2020, a two-day workshop was conducted to focus on the preparation of the national report and link recommendations with public policies and indicators.

In an effort to link the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with human rights obligations, OHCHR worked with the Ministry of Human Rights to develop an online platform that connects the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Honduras with the National Agenda for Sustainable Development (adopted in December) and the National Action Plan on Human Rights, which are included in SIMOREH, a software system developed to monitor the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms that is not yet functional. The link between SIMOREH and public policies represents an innovative practice in the region to promote the human rights-based development agenda.

In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Human Rights in developing guidelines, mainly with regard to the technical criteria for reviewing human rights and the National Agenda or Sustainable Development. Authorities agreed to promote dialogue among different stakeholders in the context of a dialogue group that is composed of 17 CSOs and supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The establishment of the dialogue is pending finalization of the SIMOREH software platform.

**M2 – The national human rights institution, civil society organizations, and UN agencies send information to UN human rights mechanisms and use their recommendations, guidance and jurisprudence in advocacy.**

17

The Office contributed to the increased engagement of relevant stakeholders with the international human rights mechanisms by raising awareness, building capacity and providing technical support.

In 2019, OHCHR continued to raise awareness, provide technical support and promote engagement with international human rights mechanisms by relevant stakeholders. To strengthen the capacity of civil society partners to contribute to the third UPR cycle of Honduras, OHCHR convened an information session for approximately 25 CSOs on the 2030 Agenda and its links with international human rights standards. Participants discussed challenges related to the monitoring of and follow-up on UPR recommendations and ideas for advocacy actions.

To prepare stakeholders for the upcoming CAT review, in August 2020, OHCHR organized a workshop for civil society organizations, CONADEH (the NHRI) and CONAPREV (the NPM) to explain the reporting process and their respective roles in reporting to the human rights treaty bodies. Additionally, OHCHR provided advice and practical information on how to prepare written submissions for the lists of issues prior to reporting.

Nearly 80 young students from the National University of Honduras increased their knowledge and capacities in relation to international standards on the rights of LGBTI persons at a workshop that was co-organized by OHCHR

and the CATRACHAS lesbian network, in August. At the workshop, OHCHR presented the students with information about international standards, including relevant recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Honduras. In the framework of the commemoration of International Day against Violence against Women, in November, OHCHR and the Embassy of Canada organized a dialogue with 11 women journalists working in the local media. During the event, the Office shared its analysis on violence against women in Honduras and highlighted the international recommendations on violence against women that have been issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In addition, OHCHR organized a round-table on “A rights-based approach to monitoring and evaluation of public policies implementing the 2030 Agenda.” The 32 participants (18 women, 14 men) included UN agency leads and UNDAF focal points. The round-table linked the UNDAF with relevant SDGs and human rights standards and provided examples of good practices of the application of an HRBA to monitoring and evaluating public policies. OHCHR also facilitated a working session on the UPR for 18 representatives of UN agencies and UNDAF focal points. The objective of the working session was to elaborate a plan of action for preparing the UNCT report prior to the third UPR cycle of Honduras. As a result, a joint UN Working Group was established to develop the report, with the support of OHCHR. The report was completed and submitted in September.

## Participation (P)

**P6 – Rights-holders, especially women, indigenous peoples and other under-represented groups, participate in selected public processes at local and national level.**



OHCHR contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in various public processes by accompanying rights-holders in social mobilization processes at the national and local levels.

Rights-holders, especially those who are often marginalized, such as women, LGBTI persons, indigenous peoples, Garífunas (Afrodescendants), rural populations and persons with disabilities, continued to face difficulties in effectively participating in public processes and spaces. To strengthen their capacities throughout the year, OHCHR designed a capacity-building strategy that included a national forum, training, missions and campaigns.

On 11 and 12 June, the first National Forum for Human Rights Defenders was organized by OHCHR and brought together more than 100 HRDs from across Honduras to exchange experiences and create a civic space agenda for future advocacy initiatives. Based on the agreements reached at the Forum, OHCHR began coordinating follow-up activities, including public forums, work meetings and joint missions with groups of rights-holders, particularly those in vulnerable situations because of multiple/intersecting identities such as women, indigenous peoples, LGBTI community members and youth. OHCHR will convene a follow-up forum in 2020.

From 1 September to 10 December, OHCHR conducted a campaign called “#SomosPersonasDefensoras.” The main objective was to raise public awareness about the work of HRDs and to encourage those who defend human rights to self-identify as defenders. The campaign included the dissemination of informative postcards/infographics on social media platforms, short videos and testimonies from HRDs, key messages that were communicated through radio broadcasts and press releases, participation in public events and joint activities that were undertaken in partnership with other stakeholders. OHCHR ensured the participation of underrepresented groups, such as WHRDs and LGBTI community members.

## Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND6 – The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected.**



OHCHR contributed to protecting the human rights of persons in the context of mixed migratory flows, particularly those in vulnerable situations, with a primary focus on disappeared migrants, monitoring missions and internal displacement.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to help strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Human Rights and the five committees of the relatives of disappeared migrants to prevent and address the human rights violations of disappeared migrants. In April, a technical committee consisting of OHCHR and members of both ministries was established. In the context of this work, the Office focused on promoting

dialogue and conveying information between the different stakeholders. In collaboration with the ICRC, the Office advocated for the establishment and implementation of a protocol for relatives of disappeared migrants; participated in the working group for disappeared migrants established by the ICRC; provided technical assistance to the five committees of the relatives of disappeared migrants; and provided inputs into the *Information Guide for the Relatives of Disappeared Migrants*.

During 2019, OHCHR undertook eight missions to monitor the human rights situation of people on the move, including the mass migration to Mexico and the United States of America, and the returns and deportations of Hondurans. These missions enabled OHCHR to identify human rights trends and patterns relating to people on the move in the region, and provided important inputs for the OHCHR internal report on the situation of “migrant caravans.” Within the framework of the inter-agency response strategy that was adopted by the UN Honduras Protection Group to cover the departures, returns and deportation of migrants, OHCHR coordinated the monitoring of human rights violations, identified and referred people with international protection needs; prepared various analyses on the human rights of migrants; and monitored returns, deportations and public policies for returnees and their impact. In addition, the Office led the inter-agency coordination on dissemination of information to the general population. In cooperation with UNHCR, OHCHR developed key messages for CONADEH and the Directorate for Children, Youth and Family to promote the human rights of migrants and highlight key issues related to the migration route.

OHCHR and the Ministry of Human Rights agreed on a workplan to provide technical assistance to the Inter-Institutional Commission for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons Due to Violence (CIPPDV). This assistance was aligned with the four priorities identified in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (GP 20) Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons. During 2019, OHCHR acquired a permanent adviser status before the CIPPDV and provided technical assistance to help develop and implement an advocacy plan for the approval of the draft Law on the Prevention and Care of and Protection against Forced Displacement. Furthermore, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the CIPPDV on integrating a gender perspective into actions related to forced displacement.

## JAMAICA

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
2.95 million	11,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.726 (rank: 96/188 in 2018)	Yes
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights Adviser	
<b>Year established</b>		2013	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Kingston	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		UN Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF) in the Caribbean 2017-2021	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		1	

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$227,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1** – In at least one country (Jamaica) law enforcement authorities and the judiciary have adopted in-house training on human rights. Barbados, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines have taken steps to provide human rights training to law enforcement officials.

**16** 

The Office supported the institutionalization of human rights training for the judiciary and the police in Jamaica by providing technical assistance to build and strengthen national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights.

As part of its efforts to tackle police violence, and building on training support that was provided in 2018, OHCHR and the National Police College co-organized

three training sessions to educate 453 police officers (126 women, 327 men) on human rights approaches, standards and requirements that are pertinent to their roles in law enforcement. Additionally, these trainings aimed at challenging the attitudes and biases among police officers towards marginalized and vulnerable groups, such as LGBTI persons, persons living with HIV/AIDS and persons with disabilities.

In April, OHCHR collaborated with the Judicial Education Institute of Jamaica (JEIJ) and the Court Management Services to organize a workshop for the presentation of an online training platform on international human rights for the judiciary in Jamaica, which was developed and launched in 2018. The workshop presented the main elements of the training course and provided guidance on how trainers/judges can use the

online platform as a consultation tool. During the training, responsibility for the online course was officially handed over to the JEIJ, which will now manage the site and provide access to all members of the judiciary.

#### **Development (D)**

**D7** – In all five Caribbean UN Country/ Sub-regional Teams (Jamaica, Barbados and OECS, Trinidad & Tobago, Guyana, Suriname) a HRBA is integrated in MSDF CIPs/M&E framework, interpretation of SDGs.



OHCHR worked closely with other UN agencies to ensure that an HRBA is applied to and integrated into UN programmes and activities.

The Office participated in the development of Jamaica's Country Implementation Plan (CIP) 2019-2020, which was based on the UN MSDF, ensuring the full integration of human rights and gender considerations.

In cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), OHCHR finalized an emergency preparedness and response plan for Jamaica. The plan focuses on hurricane and earthquake scenarios and the mainstreaming of human rights and gender, with the participation of other UN agencies, such as UNDP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in the implementation of the plan.

OHCHR cooperated with the UN Theme Group on Gender and Human Rights

and the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS to conduct a comprehensive review of four parliamentary acts, namely, the Sexual Offences Act, the Child Care and Protection Act, the Domestic Violence Act and the Offences against the Person Act. In December, the RC presented a memo to the Parliament and key government ministries in order to highlight key issues of concern, such as abolishing outdated definitions of sexual intercourse and rape, including marital rape, and the criminalization of HIV transmission and to propose a gender-neutral understanding of sexual offences.

OHCHR also organized a number of trainings for UN agencies on human rights, gender, migration and the rights of persons with disabilities.

database project. The database seeks to facilitate recording, tracking and reporting on the national-level implementation of human rights recommendations emanating from the international, regional and national human rights mechanisms. It is anticipated that the database will enhance the Government's capacity and efficiency in reporting to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR. At its end-of-year meeting, the Interministerial Committee informed OHCHR that it had approved the database project, which is expected to be operational in 2020.

Finally, the Office continued to build the capacity of the Interministerial Committee through a training on the use of the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI).



## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – At least four Caribbean countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Jamaica) have established mechanisms for human rights reporting and follow-up.**

16 17 

In Jamaica, OHCHR contributed to enhancing integrated and efficient reporting and follow-up on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms by building capacity and raising awareness about existing tools.

In 2018, the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights was established as the official national entity of Jamaica for reporting and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. At the same time, OHCHR presented its NRTD. Since then, OHCHR continued to advocate with the Interministerial Committee to encourage Jamaica to join the pilot phase of the

## MEXICO

**Population size<sup>1</sup>** 127.58 million **Surface area<sup>1</sup>** 1,964,000 km<sup>2</sup> **Human Development Index<sup>2</sup>** 0.767 (rank: 76/188 in 2018) **NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup>** Status A, 2016

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2002
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Mexico City
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2014-2019
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	24

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$2,611,118</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$2,997,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$2,784,758</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Non-personnel</b>	<b>PSC<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>62%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>11%</b>
\$1,716,262	\$755,710	\$312,786

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1234</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – Mexico has adopted a national regulatory framework on the use of force that complies with international human rights standards.**

**16**

OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of security sector authorities with international human rights norms and standards on the use of force.

During his visit to Mexico, in 2015, the High Commissioner recommended that Mexico adopt legislation on the use of force. Since then, several special procedures have issued similar recommendations. In addition, the Office

was fundamental in ensuring the constitutional reform on security. This led to the creation of the National Guard and established an obligation to draft a National Law on the Use of Force (LNUF), which was finally adopted, in May. An agreement signed by the Government and OHCHR following the High Commissioner's 2019 visit to Mexico, in April, which deals with the provision of technical assistance on capacity-building and operational protocols, as well as accountability mechanisms of the National Guard, was drafted at the beginning of the year.

Following the adoption of the LNUF, the Office began monitoring its

implementation, documented cases of human rights violations and advocated for the security forces to fully comply with the LNUF. During the congressional debates related to the preparation of the draft, OHCHR presented a document outlining the international standards that needed to be incorporated. Many of these standards were included in the final version. In May, the Office issued a statement acknowledging the positive aspects of the Law, while also underscoring its shortcomings, particularly regarding the lack of regulation on the use of lethal force and accountability.

Since the LNUF failed to comply with international standards in some areas, OHCHR shared its concerns with the NHRI, which later filed a constitutional challenge (acción de inconstitucionalidad) before the Supreme Court. Finally, the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee on Mexico, issued on 7 November, reiterated some of OHCHR's concerns regarding the LNUF.

**A2 – At least four public policies have been adopted that protect the rights of individuals who are subject to search and identification (with respect to search commissions, registries, protocols, national plans, etc.). At least three public policies have been adopted that address prosecution, sanction and reparation in cases of disappearances of persons, torture, and other human rights violations. These policies are implemented at federal and local level in compliance with international human rights standards.**

**10 16**

The Office contributed to the establishment of oversight and accountability mechanisms on torture, the search for missing persons and exhumations and

the identification of human remains in compliance with international human rights standards.

During the reporting period, OHCHR collaborated with several NGOs to create a system to monitor the implementation of the General Law on Torture. In the first half of 2019, OHCHR coordinated with partner organizations to gather information that was used to develop 240 requests that were submitted to authorities. OHCHR and its partner organizations used that information to create a website, [sintortura.org](http://sintortura.org), which was launched, in November, to monitor the implementation of the General Law on Torture. The website includes information on the status and number of investigations; the number of convictions for torture and forensic torture exams. It is also used for advocacy before the authorities across the country.

OHCHR contributed to the planning and elaboration of the National Programme for the Prevention and Sanction of Torture and other Forms of Ill-Treatment, which was established in accordance with the General Law on Torture. OHCHR worked with CSOs and international partners to produce the final version of the National Programme, which has been reviewed by federal and local dependencies since August. It is anticipated that the National Programme will be published at the beginning of 2020.

Following the High Commissioner's visit to Mexico, the new Government requested additional cooperation, which led to the signing of an agreement that concerns cooperation with the newly established Commission for Truth and Access to Justice in relation to the Ayotzinapa case (the enforced disappearance of 43 male students from the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers' School in 2014). In March 2018, OHCHR published

a groundbreaking report on the torture of detainees and other violations of due process. As of January 2020, more than 61,000 enforced disappearances have been reported in Mexico. The Government has committed to addressing enforced disappearances, including the Ayotzinapa case, as a priority issue.

To advance the implementation of the General Law on Disappearances, OHCHR supported the process the design of various tools established by the General Law, i.e., the National Search Programme, the Regional Search Programme for the Northeast, the Protocol for the Search of Missing Persons and the National Exhumations Programme. OHCHR supported these processes through meetings with authorities, providing international human rights standards and helping to maintain the dialogue between relatives of people disappeared, authorities and international experts, including the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the ICRC.

In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance and political support to CSOs and victims' groups to promote the creation of an Extraordinary Forensic Mechanism, including by holding periodic meetings with government stakeholders and diplomatic missions to identify opportunities for collaboration. On the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, in August, the President declared its commitment to creating this Mechanism. After several months of dialogue, an agreement was reached between the various actors involved in the process and the Extraordinary Forensic Mechanism was formally established on 5 December.

**A3 – Relevant authorities take account of international human rights norms and standards in at least four prosecutions for violence against women, femicide, or denial of sexual and reproductive rights.**



The Office contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence on violence against women by providing ongoing technical assistance to GBV alert mechanisms in eight states.

Following the assistance provided to the mechanisms in five states (Jalisco, Veracruz, Ciudad de México, Estado de México and Chiapas), in 2018, the Office assisted three additional mechanisms in the states of Nuevo León, Chihuahua and Guerrero, bringing the total number of supported mechanisms to eight. In addition to participating in the meetings of each alert mechanism, OHCHR introduced international women's rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms as a foundation for analysis related to violence against women in the local context. The Office also helped the alert mechanisms to revise their public policies to ensure that they better integrate gender perspectives and women's rights obligations.

In 2019, OHCHR continued to accompany and assist victims and CSOs in relation to cases of violence against women, focusing on three femicide cases and one sexual violence case. During that time, two cases on femicide were concluded with the support of the Office. Additionally, OHCHR provided CSOs and judicial authorities with technical expertise on human rights standards, due process of law and sexual and reproductive rights with regard to a wide range of cases.

Furthermore, OHCHR collaborated with civil society partners to contribute to discussions on the modification of the General Law on Women's Access to a Life Free of Violence, which would strengthen the efficacy of the alert mechanisms. The initiative was approved by the Deputies Chamber, in December, and was discussed by the Senate, in January 2020, which included comments from OHCHR.

In partnership with the National Human Rights Commission, state-level human rights commissions and other partners, OHCHR coordinated a training course on substantive equality and the rights of indigenous women. In an effort to decentralize knowledge on human rights, the course was conducted over 10 sessions in eight states (Chihuahua, Ciudad de México, Estado de México, Veracruz, Jalisco, San Luis Potosí, Chiapas, Puebla), which were live streamed to all enrolled students.



### Participation (P)

**P1 – The relevant authorities take effective action to investigate and sanction attacks or reprisals against journalists and human rights defenders (HRDs) in at least 10 per cent of the cases raised by OHCHR-Mexico.**

16



The Office contributed to investigating cases of human rights violations of HRDs and journalists with relevant judicial and executive authorities.

During 2019, OHCHR documented a significant increase in the number of suspects arrested with regard to cases of aggression against HRDs and journalists, especially against indigenous and WHRDs. OHCHR's public position and dialogue with authorities helped to maintain a high level of pressure.

Among the cases where some progress was achieved is the case of Isidro Baldenegro, an indigenous HRD who was awarded the Goldman prize in 2005. He was killed in 2017 and his assassin was finally sentenced in 2019. In the case of journalist Amir Ibrahim, an individual was sentenced for threatening him. This constitutes a landmark case as threat complaints are usually dismissed by authorities and because most grave human rights violations against HRDs and journalists take place within a context of complete impunity.

Moreover, all of the cases of HRD disappearances that were documented by OHCHR in 2019 have now received the attention of the National Search Commission. At least three disappeared HRDs were consequently located, two of whom were released by their kidnapers. The human remains of the third HRD were located and identified by authorities, and subsequently returned to the family.

During the year, the number of homicides and disappearances of HRDs, particularly indigenous HRDs and journalists, was the highest since OHCHR began its systematic documentation in 2015. A least 18 HRDs were killed (four women, 14 men, 10 of whom were indigenous persons) and at least 12 journalists were killed (one woman, 11 men, one of whom was an indigenous person). The whereabouts of at least two HRDs who were disappeared in 2019 remain unknown.

At the request of the Mexican Government, OHCHR carried out an in-depth assessment of the National Protection Mechanism for Human Rights Defenders and Journalists during the reporting period. The assessment includes 104 recommendations that have been fully accepted by the Minister of the Interior, the Federal Prosecutor, the Vice-Minister

of Security, the Ombudsperson and the representatives of the 32 states. Among the main recommendations highlighted by OHCHR are the need to effectively integrate a gender perspective into the activities of the Mechanism; focus on groups facing significant risks; adopt preventive measures to avoid the most violent attacks; and prevent aggressions committed by civil servants and politicians, which account for approximately 55 per cent of all violations. In light of the Government's commitment, OHCHR is supporting the process to strengthen the Mechanism. Improvements have been reported, including the implementation of a new methodology for risk assessment and the early development of an information system that incorporates indicators to measure human rights impact. Moreover, initial preparations are underway, with the support of the Office of the President, to launch a permanent public campaign to fully recognize the fundamental contribution of HRDs and journalists for a vibrant democracy.



### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – By the end of 2021, Mexico has ratified two international or regional human rights treaties and recognized the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider individual communications.**

As of the end of 2019, Mexico had ratified two Inter-American conventions and made progress towards recognizing the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) to receive and consider individual communications. More specifically, following Senate approval, the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance and the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of

Discrimination and Intolerance were ratified, in November.

In 2019, OHCHR continued promoting the importance of recognizing the competence of CED to receive and consider individual communications. This was further emphasized by the High Commissioner during her country visit, in May. As a result, the Government publicly declared, on 30 August, that it would recognize the Committee's competence and accepted the corresponding UPR recommendation on this topic. As of December, however, no steps had been taken to formally conclude the process and the recognition of the CED remains under the review of the Supreme Court.

OHCHR strongly encouraged the Government to recognize the competence of the Committee on Economic and Social Rights (CESCR) and CRC to receive and consider individual communications, particularly since the Government had accepted the relevant recommendations that were issued during the UPR. The Senate, which is empowered to internally ratify international treaties, exhorted the Executive to recognize the competence of CED, CESCR and CRC, with technical assistance from OHCHR.

### #QUEREMOSAObTILIA CAMPAIGN HELPS RELEASE INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

In February, Obtilia Eugenio Manuel and her colleague, Hilario Cornelio Castro, both of whom are indigenous women human rights defenders, were victims of enforced disappearance after denouncing corruption in their community. As soon as OHCHR received information about their case, the Office established contact with federal and state authorities and launched a campaign to demand their release under the hashtag #QueremosAObtilia (meaning "we want Obtilia to be free"). After several days, Obtilia and Hilario were released. This is an unprecedented situation as most cases of disappeared human rights defenders remain unsolved or they are found deceased.

After her release, Obtilia heard about the social mobilization that took place in relation to her case and declared:

"The OHCHR team supported my fight for the rights of indigenous peoples. This was especially important when I was a victim of enforced disappearance and it used alerts to advocate for me to be found. Thanks to OHCHR and other human rights defenders, my captors released me. OHCHR's support continued after my liberation, which helped me to obtain protection measures from the authorities."

In December, Obtilia was awarded the National Human Rights Prize.

**M3 – The workplans and activities of national and local institutions of the executive, legislative and judiciary, and other relevant actors, have integrated at least four recommendations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and related mechanisms. The judiciary references international human rights standards more frequently in its decisions and activities; it does so in cases where OHCHR has submitted a legal brief.**

**5 16**

The Office contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings and judicial decisions in various areas,

including in relation to child marriage, the legal capacity of persons with disabilities, the legal interruption of pregnancy, enforced disappearances and migration.

In this context, the Office submitted three legal briefs to the Supreme Court of Justice containing information about these issues. The Office also collaborated with the Supreme Court to disseminate and promote the use of international standards on human rights in judicial decisions. One of their projects is the Legal Search Engine on Human Rights (BJDH), [www.bjdh.org.mx](http://www.bjdh.org.mx), which is an important tool that facilitates the dissemination of information about international standards on human rights to the judiciary, students, academics, human rights officers, government officials and others interested in researching

human rights cases. In 2019, OHCHR and the Supreme Court began to systematize and categorize information on special procedures for inclusion in the search engine.

OHCHR continued collaborating with the Supreme Court on the television programme “Tus derechos,” working closely with the Court’s team throughout the planning and coordination process for the 22-episode broadcast in 2019. The main goal of the programme was to promote discussions on relevant topics related to human rights, such as enforced disappearances, torture, gender and migration.

### Development (D)

**D2 – Businesses, especially businesses in the energy sector, increasingly apply the UN Guiding Principles, notably in their due diligence procedures.**

OHCHR made progress in the consolidation of the business and human rights agenda in Mexico by promoting a broader agenda on the subject. It also provided technical advice to businesses on the application of international human rights standards.

In this context, OHCHR and the Secretariat of the UNGPs, co-organized a regional consultation on incorporating gender perspectives into the UNGPs, in Mexico City, in February. The consultation increased awareness about the international standards among the 50 participants, including academics, NGO representatives from Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Peru, companies from Mexico and national-level NHRIs from Guatemala and Mexico and the NHRI from Mexico City.

In a continuous effort to disseminate the UNGPs, OHCHR facilitated capacity-building activities for private sector

companies from the construction and energy sectors, with a focus on the UN human rights system, the rights of indigenous peoples, the UNGPs and due diligence procedures. As a result, approximately 20 companies from different sectors demonstrated a willingness to understand the concepts and work together with authorities, CSOs and communities on human rights issues. OHCHR also continued providing technical assistance to the private sector company, Grupo Mexico, the largest mining company in the country, to help them implement human rights policies in all of their business activities and to operationalize the company’s complaints and remedy system.

Within the framework of the project “Responsible business conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean,” the Office continued advocating for the elaboration of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights after the process was discontinued by the Ministry of the Interior in 2018. As a result, OHCHR contributed to the development of the National Human Rights Programme to ensure the incorporation of a business and human rights agenda. The Programme is due to be presented to the public in April 2020. As part of the development process, OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of the Interior to organize a national consultation, which was held for 107 participants representing private companies, CSOs and communities and state and federal authorities (47 women, 60 men), in Monterrey, in August. OHCHR also participated in the regional consultation on business and human rights in Chile, in September, which was crucial to strengthening partnerships with OHCHR Offices in Chile, Colombia and Mexico, and with ILO and OECD.

### Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND6 – National laws recognize the rights to liberty and judicial guarantees of migrants, who enjoy stronger legal protection through national judicial and non-judicial protection mechanisms.**



OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of legislation with international human rights norms and standards in relation to the rights of migrants.

During 2019, OHCHR focused its efforts on legislative reforms addressing the rights of migrants and access to services for asylum seekers and the harmonization of the Migration Law and the General Law for the Protection of Girls, Boys and Adolescents concerning the prohibition of the detention of migrant children. OHCHR also advocated for guaranteeing access to justice by allowing public defenders to enter migrant detention centres. Although many forums and activities have been organized to discuss these legislative reforms, limited progress has been made towards their adoption. The Office will continue to promote these guarantees in 2020. OHCHR carried out several missions to document the situation of people on the move, including both migrants and IDPs, and their ability to access their rights. The OHCHR team travelled to Chiapas, Baja California, Chihuahua, San Luis Potosí, Tamaulipas, Veracruz, Tabasco and Mexico City as part of their efforts to ensure the protection of people on the move. Specifically, OHCHR carried out a rapid deployment mission to the northern and southern Mexican borders and contributed its findings to a report entitled *Situación de los derechos humanos de las personas en contexto de*

*movilidad en México* on access to justice, detention, criminalization of HRDs, access to social, economic and cultural rights, women's rights and the rights of the child. The report contained several recommendations to authorities and institutions on addressing human rights violations in the context of migration. Its main findings were shared with the Deputy Minister for Human Rights in the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

OHCHR undertook an active role during the first steps of the investigations concerning two extrajudicial killings of migrants by providing technical advice to the authorities on corresponding human rights standards.

## SOUTH AMERICA

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay
<b>Year established</b>	2009
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Santiago, Chile with Human Rights Advisers in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	n/a
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	tbc

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$779,000</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$1,311,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$818,983</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>†</sup>	
79%	9%	11%	
\$648,580	\$76,359	\$94,044	
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,136,866</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
87%	13%		
\$989,823	\$147,043		

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>†</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Participation (P)

P1 – Indigenous peoples, women, LGTBI rights advocates, human rights defenders, and people of African descent have increased capacity to make use of national, regional and international human rights mechanisms to protect their rights. Human rights defenders and indigenous peoples participate more actively in public affairs and consistently monitor decisions that affect them.



16

The Office contributed to enhancing the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, in reporting to the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR continued to strengthen the capacities of CSOs to interact with international human rights protection mechanisms.

In **Bolivia**, the Office organized a seminar on the UPR for 20 CSOs, highlighting

the advantages of working in coalitions and the tools that can be used to achieve results. In addition, OHCHR provided technical support to the Government to socialize its report for the third UPR cycle in the main cities of the country. Through a series of workshops, more than 250 civil society representatives were informed about the Government's report that has been submitted to the UPR Working Group. The workshops provided an opportunity for CSOs to express their observations and opinions regarding the report.

In **Ecuador**, the Office held information sessions for 120 civil society representatives on the preparation of alternative reports to CESCR and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). As a result, the two committees received 18 alternative reports and three oral interventions on the rights of persons with disabilities, which enabled them to broaden the spectrum of issues that were addressed in their recommendations.

In **Uruguay**, OHCHR supported CSOs to contribute preliminary information that was used for the CEDAW list of issues prior to reporting. Based on this list of issues, Uruguay will present its official report to CEDAW in July 2020. Furthermore, the Office provided support to CSOs on the use of human rights mechanisms and the preparation of proposals to various funds, which led to a successful application to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture by a Uruguayan NGO.

In **Brazil**, the Office partnered closely with indigenous organizations, which have been among the main stakeholders combating climate change and deforestation. In August, OHCHR co-organized and co-facilitated a workshop with the primary national indigenous networks

of the country and the NGO Rede de Cooperação Amazônica (Amazon Cooperation Network) for 30 indigenous leaders. Participants were trained to identify UPR recommendations related to the rights of indigenous peoples and assess their status of implementation. They also enhanced their knowledge of international human rights mechanisms, the main international platforms for indigenous and environmental action and the linkages between human rights, sustainable development and climate change.

The Office continued to work towards integrating sustainable development and human rights, especially with regard to protecting environmental HRDs and civic space. OHCHR has been coordinating the UNCT's Interagency Subgroup on Human Rights Defenders since its establishment in 2017 and developed strategic partnerships with the United Nations Environment Programme and UN Women. A human rights-based approach has been consequently integrated into the UN Women's project on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights in Brazil (2019-2023). OHCHR is a member of the technical advisory team.

In **Paraguay**, OHCHR cooperated with the Plurales Foundation, Tierraviva, Grupo Sunú, Mujeres Rurales and Fundación Hugo to organize a workshop entitled "Human rights, indigenous peoples and gender: Strategies for advocacy in global spaces," which was held in October. The workshop brought together 25 indigenous women leaders of community organizations to strengthen their understanding about the international human rights system and its mechanisms. The participants also learned about preparing alternative reports for the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.

In **Peru**, the Office contributed to a seminar, organized by the Ombudsperson, with HRDs and staff from the Office of the Ombudsperson, to review the final draft of the Office of the Ombudsperson's Action Guidelines on registering, investigating and monitoring cases of human rights violations committed against HRDs. OHCHR raised awareness about the role of the UN in the protection of human rights defenders.

### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – State institutions responsible for meeting the needs of vulnerable groups have been strengthened and receive adequate funding and political support. Discrimination and gender equality laws comply with international human rights standards. Judges and prosecutors are better equipped, in terms of law and training, to prosecute discrimination and gender crimes successfully. State policies protect indigenous peoples against discrimination; consultation protocols have been adopted. Schools are increasingly running awareness-raising campaigns and education programmes on human rights and diversity, to combat discrimination, bigotry and hate.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards with regard to the rights of persons with disabilities, women, migrants and LGBTI persons.

In **Chile**, the Office contributed the international human rights law perspective on inclusion, specifically in relation to the rights of persons with disabilities, in a course entitled "Capacity-building for inclusion." The course was jointly organized by ILO and the National Disability

Service for 50 leaders of the three Chilean trade union centres. It also forms part of the strategy to train various actors to intervene in favour of the inclusion and full enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities.

In cooperation with the Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility, OHCHR participated in the discussion "Women, maternity and disabilities in Chile," organized by the Corporation Circle of Women and Girls with Disabilities. The event was attended by 20 State officials and representatives of CSOs. OHCHR noted that despite universal and regional human rights protection instruments, violations of the rights of women with disabilities continue to persist. Stereotypes, myths and social prejudices around disability and motherhood must therefore be identified and eradicated.

In **Uruguay**, OHCHR, UNFPA, WHO and UN Women continued to successfully implement the joint disability fund project called "The right to equality and non-discrimination for persons with disabilities." The project is in its second year of contributing to the national debate on disability issues. Moreover, the UN system and the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation advocated for the establishment of an inter-institutional working group to discuss the feasibility of a national disability assessment system that is based on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health and is in compliance with CRPD.

The defence of the human rights of transgender persons was a priority issue for the RC and the UNCT in Uruguay. After receiving a request for assistance regarding the repeal of the Comprehensive Law for Trans Persons on the grounds that it could violate the rights of transgender persons,

the UNCT issued a public statement, in July, outlining the State's obligations and international human rights standards vis-à-vis transgender persons. The initiative was dismissed the following month. For the first time in Uruguay, resources were mobilized by the UNCT, under the leadership of the RC and in partnership with the Ministry of Social Development and the Municipality of Montevideo, to launch the first UN Free & Equal campaign, which ended in February 2020, against transphobia and homophobia.

In **Argentina**, OHCHR participated in the first human rights editing marathon that was jointly organized with Wikimedia Argentina. The event, which was called "Editatón," focused on content related to women's rights and sexual diversity. It gathered together academics, activists and people interested in human rights, specialists in editing Wikipedia content and people without experience in the management of the digital encyclopaedia. A total of 19 Wikipedia articles, in Spanish, were updated during the day, using official sources from the UN. The conference also included a workshop on international human rights mechanisms, with an emphasis on women's rights and sexual diversity.

In **Bolivia** and **Paraguay**, the Office developed two workshops on negative gender stereotypes for approximately 80 judges from both countries (65 women, 15 men). The workshops aimed at identifying and addressing gender stereotypes in line with international human rights standards and strengthening the role of the judiciary in the defence of women's rights by considering the impact of illicit gender stereotypes on these rights. The Office used participatory methodologies, theoretical presentations and practical exercises to stimulate exchanges on follow-up actions and good practices in the region with national and international

experts. Furthermore, the Office organized a discussion on the impact of harmful gender stereotypes on the administration of justice, in September, within the framework of strengthening the work of the Ministry of Public Defence in Paraguay. The event was attended by the Minister of Public Defence and more than 40 public defenders (25 women, 15 men) who were specialized in the protection of women's human rights.

In **Brazil**, 23 students graduated from the "Trans-Formation" project, which was coordinated by OHCHR, the Public Ministry of Labour, the Bahia Government and CSOs in the context of the UN Free & Equal campaign. The project creates opportunities for dialogue, seeks political training and the empowerment of trans, non-binary and transvestite activists. The students also gained professional experience as community volunteers in the framework of the United Nations Volunteers Programme.

In collaboration with the Afro-Chilean Lumbanga Organization and the Chilean Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage, the Office organized a three-day regional forum on the International Decade for People of African Descent. More than 30 representatives of Afrodescendant organizations from South and Central America worked together to design a proposal assessing progress made during the International Decade for People of African Descent with regards to recognition, justice and development. This regional activity opened new opportunities of engagement with Afrodescendant organizations in Argentina and **Peru**.

The region faced a crisis regarding regressive measures against Venezuelan citizens in several countries. In this context, the Office in Chile elaborated a document on international human standards on migrants to contribute to UNCT

discussions on the status of Venezuelan migrants. In **Ecuador**, OHCHR sent a communication to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs highlighting international standards and submitted an amicus curiae to the Constitutional Court, which expressed its appreciation, on a case regarding regressive measures against Venezuelans. The crisis provided an opportunity to engage with local partners, specialized UN agencies and NHRIs on a more regular basis.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) function effectively in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela.**

**16 17**

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the effective functioning of NMRFs by providing technical support through its Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme (TBCBP).

The regional work undertaken by the TBCBP contributed to progress made towards the establishment of NRMFs in **Argentina** and **Peru**. In both countries, OHCHR organized seminars during the reporting period to train focal points, mobilize political will and support the strengthening of institutions. In Argentina, Paraguayan authorities provided valuable support and shared their experiences with the SIMORE Plus online platform and OHCHR provided technical expertise. In Peru, OHCHR enabled the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to use the UHRI and the NRTD as tools for comprehensive follow-up on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, the SDGs and Human Rights Action Plans. The Office participated in sessions to analyse the feasibility of considering the use of the NRTD by the public sector.

The establishment of both mechanisms is expected to be finalized in 2020.

In **Bolivia** and **Ecuador**, OHCHR's foundational work in 2018 provided an opportunity to engage authorities in revamping the NMRFs that both countries had begun developing in previous years, namely, SIPLUS in Bolivia and SIDERECHOS in Ecuador. While the Office responded positively to formal requests for technical cooperation from these two countries, the political and electoral crisis in Bolivia and the political crisis in Ecuador necessitated a suspension of these activities until 2020. The Office conducted the first seminar for the establishment of an NMRF in **Venezuela** and set up a road map for 2020.

In **Bolivia**, OHCHR organized a three-day workshop to strengthen the State's knowledge about the UPR and CED in preparation for the interactive dialogues with both mechanisms in 2019. The activity was attended by 30 public servants and was facilitated by the HRAs from Bolivia and Uruguay, with online collaboration from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay and the Ministry of Justice of Peru, as part of the South-South Cooperation practice in the region.

**M2 – Civil society organizations report regularly to UN mechanisms, participate in sessions (including through the use of technology), and use concluding observations and reports for advocacy and follow-up purposes.**

**17** 

During the reporting period, the Office facilitated the submission of 222 substantive regional reports to the international human rights mechanisms (126 to the human rights treaty bodies, 96 to the UPR and one to the special

procedures), including 16 from NHRIs, 195 from CSOs, three from individuals and seven from UN entities.

In 2019, the Office continued to build the capacity of civil society and other actors on strategically engaging with the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR worked with stakeholders in all countries covered by the Regional Office on South America to provide training on how to prepare and submit reports and notify them of opportunities to engage with the mechanisms. The work of the Office has been crucial in supporting the development of UNCT joint submissions to the mechanisms.

In the case of the UPR, the Office set up an alliance with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Foundation in **Uruguay** to conduct six preparatory workshops for State institutions (through the NMRF), CSOs, the NHRI and the UNCT in Uruguay in relation to the review in January 2020. In total, more than 150 persons were trained, 20 reports from non-State actors and one comprehensive report from the UNCT report were submitted and four organizations participated in a pre-session training that was organized by UPR-Info, in Geneva, in December.

In **Chile**, eight workshops were organized throughout the country and a dialogue session was held, in Santiago, in preparation for the UPR. At least two members from CSOs participated in a December UPR-Info pre-session workshop. A total of 272 individuals were trained and 37 individual submissions and 30 joint submissions were sent to the UPR Working Group. For the first time, alternative reports from regional organizations, indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants and rural communities were submitted in relation to Chile's third UPR cycle.



## Development (D)

**D7 – States implement the 2030 Agenda using national development plans that integrate recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms. States’ procedures for reviewing and follow-up make increasing use of national human rights mechanisms, and adopt a human rights-based approach to data. State institutions responsible for data collection apply human rights-based methods to address patterns of discrimination and inequality, enabling Governments to target their interventions more precisely.**

OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of State institutions with international human rights standards in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through technical guidance and support to the UNCTs.

In **Argentina**, the Office conducted an internal study on the impact of austerity measures on economic, social and cultural rights in the short- and medium-term, specifically in the areas of health, nutrition, education, economic welfare, access to social security, employment and social programmes. The study also sought to identify the vulnerable groups most affected by these measures and outlined a local monitoring process and recommendations for the UNCT on how to address prevailing human rights concerns, which was found to be a useful tool for the CCA.

In **Brazil**, in addition to monitoring cases involving HRDs, OHCHR provided human rights analysis to support the UNCT’s response. The Office participated in the Thematic Group on Race, Gender and Ethnicity, the Youth Advisory Group and the UN Communications Group and convened multi-stakeholder meetings on human rights matters to promote the integration of human rights into UN policies and programmes.

In **Chile**, both the 2018 CCA and the new UNDAF (2019-2022) integrate an HRBA into all outcomes. In 2019, OHCHR led the UN Inter-Agency Group on human rights and gender, which actively promotes the mainstreaming of human rights standards and contributes to other inter-agency groups, such as the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues, the Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela and the Task Force on Business and Human Rights. Since the social protests first began, in October, the Office cooperated with the RC and the UNCT to lead the UNCT’s work on addressing the crisis. This was achieved by facilitating a technical mission and following up on its recommendations, organizing high-level meetings with public authorities and engaging with the international human rights mechanisms. Through OHCHR’s support, the UNCT strengthened its partnerships with civil society across the country, generating a network for early warning, monitoring of protests and follow-up actions on recommendations.

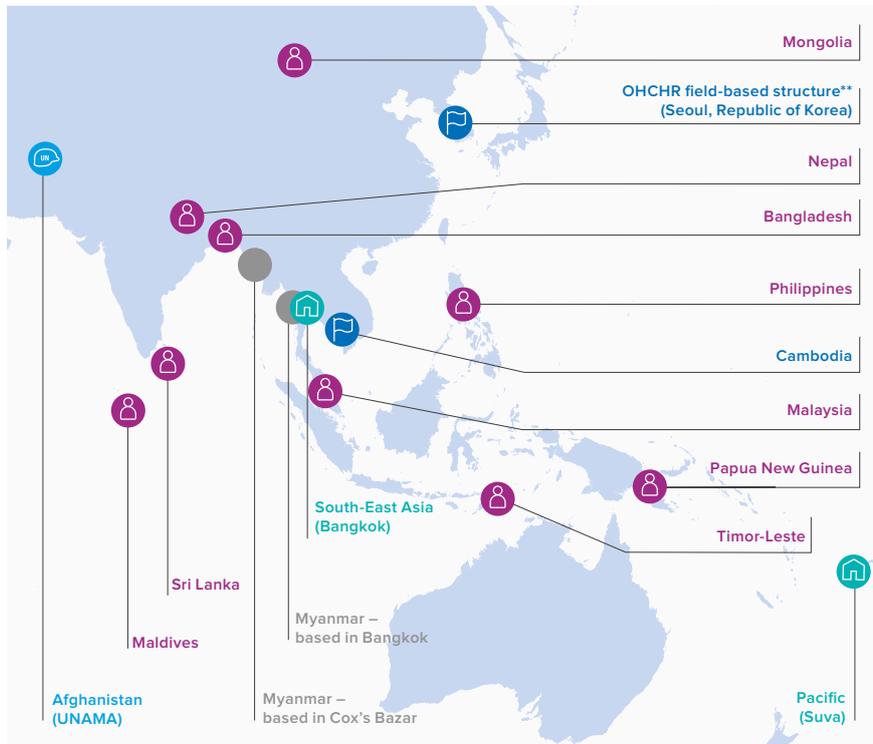
In **Ecuador**, the Office focused on strengthening the strategic interaction of the State, CSOs and the UNCT with the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR built the capacity of 120 members of civil society to prepare confidential alternative reports for these mechanisms. As a result, the human rights treaty bodies received 18 alternative reports during the year on economic, social and cultural rights, thereby broadening the spectrum of issues that were covered in the recommendations for Ecuador. The Office also provided support to the OHCHR mission, which was deployed at the request of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to monitor the human rights situation in the context of the October protests. Economic, cultural and social rights were among the root causes. Finally, the Office contributed to strengthening the

UNCT’s capacity for monitoring human rights situations in 2019. The nascent NHRIs Early Warning and Response System on the northern border was set up and the UN personnel involved with the system were trained on early warning and monitoring. A total of 50 officials from Quito and the northern border benefited from the training provided by OHCHR. The RCO prioritized the establishment of an early warning mechanism in the UNCT in 2020, which should help to improve the readiness of the system to identify and respond to a crisis.

In **Uruguay**, the Office supported the UNCT in incorporating the international human rights framework into the new CCA and Cooperation Framework. A human rights and gender dimension was integrated into a project co-led by the RCO and UNDP. The project called “Structural transformations needed for the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda” aims to identify the bottlenecks that hinder the transition of the country to sustainable development around three major areas, namely, finances and intergenerational solidarity; productivity, resilience and sustainability; and hard exclusions, social segregation, coexistence and the multidimensionality of poverty. OHCHR, UN Women and UNDP worked together on the elaboration of a strategy to mainstream human rights and gender empowerment approach into the three areas of work.

Finally, a bi-national meeting of UNCTs from Argentina and Uruguay, held in December, brought together almost 60 UN staff members from both countries, including RCs, regional representatives and Heads of UN agencies. The objective of the meeting was to discuss issues related to the application of the LNOB principle within the context of the CCA and UNSDCF in each country. The participants also analysed the LNOB principle in connection with the concepts of non-discrimination and equal access to services.

# UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN ASIA-PACIFIC



## LEGEND:

### Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

### Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

TYPE OF PRESENCE	LOCATION
Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions	Cambodia, Republic of Korea (Seoul)
Regional Offices/Centres	South-East Asia (Bangkok), Pacific (Suva)
Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions	Afghanistan
Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG	Bangladesh, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste
Other types of field presences	Myanmar (based in Bangkok and Cox's Bazar)

## SDGs:



\*\* Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.

The Asia-Pacific region is the largest in the world, both in terms of its geography and population. The work of OHCHR covered 39 countries in the region, bordered by Afghanistan to the west, Mongolia to the north, Kiribati to the east and New Zealand to the south. In 2019, the Office supported one country office in Cambodia; Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) or national officers in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea (PNG), the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste; two regional offices for the Pacific and South-East Asia; one Human Rights Service (HRS) in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan; and one field-based structure, based in Seoul, which covers the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). OHCHR continued to deploy staff working on Myanmar.

In 2019, OHCHR developed a broader, regional approach with more emphasis on cross-country thematic issues, including torture prevention, accountability and transitional justice, civic space, climate change, business and human rights and migration. For instance, a number of activities were conducted between the two regional offices to enable local actors to respond to the human rights impacts of climate change.

OHCHR continued to oversee the implementation of Human Rights Council (HRC) resolutions on Afghanistan, Cambodia, the DPRK, Myanmar, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. OHCHR engaged with the Government of the Philippines, national institutions and NGOs in the context of the implementation of the first HRC resolution on the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines, which was adopted, in July. OHCHR also assisted the special procedures country mandate holders for Cambodia, the

DPRK and Myanmar and supported the visits of a number of thematic mandate holders to countries in the region.

In Cambodia, Myanmar and Sri Lanka, OHCHR continued to provide support to the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) to ensure the implementation of the Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Initiative, the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) and the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to programming, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Various activities were undertaken to support the incorporation of human rights principles into UN programming, including training on an HRBA and technical advice for the development of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) in all roll-out countries, increase communication with UN entities to cement partnerships and enable broader access to information with regard to civic space, political participation, access to justice and non-discrimination.

OHCHR conducted numerous human rights capacity-building and technical assistance activities for a wide variety of international and national stakeholders, including UNCTs, national human rights commissions and civil society organizations.

In Cambodia, OHCHR supported the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) review and the examination of Cambodia's reports under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). OHCHR also strengthened its support to the Resident Coordinator (RC) and the UNCT in working with the authorities and other stakeholders to assist in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

OHCHR substantially strengthened its work on Myanmar to respond to the additional reporting requirements arising from the implementation of HRC resolution 42/3 and created opportunities for technical cooperation and closer engagement with the UNCT on several initiatives. Pursuant to HRC resolution S-27/1 on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar, the High Commissioner prepared a comprehensive report on the human rights situation of the Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar, which was presented at the HRC's fortieth session, in March.

In South Asia, the High Commissioner issued an update on the human rights situation in Kashmir. In addition, OHCHR increased its technical assistance on the development of human rights indicators in Pakistan and actively engaged with national stakeholders on the transitional justice process in Nepal. In Sri Lanka, OHCHR collaborated with the UNCT and the RC to provide advice and support related to various aspects of transitional justice. Following the adoption of HRC resolution 40/1, OHCHR monitored and assessed progress made by the Government in the implementation of the

transitional justice agenda and produced a written update that will be presented at the HRC's forty-third session. OHCHR continued to support the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka as the designated domestic mechanism to conduct the human rights screening of Sri Lanka military personnel who are nominated for deployment to UN peacekeeping missions. Moreover, OHCHR deployed a rapid response team to strengthen the UNCT's capacity to monitor the human rights situation before and during the presidential elections that were held in November.

In Bangladesh, OHCHR provided support to the UNCT by contributing inputs throughout the drafting process of the Common Country Analysis (CCA), in support of the UN's engagement with the Government on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development/SDGs. OHCHR also supported the review by the Committee against Torture (CAT) of the initial report of Bangladesh, which was submitted 20 years overdue. Following the Government's expressed commitment to develop a national implementation plan for recommendations emanating from the UPR, OHCHR provided support, along with the UNCT, through training and technical cooperation. OHCHR continued to engage with the Maldives, including through the deployment of a Human Rights Officer to the UNCT. An HRA will be deployed from early 2020.

In Northeast Asia, the absence of an in-country presence continues to limit OHCHR's engagement in this region. As a result, OHCHR explored entry points to strengthen existing partnerships with authorities, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and CSOs, including through UPR follow-up. Nevertheless, OHCHR secured a number of promising

entry points in 2019, most notably in Mongolia. At the Government's request, in July 2018, OHCHR secured financial support from the UPR Trust Fund and partnered with the Government, the National Human Rights Commission and the UNCT in Mongolia to implement the UPR recommendations in the areas of torture prevention, development of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, launching of the Free & Equal campaign, finalization and adoption of the Human Rights Defenders Law and use of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD). In July, an HRA was deployed to the UNCT to support the implementation of the project. As of December, all of the targets envisaged under the UPR follow-up support project had been successfully achieved, including the Government's use of the NRTD.

OHCHR continued to pursue its work with regard to the DPRK by developing possible areas of technical cooperation, while at the same seeking ways to ensure accountability for gross human rights violations. The field-based structure in Seoul continued to monitor and document human rights in the DPRK, including within the framework of the implementation of HRC resolutions 34/24 and 40/20, which strengthened the capacity of OHCHR's work on accountability for human rights violations in the DPRK. Through the "Accountability project for the DPRK," OHCHR continued to develop a central information and evidence repository, assessed all information and testimonies collected by the field-based structure in Seoul from an international criminal law perspective and developed a number of strategies to be used in future accountability processes, including through the exploration of international and domestic avenues. In the area of technical cooperation,

OHCHR and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) cooperated to organize a workshop that was held in Geneva, in May, for members of the DPRK's delegation to the UPR. In addition, OHCHR continued to enhance its engagement with the People's Republic of China while seeking mutual opportunities for dialogue to address human rights issues of concern within China, including with regard to the situation in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and in Hong Kong SAR.

In the Pacific, OHCHR delivered technical assistance to a number of countries across the region. To this end, the Office conducted a number of capacity-building and awareness-raising sessions with national partners from across the region on the issue of human rights and climate change. Furthermore, OHCHR continued to engage with the Government of Australia on the issue of the offshore processing centres of migrants in Nauru and Papua New Guinea. Finally, the Office engaged with the co-Chairs of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime in an ongoing effort to obtain membership status.

The High Commissioner visited Australia, Japan and Malaysia in 2019.

## AFGHANISTAN: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN (UNAMA)

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
38.04 million	653,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.496 (rank: 170/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2014

Type of engagement	Peace Mission
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Kabul
UN partnership framework	One UN for Afghanistan 2018-2021
Staff as of 31 December 2019	72

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$391,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>123</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Accountability (A)

A2 – Inclusive and accountable peace and reconciliation processes are established that conform to international human rights standards and internationally recognized principles of transitional justice. They include mechanisms for vetting ex-combatants and for identifying potential violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

**10** **16**

The HRS of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan contributed to the functioning of transitional justice mechanisms, in line with international human rights standards, by advocating with and supporting civil society, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) and the Government to promote

the increased participation of civil society actors in reconciliation processes.

The HRS continued to support the Government, the AIHRC and civil society in the promotion of increased democratic space, the protection of human rights defenders (HRDs), anti-discrimination work, the promotion of inclusive and human rights-compliant peace and reconciliation processes, transitional justice and accountability for human rights violations. Specifically, the HRS organized 45 events countrywide, including trainings, dialogues and public awareness campaigns that involved 1,069 HRDs (267 women, 802 men) journalists, government officials, AIHRC staff and local community leaders, and supported the nationwide broadcast of thematic radio programmes.

To better inform UNAMA's work on peace and human rights, the HRS supported a two-week visit, in February, of a Senior Mediation Adviser from the Mediation Support Unit in the DPPA. The Adviser provided recommendations in the areas of transitional justice, the promotion of human rights in peacemaking and inclusiveness and participation in peace-related processes. To follow up on these initiatives, the HRS organized 10 workshops with local scholars on the protection of human rights under Islamic law. In November, an internal paper was finalized summarizing the main issues arising from the discussions. In August, the HRS and the Embassy of the Netherlands in Afghanistan established an informal "Group of Friends" on transitional justice to better coordinate efforts on this topic.

During the reporting period, the HRS documented 29 cases where HRDs were targeted, including journalists, due to their work. Four of these individuals were killed and three were injured. The remaining 22 cases involved threats or intimidation, temporary arrests or deprivation of liberty, assault or other ill-treatment that was attributed to governmental, pro-governmental or anti-governmental elements. While abuses against HRDs continued in 2019, there were fewer casualties than in 2018 when 10 journalists were killed and 15 were injured.

A1 – Cases of torture and ill-treatment at detention facilities are increasingly investigated promptly, impartially, independently and thoroughly. Accountability and protection mechanisms are strengthened.

**16**

The HRS contributed to the increased compliance of detention facilities with

international human rights standards, including in their treatment of conflict-related detainees, by advocating with authorities, providing technical support, monitoring detention facilities and compiling data.

In April, the HRS issued its biennial report on the treatment of conflict-related detainees, covering the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018. The report provides an analysis that is based on interviews with 618 persons that were being held in 77 government-administered detention facilities in 28 provinces. The report notes an overall reduction in the custody of Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, from 39 per cent to 31.9 per cent, compared to the previous reporting period. The decrease is attributed to concerted advocacy efforts and technical support provided by the HRS, which also led to the adoption of specific measures by the Government, including the implementation of the National Action Plan on the Elimination of Torture following the 2018 enactment of the Anti-Torture Law.

The HRS continued to monitor detention conditions across the country, visiting places of detention that are administered by the Ministry of Interior Affairs (Afghan National Police (ANP), Correction and Prison Directorate), the National Directorate of Security (NDS), the Ministry of Justice (Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre) and the Afghan National Army. The preliminary findings based on 388 interviews undertaken between 1 January and 30 September indicate that the rate of allegations of torture or ill-treatment in nationwide NDS custody declined to 15 per cent compared to 2018. The rate also declined to 19 per cent in nationwide ANP custody (compared to 31 per cent in 2018). Nevertheless, the significant increase of allegations in Herat, Kandahar and

Kunduz provinces is a cause for concern. The rate remains exceptionally high in Kandahar at 64 per cent. Children remain at higher risk of being subjected to torture both in NDS and ANP custody.

In 2019, the HRS began compiling data on the respect for and fulfilment of procedural safeguards that are critical for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment, such as informing persons deprived of their liberty about their rights, allowing them to have access to lawyers, enabling them to maintain contact with their families and providing them with medical check-ups upon their arrival at detention facilities. Preliminary analysis of the collected data indicates that many of these procedural safeguards remain insufficiently implemented.

Due to concerns about allegations of torture and the ill-treatment of people in the custody of anti-government elements, the HRS interviewed 23 individuals who had been released from detention facilities run by the Taliban. In May, UNAMA released a press statement expressing grave concerns about credible accounts that the Taliban had been subjecting detainees to ill-treatment and torture and allegations that some detainees had been killed. The detainees were reportedly held incommunicado, in poor conditions, in underground facilities.

**A1 – The Government establishes an independent national mechanism to prevent torture, which has powers to: conduct regular unannounced visits to all places in which individuals are deprived of their liberty; monitor impartially and transparently the treatment of detainees by Afghan security officials; and strengthen implementation of legal and policy frameworks and national protection systems.**

## 16

The HRS contributed to the increasing use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards following the enactment of the Anti-Torture Law in 2018.

The HRS engaged with internal monitoring mechanisms, such as human rights officers of the NDS, which play a key role in ensuring the rights of individuals deprived of their liberty. According to detention monitoring conducted by the HRS, 23 per cent of detainees being held in NDS custody were visited by NDS human rights officers who received complaints regarding torture, ill-treatment and lack of access to legal counsel. The Office engaged with the Attorney General's Office, which plays a critical preventive role through its Detention Monitoring Directorate and ensures accountability through its Anti-Torture Commission. The Anti-Torture Commission, established under the 2018 Anti-Torture Law, began its operations in 2019 and is composed of members of key security agencies, including the NDS and the Ministry of Interior Affairs.

While the HRS continued to advocate for the establishment of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), as of the end of 2019, this had not yet taken place, despite Afghanistan's accession to OP-CAT in April 2018.

**A3 – The Government adopts measures to improve implementation of the 2009 Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women. It effectively investigates cases of violence against women, prosecutes perpetrators and introduces measures to support victims.**

**5 10 16**

As a result of advocacy and technical support provided by the HRS, various State institutions and programmes improved their compliance with international human rights standards, in particular for the promotion and protection of women's rights.

The HRS continued to support the Government's efforts to advance the promotion and protection of women's rights. The Legislative Committee of the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) continued its review of the 2009 Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW Law), for which the HRS provided detailed technical inputs as a standing member of MoWA's Legislative Committee. The HRS also provided support for the development of regulations on funding for victims of violence against women and girls and in relation to guidelines on raising public awareness about combating violence against women and girls.

Throughout the reporting period, the HRS supported efforts to fully implement the Anti-Harassment Law, including by providing advice on an implementation plan during meetings with the Women's Empowerment Executive Committee, chaired by the Minister for Women's Affairs, and in discussions with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Interior Affairs.

The draft Family Law seeks to articulate human rights-compliant provisions pertaining to marriage, divorce, matrimonial

property, inheritance and child custody. The HRS provided technical advice to the Ministry of Women's Affairs with respect to legislation on the registration of marriage, which aims, among other things, to prevent forced and underage marriage.

The HRS supported the AIHRC and the advocacy efforts of CSOs for the prohibition, in law and in practice, of forensic "virginity testing," provided for in the 2017 Penal Code. Specifically, the HRS participated in a civil society forum dedicated to repealing the provision and eliminating this practice. During the reporting period, the forum began establishing committees at the provincial level. In a setback, the Cabinet Legislative Committee proposed an amendment to the Penal Code that would permit forensic "virginity testing" pursuant to court order. The Office will continue to advocate against the proposed amendment.

From January to November, the HRS documented 221 cases of 13 serious crimes of violence against women and girls, including 60 cases of murder, 16 cases of honour killing and 50 cases of rape. Furthermore, the HRS undertook 312 advocacy and outreach activities to promote the elimination of violence against women with State and non-State partners and conducted 36 awareness-raising activities on the EVAW Law and the prevention of harmful traditional practices with community and tribal elders across several provinces of Afghanistan.

## Participation (P)

**P1 – The AIHRC works in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles) especially in the areas of independence and improving female representation and access to adequate resources for independent functioning.**

**16**

The HRS contributed to the independent functioning of the AIHRC in conformity with the Paris Principles through regular engagement, the coordination of activities and information-sharing.

During the reporting period, the HRS continued its long-standing engagement with the AIHRC. On 17 July, following a selection process that took more than one year, the President appointed nine new commissioners (four women, five men), including the new Chair, Shaharzar Akbar. The HRS continued to cooperate with the AIHRC on issues related to its pending re-accreditation by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). As a result, the AIHRC was re-accredited with "A" status by the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation, in November.

The AIHRC held public hearings across 33 provinces, in March and April, as part of its National Inquiry on the Role of Women in Peace and Security in Afghanistan. The hearings provided women in these provinces with an opportunity to raise their concerns regarding political participation and peace-related processes. The AIHRC produced a summary of these concerns, as well as recommendations to policymakers and other stakeholders. The HRS attended hearings in Kabul, Bamyan, Herat, Helmand and Kandahar provinces, where it advocated for the promotion of human and women's rights in peace and security efforts.

The HRS continued to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice in the drafting of anti-discrimination legislation, sharing information regarding applicable international human rights standards and good practices in this area. It also translated into English and provided initial feedback on an early draft of the Anti-discrimination Law.



### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS1 – The Government and armed opposition groups formulate, revise and strengthen policies, mechanisms and regulations to protect civilians and prevent civilian casualties; these comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights standards.**

The HRS contributed to the establishment and functioning of mechanisms to protect civilians in line with international human rights standards through monitoring and advocacy efforts.

In 2019, the HRS documented 10,392 civilian casualties (3,403 killed and 6,989 injured) due to the armed conflict. Women and children continued to suffer disproportionately, with 1,202 women casualties (345 killed and 857 injured), representing an increase of four per cent compared to 2018 and 3,149 child casualties (874 killed and 2,275 injured), representing a three per cent increase from 2018. Women casualties made up 12 per cent of overall civilian casualties while children made up 30 per cent of casualties. Children continued to be recruited and used by the Taliban, Afghan national security forces and pro-government armed groups.

The majority of civilian casualties, 62 per cent, were attributed to anti-government elements, with 47 per cent attributed to the Taliban, 12 per cent to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant-Khorasan Province and three per cent to undetermined

actors. Pro-government forces caused 28 per cent of civilian casualties in 2019, with 16 per cent caused by Afghan national security forces, nearly eight per cent by intra-national military forces, nearly two per cent by pro-government armed groups and just under three per cent by undetermined or multiple pro-government forces.

UNAMA documented attacks against voters, campaign workers, candidates and others involved in the electoral process leading up to and during the presidential elections in 2019, which were primarily perpetrated by the Taliban. Their widespread use of indirect fire in populated areas on polling day caused significant levels of harm, striking civilians, including children, in their homes. Improvised explosive devices placed at or near polling centres exposed voters to extreme risk.

During regular civil-military discussions that were held at the national and provincial levels with parties to the conflict, the HRS shared its findings on civilian casualties and advocated for respect of international humanitarian law and accountability measures. The HRS also engaged in a human rights dialogue with the Taliban and emphasized the importance of protecting civilians during the armed conflict.

The HRS continued to encourage the Government to promote the implementation of the action plan of the National Policy for Civilian Casualty Prevention and Mitigation and adopt a mechanism on the implementation of Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and other relevant measures to reduce and mitigate civilian casualties. The first governmental investigations have begun in relation to at least three cases involving civilian casualties that occurred during pro-government search operations.

On 5 May, UNAMA and OHCHR issued a joint special report on airstrikes carried out by Initial United States Forces Afghanistan on alleged drug processing facilities in Farah province, following a joint mission with the AIHRC. The special report points out that 39 civilian casualties were verified and notes that the drug facilities and associated workers were not legitimate military objectives. It urges US authorities to start an investigation, cease aerial bombardments on drug-related targets, review its targeting policies and strengthen the responses of Afghan law enforcement.

The HRS continued its monitoring and advocacy regarding children and armed conflict. After ongoing advocacy, together with partners, the Child Act (Child Rights Protection Law) was enacted through a presidential decree on 5 March. The Act includes provisions prohibiting recruitment and the use of children and bacha bazi, which involves the sexual exploitation of boys. Through trainings delivered by the HRS, 113 interlocutors, including teachers, judges, prosecutors and NDS forces, were sensitized on the protection of children in armed conflict, specifically in relation to the prevention of sexual violence against children.

## BANGLADESH

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
163.05 million	148,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.614 (rank: 136/188 in 2018)	Status B, 2015
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser		
<b>Year established</b>	2018 (following earlier deployment 2014-2016)		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Dhaka		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017-2020		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	1		

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$239,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The Government regularly submits reports to the treaty bodies.**

**16 17** 

The Office contributed to increased engagement with the international human rights mechanisms by supporting the first review under the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), building the Government's capacity to develop an implementation plan for the recommendations issued by the UPR in 2018 and facilitating civil society and UN contributions prior to the review by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) of the Government's initial State Party report, scheduled for 2020.

Bangladesh submitted its initial report to CAT, in July, before its review by the

Committee, nearly 20 years after the report was due. In cooperation with the UNCT's Human Rights Working Group, coordinated by OHCHR, information exchanges were organized between civil society, development partners and the Committee. The Committee's recommendations provide clear guidance to the Government and include a request that it submit a follow-up report in August 2020. Follow-up discussions were initiated on the implementation of key recommendations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and other partners.

A high-level conference organized by MoFA, in February, provided an opportunity for the Government to reiterate its commitment to the development of an action plan for the implementation of the 2018 UPR recommendations and

enabled OHCHR to engage with key interlocutors. The capacity of line ministries to develop the action plan was built through a workshop, held with OHCHR's support and participation, in June. In December, an agreement was reached to organize a series of consultations to finalize the plan in 2020.

Engagement with the CRPD Committee was enhanced through consulting and providing a platform for Bangladeshi CSOs to engage with the Committee's Pre-Sessional Working Group, in March. In addition, a joint UN report was submitted in anticipation of the adoption of the list of issues.

#### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS5 – The UN system systematically integrates a human rights-based approach in humanitarian programming in response to the needs of Rohingya refugees.**

**3 5 8 10 13 16 17** 

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights into the humanitarian response for Rohingya refugees from Myanmar. OHCHR continued to facilitate the engagement of the UNCT and local actors with the special procedures and international human rights and accountability mechanisms who visited the country, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar (FFM) and the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar. The engagement established a better understanding and appreciation of the accountability work being undertaken by the UN system in response to the atrocities committed in Myanmar in 2016-17.

The Office supported the RC, as requested, in her high-level human rights

engagements regarding the Rohingya response. The primary focus of this assistance was at the policy level and in her engagement with the UNCTs in Bangladesh and Myanmar. OHCHR participated in the joint UNCT meeting in Bangkok, in October, and contributed to a preparatory analysis for the meeting.

OHCHR was also engaged in policy-level discussions around protection issues in Cox's Bazar that arose due to restrictions on communications and freedom of association imposed on the Rohingya refugees in the camps and due to plans for their planned relocation to Bashan Char.

### **Accountability (A)**

**A2 – The National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh increasingly meets international standards (the Paris Principles).**

**10 16**

The High Commissioner, the RC, and key development partners advocated for the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to increase its compliance with the Paris Principles to advance from its current “B” status. Conducting high-level engagement with key actors in the selection process of a new Commission, namely the Speaker of Parliament, the Minister of Law and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the development partners encouraged a review of the NHRC Act and procedure and support for the active participation of civil society. The selection of the new Chair and members of the Commission, however, fell short of the Government's accepted recommendations issued by the UPR on ensuring the independence of the NHRC. In December, at a high-level event organized by the NHRC to celebrate Human Rights Day, which was attended by the

Prime Minister, the RC encouraged reform of the NHRC Act and urged the newly constituted Commission to broadly interpret its mandate and tackle challenging issues, including human rights violations allegedly committed by law enforcement agencies.

### **Development (D)**

**D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work.**

**1 17** 

In the context of reform of the UN Development System, the UNCT in Bangladesh was one of the first in the region to start developing its new UNSDCF. OHCHR contributed to the integration of an HRBA into the Common Country Analysis, the analytical framework underpinning the new UNSDCF, which will begin in 2021.

## CAMBODIA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
16.49 million	181,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.581 (rank: 145/188 in 2018)	NA
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office		
<b>Year established</b>	1993		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Phnom Penh		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	38		

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$2,332,324</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$2,597,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$2,080,580</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>4</sup>	
<b>42%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>8%</b>	
\$879,882	\$1,025,204	\$175,493	
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,425,050</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
<b>88%</b>	<b>12%</b>		
\$1,251,641	\$173,410		

## Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

 Participation (P)

P5 – International, regional and national protection mechanisms responsive to the protection needs of civil society organizations and individuals, particularly but not only in the context of political participation.



The Office contributed to enhancing the compliance with international human rights standards of legislation and

policies related to protection for HRDs, oversight of civil society participation in public life, the rights of ethnic minorities and access to information.

OHCHR followed up on protection cases of HRDs and political activists and brought them to the attention of the international human rights mechanisms and the diplomatic community in Cambodia. The Office documented 200 cases of violations of human rights of persons believed to be members of the Cambodia

National Rescue Party (CNRP). The Office drafted four communications for the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, which were sent to the Government. In addition, the Office issued six public statements about the human rights situation in the country. Through these communications, authorities became more aware of the links between their actions and their human rights obligations. OHCHR also published statements made by the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia regarding the shrinking space on social media for freedom of expression and association. These statements were welcomed by CSOs. In 2019, OHCHR completed *the Handbook* on human rights protection and security of human rights defenders, which will be shared in print format. In 2020, it will be released as a smartphone application.

OHCHR continued coordinating and building the capacity of civil society organizations to better engage with international protection systems and noted positive results during the reporting period. More specifically, OHCHR built the capacity of over 20 teams from eight CSOs consisting of 70 individuals to monitor rights violations.

In 2019, OHCHR focused its advocacy efforts on imprisoned opposition members and contributed to the Government's decision to release 75 of 88 opposition CNRP members. The Ministry of the Interior responded to a letter from OHCHR outlining reported acts of intimidation against local CSOs by issuing a communication to local authorities reminding them that the requirement to provide notice for activities had been lifted. Although OHCHR contributed to progress in this area, the context of fundamental freedoms for HRDs remains challenging.

The Office continued to identify and raise the awareness of authorities of the stateless ethnic Vietnamese communities. Following OHCHR's advocacy efforts and the targeted recommendations of the Special Rapporteur, the forced eviction of approximately 10,000 ethnic Vietnamese living on floating houses on the Tonle Sap Lake in the Kampong Chhnang province was prevented. Instead, provincial authorities allocated plots of land measuring 5 metres by 20 metres to 780 ethnic Vietnamese families (approximately 3,302 persons) in the Chhnok Tru commune, in October. The plots are situated along a canal with access to the lake. As of the end of December, 374 families had already moved to these plots of land. The remaining families from other communes were granted permission to settle on river shores of their choosing where they rent land. The lack of formal identification documents remains a key challenge in terms of access to education, work and other economic, cultural and social rights for ethnic Vietnamese. OHCHR continued to raise awareness about these issues with national, provincial and sub-regional institutions.

**P7 – Youth networks increasingly recognize the value and importance of human rights and accountability and their contribution to development and peace.**



The Office enhanced the level of engagement of young persons in supporting human rights messages by conducting a targeted competition on human rights for youth.

Five groups of young people, composed of 23 individuals, participated in the OHCHR Youth Human Rights Champion Competition. Various activities were

conducted to encourage the youth to exercise their right to participation. The competition entries were filmed and posted on the OHCHR-Cambodia Facebook page. As of November, five posted videos had received 11,200 engagements (reactions, comments, shares). In addition, 40 young individuals, including the 23 mentioned above, from youth organizations and informal networks were trained by OHCHR on human rights and the international human rights mechanisms. A total of 12 youth organizations and informal youth groups requested 1,550 copies of the *Human rights questions and answers* booklet for distribution to their members and target communities and at their offices and school libraries. The youth participants also shared human rights messages on their Facebook pages, which triggered more discussion on the topic. The Office conducted research on the knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of youth on human rights and participation. The findings, which were made available in January 2020, provided information for the Office and other relevant stakeholders that will enable them to effectively design their youth human rights programmes.

## **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – Laws and policies in the areas of justice and prisons increasingly comply with international human rights standards.**

### **16**

The Office contributed to increasing the level of compliance of prevention of torture and ill-treatment, including in detention facilities, with international human rights norms and standards.

The Office's support to the Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Cambodia in

relation to its Operation Unchained project has had an important human impact. The project aims to treat and rehabilitate persons with psychosocial disabilities who have been locked up by family members due to poverty, lack of access to treatment and stigma. In the cases monitored by OHCHR, the intervention resulted in a significant improvement in their conditions and the treatment they received from their families and communities. Many have been unchained by their relatives and have regained some of their dignity as members of their families and communities.

Capacity-building activities undertaken by the Office contributed to an increased compliance with international human rights law, in particular to prevent torture and ill-treatment. Three deaths were investigated by three official bodies, namely, the local police, the National Committee against Torture (NCAT) and the local prosecutor. The outcomes of the investigations were made public. The local Office of the Prosecutor concluded that the death in custody was a suicide. Despite the investigations, no one was held accountable for the deaths.

Using OHCHR prison monitoring tools as a reference, the NCAT developed its own monitoring tools for visits to places of deprivation of liberty, including police custody facilities and social affairs centres. As a result of a joint investigation that was undertaken by the Office and the Cambodia Human Rights Committee (CHRC), three prison officials who had verbally abused detainees received disciplinary action.

Detention authorities also benefited from the Office's monitoring visits, recommendations and follow-up. In 2019, the Office carried out 45 visits to 27 prisons, two visits to a social affairs centre and one visit to a drug rehabilitation centre that is being

used as a detention facility. The Office's findings, recommendations and interventions related to detention conditions and the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty were discussed with the management of the facilities. It conducted further follow-up visits, interviews with current and former detainees, as well as with their families and NGOs working in the facilities.

As a follow-up to the 2018 national workshop that formally launched the NCAT and sensitized more than 200 senior officials about its roles and duties, the Office sensitized authorities during four joint awareness-raising sessions with NCAT on the prevention of torture and ill-treatment at the provincial and district levels. Over 300 participants from local prisons, the social affairs department, the police and gendarmerie increased their awareness at the sessions that sought to prevent the commission of torture and ill-treatment in their daily work. The participants showed their willingness to cooperate with the NCAT in their future visits to detention and prison facilities.

During the reporting period, OHCHR took various steps to address the issue of mob violence. For instance, on 18 July, OHCHR launched a report on the subject. OHCHR also engaged in discussions with the CHRC. These efforts were undertaken to prevent cases of "popular justice" and ensure that adequate investigations are undertaken. The national police asked OHCHR to provide copies of the report for dissemination at trainings for the judicial police. A communications campaign launched by the Office generated significant attention from media outlets and resulted in a high rate of national engagement on social media. As a result of this awareness-raising campaign, a youth group participating in OHCHR's youth campaign on political participation chose mob violence as the subject of their video clip.

**A1 – Allegations of torture and ill-treatment and cases of mob violence are promptly investigated; perpetrators are prosecuted and sanctioned.**

## 16

The Office raised awareness about cases of human rights violations in order to increase access to justice for persons with disabilities.

The implementation of the project on access to justice for persons with disabilities progressed during the reporting period. Following the targeted trainings for judges and pre- and post-training, tests showed that judges had an increased knowledge of international human rights norms and standards. Little change was reported on the practical application of that knowledge.

OHCHR undertook a needs assessment of disabled persons' organizations (DPOs) and delivered a training on documenting cases of human rights violations. The Office also carried out follow-up missions with the DPOs who were trained in 2018-2019 and had no previous knowledge about human rights monitoring and advocacy. Based on their questionnaires and interviews, OHCHR noted a definite increase in the knowledge of participants, as well as some progress achieved in the application of their acquired skills. Further follow-up and potential coaching will be required to reinforce the impact of the training.

Due to the ongoing anti-drug campaign launched by the Government, the prison population has significantly increased, thereby exacerbating problems of overcrowding. Some aspects of the treatment of prisoners have, nonetheless, improved as a result of OHCHR's continued prison monitoring visits. For example, the monitoring visits documented an increased access to food, fresh air, library resources,

vocational training and rehabilitation. Moreover, stronger engagement was noted by government departments, including the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training. Several NGOs working in prisons, such as Sipar Cambodia, This Life Cambodia, Caritas and others, consistently reported positive changes.

The Police Academy of Cambodia included a module in three separate four-month trainings for newly recruited prison staff, following OHCHR's advocacy on policy reform. As a result, 289 new prison staff from all 28 prisons increased their awareness and understanding of the rights of persons with disabilities.

The prisoner case management database started to be upgraded through cloud computing services. The database, which is interfaced with the court database, is being supported by OHCHR. Once the upgrade is completed, existing challenges are expected to be addressed with regard to multiple cases wherein individuals are being detained without a trial, appropriate court documents or opportunities for sentence reduction.

In 2019, OHCHR engaged in trial monitoring and observed a marked improvement in judges referring to fair trial rights and the Code of Criminal Procedure during hearings and trials. In some of its monitoring visits to provincial courts, OHCHR noted more openness from judges and prosecutors compared to 2017-2018, although at a couple of meetings in Phnom Penh, judges asked that the request for a meeting with OHCHR representatives be submitted to the Ministry of Justice. Nevertheless, in light of remaining knowledge gaps, there is a need to continue training and technical assistance, including in relation to legal reasoning.

OHCHR continued to focus on accountability for cases of violence against women and initiated a partnership with the Cambodian Centre for Human Rights regarding trial monitoring of cases of gender-based violence (GBV), which will begin in 2020. OHCHR continued disseminating the Annotated Code of Criminal Procedure in 2019. The guide on fair trial rights was not finalized and therefore postponed until 2020. Four meetings on police, courts and prisons were organized in Pursat, Kampong Speu, Oudour Mancheay and Battambang provinces. Although there was more openness to OHCHR convening and participating in the meetings than was demonstrated in 2017-2018, some prosecutors were reluctant to have OHCHR present and providing support. The meetings provided a valuable opportunity for inter-institutional dialogue at the local level.

With regard to the legacy of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), a legal dialogue was undertaken, in December. This raised the awareness of over 30 practicing lawyers about fair trial rights in the ECCC's practice. A training course for 25 law students will focus on the same subject.

**A1 – The criminal justice system, and particularly judges, prosecutors and lawyers, become increasingly professional. Prison staffing is professionalized in a manner that accords with international human rights standards.**

**16** 

The Office contributed to increasing the compliance of the legal aid policy and other relevant legislation with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR and the Ministry of Justice signed the Joint Monitoring Indicators for 2019-2023, which includes recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms to harmonize national legislation, policies and programmes with international human rights standards. More specifically, it emphasizes the need to amend legislation (Criminal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and Anti-Corruption Law), approve and implement the legal aid policy, conduct a judicial integrity study and expand the courts of appeal.

OHCHR cooperated with development partners to conduct ongoing advocacy on the adoption of the legal aid policy. The draft was developed, in 2018, with support from the Office, however, the Ministry of Justice delayed its adoption due to political pressure. OHCHR will continue strengthening its strategic partnership with CSOs and government officials to ensure that the policy is adopted. As a result of OHCHR's advocacy, the legal aid budget was increased and two more legal aid groups were established.

OHCHR continued to support rights-holders through the provision of grants to legal aid organizations, with a particular focus on land cases and prolonged pending appeal cases. In the context of the project on access to justice for persons with disabilities, OHCHR identified six cases of persons with disabilities requiring legal aid and referred them to Legal Aid of Cambodia. The NGO provided legal advice to 12 persons with disabilities and legal representation in court in 11 cases, four of which have been finalized. OHCHR's publications on rights upon arrest were used as reference tools by Legal Aid of Cambodia while it was developing its own guidelines on legal aid for persons with disabilities.

In 2019, OHCHR suspended its analysis of the draft law on surrogacy as the inter-ministerial working group was unable to reach a consensus due to differences in position among the line ministries. OHCHR prepared background information, set up meetings and provided briefings to the University of Chicago team that produced a report on the subject. The report was disseminated to UN agencies, CSOs and government officials and follow-up meetings will be organized in 2020. The Office also participated in an expert consultation on the draft principles for the protection of the rights of the child in the context of surrogacy and provided inputs directed at addressing the challenges faced in surrogacy cases in Cambodia.

The General Department of Prisons (GDP) produced a final draft on the minimum standards on prison construction, which was based on previous recommendations issued by OHCHR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). OHCHR's advocacy and support concerning international human rights norms and standards were reflected in the draft GDP Guidelines. The draft Guidelines include various requirements regarding the land used for prisons, including that: it shall not be susceptible to flooding or foreseen natural disasters; it has an adequate water source; a separate detention facility must be in place for newly admitted detainees; separate rooms are created for women/men/adult/juvenile prisoners and for prisoners with disabilities; there is an area for children accompanying their incarcerated mothers; and there is a larger minimum space for sleeping and movement.

Although the Office has worked with the GDP since 2014, no progress was noted in relation to the draft Royal Decree on sentence reduction and pardons or the draft prison procedure.


**Development (D)**

**D2 – Business actors increasingly implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including by engaging with local and national authorities, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities and other stakeholders.**

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17



The Office contributed to increased knowledge in the business sector to positively address human right violations by engaging with relevant actors, creating networks with civil society partners and providing technical support.

As a result of OHCHR's interventions, selected business actors increased their knowledge about and capacity to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

In 2019, a platform was created to focus on the finance sector that was composed of members of the private sector and CSOs. At the initiative of Oxfam and Fair Finance Asia, OHCHR contributed to the assessment and discussion of the Fair Finance Coalition and its road map to ensure that the activities of financial institutions are more socially responsible, fair, sustainable and respectful of international human rights principles. Following OHCHR's advocacy, the UNGPs were incorporated into the assessment. The existing Corporate Social Responsibility platform has come to a halt while its coordinators develop a new strategy.

OHCHR teamed up with the UNCT to present a project to the Human Security Trust Fund. The project, which was approved by the Fund to start in 2020, will focus on the impact, including the human rights impact, of foreign

investment in the Sihanoukville province. OHCHR supported similar research by CSOs that specifically focused on the human rights impact of foreign investment. The report should be available in 2020.

Some progress was achieved in resolving land disputes through non-judicial mechanisms. OHCHR's support to and observation of a mediation process between the Socfin Company and Bunong indigenous peoples' communities (IPCs) regarding traditional land that was granted to the company as an economic land commission (ELC) in 2007 contributed to solving most land-related disputes for the collective land parts, which will now be included in the applications for communal land titles (CLTs) submitted by IPCs. OHCHR has been providing support to the dispute resolution process since 2015. In 2017, the Independent Mediation Group launched a mediation process. To counter the power imbalance between the company and the IPCs, OHCHR financially supported Legal Aid of Cambodia to train community representatives in mediation skills and act as their legal advisers during the mediation process. The mediation on communal lands and family farming contracts was completed with positive results. Individual financial compensation will be discussed in April 2020, when the mediation formally ends.

**D3 –Laws, policies and strategies on land, housing and property increasingly comply with human rights standards. Their implementation by the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Rural Development and sub-national authorities similarly complies with international standards.**

1 11



The Office advocated for better compliance with international human rights norms and standards of legislation and policies regarding the land rights of indigenous peoples.

In 2019, no new laws or policies relating to land and/or housing rights were discussed by the Government. Following extensive consultations in 2018, the draft Environmental Code was discussed at the ministry level, however, it has not yet been adopted.

With the support of OHCHR, and following advocacy undertaken by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples, the five concerned ministries refined a discussion paper on the simplification of the CLT process. OHCHR and its partners have been raising concerns about the complexity, length and cost of the CLT process for several years. While the simplification process is pending, authorities have continued implementing the CLT process with the support of OHCHR. As a result, in 2019, 11 IPCs were formally recognized as indigenous peoples (step one of the CLT process), three IPCs progressed to step two and one IPC progressed to step three, the final step before a land title is issued. In addition, OHCHR published

a government-sanctioned manual on the three-step CLT process, which was developed through a consultative process with the five concerned ministries. The manual was designed to help local authorities and IPCs more efficiently progress through the CLT steps. OHCHR also published a research paper on credit opportunities for IPCs in possession of a CLT.

As a result of training workshops that were organized by OHCHR and NGOs, local officials in Kep/Kampot, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap and Preah Vihear provinces increased their knowledge about the UNGPs and eviction and resettlement standards. This knowledge is anticipated to assist them in carrying out their duties to better protect and respect the rights of communities affected by business and development projects in their areas.

At the request of the Ministry of Justice, and in partnership with CSOs, OHCHR organized a training of trainers for the Ministry's Department of Mediation and Local Justice. The training provided practical instructions on how to use non-judicial grievance mechanisms with a special focus on gender and land-related disputes. Follow-up trainings will be organized in 2020 at the provincial level.

As a follow-up to its monitoring of land disputes related to ELCs, OHCHR coordinated with NGOs to organize a multi-stakeholder dialogue to identify gaps in the implementation of the ELC legal framework. It also outlined suggestions on how the Government can fill those gaps. As a result, local authorities in four provinces committed to resolving land disputes involving private companies. OHCHR will follow-up on these commitments in 2020.

The findings and recommendations of OHCHR's study on the impact of six

social land concessions (SLCs) on rural livelihoods in Cambodia served as a basis for follow-up with relevant national and local authorities for the improvement of the Government's SLC programme. In 2019, OHCHR conducted follow-up visits in four provinces, during which OHCHR presented the findings of its study to residents and local authorities and followed up on the development of the sites. Participants were also introduced to the Open Development Cambodia (ODC) SLC interactive map, which was developed with OHCHR's financial support to assist users who are working with SLCs. In turn, ODC obtained information from the participants about the sites that will be reflected in the map. In December, OHCHR organized a final national consultation with all relevant stakeholders from the sites (community representatives, communal, provincial and national authorities, CSOs, UN agencies and donors) to discuss lessons learned and ways forward. The government officials who participated in the joint visits and the final consultation announced specific actions that will be taken to respond to the concerns raised by the SLC recipients. These commitments include the re-measurement of land and the issuance of land titles. After the follow-up visit to the Kampong Speu SLC, the Government issued land titles to all SLC recipients. OHCHR will follow-up on these commitments in 2020.



### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – Cambodia submits five reports to treaty bodies that conform with reporting guidelines, as well as its report to the UPR. It adopts an integrated and participatory approach to preparing and following up on these reports.**

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the submission of two periodic reports to the human rights treaty bodies that fully conformed with their respective reporting guidelines.

More specifically, in 2019, Cambodia submitted periodic reports to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. During consultations on the draft reports, the Office provided the CHRC with training on the reporting process and missing contents. As of December, some government agencies had not yet submitted their respective inputs for a report related to CAT's list of issues prior to reporting and a report for the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

OHCHR supported the preparations of the government delegations for the reviews by CEDAW and CERD. For the CEDAW review, OHCHR and UN Women organized a mock preparatory session. For CERD, OHCHR provided a briefing to the members of the CHRC delegation.

With regard to the follow-up to the UPR, OHCHR and the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) organized a joint workshop that raised the awareness of over 150 participants from all branches of the Government and all line ministries, civil society and development partners/embassies on the UPR, good practices on the implementation of UPR recommendations and the role of civil society throughout the process. The workshop enabled CSOs and the Government to engage in open and constructive dialogue and for CSOs to build relationships with government representatives that are responsible for relevant human rights issues.

## DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
25.67 million	121,000 km <sup>2</sup>	NA	NA
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Field-based structure		
<b>Year established</b>	2015		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Seoul, Republic of Korea		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Strategic Framework 2017-2021		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	9		

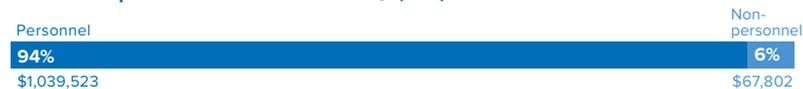
**Total income** **US\$152,698**

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$171,000**

**Total XB expenditure** **US\$118,026**



**Total RB expenditure** **US\$1,107,325**



### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Accountability (A)

**A2 – National institutions in DPRK curb violations of human rights in response to international pressure.**

**10 16** 

OHCHR contributed analysis and raised awareness about human rights concerns in the DPRK, including among the DPRK leadership, through public reporting and strategic media engagement.

In May, OHCHR launched a report on its accountability work entitled *The price is rights: The violation of the right to an adequate standard of living in the DPRK*. The report highlighted the Government's failure to provide basic rights or establish the conditions that are necessary for the full realization of these rights and the consequential impact this has on civil and political rights. The report was widely covered by national and international

media. It also led to greater awareness of the Government as a duty-bearer.

OHCHR continued to interview escapees from the DPRK upon their arrival in the Republic of Korea (ROK) for the purposes of documenting grave human rights violations, including violations that appeared to amount to crimes against humanity. Of the 75 escapees who were interviewed, 63 were women. The information was reviewed, analysed and entered into the Human Rights Case Database and a separate database, which was established in 2018, to enable analysis under international criminal law as part of the accountability project.

**A2 – The international community continues its efforts to hold perpetrators of crimes against humanity accountable.**

**10 16** 

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which critical human rights issues have been taken up in international forums in a timely manner.

OHCHR continued its efforts to hold perpetrators of crimes against humanity accountable. In March, the Deputy High Commissioner presented an update on the implementation of the recommendations related to accountability under HRC resolution 34/24. The HRC passed a resolution to strengthen the monitoring and documentation capacity of OHCHR, including its field-based structure in Seoul, for a period of two years, until March 2021, and requested that the High Commissioner provide an oral update on this progress at the forty-third session of the HRC and submit a written report to the forty-sixth session.

The team continued to collect and assess information from an international criminal law perspective. It collaborated

with relevant CSOs working on documentation to facilitate the sharing of information stored in the comprehensive repository and assess methodologies for conducting interviews and documenting human rights violations on crimes against humanity.

OHCHR advocated with the diplomatic missions based in the ROK regarding the need to keep human rights on the agenda of the Security Council. A discussion in the Security Council on human rights in the DPRK, which was scheduled for 10 December, was cancelled. A report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, which was issued in October, provided momentum for advocacy on human rights in the DPRK.

### Participation (P)

P4 – Human rights principles, norms and language are embraced by civil society organizations that work with the DPRK government or with DPRK escapees.

#### **8** **16**

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights principles, norms and language into media narratives on human rights issues in the DPRK.

The Office continued to broaden its constituency by reaching out to North Koreans living in the ROK, academics working on issues related to the DPRK and other relevant actors. Through these activities, the Office sought to raise awareness, increase the interview base for monitoring and documentation, facilitate the participation of escapees from the DPRK in relevant UN meetings and engagements and build their human rights capacities. The Office organized several meetings with escapees from the DPRK and established a core group

of North Korean civil society actors with whom the Office can systematically engage on human rights issues. The Office also provided opportunities for the core group members to interact with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea during a high-level visit by the Chair of the UN Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in North Korea, at OHCHR workshops and the launch of the report *The price is rights*.

The Office regularly used websites and social media accounts, both in Korean and English, to disseminate human rights messages to its broader constituency and strengthen human rights advocacy. These tools featured reports that had been shared or published by the Office, which were then covered by major international and ROK media outlets. In January, a video on separated families was published and, in May, a feature story was posted on the OHCHR website about an escapee from the DPRK who had engaged in market activities and fled to the ROK. The Office also posted to Twitter to promote human rights issues. The Twitter office in Seoul provided OHCHR with training and helped to create hashtags and emojis in the Korean language for Human Rights Day.

Finally, the Office continued to brief youth and university students on human rights and its the work. More specifically, in October, the OHCHR organized a series of lectures for students attending Hongik University in Seoul. A number of representatives from the Office delivered speeches at Model UN sessions and events organized for youth by the Korean Cultural Association.

### Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 – International approaches to the DPRK integrate human rights as a cross-cutting issue and recognize the centrality of human rights in the promotion of peace and security in the DPRK.

#### **16**

OHCHR consistently raised critical human rights issues and advocated for them to be taken up in international forums.

The Office continued to engage with humanitarian actors operating or planning to operate in the DPRK and advocated for the integration of human rights into their programmes. More specifically, the Office contributed to the *2019 DPR Korea Needs and Priorities Plan* which to some extent reflected to some extent, protection and human rights concerns in relation to humanitarian programmes of the UNCT. The Office participated in a number of humanitarian and peace forums to raise awareness about human rights issues in the DPRK and advocated for the integration of human rights into humanitarian activities. In February, the Office moderated a session on the Human Rights, Humanitarian and Peace Nexus at the Pyeongchang Peace Forum, which was held to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the Olympics. It also participated in the International Forum on Peace Economy, in August, and in the same month, at the 2019 Korea Global Forum for Peace, in a Track 1.5 multilateral dialogue that was organized by the Ministry of Unification. In addition, OHCHR continued to meet with humanitarian agencies and diplomatic missions providing humanitarian assistance in the DPRK to advise and encourage them to take key human rights issues into consideration in their engagement in the DPRK. Finally, a briefing to the Security Council on human rights in the DPRK, scheduled for December, was postponed.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The Government of the DPRK submits reports to two treaty bodies and participates in the UPR process.**

**16 17**

OHCHR aimed to contribute to the development by local actors of reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

Together with the European Union (EU) delegation in the ROK and the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the Office provided technical support and training to CSOs. In particular, the Office offered practical assistance to defector-led organizations in relation to the drafting of stakeholders' reports, engaging with the diplomatic community, prioritizing recommendations and advocating at the national and international levels.

Following this support, a number of CSOs submitted their stakeholders' reports to the UPR. Key human rights recommendations made by the CSOs in these reports were raised by Member States during the UPR review of the DPRK, in May. The Office also supported the screening of the UPR live review for CSOs and engaged with the EU and the NDI to develop plans for follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations emanating from the UPR. Following the review, the Office translated into Korean and disseminated the UPR outcome document.

Finally, with financial support from the DPPA, OHCHR organized the first human rights training, in Geneva, in May, for the DPRK's UPR delegation on the international human rights mechanisms, reporting to the human rights treaty bodies, migration and labour standards of the International Labour Organization.

## MYANMAR

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
54.05 million	677,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.584 (rank: 146/188 in 2018)	Status B, 2015
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights staff (Other type of field presence)	
<b>Year established</b>		2014	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Bangkok, Thailand and Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		3	
<b>Total income</b>		<b>US\$1,531,025</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>		<b>US\$2,163,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>		<b>US\$924,688</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>		<b>Non-personnel</b>	<b>PSC<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>66%</b>		<b>23%</b>	<b>11%</b>
\$608,152		\$210,355	\$106,181

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Accountability (A)

**A5 – UN policies and practices comply with human rights standards and UNDAF guidance (2017); they focus on accountable institutions, access to justice, and the participation of civil society in planning and monitoring.**

**16** 

OHCHR contributed to incorporating rights-based approaches into the work of the UNCT, through strategic support, early warning reporting and by co-chairing the UNCT Human Rights Theme Group (HRTG).

In 2019, the Office provided strategic support to the UNCT. This was done by establishing, in consultation with the RCO, UN agencies and NGOs, a regular monthly early warning reporting system. The overarching objective was to facilitate communication and information-sharing within the UNCT and inform the RCO, the High Commissioner and the UN leadership about concerning human rights developments, while also suggesting early actions to address and mitigate these developments. The first early warning report was issued in October. Since

then, the early warning monthly reporting system helped to ensure that human rights were maintained as a standing item for discussion on the UNCT agenda.

Following the release of the report of the FFM, in September 2018, and the report on the economic interests of the Tatmadaw (armed forces of Myanmar), in 2019, OHCHR took steps to support the UNCT in the establishment of its human rights due diligence framework, which would enable the UNCT to strategically assess and continuously review whether UN action is supporting or hindering the protection and advancement of human rights in Myanmar. More specifically, the framework seeks to develop interventions in line with these objectives, modify or correct its course of action as needed and strengthen its standing as a credible, principled and effective actor.

Furthermore, following the FFM's recommendations to the UNCT to develop a comprehensive human rights strategy in line with the HRuF Action Plan, OHCHR worked with the RCO to initiate and finalize the strategy, which is scheduled to be approved by the UNCT in 2020. The HRTG, which was established in 2018, will be mandated to ensure the implementation of the UNCT human rights strategy as it is the only forum focused on human rights discussions and initiatives within the UNCT.

In 2018, the Office had a leading role in a working group that was struck to assess the level of implementation of the FFM recommendations issued by the UN, the international community and the Government. In 2019, OHCHR presented the working group's outcome report to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) for endorsement. The report recommends that the HRTG explore new avenues to monitor the implementation of the recommendations, including those

issued by the FFM in 2019, and ensure a continuous human rights dialogue between the UN, donors and international and national NGOs.

## Participation (P)

P2 – Human rights principles, norms and language are embraced by civil society organizations that work with the DPRK government or with DPRK escapees.



UN agencies, the UNDG Human Rights Network and the reprisals focal point cooperate with national human rights institutions (NHRIs) (where they exist), making it possible to more promptly and effectively protect individuals and CSOs. The international community promotes an increasingly safe and enabling environment for civil society and effectively protects both individuals and organizations.

OHCHR helped to ensure the protection of civil society organizations and victims of human rights violations by training CSOs on security and protection for HRDs and advocating for all documentation actors in camps to be bound by a “do no harm” policy.

Despite its lack of regular access to the country, OHCHR continued to expand its network of local organizations in order to obtain information and receive case referrals to substantiate its analysis. Given the risks involved in this area of work, OHCHR trained 18 CSOs on issues related to documentation of human rights violations, protection of HRDs, information management and physical and digital security.

In its work in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, OHCHR advocated for the adoption of a “do no harm” policy for all actors carrying out documentation work in the camps. Concerns initially arose after learning that victims, particularly victims of rape and other forms of sexual violence, had been subjected to several rounds of interviews by different people, including journalists, NGOs and academics, without any protection strategy in place. OHCHR worked with the Protection Cluster, headed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to produce a sound policy document on protecting victims of serious human rights abuses from being re-traumatized.

Together with the Protection Cluster, OHCHR carried out a specific risk assessment for members of the Rohingya community who had been chosen to travel from the camps in Cox's Bazar to the HRC, in March. The risk assessment focused on the potential risks for reprisals by other community members or Bangladeshi actors, with particular reference to organizations aimed at promoting women's rights.


**Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS3 – Relevant intergovernmental fora, processes and mechanisms, including the Human Rights Council, UN General Assembly and Security Council, integrate human rights concerns when they address situations of conflict and insecurity in the sub-region.**

**16** 

The Office continued raising human rights issues in several relevant UN forums, including at the national and global levels.

In spite of lacking regular access to the country, the Office continued to provide written and oral inputs by participating in remote or in-person meetings, where possible, thereby providing substantive advice and policy positions in relation to various processes involving Myanmar's UNCT and its sub-entities, including the HRTG and HCT, and to some extent, the Inter-Sector Coordination Group, which is operating in Cox's Bazar.

The RCO and UNCT were provided with authoritative advice on the recommendations of the FFM report, which addressed alleged human rights violations in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan states, including on adherence to the HRuF Initiative and the HRDDP.

Furthermore, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-27/1 on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar, the High Commissioner presented a comprehensive report on the human rights situation of the Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar at the Council's March session. The Office also prepared the High Commissioner's oral update, which was delivered to the Council, in July.

The Office supported the missions of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and contributed to her reports, communications and statements.

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**ROHINGYA HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ADDRESS  
THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**


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From 8 to 15 March, two Rohingya HRDs, Muhib Ullah from the Arakan Rohingya Society for Peace and Human Rights (ARSPHR) and Hamida Khatun from Shanti Mohila, visited Geneva to attend a session of the Human Rights Council. The trip was funded and facilitated by the Myanmar team and marked the first time that representatives from the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar spoke at an international forum to detail the crimes and violations committed against the Rohingya, including during the campaign of violence that began in August 2017. A staff member provided them with assistance throughout their visit.

In their speeches, the two HRDs spoke about their experiences and described the impact that decades of persecution and violence perpetrated by Myanmar authorities had taken on them, their families and their communities. They spoke about the need for accountability for those crimes and underlined what the international community needs to do to support the Rohingya community in Cox's Bazar and Myanmar, including undertaking direct consultations with those affected. They also expressed their eagerness to return home, but only after their rights and Myanmar citizenship have been guaranteed.

During the week, the HRDs attended side events, participated in a press conference by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Myanmar and met with various government representatives. They also had the opportunity to meet with officials from international and regional bodies and NGOs. Finally, the two HRDs were interviewed by the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar.

As there is a widespread perception within the Rohingya community that the international community is not taking steps to alleviate their plight, both representatives expressed their surprise at the number and extent of activities underway at the national and regional levels that are focused on Myanmar and the situation faced by the Rohingya.

Since returning to the camps, Muhib Ullah has held a series of debriefing discussions with leaders from the camps in Cox's Bazar to talk about his trip and inform the wider community about the many efforts being undertaken to address the Rohingya crisis.

## THE PACIFIC

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
<b>Year established</b>	2005
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Suva
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	8

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$1,114,605</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$1,807,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,089,476</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>†</sup>
	<b>52%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>11%</b>
	\$565,243	\$401,728	\$122,505
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$88,341</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	
	<b>99%</b>	<b>1%</b>	
	\$87,628	\$713	

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>†</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – Special procedures mandate holders make at least two visits each year to the Pacific region.**

**16 | 17**

During the reporting period, OHCHR encouraged countries in the region to accept visit requests from the special procedures.

OHCHR supported the country visits of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights to **Tuvalu** and the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health to **Fiji**. The latter Special Rapporteur noted that while Fiji has good opportunities and a strong political will that can contribute to realizing the right to health, the achievement of that goal

necessitates that violence, discrimination and inequalities are addressed and that investments are made in its healthcare system. The report stresses that more attention should be paid to violence against women and children, including by implementing existing laws, and highlights that the mental health of the Fijian population is an emerging priority. In June 2020, the Special Rapporteur will present his full report on the findings of the visit to the HRC.

**M1 – More Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) ratify at least one core international human rights treaty.**

**16 | 17**

OHCHR advocated for the increased ratification of international and regional human rights treaties by countries in the region. In 2019, three ratifications/accessions of core international human treaties were recorded.

In 2019, **Kiribati** ratified CAT, without any reservations. **Samoa** acceded to the Convention, which entered into force on 27 April, although reservations were made to articles 14, 20 and 30. OHCHR, regional partners and civil society actors jointly advocated for the ratification of CAT in these countries.

The **Marshall Islands** acceded to ICERD in April, without any reservations. In doing so, it became the fourth Pacific Island State, after Fiji, Solomon Islands and Tonga, to become a State Party to ICERD.

**M1 – States in the region submit on time a higher proportion of the reports that are due to the treaty bodies and UPR.**

**16 17**

OHCHR engaged with and provided technical assistance to countries in the region to support their timely submission of reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

Fiji was reviewed during its third UPR cycle, in November. OHCHR provided technical support to the Government, the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission and civil society to help them prepare their reports and submissions. Between June 2018 and January 2019, OHCHR held several briefing sessions for government officials and civil society on the UPR process. The Government of Fiji sent a strong delegation to Geneva to participate in the UPR process. During the interactive dialogue, 97 delegations made statements and a total of 138 recommendations were issued to the Government, 122 of which it accepted.

**M1 – Kiribati, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Vanuatu establish National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) to coordinate reporting and implement recommendations made by the treaty bodies, special procedures, the Human Rights Council, and the UPR.**

**16 17**

The Office provided technical assistance in relation to the establishment and functioning of NMRFs and the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR contributed to building the capacity of State officials on treaty body reporting procedures and the effective implementation of and follow-up to the recommendations issued by various international human rights mechanisms. Discussions also focused on transforming the Working Group on Treaties (WGT), Nauru's NMRF, into a functioning body. The WGT is led by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Justice and Border Control. It lacks a comprehensive plan for the implementation of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and lacks a database to track any progress achieved. As a result, the WGT expedited the drafting and finalization of Nauru's initial reports to CAT and CRPD and intensified its advocacy with political leaders regarding the ratification of the remaining international human rights treaties, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). In addition, a plan was developed for the implementation of existing recommendations.

In November, through the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the work of the Human Rights Council, OHCHR organized a workshop for the Pacific region. Participants included the HRC President, marking the first time that a sitting HRC President had visited the region, 33 representatives from LDCs/SIDS, three former Trust Fund beneficiaries from Africa and the Caribbean and representatives from the Forum of Small States and the Commonwealth Secretariat. The workshop provided a unique opportunity for interaction and

the exchange of experiences, information and ideas and for the identification and documentation of good practices to enhance and strengthen effective participation in the HRC and its mechanisms. The event concluded with the adoption of the Nadi Declaration Towards 2022, which sets out a series of recommendations and priorities looking towards 2022, when OHCHR will produce a report outlining the activities of the Trust Fund. Among the priority recommendations agreed up on are undertaking concerted efforts to improve the functioning of the Trust Fund, which has been operational since 2014, and ensuring that topics relevant to the Pacific SIDS are discussed at the Council.

## Accountability (A)

A1 – The Cook Islands and Vanuatu establish national human rights institutions and existing national human rights institutions in Fiji, Samoa and Tuvalu are further strengthened in full respect of the Paris Principles.

16

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which an NHRI has been established and is working in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles).

OHCHR contributed to the establishment of an independent NHRI in Tuvalu, the third Pacific Island State to establish an NHRI. Throughout 2019, OHCHR regularly provided technical advice to the Office of the Ombudsperson of Tuvalu, which led to the establishment of an independent NHRI. OHCHR will continue to work to bring the Ombudsperson's Office of Tuvalu in line with the Paris Principles, with a view to facilitating accreditation with GANHRI as per existing international guidelines.

In coordination with the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, the Regional Rights Research Team of the Pacific Community and UNDP Pacific, OHCHR facilitated a dialogue to assist the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission to regain its "A" status.

In September and October, in cooperation with key partners from the Asia Pacific Forum and the Pacific Community's Regional Rights Resource Team, OHCHR concluded two successful scoping missions regarding the establishment of an NHRI in Kiribati. The Office advocated for this objective with senior government representatives, Members of Parliament, the Office of the Public Defender and representatives of civil

society. Extensive engagement with national stakeholders was key in preparing the ground for discussions on the value of having an NHRI in Kiribati.

Finally, at the request of the Government of **Vanuatu**, and as a direct outcome of its third UPR cycle, OHCHR provided advice to the Government for the establishment of an independent NHRI.

A1 – The police academies and penitentiary services in Fiji and Vanuatu include human rights training in the curriculum of pre-service and in-service training.

16

OHCHR contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training in key human rights areas by providing technical advice, training police and law enforcement staff and advocating with authorities.

In May, at the invitation of the Fiji police force, OHCHR provided a substantive submission in support of the review of the Fijian Police Act 1965. The submission focused on recommendations to incorporate international human rights standards and good practices into a new bill to bring it in line with Fiji's international human rights obligations. OHCHR also advocated for a modern and effective police force that is respectful of the rights and dignity of all human beings, especially women, juveniles, children, members of the LGBTI community and other vulnerable parts of Fijian society. The consultative session was facilitated by the Assistant Commissioner of Police and included the participation of more than 45 senior police officials.

In July, the Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights of the Parliament of Fiji invited OHCHR to provide expert advice on the review of

the Sex Offenders Bill No. 34 of 2018. OHCHR submitted written suggestions on how to bring the Bill into conformity with international human rights law. The most recent draft of an amendment follows OHCHR's interventions over the past two years with the Office of the Attorney General and training and capacity-building activities that were delivered to law enforcement officers and CSOs regarding the treatment of sex offenders.

At the request of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Parliament of Fiji, OHCHR made an oral submission to the Committee, on 18 April, with a view to encouraging governments in the region to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW) and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED). The Parliament requested that the Standing Committee conduct a review related to both of the conventions and submit a review report for its consideration. Fiji accepted the recommendations issued during its second UPR cycle to ratify the remaining core international human rights treaties by 2020.

In September, the Regional Office for the Pacific conducted human rights training sessions for 27 INTERPOL officers in Singapore, which included two days of substantive discussion on torture, the use of force and the deprivation of liberty. Participants were consequently equipped with the tools to deal with related queries from INTERPOL member countries and advocate for the inclusion of and respect for human rights when carrying out law enforcement functions in over 100 countries. Some action plans were specifically developed to more fully integrate human rights into the law enforcement training curriculum of

INTERPOL countries. The primary areas of focus of the action plans include a review of training courses as they relate to human rights, the incorporation of human rights topics into recruitment examinations and reinforcing links between the academy and operations.

OHCHR conducted high-level meetings with the Fijian Police Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners, which led to the establishment of a human rights cell within the internal affairs department of the Fiji police force. Educational materials were provided during these trainings, including *the Pocketbook on human rights for law enforcement officers 2018* and *the Manual on human rights training for law enforcement officers 2018*.

**A2 – Judiciaries, law enforcement and oversight mechanisms in the region uphold human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights. They take measures that provide protection to victims of climate change, abusive business practices and unsafe migration.**

**10 16**

OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms with international human rights standards by building the capacity of the police, parliamentarians and civil society partners.

Through a training of trainers for 40 high-ranking police officers on international human rights from the perspectives of law enforcement, OHCHR contributed to the integration of good practice models into their own practice. Extensive discussions were held on the human rights obligations provided in CAT and ICCPR. Sessions focused on how to deal with individuals who may be in vulnerable situations, such as children,

women, sex workers, migrants, LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities.

OHCHR also provided training and technical support to Fiji's Office of the Attorney General in relation to CAT and ICERD and conducted a consultative seminar on existing legislative gaps with regard to the prohibition and prevention of torture. During the week-long regional capacity-building programme on human rights and business and the SDGs, OHCHR advocated for the rights and responsibilities of civil society organizations when monitoring, reporting on and advocating against torture. This was followed by sessions on the prohibition and prevention of torture as part of the human rights training provided to the Fijian Parliament.

To this end, OHCHR made a total of five written submissions and oral presentations to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Fijian Parliament, in addition to extensive submissions that proposed the ratification of ICRMW and ICPPED in Fiji. OHCHR reviewed the 1965 Police Act and proposed the inclusion of good practice models, especially in relation to women, juveniles, children, members of the LGBTI community, older persons and persons with disabilities. This was followed by oral presentations that were delivered at a consultative seminar with a team of over 45 senior police officers.

## Development (D)

**D5 – Tuvalu and Vanuatu strengthen the legal framework of their labour migration and climate finance policies and adopt a human rights-based approach. The Marshall Islands develop a human rights plan. Under the joint human security project, States in the region develop a draft regional legal framework on climate change and migration that complies with international human rights standards.**

**13 14 15** 

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of the legal framework with international human rights norms and standards.

In Fiji, OHCHR organized the Human Rights and Climate Change Conference, which brought together more than 35 representatives from governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, international organizations and NHRIs from Pacific nations. The Conference enabled climate change practitioners to gain valuable knowledge from leading human rights experts, discuss how to mainstream human rights into international and global forums and prepare Pacific-related key human rights and climate change messages for the Pacific so that they can speak with one voice, and therefore amplify that voice, at the global level.

OHCHR conducted field research in the Vunidogoloa and Naviavia communities on the emotional and psychological difficulties that are arising due to climate change in Fiji. In a set of recommendations, OHCHR highlighted the responsibilities of States and other duty-bearers to recognize the importance of addressing the mental health impacts of climate change. OHCHR concluded that there is an urgent need

to adopt an integrated, inclusive and uniform approach for public medical and mental health services, taking into account the overlap between these two areas, and for governments, stakeholders and UN organizations to collaboratively work together to frame objective mental health policies, adopt an HRBA and ensure its effective implementation. Moreover, in implementing programmes for mental health in the context of climate change, States, the private sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders need to ensure the availability of comprehensive programming and that full consultations are being carried out with all relevant stakeholders.

## PHILIPPINES

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
108.12 million	300,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.712 (rank: 106/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2012
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights Adviser	
<b>Year established</b>		2014	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Manila	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		Philippines-United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (2019-2023)	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		1	

**XB requirements 2019**

**US\$283,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>123</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Development (D)**

**D7 – The UNCT integrates human rights norms, standards and principles when it formulates and implements programmes and projects.**



OHCHR substantially contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles during the first year of the implementation of the Philippines-United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (UNPFSD) (2019-2023).

Partially owing to sustained advocacy by OHCHR, the UNPFSD (2019-2023) is grounded in human rights through the application of the “Leave No One Behind” (LNOB) principle, gender equality and women’s empowerment approaches and the identification of

vulnerable and marginalized groups. The UNPFSD provides a strong starting point for enhanced implementation of an HRBA in relation to agency programming. As a result of OHCHR advocacy, the UNCT agreed to establish a theme group on the LNOB principle and a focal point network on human rights, both of which are led by the Office. The Government’s institutional counterparts agreed to organize a series of training sessions on LNOB, an HRBA and follow-up to recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The first session was held in November while the remaining two are scheduled for 2020. OHCHR also participated in various workshops and briefing sessions with civil society in order to suggest strategic interventions and develop specific elements for a plan of action to

further the human rights agenda. As a result of these activities, participants had a better understanding of the need to increase engagements between human rights actors and social and economic actors. In addition, a process was initiated to facilitate the engagement of the Commission on Human Rights and the Statistical Authority in monitoring the implementation and achievement of the SDGs in terms of human rights, thereby ensuring that an HRBA is applied in the collection and use of data.

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – An institutional mechanism is established to integrate reporting to human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations.**

### 16 17

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which NMRFs were in place.

Building on discussions that were initiated in 2018 to help the Government develop an holistic and coordinated approach to engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR continued to advocate with the Presidential Human Rights Office during the reporting period for the creation of this process. This also became an item for consideration in the context of the discussions on the National Human Rights Action Plan. To this end, further work and initiatives will be undertaken in 2020.

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
8.78 million	463,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.543 (rank: 155/188 in 2018)	NA
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights Adviser	
<b>Year established</b>		2008	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Port Moresby	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		4	

### **XB requirements 2019**

**US\$985,000**

### **Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### **PILLAR RESULTS:**

#### Participation (P)

**P6 – Disenfranchised male and female youth, and persons with disabilities, participate meaningfully in the 2019 Bougainville referendum.**



The Office promoted the meaningful participation of rights-holders during the Bougainville independence referendum, which was held in June, by enhancing the capacity of the Government and civil society to address human rights issues in that context.

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacity of civil society and HRDs, including DPOs, women and youth networks in all three regions of Bougainville. The Office provided trainings to monitor and report on human rights issues leading up to, during and after the referendum. The Office provided technical assistance to

develop and use a simple human rights checklist, which enabled stakeholders to monitor and advocate for the effective participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups at all stages of the referendum. In March, the Office trained 67 police officers (18 women, 49 men) from northern, central and southern regions of Bougainville and government officials on human rights. In May, 26 government officials (12 women, 14 men) were trained on human rights in the context of the referendum. Also in May, 22 HRDs (14 women, 8 men) were trained on human rights monitoring. Finally, in separate workshops that were held in September, October and November, OHCHR trained 107 HRDs (56 women, 51 men) in Wakunai, Tinputz, Halia, Selau, Arawa and Bui.

## Non-discrimination (ND)

ND6 – Civil society organizations and the Government increasingly monitor and address human rights violations suffered by refugees, migrants and targeted vulnerable groups, advocate on their behalf, and produce regular public reports.



The Office advocated on behalf of and raised awareness about the rights of refugees and asylum seekers in compliance with international human rights standards. To this end, it produced public reports and engaged in advocacy with national authorities.

With technical assistance and support from OHCHR, the RC continued to advocate at the highest levels of the Government for the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants in Papua New Guinea. In November, the RC wrote a letter to the Deputy Prime Minister raising concerns around the legality of the detention of 47 men with negative refugee status determination decisions who were being held in the Bomana Immigration Centre in Port Moresby. The letter followed strategic meetings with the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, with technical support and coordination from relevant key UN partners, including OHCHR, UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). OHCHR also provided technical advice and support to CSOs and HRDs advocating for the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants in Papua New Guinea.

The Office provided technical assistance to the RC to engage with and respond to supporters of the Free West Papua movement. Following the 17 August incident, in Surabaya, where Indonesian militias

allegedly racially abused indigenous West Papuan students, the supporters of West Papuans, including high-profile influential political officials, increased their advocacy efforts and pressured the UN system to provide support to this case.

## Development (D)

D2 – Government regulatory bodies increase oversight of extractive industries to prevent and mitigate adverse human rights effects of their activities.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of human rights and business, especially the extractive industries, with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacity of 30 key stakeholders in the Government and civil society on human rights, business and the SDGs. A business and human rights network was established in Papua New Guinea following a training that was delivered by OHCHR, in partnership with the Diplomacy Training Programme, the University of New South Wales, the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations and the Business and Human Rights Network. As a result, the 30 participants urged potential investors and members of the extractive industries at the 2019 Business and Human Rights Forum, held in Geneva, in November, to respect the rights of indigenous persons in Papua New Guinea and to practice due diligence and accountability in line with the UNGPs. The participants recorded a joint video, which was played at the Forum's special session on advancing

the business and human rights agenda in the Pacific. In 2020, OHCHR and regional partners, including the Diplomacy Training Programme, will host a national dialogue on business and human rights in Papua New Guinea, which would be the first of its kind to be held in-country. The dialogue would include representatives from the Government, business, civil society and members of the diplomatic corps, as well as development partners.

The Office also contributed to strengthening the capacity of 40 HRDs and civil society partners to monitor, document and report on human rights that are impacted by the extractive industries. The training targeted active members of civil society involved in advocacy around human rights abuses related to the Barrick Gold Mine in the surrounding communities in Porgera, including sexual violence and abuse against women, arbitrary detention, destruction of property, extrajudicial killings and environmental pollution affecting the rights of those communities to health, clean water and food.

**D7 – The UNCT actively works with the Government and civil society to address the latest UPR recommendations to PNG by integrating the recommendations into the implementation of UNDAF.**

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the UN common country programmes.

OHCHR supported the integration of human rights and gender into UN programming in Papua New Guinea, including through the establishment of Human Rights and Gender Focal Points

and the adoption of a strategy on mainstreaming human rights and gender by the UNCT in 2018. OHCHR and UN Women co-chaired the Working Group on mainstreaming human rights and gender. Through the Working Group, focal points in all 12 resident UN agencies in Papua New Guinea developed an action plan to address the recommendations that were issued following the 2016 Gender Audit of the UNCT and supported all staff in their respective agencies to strengthen their understanding of and capacity in relation to human rights and gender equality, including through online mandatory trainings.

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – PNG ratifies at least two additional human rights conventions (including CAT and one or more of the optional protocols to ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW, and CRC). The Government strengthens its reporting to treaty bodies, coordination of its reports, and its engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms.**



OHCHR supported the Government in the preparation of its first report to the Human Rights Committee and advocated for the establishment of the NMRF.

The Office provided technical assistance and support for the development of Papua New Guinea's first report to the Human Rights Committee, which is scheduled for review in 2020. This included consultations with civil society and HRDs from across the country and the solicitation of inputs from key government departments. This resulted in the strengthened capacity of key officers within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Justice and Attorney General, to support

the establishment of an NMRF to coordinate engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

The increased capacity of national officers and the establishment of an NMRF will be critical when Papua New Guinea participates in the third UPR cycle in April and May 2021. The country will also receive the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences in 2020. Although the Government has issued a standing invitation for all special procedures mandate holders, this will be the first country visit of a special procedure to Papua New Guinea in five years and the second visit of this mandate holder.

Finally, OHCHR provided technical support to the Department of Community Development and the Constitutional and Law Reform Commission on the draft bill on disability, which aims to domesticate CRPD provisions into law. In collaboration with UNICEF, OHCHR reviewed the draft bill and provided inputs. At the end of 2019, the draft was awaiting approval by the Government before being submitted to the Parliament.

## SOUTH-EAST ASIA

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam
<b>Year established</b>	2002
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Bangkok
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	21

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$4,055,075</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$4,129,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$3,864,506</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>†</sup>
	<b>53%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>9%</b>
	\$2,053,738	\$1,460,229	\$350,539
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$742,999</b>		
	Personnel	Non personnel	
	<b>93%</b>	<b>7%</b>	
	\$691,470	\$51,529	

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>†</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Development (D)

D5 – Laws and policies on the environment, climate change, extractive industries and urban planning comply with international human rights standards and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. National institutions and civil society organizations act to ensure that rights-holders can participate in decision-making processes on the environment and climate change and engage with duty-bearers and the private sector on these issues.



In 2019, the Office significantly advanced its work on climate change and human rights, with a focus on economic, social and cultural rights, strengthening the capacity of regional actors, notably NHRIs, environmental HRDs, civil society, journalists and business actors. This was achieved through workshops, field missions and providing regular support on effective engagement with international human rights mechanisms.

In October, OHCHR brought together NHRIs from across South Asia and Southeast Asia for the first dialogue

held on the transboundary impact of climate change on human rights, which included an exchange on key lessons learned from a variety of actions taken in the subregion. In November, a meeting co-organized with UNEP brought together environmental CSOs, members of the media and the private sector to raise awareness about and strengthen engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

The Office continued to closely monitor emblematic cases of environmental HRDs and community activists targeted by governments, private companies or State-owned enterprises. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that was signed by OHCHR and UNEP in 2019 provided the initial scope, which will be further broadened in 2020, for jointly engaging with stakeholders in the region on the environment and climate change. In addition, OHCHR participated in the global meeting that was held in Nairobi, in November, to discuss the implementation of the MoU and develop a joint regional workplan for 2020.

D7 – UN Country Teams and UN agencies in UNDAF roll-out countries (2018-21) and countries that support separate SDG planning or programming have adopted a rights-based approach to development planning and implementation that complies with international human rights norms, standards and principles.



Through capacity-building activities, OHCHR aimed to mainstream human rights into the work of the UN system to support the preparation of CCAs and UNSDCF's for countries of the region.

The Office contributed to a 7 workshop organized by for countries in the Asia-Pacific region that were

scheduled to undertake their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) in 2019. This engagement led to closer collaboration with ESCAP on the VNRs. During the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, held in March, the Office co-organized two side events entitled “Empowering the most marginalized and ensuring inclusiveness and equality: Realizing the SDGs through human rights,” together with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and “Ensuring women’s inclusiveness and equality in land rights and management of natural resources: The role of women human rights defenders,” with UN Women.

In 2019, the Office co-facilitated workshops with UN Women and UNFPA on gender equality and the application of an HRBA for UNCTs in **Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Viet Nam**. Each of the workshops included sessions on the interlinkages between the SDGs and international human rights frameworks, how to apply human rights principles in the context of SDG implementation and reporting and the operationalization of the LNOB principle. OHCHR actively contributed to the development of the respective CCAs in Indonesia, Malaysia and **Timor-Leste**. In Indonesia, OHCHR contributed to the elaboration of the UNSDCF 2021-2025 in accordance with international human rights principles.

At the request of UNEP, OHCHR participated in the **Thailand** Stakeholder Consultation on reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic value chain in Southeast Asia, which was held in June. OHCHR led a session on applying an HRBA to the environment.

## Peace and Security (PS)

**PS5 – UN country policies and programmes, including UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs), successfully integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles, including the recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms.**

**3 5 8 10 13 16 17**

The Office contributed to the stronger integration of human rights norms, standards and principles into the UN development and humanitarian cooperation mechanisms at the regional and country levels, including by building capacity and providing analysis and technical expertise.

In November 2018, the Office strengthened its information management capacity, thereby enabling OHCHR to expand its work on early warning, prevention and humanitarian action in the region. The Office also used its strengthened information management capacity to contribute to the work on climate change and civic space by developing visuals to support their work.

The establishment of a light and flexible early warning system for the UN, in **Myanmar**, in September, was an important step to supporting improved analysis and responses to emerging human rights concerns in Myanmar. The early warning system provides regular updates to the UNCT.

During 2019, the Office trained 20 focal points (10 women, 10 men) in 11 NHRIs in the region to strengthen their capacity to engage in human rights work in humanitarian settings. The capacity-building programme was undertaken in partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum and included the development of an online training and the delivery of a workshop

and training in Bangkok. The participants expressed an interest in furthering their work and developed post-training action plans in order to put their learning into practice. These trainings with NHRIs is the first step in a comprehensive plan to provide them with longer-term strategic support. This would enable them to play a more prominent role in humanitarian preparedness and response and ensure enhanced protection for human rights in the context of increasingly national-led humanitarian action in the region.

The Office engaged in the regional-level mechanisms of the Inter-Agency Steering Committee (IASC), such as the IASC Sub-Working Group on preparedness, the IASC Regional Network Regional Directors Meeting and the Disaster Displacement Working Group, resulting in the inclusion of human rights protection on the agendas of the respective working groups. OHCHR facilitated a training session on human rights in humanitarian action at the annual regional meeting of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) meeting, which brought together national and international NGOs from the Asia-Pacific region. The Office also contributed to panel discussions at the ICVA Global Advocacy Officers annual meeting and at a regional meeting on the Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus, which was organized by The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, in December.

## Participation (P)

P1 – Civil society can operate more freely; civic space is more fully protected both in practice and by laws and policies. Civil society organizations engage more often and more deeply with UN human rights mechanisms; the communications of special procedures highlight more often the challenges that civil society faces in the region.



In **Indonesia**, the Office provided systematic support to strengthen the capacity of local CSOs in Indonesia to monitor, document and report on human rights violations in situations of conflict and insecurity, as well as on environmental and land rights. The Office also supported the UNCT's engagement with the Government on draft legislation and proposed amendments to the Criminal Code that would violate international human rights law, in particular the rights of women, religious minorities, LGBTI persons and indigenous peoples.

In **Thailand**, in the context of the general election that was held, in March, the Office provided training to HRDs on monitoring human rights in the electoral context, including by contributing to monthly reports from the UNCT on human rights in elections and coordinating the UN's monitoring of human rights during the election. OHCHR held two planned training sessions for HRDs, which included operational-level staff from the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT). OHCHR included staff members from the NHRCT in its briefings for WHRDs in the Southern Border Provinces.

In July, OHCHR held a regional workshop with 23 CSOs and technology companies in order to identify opportunities

and challenges in Southeast Asia in relation to digital technologies and civic space. This led to enhanced engagement among key partners in the area of technology and human rights.

## Accountability (A)

A5 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.



Through technical cooperation, the Office aimed to contribute to the increased compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

In **Malaysia**, the Office engaged in discussions with the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia on institutionalizing police training. It is envisaged that a long-term project will be agreed upon in 2020.

In **Thailand**, the Office interacted with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, in August, on issues related to the evictions of rural communities, including by undertaking field visits to areas of concern to meet the communities and discuss onsite human rights issues. The Office also continued to engage with CSOs and different government actors on the promulgation of a national law criminalizing torture and enforced disappearances and amendments to the 2003 Witness and Victim Protection Act.

## SRI LANKA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
21.32 million	66,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.780 (rank: 72/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2018
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights Adviser	
<b>Year established</b>		2004	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Colombo	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Sustainable Development Framework 2018-2022	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		3	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>		<b>US\$597,000</b>	

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>123</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### **Accountability (A)**

**A2 – Fulfilling Human Rights Council resolution 30/1, Sri Lanka implements a comprehensive transitional justice strategy that is victim-oriented, gender-sensitive and complies with international human rights standards. It establishes an Office for Missing Persons, a truth and reconciliation commission, a reparations programme, and a credible special judicial accountability mechanism in which foreign experts participate.**

**10 16**

OHCHR supported established accountability mechanisms in their compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR continued to provide technical assistance to transitional justice and related bodies and processes, in particular the Office on Missing Persons, the Office for Reparations, the Human

Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) and the Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms. Following the presidential elections that took place in November, OHCHR engaged with the new Government on its policy approach and with other national stakeholders on how to advance the agenda of the Human Rights Council.

### **Participation (P)**

**P6 – New laws establish transitional justice mechanisms and take into account the results of consultations held in 2016. Wherever necessary, victims of violations, women, and groups with specific needs are consulted in more detail about each element of the transitional justice agenda.**

OHCHR advocated for the increased participation of rights-holders, especially

women and discriminated groups, in the process of reparations for the victims.

OHCHR assisted the Consultations Task Force (CTF), tasked with conducting nation-wide consultations on transitional justice issues, with the archiving of their materials, which was completed in 2019. The CTF participated in consultations with the Office for Reparations in Sri Lanka and OHCHR to advocate for the inclusion in the CTF report of the expectations of victims, especially women and groups with specific needs.

### **Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS6 – All Sri Lanka military or police personnel proposed for deployment in UN peacekeeping operations undergo a stringent screening process, led by civilians.**

**16**

OHCHR supported the HRCSL, the UN and the Government to integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles into their work.

In 2019, the HRCSL continued to use the standard operating procedures for the screening of candidates that were developed in 2018, with OHCHR's assistance, for the screening of peacekeepers. In 2019, an individual who is the subject of serious allegations of human rights violations was appointed as the Army Commander, prompting the UN to revise the participation of the Sri Lankan Army in peacekeeping operations. As of December, the review process was still ongoing.

Under the Mechanisms pillar, OHCHR continued to support the establishment of the NMRF. In addition, the Office provided support to the visits of two special procedures that took place in 2019,

namely, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief. The visit of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity had to be rescheduled due to terrorist attacks. The standing invitation remains in place.

## TIMOR-LESTE

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
1.29million	15,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.626 (rank: 131/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2018
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human Rights Adviser	
<b>Year established</b>		2013	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Dili	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		3	

**XB requirements 2019**

**US\$515,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – The police and army comply with human rights standards that prohibit torture and ill-treatment.**

#### **16**

The Office supported the police and the army in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards that prohibit torture and ill-treatment by providing technical support and targeted capacity-building.

More specifically, OHCHR provided technical support for a high-level seminar with the national and municipal command of the police, which was led by the Office of the Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice. The seminar included the active involvement of civil society and Timor-Leste's follow-up institution to the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It consolidated lessons

learned from the human rights training programme that can be used in seeking policy changes and securing a stronger commitment to improving respect for human rights, reducing human rights violations particularly due to the excessive use of force, ill-treatment, torture and killings and increasing accountability.

The human rights training programme for the national army, which was launched in 2018, continued to be available throughout 2019. The training was led by the NHRI, in partnership with OHCHR, as well as trainers from the army and the Ministry of Defence and Security. Five-day trainings were conducted in March, May and June for a total of 91 officers (9 women, 82 men). The training was based on a manual that was prepared with support from OHCHR and focuses on the obligations of the army to respect and

protect human rights in times of crisis, during arrests, in the use of force and when conducting searches. An extra-curricular session on the rights of LGBTI persons was facilitated as part of each training programme and was delivered by the NHRI and members of the LGBTI community in Timor-Leste.

In November, two training sessions were conducted for police officers. One police trainer was part of the training team. A total of 43 police officers (2 women, 41 men) in two municipalities learned about human rights when using force, during arrests and in relation to detention.

In 2019, OHCHR requested participants from a 2017 human rights programme, which was conducted by the NHRI in close collaboration with the national police, to provide post-training evaluations. Positive changes in attitude and behaviour were reported by participants and commanders alike (77 police force members, 10 women, 67 men). Yet, much remains to be done in a country that emerged from violent conflict less than 20 years ago and where impunity is rife, police training is limited and investment in policing is low. Moreover, public support for the use of strong measures against those who break the law remains high.

## Participation (P)

**P6 – Youth, women and discriminated groups, and those who represent them, regularly advocate for human rights.**

The Office contributed to enhancing the meaningful participation of youth, LGBTI persons and women in selected public processes by providing technical expertise, funding and support for advocacy campaigns.

The Human Rights Defenders Network, established in 2015 with a grant from OHCHR, supported 20 street vendors who had been forcefully removed by civil security personnel and police from the park where they were selling their goods. The HRD Network drafted and submitted a written complaint to the NHRI, requesting mediation on the case. Following a meeting that the NHRI facilitated between the street vendors, the municipal authority and the Dili police commander, temporary sales areas were identified in the park for use by the vendors. With a view to increasing accountability for alleged violations by the police, the network met with the national police commander and learned that eight cases in which the police had used lethal force over the past few years were still under investigation. The Network continued to conduct joint public advocacy activities, focused on addressing impunity and called for security forces to respect human rights when carrying out their duties.

The Network, supported by OHCHR, organized a conference with parliamentarians, government officials, the NHRI and civil society in order to take stock of progress made since the 1999 referendum that led to the country's independence, including in relation to justice, women's rights, the situation of persons with disabilities and freedom of the media. Two Timorese women gained in-depth knowledge about human rights, the UN system and its human rights mechanisms and developed their advocacy skills to demand respect for and the realization of their rights. They also learned about human rights challenges in the region, together with 19 other civil society activists (10 women, 11 men) from 11 countries, by taking part in a two-week diplomacy training programme. The training, held in Dili and Balibo, is

organized every August by the University of New South Wales and is often held in Timor-Leste. OHCHR delivered one session on human rights in the UN system. OHCHR funded the participation of the two Timorese women, one of whom was the Head of an established women's rights organization and will join the Office of the Prime Minister. The second woman is a member of several youth groups that advocate for sexual and reproductive health rights, women's rights and the rights of LGBTI persons.

Furthermore, OHCHR enhanced the knowledge of 31 secondary school students (15 women, 16 men) from different schools in Dili about human rights, the rights of LGBTI persons and the rights of persons with disabilities. They also learned about the work of the NHRI to protect human rights and the advocacy efforts for human rights that are being carried out by inspiring young women in Europe (Greta Thunberg) and Asia (Malala Youssef). OHCHR and the Movimentu Feto Foin Sa'e Timor-Leste (the Movement of Female Youth, also known as MOFFE) organized a two-day session for this group, in Dili, in September. The Head of an organization of persons with visual impairments and the staff of the NHRI addressed the youth. In addition, 31 youth representatives from the community police force increased their knowledge on basic human rights, the rights of LGBTI persons, the rights of persons with disabilities and the work of the NHRI.

## Non-discrimination (ND)

ND7 – The public supports a human rights-based approach to disability; the public opposes discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.



The Office contributed to strengthening the narrative on the rights of persons with disabilities and LGBTI persons in Timor-Leste by providing expert advice on compliance with international human rights law and supporting advocacy campaigns.

Following the 2018 design phase, the Association of Persons with Disabilities in Timor-Leste (ADTL) implemented a national campaign on the rights of persons with disabilities, with technical support from OHCHR. The campaign was based on a strategy that was drafted after consultations with persons with disabilities in three municipalities, interviews with organizations conducting behavioural change campaigns and desk research. The campaign featured inspiring persons with disabilities who are positive role models that embrace inclusion and make use of traditional and social media. Radio talk shows on the rights of persons with disabilities went on the air, in May, and preparations for three short videos/films commenced in November. One of the three short videos, which highlighted terminology that should be used to respect the rights of persons with disabilities, was launched on International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The national campaign aims to raise awareness about the equal rights of persons with disabilities and reduce the use of stigmatizing language and discriminatory behaviour. It also emphasizes the importance of ratifying CRPD. The ADTL received financial support to carry out the campaign under the joint

UN agency project entitled Empower for Change in order to reduce discrimination and violence against persons with disabilities. The campaign was funded by the UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Among the various activities that are planned to celebrate the seventy-first anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the NHRI, the Anti-Corruption Commission and OHCHR organized a series of events, including a speech competition for secondary schools students, a human rights quiz and drawing competitions for primary schools students. Human rights information was also disseminated in the Ermera Municipality. The HRD Network and MOFFE organized a seminar, a televised debate and other activities on human rights issues in different locations.

The third Pride march, which was held in Dili, in July, was organized by members of the LGBTI community and youth groups under the theme “visibility.” The Pride march included the participation of approximately 3,000 people, including Timorese and international individuals, as well as members of the UNCT. OHCHR took part in the Pride march and used the occasion to distribute Free & Equal campaign materials. On the same day, the sitting President of the Republic made a public address, for the first time in history, that called on everyone to embrace diversity. At a seminar that was held in Liquica Municipality, on 30 July, more than 60 members of the LGBTI community and their families shared their experiences of discrimination and violence and emphasized the need for acceptance and full respect for the equal rights of LGBTI persons in Timor-Leste.

## Development (D)

D3 – New policies and laws on housing, land and evictions are adopted that comply with human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of one selected policy area with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the knowledge of government officials about international human rights standards related to land, adequate housing and forced evictions. Specifically, OHCHR conducted a one-day workshop for 19 officials from the Ministry of Justice’s Legislation Department (6 women, 13 men), who were drafting a subsidiary decree under the country’s first law on land ownership, which was adopted in 2017.

OHCHR increased the knowledge of civil society members on how to incorporate human rights standards in law and policies on land and in their implementation. OHCHR engaged in discussions with the civil society land rights network and provided technical and financial support for a training on land-related legislation, land disputes and gender for 27 participants (7 women, 20 men), including local authorities, civil society and land defence groups. It also disseminated information on land rights to the 108 community members (36 women, 72 men) of the Viqueque Municipality. The network actively engaged with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples before and during her visit to Timor-Leste, in April. While there, the Special Rapporteur underlined serious human rights concerns regarding the land registration process

employed by the Government over the past four years. As a result of the network's advocacy, the Special Rapporteur called on the Government to suspend the registration process and conduct an independent evaluation.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M2 – The NHRI, the UNCT, and civil society coalitions that work on emerging human rights issues submit reports for each scheduled treaty review; NGOs submit information to the special procedures.**



OHCHR provided support to NHRIs, CSOs, UN entities and individuals in the development of substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

Although there has been limited engagement with the special procedures to date, OHCHR has been working to change this fact. For instance, OHCHR worked closely with members of the HRD Network to prepare relevant information for various special rapporteurs on the alleged use of excessive force by security forces that resulted in deaths and injuries since late 2018. In June, three special rapporteurs sent a joint communication to the Government. A second communication was submitted to the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers by a family member of an individual (an ex-Minister who was convicted of corruption) concerning alleged violations of the right to a fair trial. OHCHR guided the family throughout the process. The Office will continue supporting submissions in 2020 as part of a strategy to make better use of the opportunities that these mechanisms present for swift interventions in relation to government actions.

Civil society members and the NHRI gained better knowledge about the opportunities that the special procedures offer for raising human rights concerns as a result of their active involvement before and during the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples, including through written and oral interventions on issues concerning customary land.

**M1 – Reports are submitted in accordance with guidelines and include adequate information.**



OHCHR supported the submission of the VNR report, which conformed to reporting guidelines and integrated a human rights-based approach, including in reporting on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support to the drafting of Timor-Leste's first report under the VNR on the implementation of the SDGs for the High-level Political Forum, in July. This presented an excellent opportunity for raising awareness about the complementarity of SDG reporting and reporting to the international human rights mechanisms. The report identifies five steps that must be taken to advance the implementation of the SDGs, including the Government's commitment to consider piloting integrated reporting to the various bodies of the UN. The VNR report recognizes that such a mechanism could also play a role in supporting follow-up on recommendations issued during the UPR process. The VNR report also refers to the first recommendations issued by the UPR on LGBTI rights and notes that they were accepted by Timor-Leste.

# UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



**LEGEND:**

**Spotlights:**

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women

**Shifts:**

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move

**SDGs:**



TYPE OF PRESENCE	LOCATION
Headquarters	Geneva
Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions	Ukraine (HRMMU)
Regional Offices/Centres	Central Asia (Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic) Europe (Brussels, Belgium)
Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions	Kosovo* (UNMIK)
Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG	Belarus, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, South Caucasus (based in Tbilisi, covering Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia)
Other types of field presences	Russian Federation

\* Hereinafter, all references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

In 2019, the work of OHCHR in Europe and Central Asia comprised 54 countries and nine disputed territories. OHCHR expanded its presence in the region by deploying two new human rights advisers to UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in Montenegro and Moldova. The Office strengthened its engagement with regional organizations and national authorities through its Regional Offices for Europe and for Central Asia; Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) in North Macedonia, Serbia and the South Caucasus; the project team in the Russian Federation; the Human Rights Office in the UN Mission in Kosovo\*; and the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU). OHCHR maintained a non-resident agency status in Turkey, contributing to the Common Country Analysis, the forthcoming United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) process and a joint OHCHR-United Nations Development Coordination Office (UNDCO) strategy to address human rights issues across the UN system in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

During the reporting period, the Europe and Central Asia region faced multifaceted challenges to human rights. These included actions to restrict civic space, including criticism of State policies and the activities of human rights defenders (HRDs); attempts to limit or discourage the holding of peaceful assemblies; challenges to the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary; persisting tensions stemming from unresolved frozen conflicts and disputed territories, including challenges related to the protection of human rights of populations living in territories controlled by de facto authorities.

Other reported challenges included discrimination and attacks affecting

vulnerable and marginalized groups, such as Roma, people of African descent, persons with disabilities, migrants and sexual minorities; the arbitrary deprivation of liberty and the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment against persons in detention; and insufficient accountability for human rights violations committed by State agents creating a sense of impunity. The Office further noted the continued expression and exploitation of racism and xenophobia by some political leaders; limitations to the enjoyment of socio-economic rights, including non-discriminatory access to services; gender inequality and domestic violence; and important development disparities.

To address these challenges, OHCHR carried out monitoring and assessment missions to Italy (racism and incitement to racial hatred and discrimination) and Bosnia and Herzegovina, accompanying the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants. The Office also promoted principles for human rights engagement with non-State armed groups and de facto authorities through mandated reports on the question of human rights in Cyprus, on cooperation with Georgia and through quarterly thematic reports to the Human Rights Council (HRC) on the human rights situation in Ukraine. Inputs were provided to the annual reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on internally displaced persons in Georgia/Abkhazia/South Ossetia and to the report to the General Assembly on the human rights situation in Crimea.

OHCHR continued providing advisory services, technical cooperation and training for governments, regional organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), equality bodies, civil society, human rights defenders,

UN peacekeeping operations and UN country or regional teams in their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, including through a training for 16 UNCT members from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. Furthermore, the Office advanced the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to data by training stakeholders from Albania and Kosovo. In October, OHCHR and the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) delivered a human rights training course for the police component of UNFICYP.

Through direct engagement and communication with Member States, remote monitoring and public advocacy, the Office identified early warning signs of potential human rights violations and impending crises and encouraged the development and implementation of recommendations to address such situations. In line with the Secretary-General's prevention agenda, OHCHR analysed situations carrying risks of human rights violations and ensured real-time reporting through regular updates and submissions to the United Nations Operations and Crisis Centre. The Office also actively supported the implementation of the Secretary-General's Western Balkans Action Plan, adopted in June, by expanding human rights presences in the region (Montenegro) and organizing a workshop for Western Balkans country presences in order to streamline efforts and prepare for a scoping mission on transitional justice in 2020.

OHCHR supported the roll out of 12 UNSDCFs in the region by providing support to the UNCTs to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. This included participation in the Istanbul Regional Workshop on the new UNSDCF and input into the Common Country Analyses of Azerbaijan, Belarus,

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, among others

During the year, the Europe and Central Asia Section strengthened cooperation with regional organizations, notably through close cooperation with the European Union (EU) institutions and Council of Europe, participation in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and in meetings with other regional groups and organizations. This included a workshop on the role of NHRIs in peacebuilding in Europe; the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) accreditation procedure involving NHRIs from Finland, Hungary, Russia and Ukraine; the High Commissioner's meeting with the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency and a retreat on UN reforms in Central Asia, organized by the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and Resident Coordinators in Bishkek.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR ensured that targeted support was provided to missions of the High Commissioner, including to Amsterdam/the Hague, Berlin, Dublin, Ljubljana, Luxembourg, Porto/Lisbon, St. Petersburg and Stockholm. Support was also provided to other high-level missions, including those of the Deputy High Commissioner to Belfast, Copenhagen, Scotland and the Hague.

## BELARUS

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
9.45 million	208,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.817 (rank: 50/188 in 2018)	NA
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser		
<b>Year established</b>	2018		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Minsk		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	1		

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$275,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>123</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – Strengthened provision of legal aid to groups in vulnerable situations, including women victims of violence, Roma, persons with disabilities. Strengthened use of oversight mechanisms for places of detention and increased use of alternatives to detention.**

**16**

The Office contributed to improving the compliance of drug policy and legislation, oversight mechanisms for detention and the use of alternatives to detention with international human rights standards.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR continued advocating for bringing drug policy and legislation in line with international human rights standards. The Office prepared an advocacy strategy on the drug policy in Belarus, which the UN

Resident Coordinator (RC) and UNCT used systematically during the reporting period. The Resident Coordinator significantly increased advocacy in this area, including by sending two letters to the Parliament, meeting with civil society representatives and convening a joint UN briefing for the diplomatic community. Following advocacy that was undertaken by the UN and civil society on the inclusion of drug offenders in the Amnesty Law, those convicted under article 328 (1), (2) and (3) were included in the draft law that was eventually adopted. According to its provisions, minors convicted under article 328 (part 1-3) of the Criminal Code of Belarus were granted a reduction of their sentences.

In July, the Office organized a study visit on drug policy for Belarussian authorities. The objective of the visit to Lisbon,

Portugal was to introduce participants to progressive Portuguese practices in the field of anti-drug legislation, in particular relating to alternatives to detention and the use of a people-centred approach in medical services and rehabilitation. Sixteen participants representing a broad range of authorities involved in decision-making on drug-related issues visited the General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of the Interior. They also observed the implementation of the Mobile Low Threshold Methadone Programme and other successful practices that are being applied in Portugal. Following the study tour, OHCHR organized a consultation for the participants in the study visit and other relevant stakeholders on the “Implementation of drug policy in Belarus based on the

experience of the Republic of Portugal: Basic approaches and practices” to discuss the potential for their implementation in Belarus.

In addition, the Office organized consultations on the elaboration of the effective functioning of social rehabilitation centres for ex-offenders, in Belarus, in October. The three-day consultation brought together representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, local governments, NGOs, faith-based organizations and ex-offenders to develop a baseline assessment of the national system of re-socialization of ex-offenders. Based on the results, and in consultation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, OHCHR developed a road map determining the mechanisms for effective programming, including the functioning of the social adaptation centres for ex-offenders.

Furthermore, OHCHR organized a round-table, in November, on “The use of alternatives to imprisonment: International and national mechanisms and best practices” to increase the knowledge of international standards by representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Supreme Court, the General Prosecutor’s Office, UNICEF, the Confederation of European Probation, local NGOs and other stakeholders.

In December, the Office conducted a series of trainings for different target groups on the mechanisms of assistance that are available to offenders and ex-offenders in Belarus in order to strengthen the system of psychological assistance. The different target groups included staff from the Ministry of Internal Affairs with a background in psychology, psychologists of local departments of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and relevant NGOs and

faith-based organizations. In conjunction with the trainings, OHCHR facilitated an exchange of experiences between government authorities and NGOs. The findings formed the basis of a final report that was presented to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection. The report contains training modules that will be used by the Ministry for further training.



## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – A National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) is existing and working to a substantial extent.**

16 | 17

The Office supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in establishing a temporary mechanism, pending the establishment of a fully-fledged NMRF and contributed to the increased capacity of State officials to report to the Human Rights Committee.

Throughout 2019, the Office engaged in discussions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the establishment of an NMRF. While little progress was made towards its establishment, the Office assisted the Ministry in setting up an informal group of focal points on human rights that will support the reporting and follow-up process, consult with civil society and assist with other reporting and follow-up tasks.

The Office facilitated a number of technical meetings on engaging with and reporting to the Human Rights Committee. In May, a member of the Human Rights Committee met with government and civil society representatives to discuss follow-up to the concluding observations that were issued by the Committee in November 2018. In July 2019, a technical-level online meeting was held between

government legal experts and two members of the Human Rights Committee to discuss cooperation challenges. Finally, OHCHR experts delivered a tailored training to State officials, in December, regarding improved reporting to the Human Rights Committee.



## Participation (P)

**P6 – UN and Government consistently consult with human rights and gender equality civil society when planning, implementing and evaluating programming.**



The Office facilitated the participation of stakeholders representing various rights-holders in dialogue with government and UN partners on key human rights issues, including LGBTI rights, migrants’ rights, rights of persons with disabilities and the prevention of torture.

Throughout the reporting period, the Office facilitated dialogue on key human rights issues in Belarus between stakeholders representing different groups of rights-holders, government and UN partners. In January, OHCHR convened meetings between LGBTI groups and UNICEF, between migrants’ rights organizations, IOM and UNHCR and between medical rights NGOs and WHO. OHCHR organized consultations with human rights civil society organizations on the Government’s Concept of the National Sustainable Development Strategy, and a meeting of human rights CSOs with the UN Resident Coordinator. In April, a round-table was organized for government and civil society participants in relation to a draft law on the rights of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, the Office and civil society partners co-organized a round-table discussion

on torture prevention and National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) that was held on 26 June, International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. In addition, OHCHR supported a training on non-discrimination for police officers and law enforcement officials in mass sporting events, held in May. The training was specifically tailored to the second European Games hosted by Belarus, in June. It covered practical aspects of a human-rights based approach to law enforcement during mass sporting events.

## CENTRAL ASIA (BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN)

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
<b>Year established</b>	2008
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Bishkek, with field offices in Nur-Sultan, Almaty (Kazakhstan); Osh (Kyrgyzstan); Dushanbe (Tajikistan) and the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia in Ashgabat (Turkmenistan)
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	12

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$475,181</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$2,005,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$666,741</b>	
	Personnel	Non-personnel
	<b>38%</b>	<b>51%</b>
	\$255,512	\$342,128
		PSC*
		<b>10%</b>
		\$69,100
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$722,383</b>	
	Personnel	Non-personnel
	<b>87%</b>	<b>13%</b>
	\$629,473	\$92,911

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



\* Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Accountability (A)

A1 – Institutions that train judges, law enforcement officials, the staff of security-related agencies, or lawyers, and other educational institutions, include human rights in their training as a matter of course.

**16** 

The Office contributed to institutionalizing human rights training for law enforcement officials and State

authorities involved in criminal justice processes. Lawyers received training on the right to peaceful assembly, criminal justice and non-discrimination.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, as a result of capacity-building initiatives and training of trainers by the Office, 29 staff (16 women and 13 men) of six State training centres increased their capacity. Trained participants from three of those centres initiated training on human rights

norms and standards for their staff. With OHCHR support, 29 trained staff of the six training centres developed their own training manual for Kyrgyzstan in Russian and translation into Kyrgyz will be completed in 2020. Furthermore, 29 participants (16 women, 13 men), including judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police officers, representatives of the State Security Committee and the Penitentiary Service, completed a training programme on international human rights standards with a focus on ethnic minorities and vulnerable groups.

Following a commitment expressed by the State Training Centres, in 2018, to institutionalize a comprehensive training programme on non-discrimination in Kyrgyzstan, OHCHR secured a preliminary agreement, in 2019, to do so. The Academy of the Ministry of the Interior designated a separate room to be used as a resource centre for human rights and OHCHR supported the centre with promotional materials on human rights-related topics. Starting in 2020, the manual on human rights and non-discrimination developed by the 29 staff of six training centres will be used at the centre for teaching international human rights law to police inspectors and officers.

In **Tajikistan**, OHCHR's primary national partner, the Union of Lawyers, committed to integrating human rights into the training programme of the Lawyers' Training Centre. The Office supported the First Penitentiary Forum of Tajikistan, which was conducted in cooperation with the Main Directorate for the Execution of the Criminal Sentences of the Ministry of Justice, UNODC, Penal Reform International, the OSCE, the EU and other partners. The Forum issued recommendations for legislative and practical measures for a comprehensive reform of the penitentiary system of Tajikistan.

Participants called for establishing a NPM, promoting the application of an HRBA to reforming the prison system and applying alternatives to imprisonment.



## Development (D)

**D7 – When they implement the SDGs and other development plans, more Central Asian States and UN Country Teams adopt a human rights-based approach and the recommendations of human rights mechanisms.**



The Office contributed to the satisfactory integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the national frameworks for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Central Asia.

In 2019, OHCHR continued contributing to the integration of human rights into national frameworks for the SDGs by supporting the establishment of appropriate structures and defining indicators at the national level in all five Central Asian countries for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the SDGs.

Disaggregated and quality data remains a primary challenge in the region, due in large part to the lack of sufficient quality and inclusiveness of its collection, monitoring and evaluation, coupled with the insufficient knowledge and skills of professionals at the national level. To this end, the Office continued its efforts to strengthen the capacity of national stakeholders through the organization of training sessions for State officials, the NMRFs, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), CSOs and UN staff on the application of an HRBA in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

All capacity-building activities related to international human rights mechanisms included a session on human rights in the context of the 2030 Agenda with the aim of decreasing the burden of State reporting, improving data gathering, enhancing the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights machinery and achieving SDG targets. It also contributed to leveraging synergies between human rights reporting, improving the quality and human rights and gender sensitivity of national SDG indicators and their introduction into national policy documents on sustainable development.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, OHCHR organized three capacity-building sessions, including for the NMRF on human rights in the 2030 Agenda, “Leaving No One Behind” within the framework of trainings on reporting to CESC, CRC and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and for a coalition of CSOs on CEDAW. In **Turkmenistan**, the Office supported the elaboration of a road map on the implementation of recommendations issued by CEDAW, CESC and the UPR. In addition to the activity-specific indicators, the road map contains appropriate SDG indicators, which will enhance the mutual reinforcement of human rights and SDG reporting, thereby setting an example of a good practice for other Central Asian States. In **Uzbekistan**, the Office through the UNCT, advised State authorities on developing national SDG indicators and advocating for the development of supplementary human rights indicators to strengthen the implementation of the SDGs that are aligned with international human rights law. OHCHR delivered a separate training for members of the expert group of the national SDG coordination body, representatives of legislative, judicial and executive branches, NHRIs and NMRFs on an HRBA to SDGs, focusing on indicators and data disaggregation.

The training session helped to enhance expertise at the national level and encouraged discussions about improving national SDG indicators from the human rights perspective.

During the reporting period, the Office provided necessary expert support for the implementation of the current United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and the development of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan that will start in 2021, to ensure that an HRBA is applied to programming in all five countries. This support included the organization of information sessions on the application of an HRBA to data, the participation of the Office in all main working groups and retreats at the national level, the provision of inputs and expert support regarding the elaboration of Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and the organization of consultation processes with civil society. It also provided expert and technical support to UNCTs on how to achieve the SDGs at the national level, including through comments on national development policy documents, suggested legislative amendments and contributions to or the organization of awareness-raising and capacity-building events. In Kyrgyzstan, OHCHR contributed to the UNCT Roadmap on SDGs and the UNCT Action Plans on the Voluntary National Review and the SDGs for the National Statistical Office.

The Office continued to support all five UNCTs in the region with technical guidance on outcomes of their past cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms and potential future opportunities, including possible avenues for advocacy on the implementation of their recommendations at the national level. The Office facilitated

the engagement of the UNCTs with the international human rights mechanisms inter alia, by providing assistance with the preparation of joint UN submissions to a number of mechanisms, namely, the UPR in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The Office also supported the organization of UNCT briefings or delivered its own briefings with relevant committees prior to the adoption of their respective lists of issues and constructive dialogues.

In light of the administrative challenges faced in accessing UMOJA in the field, it was not possible to carry out the planned training of trainers for UNCT members or the Resident Coordinators at the subregional level in 2019. Instead, the Office incorporated HRBA sessions into a training for UNCTs on cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms that was held in Uzbekistan, in May, at a Central Asian retreat for Resident Coordinators, in June, and at a stand-alone training for UNCT members and national partners that was held in Kazakhstan, in October. Similar training sessions will take place in 2020 to cover all countries in the region.

As part of a cooperative effort between OHCHR and the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub on an HRBA to Data, OHCHR delivered a session on human rights indicators and the Universal Human Rights Index for 14 women and seven men representing the SDG Coordination Group and civil society organizations from Armenia.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – National mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (NMRFs) successfully fulfil their mandates; they engage with international human rights mechanisms, and coordinate reporting and follow up, and to that end consult with relevant national actors and share information with them and with the public.**



The Office contributed to strengthening national mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures, the HRC and the UPR.

During the reporting period, the Office continued providing assistance aimed at strengthening the mandate and capacities of NMRFs, as well as their cooperation with civil society in the region. This included sharing expertise on the ratification of outstanding treaties, strengthening legal frameworks on NMRFs and capacity-building for NMRF staff, ministerial focal points, NHRIs and civil society members on how to improve government engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and improve the efficacy of follow-up to recommendations. Expert support was also provided in relation to the elaboration of implementation plans and advocacy for the National Recommendations Tracking Database in all five countries.

OHCHR advocated for the ratification of outstanding human rights treaties by Central Asian States, particularly CRPD and OP-CAT, both directly and through UNCTs and Resident Coordinators. As a result of OHCHR's sustained advocacy, **Kyrgyzstan** ratified CRPD, in May. To support the implementation of CRPD, OHCHR contributed to UNCT comments

on the CRPD National Action Plan with regard to immediate actions to be taken following the ratification. It also provided its comments to the draft Decree on the Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and will continue providing further post-ratification support in 2020. The CRPD ratification process advanced in **Tajikistan** and **Uzbekistan**, where high-level discussions took place in October and December, respectively. Several events were carried out in Uzbekistan to promote the ratification of OP-CAT and develop preventive monitoring by the Office of the Ombudsperson in cooperation with civil society.

Following advocacy that was undertaken by the Office, a Decree on the Coordination Council on the Human Rights under the Government of Kyrgyzstan (CCHR) was amended in February, in order to enhance its work in relation to reporting. More specifically, to eliminate the problem of late reporting, OHCHR assisted the NMRF to develop a draft Decree on reporting and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR, which will be adopted in 2020. In Uzbekistan, after the President's Decree was adopted in December 2018, the Office provided advice on the implementation of the new provisions and shared relevant good practices from other States in the region and around the world. Following OHCHR's suggestion, the National Human Rights Centre (NHRC) visited Georgia, in December, to exchange examples of good practices on cooperation with the Parliament. OHCHR's advocacy led to the adoption of the Presidential Decree of 13 December 2019, which enhanced the capacity and role of the NHRC in monitoring, implementation of human rights obligations and reporting to international human rights mechanisms.

In Tajikistan, the Office supported the Government in developing the draft National Human Rights Strategy 2030 by facilitating inclusive consultative meetings of members of the governmental Working Group (WG), CSOs and international organizations. A draft strategy covering 23 thematic areas was developed in accordance with an HRBA. The draft seeks to prioritize human rights and freedoms in public policy, which has the potential to influence the direction of legislative development and law enforcement practice. The WG and CSOs that are supported by OHCHR will start drafting a National Action Plan at the beginning of 2020 to implement the draft strategy. It is anticipated that once the documents are finalized, they will be adopted in 2020.

Capacity-building and expert support that was provided in relation to reporting to international human rights mechanisms in Central Asian countries included assistance with reports to CESCR, CRC, the Human Rights Committee and the UPR. In addition, expert support was provided for Kyrgyzstan's report to CMW, Tajikistan's follow-up report to CAT and in two training sessions on CEDAW reporting for HRDs and the NRMF Working Group from Uzbekistan. As a result of capacity-building and advocacy work undertaken by the Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA), the rate of late reporting to the treaty bodies significantly decreased. By the end of 2019, Kyrgyzstan had finalized its only outstanding report to the treaty bodies (CCPR), which should be submitted at the beginning of 2020.

In Uzbekistan, ROCA contributed to building the capacity of a national working group tasked with drafting the sixth periodic report to CEDAW during a training workshop that was held in March. The workshop improved cooperation and coordination between relevant State

bodies, the NHRI and civil society on the implementation and systematic monitoring progress achieved with regards to CEDAW's concluding observations that were issued in 2015 and the related national action plan for 2017-2020. In December, a total of 31 NHRC staff members and human rights focal points in various State authorities (16 women, 15 men) were trained on the individual communications procedure during a two-day training session organized by the Office. OHCHR will continue its advocacy on establishing an effective follow-up to the Human Rights Committee's Views on individual communications. Currently, there is no institutionalized approach or relevant legal provisions to provide guidance on the implementation of the Human Rights Committee's Views.


**Participation (P)**

P1 – Civil society organizations, human rights defenders, and marginalized groups increasingly claim their rights and promote the rights of their constituencies, and can participate more freely in public life.


**16**

The Office contributed to the increased use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards by building the capacity of stakeholders on using strategic litigation, supporting training programmes for underrepresented minorities in State institutions and human rights defenders.

In **Kazakhstan**, OHCHR enhanced the awareness of and the capacity of stakeholders to use strategic litigation by providing technical assistance in relation to access to information, organizing training for lawyers and representatives of civil society organizations facilitated by two international experts, organizing a workshop for strategic litigation practitioners and producing a draft manual on strategic litigation. Development of the manual will be completed in 2020.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, participants of an OHCHR Strategic Litigation School have taken up 14 strategic cases as of the end of 2019. Five of these cases relate to discrimination in various spheres and seven relate to other human rights issues. One participant won a case at the Constitutional Court in relation to recent legal reforms, which had been initially discussed during the school sessions with a programme mentor. As a result of this case, the Constitutional Chamber declared the norm of the new Code of Violations to be unconstitutional, according to which the decision of the court of first instance

is final and not subject to appeal. Another case relating to the murder of a prosecutor was handled by a judge who was undergoing pretrial investigation. Although he was not legally competent to hear criminal cases at the time, he reviewed the case and handed down a sentence. Overall, 32 participants (17 women, 15 men), including lawyers and civil society activists, benefited from interactions with international experts on various topics and long-term support from two national experts. All international trainers agreed to remain available as a “pool of experts,” enabling participants to contact them with follow-up questions and obtain feedback on litigation strategies regarding public interest cases.

In 2019, as part of an ongoing OHCHR-supported programme to address the underrepresentation of certain rights-holders in public administration in Kyrgyzstan, 82 interns (55 women, 35 men, seven persons with disabilities) completed four-month internship programmes in State and local administration departments in three southern regions of the country. A total of 50 per cent of the interns were from ethnic minorities and 50 per cent were women. Seven individuals identified as persons with disabilities. Within the context of the programme, OHCHR worked with the State Personnel Service of Kyrgyz Republic to increase awareness about the need for specific measures to address underrepresentation. As part of the internship programme, the interns participated in a four-day training on human rights, equality and non-discrimination. OHCHR also trained 54 programme mentors (24 women, 30 men) on the same topics. Representatives of State agencies and civil society discussed the right of minorities to participate in public life and the institutionalization of the

internship programme at a round-table, “Sustainable mechanisms for internships in the national and local government in the Kyrgyz Republic” on 21 November in Bishkek.

Kyrgyzstan continues to develop the Concept of National Identity “Kyrgyz Jarany”. In December, the draft Concept was amended and made more compliant with human rights as a result of technical expertise on human rights issues, in particular the principles of non-discrimination and protecting minority rights, that OHCHR provided to the State Agency for Local Self-Governance and Interethnic Relations. Furthermore, the Office facilitated the coordination of comments from UN partners on the structure of the abovementioned Concept of National Identity, which included basic guarantees of minority rights, access to justice and equal participation in public life. OHCHR will continue to offer support and guidance in 2020.

In 2019, an OHCHR course on multicultural education was made an elective item in three universities in Kyrgyzstan. Capacity-building was provided in other locations and was available in six higher educational institutions as of the end of 2019. OHCHR adapted its training manual for two professions, namely: law-related (such as lawyers and police officers) and public administration. The course has been institutionalized at the Osh State University through mentorship hours, which involve professional personal development activities aimed at broadening the outlooks of students, and through selective courses.

OHCHR raised awareness about the existence of discrimination in the labour sphere and existing gaps in legislation and law enforcement practices. The NGO Adilet, with the financial and expert support of OHCHR, completed its analysis

of legislation and law enforcement practices in the field of labour in Kyrgyzstan. Results were shared with various government bodies, NGOs, trade unions, experts and journalists, at a round-table event organized by the NGO Adilet together with OHCHR. In Kyrgyzstan, at least 866 individuals received legal advice and 107 legal cases were brought before the courts as a result of assistance provided by OHCHR to CSOs and legal clinics at third-level institutions. This support enabled them to provide free, qualified legal assistance, with a focus on cases of non-discrimination and violent extremism. Four legal analyses, which assess the compliance of national legislation with international human rights standards, have been produced as a result of the initiatives.

In **Tajikistan**, six human rights defenders received expert advice from OHCHR regarding the possibility of submitting their cases to the international human rights mechanisms. The cases related to the use of torture, unfair trial, arbitrary detention and kidnapping.

In **Uzbekistan**, the Office continued supporting civil society organizations to participate in public life and claim the rights of their constituents. In 2019, the Office facilitated the participation of civil society representatives in expert consultations that were jointly organized with the International Commission of Jurists on CRPD and the rights of persons with disabilities regarding the right to adequate housing. The Office also ensured inclusion of independent human rights activists into public hearings on ratification of the CRPD organized jointly with OSCE. Moreover, the Office supported training for human rights defenders from Uzbekistan on UN human rights standards relating to the rights of women and the rights of the child, the rights of persons with disabilities, advocacy with

State authorities, freedom of association and assembly, human rights monitoring and reporting and engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. The trained participants received continuous online mentoring and information on human rights standards throughout the year. The Office promoted the participation of the trained human rights defenders in national consultations with civil society on the new UNSDCF for 2021-2025 and advocated for the constructive engagement of human rights defenders with various State authorities, including the Office of the Ombudsperson.

In July, OHCHR collaborated with the Open Society Foundations and the Soros Foundation in Kyrgyzstan to enhance networking among Central Asian NGOs working on the right to adequate housing. The Office supported the participation of five Uzbek civil society members who built their capacity in relation to applying an HRBA to adequate housing, relevant UN mechanisms to advance housing rights and with regard to advocacy and communication strategies at the national and international levels. A joint strategy for the regional network of NGOs was developed and will be further promoted by the Office during 2020.

## EUROPE

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	European Union and Member States of the European Union
<b>Year established</b>	2009
<b>Field presence(s)</b>	Brussels
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	n/a
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	8

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$958,300</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$1,038,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$863,642</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC*
	<b>39%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>12%</b>
	\$337,778	\$426,456	\$99,408
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$940,011</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	
	<b>82%</b>	<b>18%</b>	
	\$772,953	\$167,058	

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



\* Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Development (D)

D7 – EU institutions further integrate human rights and a human rights-based approach in EU external development programming. The EU and UN Brussels team further integrate a human rights approach in their work on the Sustainable Development Agenda.



The Office contributed to improving the compliance of the EU institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

During 2019, the Office continued to promote a rights-based approach into the

work of the EU institutions and the UN Brussels Team (UNBT).

In March, OHCHR co-organized a panel at the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region entitled “Leave No One Behind: Driving policies through data and a human rights-based approach,” to present and illustrate the linkages between human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

To sensitize and engage the incoming European Parliament on the Sustainable Development Goals and its linkages with

human rights, the UNBT, composed of 25 UN entities, including the Regional Office for Europe in Brussels, invited candidates standing for the European Parliament elections, to sign a 10-point pledge to “Leave No One Behind”. By the end of 2019, 67 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) had signed the pledge to personally defend human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights. Many more joined the pledge as it remained open for signature throughout 2020.

At the request of the European Commission and the External Action Service of the European Union (EEAS), the Office continued to invest in human rights training of EU delegations and staff of the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO). Following the 2018 launch of the manual "Making a difference: An introduction to human rights", it was reprinted in 2019 in English and French, and translated into and printed in Spanish. A total of 275 copies, in all three languages, were provided to DEVCO for distribution to development staff in EU delegations and to participants of the twenty-first EU-NGO Human Rights Forum, which was held in December.

In addition, 30 staff members from EU delegations, the UNECE and the EEAS increased their knowledge about trade and human rights through a training delivered by the Office. During 2019, the Office also collaborated with DEVCO, three briefings for EU staff and the general public: on the G5 Sahel's human rights compliance framework; OHCHR's work in Syria; and, jointly with UN Women, women human rights defenders.



## Non-discrimination (ND)

ND3 – EU legal and policy frameworks increasingly protect women and girls from violence in the digital space.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of compliance of EU legislation and policies in the area of violence against women in the digital space with international human rights norms and standards through advocacy and by providing expert legal advice.

The online harassment of HRDs, in particular women human rights defenders, was a key concern raised at the Office's conference on "Protecting Civic space in the European Union" in October, which included the participation of the UN Special Adviser on Hate Speech, the Vice-President of the European Parliament, the Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU, representatives of the European Commission and human rights defenders from across the region. For the first time, social media companies Facebook and Twitter joined an open discussion about online harassment of human rights defenders in Europe. This enabled an exchange of views on finding a balance between protecting freedom of expression and combating hate speech and online bullying and the need for social media companies to develop a response in accordance with human rights standards.

The conference recommended that any new legislation in the EU relating to online civic space should strictly define what constitutes prohibited content in accordance with ICCPR and ICERD. It was also suggested that consideration be given to the adoption of EU legislation to combat violence and abuse against women online. As a result of its

participation in the conference, the EU's Fundamental Rights Agency expanded its survey on civic space as a follow-up to its 2018 report entitled "Challenges facing civil society organizations working on human rights in the EU", to include questions about online harassment of HRDs in general, and women in particular. In November, OHCHR's Regional Office for Europe was invited to highlight the human rights-based perspective at the Women's Network of European Socialist Parties event on "Breaking the silence on online violence against women," which focused on the consequences of women withdrawing from political life on account of online harassment. The then incoming European Commissioner for Equality attended the event and pledged to take action to tackle online violence against women.

In October, the Regional Office's first public event, jointly organized with the European Network of Equality Bodies on the post-#MeToo era, and the subsequent joint conference on the role of European equality bodies in combating sexual harassment at work, with the participation of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequence, helped to take stock of progress, identify obstacles, and empower equality bodies to take up individual complaints.

Through an Infopoint open to the public, the Office worked with DEVCO and UN Women to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the rights of women HRDs globally and highlighted the work of OHCHR field presences to create more space for women human rights defenders through reporting, advocacy and the facilitation of dialogue between State institutions and civil society.


**Participation (P)**

**P5 – National, regional and international actors act promptly and more effectively to protect civic space, especially in Hungary and Poland.**



Critical human rights issues raised by OHCHR were taken up to a greater extent and in a timely manner by EU institutions.

The Office continued its sustained advocacy to respond to challenges to the rule of law and threats to civic space in the European Union. In 2019, the report of the Secretary-General on *Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights* highlighted cases of intimidation and reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations in three EU countries (Hungary, Poland and Malta). The concerns about legal restrictions on freedom of association, excessive administrative requirements, reduction in funding, the criminalization of solidarity, and the judicial harassment and stigmatization of dissenting voices are not limited to these countries. Throughout the year, the Office consistently raised its concerns with its EU counterparts, as well as through public pronouncements in numerous forums. The Office also maintained regular contact with civil society and media organizations on the ground.

In the second half of 2019, OHCHR worked closely with the Finnish EU Presidency to place concerns about civic space and the erosion of democracy on the agenda of EU decision makers. As a result, the Finnish presidency proposed stronger language on protecting civic space in the EU Justice and Home Affairs Council Conclusions, which were adopted in October. In the Conclusions, the Council recalls the importance of

removing and refraining from any unnecessary, unlawful or arbitrary restrictions on civil society space and acknowledges that transparent, sufficient and easily accessible funding is crucial for civil society organizations.

In October, the OHCHR regional conference on “Protecting civic space in the EU” created a platform for dialogue on civic space between EU decision makers and civil society and proved to be a key step in the process. The conference brought together 32 human rights defenders from 11 countries of the region with the Vice-President of the European Parliament, the Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU, various EU officials and social media companies. It brought to light common stories of intimidation, defamation, hate speech, smear campaigns and legal proceedings across Europe and called for increased protection. The conference helped CSOs to connect directly with EU policy and decision makers. The programme also enabled participants to share successful experiences with mobilizing popular support for human rights and using positive narratives, including through the effective use of social media, all of which are essential for the promotion of civic space.

Furthermore, the Office successfully worked towards strengthening the engagement of rights-holders, civil society, national human rights organizations and equality bodies with the international human rights mechanisms. In 2019, civil society organizations, NHRIs and equality bodies in Europe increasingly reached out to special procedures, which led to 64 communications sent to EU member states, compared to 57 in 2018 and 32 in 2017. This increase reflects both a greater awareness and understanding of the UN human rights mechanisms, as well as growing human rights concerns within the EU region.

## REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
4.04 million	34,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.711 (rank: 106/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2018
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser		
<b>Year established</b>	2008		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Chisinau		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Partnership Framework 2018-2022		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	3		

**XB requirements 2019**

**US\$1,208,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Participation (P)

**P6 – Vulnerable rights-holders, notably individuals with disabilities, participate more frequently and more fully in forming public policy and drafting laws, including by taking public office.**



OHCHR advanced meaningful participation of vulnerable rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

In 2019, OHCHR mobilized approximately 70 civil society organizations to join a national platform established by OHCHR in 2019 for monitoring international human rights recommendations. The online monitoring platform contains all of the recommendations that the Republic of Moldova has received from the international human rights mechanisms. The platform will be used

to assess the implementation of the recommendations by civil society, the NHRI and State actors, in order to generate an implementation rate index. During the reporting period, the Office facilitated the first assessment round, which resulted in the review of 50 per cent of all recommendations during 17 meetings of the 15 thematic monitoring groups of civil society organizations.

The Office also created a network for a group of 15 mothers of children from across the country with various types of disabilities, empowering them to advocate both for the rights of their children and for their own rights as caregivers. The mothers supported by OHCHR benefited from psychological counselling sessions with a professional psychologist to help them process any difficulties of having a child with disabilities and to

feel empowered about conducting advocacy actions. Several capacity-building events that were conducted by OHCHR enhanced their capacity to advocate for the rights of children with disabilities. The group of mothers became a genuine platform for promoting human rights by engaging in dialogue with State authorities, making television appearances and drafting advocacy documents to raise key issues faced by children with disabilities and their family members. In particular, the members of the platform highlighted some of their challenges in exercising the right to health at an event that included participants from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection and 11 mass media outlets.

#### Accountability (A)

**A1 – Law enforcement institutions have substantially improved systems and procedures that protect the human rights of women, persons with disabilities, victims of torture and ill-treatment, and Roma and other minorities.**

**16** 

OHCHR contributed to improving systems and procedures to protect the human rights of Roma and victims of torture by raising awareness, providing expert legal advice and enabling the functioning of international human rights mechanisms.

Based on research that was conducted by OHCHR in 2018 on the protection of the rights of victims of sexual violence, 56 lawyers increased their knowledge of legal strategies for working with victims of sexual violence. At the request of the National Institute of Justice, OHCHR delivered tailored information sessions on international standards on the rights of persons with disabilities, equality

and non-discrimination for at least 50 judges, prosecutors and judicial and prosecutor's assistants.

In 2019, a manual for Roma community mediators was co-produced by the Office and the National Association of Roma community mediators and drew on information gathered during multiple consultations with the two stakeholders of the Roma mediator system, namely, Roma community mediators and State authorities. In total, 31 Roma community mediators and State representatives (26 women, five men) were subsequently trained on the basis of the manual in 2019. As a result of this work, the network of Roma mediators strengthened their knowledge and skills in providing assistance to Roma and their association is now fully functional.

OHCHR partnered with social care staff from four temporary placement centres for adults with (primarily intellectual) disabilities to advocate for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment. In this context, over the past year, OHCHR conducted a training needs assessment of the 400 staff members from the four residential institutions. Based on the results, 64 employees (49 women, nine men) from the four institutions and the National Social Work Agency enhanced their knowledge on preventing and combating torture and ill-treatment. Furthermore, the Office initiated engagement with the law enforcement agency, the Moldovan General Inspectorate of Carabinieri, given their role in policing and in light of an absence of structured training on the use of force and the prevention of torture and ill-treatment. As of the end of 2019, two initial trainings, an analysis of the reporting mechanisms of torture cases and proposed improvements to those mechanisms had been drafted with support from the Office.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – A national mechanism implements and reports on outstanding international human rights commitments in an integrated and participatory manner.**



OHCHR continued supporting the two key national human rights mechanisms established in 2018 by facilitating learning and knowledge transfer in relation to engagement with human rights monitoring mechanisms.

Following the 2018 approval of the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) and the establishment of the Permanent Human Rights Secretariat as the mechanism for the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Plan, the Office continued building the capacity of the Secretariat, staff of the Ministry of Justice and local authorities throughout 2019. To this end, numerous capacity-building initiatives were conducted by OHCHR during the reporting period, including trainings, support for developing a mid-term evaluation of the NHRAP and a study visit to Georgia, during which the participants learned about good practices in establishing a fully-fledged NMRF.

In addition to the above, OHCHR continued to work towards promoting a more inclusive and non-discriminatory national media narrative under the Non-discrimination pillar.

## REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
2.08 million	26,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.759 (rank: 81/188 in 2018)	Status B, 2011
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser		
<b>Year established</b>	2007		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Skopje		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	1		

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:



#### Mechanisms (M)

**M2 – Civil society organizations engage systematically with the international human rights mechanisms.**



The Office significantly contributed to the substantial increase in the level of engagement of civil society organizations with the international human rights mechanisms through consistent capacity-building and advocacy efforts.

OHCHR continued working with civil society organizations to strengthen their capacity to systematically engage in the reporting process and follow up on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in an increasingly coordinated manner. In 2019, a record number of joint and individual reports were submitted in anticipation of North Macedonia's third UPR cycle. As a result, civil society organizations nominated a representative to attend and address the Working Group on the UPR, in January, and the Human Rights

Council, on 4 July, for the adoption of the Working Group's final outcome report.

The Office brought together civil society representatives for constructive quarterly meetings to discuss their experiences, outcomes and follow-up strategies related to the third UPR cycle. Participating organizations agreed to establish an informal follow-up coalition in order to collectively consider all recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The coalition presented its preliminary work at a workshop organized by the NMRF, with support from OHCHR, in May. The coalition has organized itself according to the clusters of recommendations that already frame the work of the NMRF. Two civil society organizations allocated their funding to the coordination of the coalition's activities and to support the preparation of joint, integrated inputs for the NMRF consultations on the draft Recommendations Implementation Plan, which were held at the end of December.

These results were largely due to OHCHR's capacity-building efforts over many years.

**M1 – The NMRF regularly gathers and disseminates information for purposes of reporting and implementation, and uses information management tools effectively. Its procedures ensure that it consults meaningfully with stakeholders, including civil society and people who are “left behind.”**

**16 | 17**

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which mechanisms are functioning for integrated reporting and/or the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

As part of a joint project with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), OHCHR supported the NMRF's Expert Working Group (EWG) involved in reporting and implementation tracking. This project received financial support from the 2018-2019 UPR Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance and the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme.

Despite a delay in the implementation of the project, the EWG strengthened its capacity and significantly contributed to improving the performance of the NMRF. Specifically, the NMRF supported the participation of a high-level State delegation in the third UPR cycle, in January, and the preparation of consolidated views from the Government on the recommendations. It also obtained the Government's approval for publishing the report of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture following its 2017 visit to the country, thereby enabling

monitoring of the follow-up. Based on the EWG's recommendation, North Macedonia joined the "Group of Friends of NMRFs," in July. In October, North Macedonia completed the ratification process for the 1961 UN Convention on Statelessness, as a follow-up to one of the recommendations issued during its third UPR cycle.

With OHCHR's support, following the completion of the third UPR cycle, in July, the EWG updated the list of integrated recommendations and drafted a new Recommendations Implementation Plan. For the first time, the NMRF shared the draft with civil society and organized a consultation at the end of 2019. The EWG also developed a proposal for the NMRF to request a dedicated page on the Government website and sought to introduce a system of annual and ad hoc consultations with civil society for reporting and follow-up tasks.

At the EWG's initiative, linkages were established between government coordination bodies concerned with human rights, namely, the National Sustainable Development Goals Council, the CRPD implementation mechanism and the national coordination body on non-discrimination, which were established in 2018. As a result, the Secretariat of the National SDG Council will use State reports and observations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in the preparation of the 2020 VNR of North Macedonia.

At the end of November, the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme subregional training for UN Country Teams (UNCTs) on Engagement with and Follow-up to Recommendations from International Human Rights Mechanisms was conducted in Skopje, in cooperation with the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and the Human Rights

Adviser. Eighteen staff members from the new RCOs and UN agencies from five Western Balkan countries participated in the training.

### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – Anti-discrimination and gender equality laws comply with international human rights standards and ensure effective protection from all forms of discrimination.



The Office contributed to the improved level of compliance of the newly adopted legislation on prevention and protection against discrimination with international human rights norms and standards, including by providing expert legal advice and advocating for compliance with recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The Parliament adopted a new Law on Prevention and Protection against Discrimination, in May, after long political debates. OHCHR used the opportunity of the State's third UPR report, in January, to liaise with and support civil society organizations to raise this issue with other Member States during the review. The resulting eight recommendations that were issued to expedite the adoption of the Law, coupled with advocacy undertaken by civil society after the review, contributed to the Parliament's decision to adopt the Law.

An assessment of the compliance of the Law with international human rights standards will take place in 2020. The adopted text, however, appears to fully incorporate OHCHR's comments and comply with international human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms that urged the State to address

the deficiencies of the 2010 Law. The new Law includes provisions related to persons with disabilities, explicitly lists sexual orientation and gender identity among the prohibited grounds of discrimination and clarifies definitions. Most importantly, it also strengthens the mandate and provisions for ensuring an independent and effective Commission for prevention and protection against discrimination, which were the weakest elements of both the previous Law and the national anti-discrimination framework.

Since the adoption of the Law, OHCHR has continued working with civil society to encourage their ongoing engagement in promoting and monitoring its implementation. As a result, civil society strongly reacted to the failure of the Parliament to appoint the new Commission by the August deadline, and publicly called upon the Parliament to respect the Law and the human rights standards incorporated in the text.

ND1 – National mechanisms to implement the Convention on the Rights of Disabled Persons (CRPD), and monitor its implementation, are effective, adequately resourced, and comply with international standards.



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are functioning.

The Office continued to build the capacity of the "National Coordination Body for the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" (NKT CRPD) in order to clarify the requirements and practical aspects

of coordination, based on the NMRF's model and experiences. OHCHR also provided technical guidance to both the NKT CRPD Secretariat and its members and participated in all key discussions it had organized. These efforts increased the understanding of the members about the Convention, while the participatory and transparent working methods strongly contributed to the NKT CRPD's recent achievements. In 2019, the NKT CRPD undertook several important initiatives that had been recommended during the initial CRPD review of North Macedonia, in August 2018. More specifically, it pushed forward the previously delayed application of the assessment conducted by the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health to record information on the functioning and disability of individuals at both the national and regional levels; took steps to amend legislation on construction with a view to upgrading the national physical accessibility standards and strengthening the oversight of their application; facilitated the Government's decision to make all public websites accessible; promoted the integration of inclusive education as a foundational principle in the development of new legislation on primary education; ensured that concerns of persons with disabilities are reflected in the Operational Plan of the National Strategy on the Implementation of the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention; and established a system of annual reporting related to the Operational Plan for the Implementation of the CRPD Recommendations, which was adopted in 2018. The first such annual report was published in October 2019.

Additional efforts are needed to improve the monitoring framework. The Ombudsperson was designated to perform the monitoring functions, together with persons with disabilities and their

organizations (OPDs), in August 2018. OHCHR advocated with civil society, UN and other partners to encourage the Ombudsperson to comply with the CRPD requirements. Consequently, in November 2019, the Ombudsperson agreed to start the process to fully establish the CRPD monitoring framework. OHCHR and the OSCE co-organized activities to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities, during which it clarified CRPD requirements for the national monitoring framework and publicly promoted the Office of the Ombudsperson as the entity designated to operationalize the monitoring framework. The aim was to ensure better understanding among potential future members and the wider public about the functions of the monitoring framework and emphasized the necessity of the full participation of persons with disabilities and their civil society organizations in the framework, including in its development. In 2019, OHCHR translated into local languages, printed and disseminated the OHCHR publication *Monitoring the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – Guidance for Human Rights Monitors* and the CRPD Committee's *Guidelines on independent monitoring frameworks and their participation in the work of the Committee*. OHCHR will undertake capacity-building activities for the CRPD monitoring framework in 2020.

**ND3 – National laws on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) protect women from SGBV and comply with international human rights standards.**



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of the Law on Prevention and Protection against Gender-Based Violence with

international human rights norms and standards.

The first draft of the Law, which has been open for public comments since late November, incorporates most of the international human rights standards and addresses relevant recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. As a result, it is anticipated that the final draft, which is expected to be adopted by mid-2020, will be compliant with international human rights standards and ensure that effective protection is available to women victims of gender-based violence.

The drafting process began in December 2018, under the lead of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, which established a participatory Working Group of representatives from relevant government offices and civil society, independent experts and international organizations, including three UN agencies, namely, UN Women, UNFPA and UNHCR. The Ministry of Labour and Social Policy kept OHCHR informed and solicited guidance during the key stages of the drafting process.

While the primary aim of the Law is to facilitate the implementation of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention), ratified by North Macedonia at the end 2017, OHCHR has ensured that the Working Group is also aware of the relevant international human rights standards and obligations of the State, including CEDAW Committee's guidance and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In addition to supporting the UN members of the Working Group, the OHCHR Human Rights Adviser provided comprehensive comments on the "0" draft of the law produced by the Working Group, in

August. This helped the Working Group to sharpen its focus on compliance with international human rights standards and ensure the inclusion of provisions on effective prevention and protection. OHCHR will continue to support the drafting and adoption process throughout 2020.

**ND4 – Increased public recognition of the need to combat child marriage as a harmful practice.**



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of engagement of selected groups supporting human rights messages.

The 2019 focus of the UNCT and UN agencies on early marriage shifted when preparations began for the new Common Country Analysis and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. Following the OHCHR briefing on the joint CEDAW-CRC General Recommendation/General Comment on Harmful Practices, the UNCT Human Rights and Gender Theme Group discussed possible options for joint UNCT advocacy and action. UN colleagues agreed that it would be best to address the issue through the new UNSDCF. Since CCA preparations began in December, further contributions could not be made.

Civil society used the occasion of North Macedonia's third UPR cycle, in January, to lobby other UN Member States about this issue. As a result, two specific recommendations were made to the Government to eradicate the phenomenon of early marriage as a matter of priority. In June, the State accepted both recommendations and assigned their implementation to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. Despite

OHCHR's support and civil society advocacy, no concrete measures have yet been put in place. After the Government accepted the UPR recommendations and agreed to amend legislation to prohibit marriages for individuals under 18 years of age, no further action has been taken by partners or requested from OHCHR.

### **Development (D)**

**D8 – The State collects reliable data systematically and in a timely manner on the situation of women and groups at risk of discrimination.**



OHCHR contributed to the improvement of the compliance of two selected State institutions/programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

The UNCT, government partners and the NMRF became more familiar with the rights-based approach to data and the benefits of its application. Technical advice on human rights indicators was provided for the UNCT activities supporting the national SDG process and the VNR of the SDGs implementation. The UNCT decided not to conduct the mid-term review of the current UNDAF in light of the fact that it is required to evaluate the UNDAF while preparing the CCA for the new UNSDCF 2021-2025.

To support a rights-based preparation of the CCA and the new UNSDCF, the Human Rights Adviser updated the internal matrix for the UNCT to reflect the most recent UN human rights recommendations that have been issued, including the outcome of the third UPR cycle and the recommendations outlined in the reports of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, which were made public in 2019. To further support the UNCT and its partners to effectively

make linkages with the SDGs, the Human Rights Adviser indexed all of the recommendations with respective SDGs and added a new cluster for SDG-specific recommendations.

OHCHR used several opportunities to familiarize its partners with the OHCHR Guidance Note on data collection and disaggregation and noted how it could support programming and implementation of the SDGs and human rights obligations. Notably, these opportunities included a training on the preparation of the VNR that was organized by UNDP for the Government, in August, and a training for the NMRF, in April. As a member of the Government-led National Coordination Body on Non-discrimination (NKT AD), the Human Rights Adviser presented the OHCHR Guidance Note at the NKT AD's thematic forum, in March. As result, the NKT AD used the OHCHR Guidance Note to conduct analysis on data collection. The results and recommendations were presented to the Government in November.

## RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
145.87 million	17,098,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.824 (rank: 49/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2014
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Human rights staff (Other type of field presence)	
<b>Year established</b>		2008	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Moscow	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		n/a	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		5	

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$988,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Mechanisms (M)

**M2 – Awareness and knowledge about use of human rights mechanisms increased among NHRIs and government representatives.**

**17**

OHCHR supported greater awareness and use of international human rights mechanisms by NHRIs and government representatives from the Russian Federation.

In November, OHCHR organized and hosted the seventh edition of the annual human rights orientation programme, in Geneva, for Russian civil servants. The 12 participants (five women, seven men), from the Ministries of the Interior, Foreign Affairs, Justice, the Office of the Prosecutor General, the Federal Penitentiary Service and the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson, increased

their knowledge about the role of the international human rights mechanisms through interactive sessions with members of CAT and experts from OHCHR.

During the one-week programme, participants enhanced their understanding of the international human rights norms and standards on torture. They were also introduced to various OHCHR tools that outline the essential role of the international human rights machinery in preventing and combating torture and ill-treatment, including by strengthening the practical implementation of international norms at the national level.

#### Participation (P)

**P6 – Human Rights High Education Programmes expanded and institutionalized in the regions of Russian Federation and selected CIS countries.**



OHCHR contributed to improving the narrative on human rights by raising awareness about and integrating human rights into university curricula across the Russian Federation and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries.

The Human Rights Master's Programme is the first Master's programme in the field of human rights in Russia and is supported by OHCHR. Building on the progress achieved in the past five years, the curricula of the Human Rights Master's Programme were enhanced through the elaboration of new teaching materials. In 2019, three new courses were developed, including one on the SDGs and human rights, a second on the international protection of social, economic and cultural rights and a third on the international legal aspects of limitations on human rights. As of the end of 2019, all three courses were available in distance-learning format.

In 2019, the Human Rights Master's Programme Consortium finalized two new collective authorship textbooks on the international protection of social, economic and cultural rights (printed at the end of 2019) and on international protection of the rights of children.

The Consortium explored possibilities for a further expansion of the Programme to the south of Russia and CIS countries. In Uzbekistan, 36 representatives (11 women, 25 men) from Uzbek law schools, relevant line ministries and State agencies learned about OHCHR's experience of developing the

Human Rights Master's Programme with the Consortium of Russian universities. Participants also learned how human rights education can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In June, the VII Summer School on Human Rights, the largest annual human rights education event in Russia, was held in Perm and was hosted by the Consortium, with the support of OHCHR. The week-long Summer School was dedicated to the SDGs and the role of human rights in their achievement. Participants included 212 students from nine universities based in seven Russian regions, 30 eminent national and international professors, the Director of the OHCHR Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division, human rights defenders and experts from the UN human rights treaty bodies. As part of the Summer School, a round-table on business and human rights was jointly organized with the Global Compact Local Network in Russia. The event focused on promoting respect for human rights by businesses in compliance with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The sixth European Moot Court competition, held in partnership with "Plaidier les droits de l'homme" and the International Human Rights Film Festival "Stalker", was an integral component of the Summer School outreach programme.

In addition, the Consortium organized its tenth anniversary celebration event with the participation of rectors of the Consortium, the Federal Ombudsperson and different regional ombudspersons and representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education. The event emphasized that the success of the Human Rights Master's Programme is due to the fruitful cooperation between Russian universities, OHCHR, NHRIs

and the Government. It also provided an opportunity for the Consortium to present its achievements and for programme alumni to share their stories.



### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – NHRIs and civil society organizations significantly strengthen their anti-discrimination work, giving particular regard to domestic violence, gender equality, disability, and the rights of indigenous peoples. This work complies with international human rights standards.

5 10 16

The Office contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards in relation to the rights of indigenous peoples and minority rights.

OHCHR continued to build the capacity of indigenous peoples to undertake human rights advocacy and facilitated the selection of eight fellows (six women, two men) from five regions of the Russian Federation for the Russian-language component of the OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme. In 2019, the fellows improved their knowledge about the international human rights mechanisms, including how they apply to climate change and SDGs. As part of the programme, the fellows had the opportunity to exchange views with government officials, including representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Duma, the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson and staff from OHCHR and the UN Information Centre (UNIC).

Led by OHCHR, the UN Gender Theme Group in the Russian Federation organized two major events to commemorate International Women's Day and International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, respectively. Representatives of UN agencies, the

Council of Europe, the State Duma, NGOs and lawyers, academics, human rights defenders, medical doctors and journalists exchanged experiences regarding means of countering violence against women following the 2017 amendments decriminalizing violence in domestic settings. Participants reiterated the critical role of treaty body recommendations and the need for relevant stakeholders to join efforts regarding their ongoing monitoring and implementation.

In collaboration with the UNIC, OHCHR organized a round-table, in December, on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The focus of the event was the role of mass media in covering disability-related issues, protecting the rights of persons with disabilities and the interaction between organizations of persons with disabilities and the media community. Over 30 representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities and journalists interacted with representatives from the State Duma, the CRPD Committee and the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson. Participants learned about the latest legislative changes related to the rights of persons with disabilities and the increased number of individual complaints that have been submitted to address the lack of accessibility in Russian regions.

Following anti-discrimination work that was undertaken before and during the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia, OHCHR finalized the "anti-discrimination legacy package," which is pending official approval by the Ministry of Sport. Together with UNESCO, the Office followed up with Moscow city authorities regarding their declared decision to join the Coalition of Cities against Racism, a network of cities interested in sharing their experiences to improve their policies to fight racism, discrimination and xenophobia.


**Development (D)**

**D8 – National institutions, assisted by communities, systematically collect, disaggregate and use data relevant for advancing human rights when they monitor and implement the SDGs.**



In May, in Moscow, OHCHR and the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson co-organized an expert round-table for the presentation of OHCHR’s publication *Human rights indicators: A guide to measurement and implementation*, which was translated into Russian. Participants, including over 30 representatives of the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson, various offices of regional ombudspersons, the Federal State Statistics Service, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, civil society and FAO, learned about developing indicators to measure progress in the implementation of international human rights norms and principles. Participants welcomed the translation of the publication into Russian, enabling regional ombudspersons to use a uniform UN methodology to prepare their reports. Following the round-table, the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson organized the dissemination of the publication through a network of regional ombudspersons in more than 80 constituent units of the Russian Federation.

As a follow-up to the Moscow launch of the publication, OHCHR and the Office of the Ombudsperson in St. Petersburg co-organized a workshop, in October, entitled “Human rights indicators and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” Participants included over 30 representatives from offices of regional ombudspersons from the North-West and the Central Federal Districts

and the St. Petersburg branch of the Federal State Statistics Service. The workshop increased the awareness of national stakeholders about guidance on human rights indicators and highlighted links between the SDGs and the human rights indicators frameworks. The sessions focused on addressing gaps in data collection, disaggregation and analysis and developing more systematic collaboration between human rights and national statistics institutions. This was followed by exchanges on the feasibility of human rights and SDGs indicators, the human rights approach to data and opportunities to strengthen collaboration with statistics institutions in the regions of the Russian Federation.

## SERBIA

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
8.77 million	88,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.799 (rank: 65/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2015
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser		
<b>Year established</b>	1996		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Belgrade		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Partnership Framework 2016-2020		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	2		

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$606,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – The judiciary more often and more comprehensively references international human rights law in domestic decisions.**

**16** 

OHCHR successfully promoted the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings and decisions. It did so by providing technical advice on the implementation of the first national curriculum for the application of international human rights law.

Following the piloting of this national curriculum, the Office continued its cooperation with the Judicial Academy and external experts to make the curriculum widely available to members of the judiciary operating in varied jurisdictions and with different affiliations. The online database to support the direct application of international human rights law,

first initiated in 2018, was further developed to provide a more comprehensive cross-referencing scheme, including in relation to the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights and well-systematized national legal sources, and to ensure that the database can be easily used by all levels of the judiciary on a daily basis. A second round of trainings on international human rights standards were provided to over 65 members of the judiciary (basic, higher and appellate courts and prosecution offices). Finally, four thematic manuals were published on the rights of persons with disabilities, asylum/migration, the rights of the child and non-discrimination and were distributed to courts across the country.

The follow-up to the trainings and OHCHR's online resources are case law markers, which for the first time enable the monitoring of court decisions that

directly apply UN treaty norms or refer to them in their narrative. The Supreme Court of Cassation and the Constitutional Court are developing the markers with the support of the Judicial Academy and OHCHR, which will ensure that trends in direct application of international human rights law are captured and measured over time.

Following the decision issued by the UN Committee against Torture, in August, related to the extradition from Serbia to Turkey of a Turkish political activist, two consultations were held in Belgrade and Nis with prosecutors, and judges of higher and appellate courts. The objective of the consultations was to gain first-hand knowledge about the importance of the decisions issued by the international human rights treaty bodies, encourage the revision of procedures and enhance the knowledge of acting judges regarding extradition and the non-refoulement principle.

In addition, the Office supported the monitoring of strategic cases in non-contentious proceedings concerning legal capacity. In 2019, an increase in the number of legal capacity reinstatements was reported. This can be attributed to a better understanding of the international human rights framework, the promotion of the universal right to legal capacity in capacity-development activities for the judiciary and direct support that was provided for those who were directly affected through regular cooperation with the CSO that provides free legal aid, with crucial support from OHCHR for several years. Furthermore, in 2019, the Supreme Court of Cassation handed down its first historic decision in a legal capacity case, through the extraordinary legal remedy of revision, with support from OHCHR.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) verifies that recommendations made by human rights mechanisms are implemented; it uses human rights indicators.**

16 17 

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced functioning of the mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

In addition to OHCHR's provision of consistent advisory and technical support for the Government's ongoing activities regarding reporting and follow-up during the year, the Office helped to strengthen the capacities of the NMRF in Serbia and advance the processes of cooperation between national mechanisms, civil society and other relevant actors. Moreover, tangible progress was made in the measurement of implementation, transparency, promotion and UPR follow-up.

OHCHR facilitated the participation of CSOs in regular sessions of the NMRF and their engagement with issues of particular relevance, such as the prohibition of torture, specific reporting exercises and follow-up to individual decisions. At the request of CSOs, the Office organized a series of thematic sessions between relevant line ministries and members of the NMRF that are focused on follow-up and the exchange of insights and information about accountability regarding specific processes or outcomes, thereby enabling greater systemic cooperation between the CSOs and the NMRF. OHCHR demonstrated that it continues to play a convening role that is key to bringing relevant actors to

the same table and securing outcomes that are acceptable to all parties.

Furthermore, with expert and technical support from OHCHR, the Government of Serbia, together with CSOs, developed a set of human rights indicators. An original online database was produced to reflect nearly 400 recommendations received from the international human rights mechanisms. The database includes an interactive feature that ensures that all indicators that measure progress, their level of implementation and all relevant collected data can be easily updated and monitored by the general public.

Serbia's NMRF model, which was developed with continuous guidance and support from OHCHR, is an example of a good practice for other States developing their national mechanisms.

Serbia's NMRF has subsequently committed to developing a UPR Implementation Action Plan, a Mid-Term Report on UPR implementation and a set of indicators for the thematic clustering of recommendations. These activities will commence in early 2020, with coordinated support from OHCHR.

## Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND1 – The Government adopts or reforms five policies, laws or practices that prevent or sanction discrimination in a manner that ensures they comply with human rights standards; in doing so, it pays particular attention to the rights of women, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons, Roma, and migrants and refugees.**

5 10 16 

The Office contributed to improving the level of compliance of policies and legislation with international human rights

norms and standards in five specific policy areas, including by providing expert legal advice to key partners.

More specifically, a proposal for the new National Strategy on Disability for 2020-2024 was finalized and, in December, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy coordinated official public discussions on the Strategy. It is anticipated that it will be adopted by the Government in early 2020. A draft of the National Anti-Discrimination Strategy for 2020-2025 and the respective Action Plan were finalized. An official public discussion is expected to begin in January 2020. A proposal was drafted for the Action Plan on Roma Inclusion, which followed a set of intense consultations with the Roma communities across the country. Amendments were also drafted for various sections of the Family Law, including those concerning the legal capacity deprivation regime, which are expected to be presented in a public discussion in early 2020. Finally, OHCHR was requested to provide specific guidance on the creation of the National Strategy on Combating Domestic Violence. The Office produced a background document that was informed by recent recommendations issued to Serbia by CEDAW and the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence as well as collected inputs from CSOs and women's organizations that were submitted in response to a set of questionnaires. The drafting of the policy is scheduled for January 2020 and will include expert and technical support provided by OHCHR.


**Participation (P)**

P6 – Organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), organizations of national minorities, and other human rights civil society organizations are more visible, are included consistently in relevant policy and decision-making, and engage more frequently with UN mechanisms and Agenda 2030.



OHCHR enhanced the level of meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and persons with disabilities, in selected public processes.

OHCHR contributed to achieving this result by helping to create space for CSOs in policymaking processes. For instance, over 30 OPDs and CSOs contributed to public discussions on the drafting of the new National Strategy on Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities 2020-2024. The drafting of the new Anti-Discrimination Strategy relied on inputs from CSOs through discussions and questionnaires; consultations that were held between CSOs and the Government on the draft Anti-Discrimination Law in 2019; consultations that were held between the Government, CSOs and women's organizations on the parameters of the new Strategy on Eradicating Domestic Violence; and the coordination and framing of the critical inputs of OPDs to the Family Law amendments regarding the legal capacity regime.

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**THE RIGHT TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY IN SERBIA: DONA'S STORY**


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Dona was born in 1954. Over the last 25 years, she has experienced violations of the right to a fair trial, the right to a private life, the right to legal capacity, the right to an independent life in a community and the right to dignity, all of which are guaranteed by the Constitution of Serbia and international human rights treaties.

It all began in 1993, when Dona was fully deprived of her legal capacity and the right to decide and make choices about her life, health and finances. For more than a decade, she was forced to live far away from her family, in a closed group home for persons with disabilities. In this institution, individuals reside against their will and experience inhumane treatment and conditions, due to a lack of support in their communities.

In 2015, with the help of her daughter and a CSO that partners with OHCHR, Dona was able to leave the institution and live independently, in her home, in Belgrade. She received regular check-ups from her doctor, made friends and enjoyed her freedom.

Yet, because she was still living under a guardianship, she did not have the legal right to make independent and autonomous decisions.

In 2019, through a programme coordinated by OHCHR in Serbia, and with the assistance of a lawyer, Dona claimed her rights before the court. Based on a long-standing medical approach in Serbia, of advocating for the removal of the legal capacities of persons with disabilities, psychiatrists involved in the case were hesitant to support the reinstatement of the legal capacity of a woman who had been diagnosed with a mental health problem. Nevertheless, her lawyer's arguments, which included references to international human rights law, and the topical knowledge of the judge, which was strengthened during OHCHR's judicial training workshops, resulted in a judicial decision that defied that approach.

In September, after 25 years, Dona was finally granted the right to make all decisions about her own life as a subject, not an object, of human rights law.

## SOUTH CAUCASUS

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Adviser based in Tbilisi, Human Rights staff in UNCT Azerbaijan
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan
<b>Year established</b>	2007
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Tbilisi, Georgia and Baku, Azerbaijan
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	UN Partnership for Sustainable Development 2016-2020 (Georgia) UN Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020 (Armenia) UN-Azerbaijan Partnership Framework 2016-2020
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	8

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$1,080,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Accountability (A)

A5 – The UN assistance efforts in the justice sector of the South Caucasus substantially integrate international norms and standards and the processes for discussing these issues are further institutionalized by the UN and the governments of the region.

**16**

OHCHR contributed to integrating international human rights norms and standards, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, into the UN common country programmes in the region.

In **Azerbaijan**, OHCHR continued leading the UNCT thematic group on human rights, and in August, coordinated and

supported the preparation of the joint UNCT report that was submitted to CESCR for its list of issues in anticipation of its consideration of Azerbaijan's fourth periodic report. The submission highlighted major concerns regarding the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Committee's concluding observations in 2016. Jointly with UNFPA, OHCHR provided support in updating the assessment of the implementation status of the recommendations issued by the UPR on sexual and reproductive health and rights, which will serve as an input for the Government's Beijing+25 National Review Report in 2020.

OHCHR actively participated in the formulation of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) for Azerbaijan and provided significant inputs related to the human rights situation in the country, including in the concluding observations issued by various international human rights mechanisms regarding Azerbaijan. OHCHR played a major role in ensuring that HRBA was applied in the process of the preparation of the CCA.

In May, the Office of the State Inspector was established in **Georgia**, following five years of advocacy efforts that were undertaken by OHCHR before the executive and legislative branches in co-operation with the NHRI and NGOs. The Office of the State Inspector has been designated as the independent institution responsible for the investigation of serious human rights abuses allegedly committed by law enforcement agencies. To this end, the State Inspector has taken over responsibility for the functioning of personal data protection that was formerly exercised by the Personal Data Protection Inspector. OHCHR presented a case study on the establishment process during the launch of the Office of the State Inspector that was held in June. The case study described the advocacy work that had been carried out by OHCHR, the NHRI and NGOs for the creation of the independent investigative mechanism, the criteria they had developed for the effective operation of the mechanism, earlier legislative efforts and the adequate financial resources that would be necessary for the investigatory function of the State Inspector's Office. The investigatory function of the State Inspector's Office was formally launched, in November, when the Office received sufficient funds from the State. In 2020, OHCHR will focus on building the capacity of the newly hired investigators and monitor the performance of the Office.

It will also monitor other factors affecting its performance, such as State funding and cooperation with other State institutions, especially the Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice's Penitentiary Service.

During 2019, OHCHR worked closely with other UN agencies, notably UN Women, to continue assisting the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) of Georgia. The Department was created in late 2017 and OHCHR was one of the first international actors to engage with the Department in order to strengthen its capacity and knowledge about international human rights standards. In March 2019, the Minister of Internal Affairs decided to expand the mandate of the Human Rights Department beyond the supervision of investigations into hate crimes, domestic violence and juvenile crimes to include supervision of the quality of the investigation of crimes against life and health. In June, OHCHR organized and facilitated a workshop for the MIA, the Office of the Prosecutor and NGOs on international human standards to assist the MIA Human Rights Department with this new function. The workshop established a common understanding about achievements, gaps, practical challenges and coordination needs. The participants agreed on the operational structure and the methods to be followed by the new Department, as well as a number of guidelines to be developed by OHCHR for the Human Rights Department for investigators and its staff tasked with monitoring the quality of the investigations of crimes against life and health. OHCHR will continue to engage with the Department and monitor its performance in fulfilling its mandate.

OHCHR participated in the initial stages of formulating the CCA for Georgia after attending a workshop on the validation

of the results of the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support mission and a retreat on launching the formulation process. At both events, OHCHR highlighted the human rights situation, recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, existing gaps and other factors that must be taken into account in the CCA. .

**A1 – The National Human Rights Action Plan in Georgia continues to comply with international human rights standards and is periodically updated to reflect recommendations of international and regional human rights mechanisms. The High School of Justice, the Police Academy and the Legal Affairs Committee in Parliament, as well as the Bar Association and its Training Centre in Georgia, deepen their knowledge of international human rights standards.**

16



The Office contributed to increased compliance of Georgian national institutions with international human rights norms and standards, including with regard to the use of new technologies in the context of the right to privacy and international standards on the prohibition of torture and the right to a fair trial.

OHCHR continued its engagement with several key institutions in **Georgia** to increase their awareness about international human rights standards. During the year, the most significant progress was made in OHCHR's engagement with the MIA and the police academy. In January, OHCHR finalized the development of the human rights module for the police academy. The 180-page module, developed by OHCHR, aims to increase the knowledge of MIA investigators on human rights-related internal and international standards. The module was discussed

with the leadership of the academy and the Head of the Ministry's Human Rights Department. Their mandates to ensure that human rights are respected in investigative processes and in preliminary detention were reinforced in 2018. The module was highly appreciated by the leadership of the police academy which pledged that all 1,100 investigators in the Ministry of Internal Affairs would receive training on the module. It was planned that OHCHR would begin by training the police academy lecturers in a training of trainers and joint trainings would be subsequently delivered to the 1,100 investigators. In March, OHCHR conducted the first training on the use of the module for 23 trainers from the police academy, three of whom were women. The training covered international human rights standards relevant to the investigation of criminal cases in the areas of domestic violence, torture and ill treatment, discrimination and the right to a fair trial. Following the training, the Human Rights Department presented OHCHR with statistics that indicated that the use of the module throughout the training period and during investigations led to improvements in the investigation process. It also reportedly resulted in an increased number of charges laid against suspects in cases of domestic violence and hate-motivated crimes that were often dismissed or classified as lesser crimes in the past. OHCHR conducted two further capacity-building workshops for the Human Rights Department and supplied it with materials on international human rights standards.

OHCHR continued its long-standing efforts to increase the knowledge of defence lawyers regarding international and applicable regional human rights standards. For all members of the Georgian Bar Association, completion of OHCHR's workshops counted towards

fulfilling their mandatory requirements for continuous professional training. In 2019, OHCHR conducted five capacity-building workshops for 86 members of the Bar (31 women, 55 men) to increase their knowledge of international standards on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, the right to a fair trial, prohibition of torture and ill-treatment, freedom of religion or belief and combating discrimination. The success of the workshops was evidenced during continuous trial monitoring that was conducted by a respected national NGO. Available data on the cases accepted by the European Court of Human Rights also suggests an improvement in the quality of submissions by Georgian lawyers.

Due to the increased engagement of other international actors with the judiciary, OHCHR was able to begin reducing its training activities on human rights awareness for the judiciary and their assistants/clerks. Nevertheless, OHCHR cooperated with the Council of Europe, USAID, the EU, the High School of Justice (Judicial Academy) and the Supreme Court to co-organize the third annual winter school for judicial assistants. During a week-long school session, a total of 36 participants (26 women, 10 men) improved their knowledge of international human rights standards, especially with regard to freedom of expression and the prohibition of discrimination. The increased knowledge of judges was documented by the Georgian Young Lawyers Association during their ongoing monitoring of trials.

In 2019, OHCHR continued cooperating with the Bar Association in Azerbaijan and providing assistance in building the capacity of newly admitted members of the Bar. On behalf of the UNCT, OHCHR monitored a number of written admission examinations that were organized by the State Examination Commission and the

Bar Association throughout the year. OHCHR provided newly admitted members with the Azerbaijani translation of specific OHCHR publications, including a compilation of key general comments and general recommendations issued by CAT, CEDAW, CESCR, CMW, CRPD and the Human Rights Committee in addition to the most recent concluding observations issued by the human rights treaty bodies. In April, OHCHR cooperated with the management board of the Bar Association, the Office of the Ombudsperson and civil society organizations to organize and deliver a seminar on the “United Nations human rights system and protection mechanism in the administration of justice.” Participants included 40 practicing lawyers and newly admitted members. The training raised their awareness about the UN human rights mechanisms, international human rights standards in the administration of justice and the role of civil society and the lawyers’ community in protecting human rights. Moreover, OHCHR supported the Bar Association in developing the lawyers’ handbook, which provides legal practitioners with guidance on professional responsibilities and an overview of legal resources and information on governmental, legislative and judicial structures, directories of national legal resources and international human rights resources, such as the UN human rights mechanisms, the lawyers’ code of ethics and the UN human rights system and its mechanisms.

## Participation (P)

P4 – In at least one country, persons with disabilities make increasing use of national protection systems.

**8** **16** 

OHCHR contributed to increasing the use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards by persons with disabilities in **Azerbaijan**.

Within the framework of the project on “Enhancing the capacity of national actors in promoting and effectively protecting human rights,” which was supported by the EU delegation to Azerbaijan, OHCHR continued providing free legal assistance services through the legal aid resource centre that was established in 2018. As a result, 403 individuals (181 women, 122 men) representing members of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, low-income populations and victims of gender-based violence, received legal assistance during the year on a broad range of matters. Specific focus was placed on social and economic rights, such as social security rights, property rights, family law and labour rights. The number of applicants in 2019 increased from 355 in 2018 to 403 in 2019.

In addition to legal services rendered in Baku, OHCHR worked closely with the Ombudsperson to organize monthly onsite legal services in the western, northern, north-eastern and south-eastern regions of Azerbaijan, namely, the regions of Ganja, Guba, Jalilabad, Shaki and Tovuz. Out of 403 cases handled by the Resource Centre, 201 cases were handled in the regions. Of the registered applications, 45 per cent related to social security rights, 19 per cent related to family law rights, 14 per cent related

to housing and property rights, 10 per cent related to labour rights, nine per cent related to civil disputes and the rest related to criminal cases.

In 2019, OHCHR continued supporting the legal aid resource centre that facilitated outreach activities, access to national legislative data, international human rights instruments and other human rights-related educational materials for CSOs and members of the lawyers' community. OHCHR hosted 27 onsite capacity-building events, including seminars, round-table talks, trainings and workshops. These trainings brought together 281 participants (165 women, 116 men), compared with 154 participants that received training in 2018. Out of 281 participants trained in 2019, approximately 65 per cent represented CSOs working in areas related to the rule of law, the rights of women and the rights of the child, social work and sustainable development. Approximately 15 per cent of the participants were lawyers and nearly 20 per cent represented social workers, teachers, journalists and youth. The trainings covered a range of topics, such as inclusive education and the rights of persons with disabilities, women's rights and women's empowerment, gender-based violence, the rights of the child, youth participation, human rights advocacy, social work, research and civil society, Sustainable Development Goals, human rights and the environment, international human rights mechanisms and the development of submissions to the international human rights mechanisms. The participants received over 2,000 copies of human rights and educational materials that were available at the legal library of the resource centre. OHCHR translated the materials into the national language and printed the documents for dissemination.



## Non-discrimination (ND)

ND7 – Officials, journalists, lawyers, university and high school students increasingly advocate for, and work to create, inclusive and diverse societies.



The Office contributed to increasing the level of engagement of parliamentarians and government officials in supporting the right to freedom of assembly and combating discrimination based on sexual orientation.

In 2019, OHCHR focused on advocacy to increase the protection of the rights of religious minorities as one of the priorities in **Georgia**. The Office used the meetings of the Parliament's Human Rights Committee on issues of freedom of religion to bring together members of various religious communities, Members of Parliament, government officials, NGOs and OHCHR to advocate for the freedom of religion and highlight the situation of religious minorities. This was the first time that religious minorities were able to express their views and challenges in the Parliament. Ultimately, the meetings failed to find a resolution related to the July 2018 decision of the Constitutional Court that the financial and tax advantages enjoyed by the dominant Georgian Orthodox Church were discriminatory to other religious groups. The Parliament was instructed to either remove the advantages made available to the Orthodox Church or extend them to other religious groups. As of the end of 2019, the Parliament had not changed the legislation, however, the meetings provided an opportunity to challenge the ideas of certain MPs regarding limitations on freedom of speech related to "blasphemy" and publicly highlight difficulties in obtaining building permits for new mosques. OHCHR helped

to clarify a number of questions related to international human rights standards and provided confidence for NGOs and members of minority groups to raise their issues of concern. OHCHR maintained contact with meeting participants, including in relation to the ongoing lawsuit regarding a building permit for a mosque in Georgia's third largest city, Batumi.

At the regional level, OHCHR engaged in discussions about freedom of religion at a conference that was held in Yerevan, Armenia, in May, entitled "Contemporary issues of freedom of religion in Armenia, Georgia and beyond", which was organized by Armenian NGO Eurasia Partnership Foundation. Religious organizations, NGOs and government organizations from Armenia and Georgia, as well as experts from the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and international NGOs, took part in the conference. Discussions focused on key policy and legislative challenges and gaps in Armenia and Georgia and ways to address them. OHCHR moderated a session on "Global challenges in the field of freedom of religious belief and the situation in Armenia and Georgia." The conference provided an opportunity to demonstrate the international community's interest in freedom of religion and minority issues in the region.

Combating discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation was another priority in 2019. OHCHR assisted in the preparation of a meeting of the diplomatic community and representatives of the Government with the Georgian LGBTI community in the UN House, in May, to commemorate International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.

Many of the challenges experienced by the LGBTI community, including those identified by the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence

and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity during his autumn 2018 country visit to Georgia, were discussed. OHCHR helped to develop common advocacy points in order to call for changes to policy and in the narrative with regard to LGBTI persons, in particular in statements made by politicians to promote the inclusion and implementation of existing anti-discrimination legislation.

In June, OHCHR participated in a meeting convened by the Minister of Internal Affairs, in Georgia, with selected members of the diplomatic community in order to discuss preparations for the first Tbilisi Pride march, which was scheduled to take place later that month. The diplomats insisted on the highest level of police protection for the participants, particularly in the face of threats by conservative and homophobic groups, to fulfil Georgia's international obligations and constitutional provisions on the right to freedom of peaceful assembly. OHCHR participated in a number of subsequent consultations on a possible Tbilisi Pride march, with the participation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the LGBTI community and the diplomatic community. The Pride march was postponed due to unrelated protests that took up much of police resources. Nevertheless, consistent advocacy undertaken by the international community made it clear to authorities that they were responsible for protecting the rights of the LGBTI community to hold peaceful assemblies, despite threats from conservative elements of the society. A small Pride gathering took place in Tbilisi, on 8 July. OHCHR continued to emphasize the rights of LGBTI persons in its discussions with the Government and the Parliament, in particular with regard to strengthening the protection of social and economic rights, such as the right to health, of sexual minorities.

### OHCHR'S LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO CAPACITY-BUILDING BEARS FRUIT IN GEORGIA

OHCHR has been engaged in capacity-building for members of the Georgian Bar Association (GBA) for approximately 10 years. Several times a year, OHCHR offers a short course on international human rights standards and mechanisms, which is one of the courses that satisfies the mandatory requirement of continuing education for GBA members.

In that time, the Office retained contact with many defence lawyers who had taken the course in order to get feedback on how they have used the knowledge they gained. Recently, OHCHR received feedback from two female lawyers who participated in the course in 2017 and 2018, respectively. Both individuals indicated that the course had led to an improvement in their skills and enabled them to better defend the rights of their clients. In addition, they reported that they regularly applied international standards and the case law of the human rights treaty bodies and the European Court of Human Rights in their own cases, which has helped to advance the promotion and protection of human rights in the justice system.

In a powerful example, one of the lawyers noted that she had successfully applied these principles and international standards in a case on the right to housing of a minor. The dispute was related to property that the minor owned, which had been mortgaged to benefit a microfinance organization. The house was forcibly sold at an auction and the new owner demanded the eviction of the minor. The lawyer challenged the validity of the mortgage agreement and indicated that the right to housing had been violated since the mortgage was detrimental to the best interests and because the signatories did not have the right to mortgage the property of a minor.

The judge accepted the arguments and restored the minor's housing rights. The lawyer emphasized that she would not likely have won the case had it not been for the OHCHR course.

As the lawyers concluded, the OHCHR course is making a significant contribution to the development of justice and human rights protection in Georgia.

## UKRAINE

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
43.99 million	604,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.750(rank: 88/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2014

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU)
<b>Year established</b>	2014
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Kyiv; field offices in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kramatorsk, Luhansk, Mariupol and Odesa
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Partnership Framework 2018-2022
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	55

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$6,706,216</b>
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$6,735,000</b>
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$4,676,440</b>
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Non-personnel PSC<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>76%</b>	<b>15% 9%</b>
\$3,543,111	\$694,950 \$438,379

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Accountability (A)

**A1 – State institutions hold to account a higher proportion of those who are responsible for grave violations of human rights or humanitarian law.**

#### 16

The Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) contributed to increasing the compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights norms and standards by advocating for accountability for human rights violations and providing expert legal advice on human rights issues.

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the 2014 killings and violent deaths at the Maidan protests and in Odesa, the HRMMU published briefing notes summarizing accountability procedures and shedding light on the lack of progress made to date. It also called for the political will that is needed to address these concerns, hold perpetrators accountable and deliver justice to victims and their families. During 2019, the HRMMU extensively advocated for the investigations of these cases, which coincided with the consideration of amendments to the Law on the State Bureau of Investigations

(SBI) and eventually led to the transfer of the investigative team to SBI, in line with HRMMU's recommendations that the investigations are not interrupted.

During the reporting period, the HRMMU continued to advocate for the proper classification of hate crimes to ensure the accurate reflection of the gravity of such crimes and their impact on victims and the wider community. As a result of these activities, the national police changed its approach in the investigation of hate crimes and began to gather statistics that indicated an increased investigation of relevant cases under hate crimes charges, as compared with 2018.

Following sustained advocacy undertaken by the HRMMU to reduce unlawful pretrial detention in conflict-related criminal cases (prosecutions for crimes against national or public security), including through the submission of amicus curiae to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, the Court declared, in June, that article 176.5 of the Criminal Procedure Code was unconstitutional. Under the article, which was originally adopted in 2015, if there were grounds to impose restrictions against individuals being prosecuted for crimes against national or public security (conflict-related cases), only pretrial detention could be imposed (instead of bail or any other lesser measure). The quasi-automatic application and extension of pretrial detention in conflict-related cases, combined with protracted trials, frequently led to extreme cases of pretrial detention lasting more than four years in violation of the rights of defendants.

As part of its advocacy, the HRMMU supported the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity to explore the root causes of violence and discrimination

and consider the impact of social prejudice and the rise of intolerance among extreme right-wing groups in Ukraine. The HRMMU highlighted the issue of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity with local authorities and facilitated contact between security forces and civil society organizations working on these questions, thereby advocating for the protection of human rights defenders and on behalf of the LGBTI community. The HRMMU participated in the global Free & Equal campaign to raise awareness, counter misconceptions and hate narratives and encourage acceptance and inclusion of the LGBTI community, including among police officers. This advocacy, coupled with consistent public reporting, contributed to the successful coordination and sufficient policing of the peaceful assemblies that took place during LGBTI Pride marches in Kyiv (June), Odessa (August) and Kharkiv (September).

The HRMMU also continued to provide expert advice and technical support to relevant stakeholders on the issue of torture and ill-treatment. Specifically, the HRMMU took steps to increase the knowledge of monitors from the National Preventive Mechanism, the State Bureau of Investigation, the Civil-Military Cooperation Unit and civil society regarding the international standards for the treatment of prisoners and the investigation and documentation of torture and their capacity to advocate for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment in places of deprivation of liberty. As a result, the HRMMU noted a decrease in the number of such cases (in conflict-related cases) observed since 2015.



## Peace and Security (PS)

**PS3 – State authorities and non-State actors protect and promote the human rights of populations living in territories affected by conflict.**



The HRMMU contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including the payment of pensions to residents of non-Government-controlled territory, remedies and reparations for civilian victims of the conflict and the facilitated movement of civilians across the contact line.

The HRMMU contributed to significantly enhancing the knowledge of State and civil society actors to address violations of international human rights and humanitarian law. The HRMMU issued four periodic public reports in 2019, containing recommendations on human rights and humanitarian law challenges, including in conflict-affected eastern Ukraine and Crimea. The monitoring and reporting activities of the HRMMU on both sides of the contact line informed decision and policymakers, as well as the Ukrainian population at large, about the human rights situation, including the socio-economic conditions in areas controlled by armed groups and in proximity to the contact line. In addition to the public reports, the HRMMU carried out 1,266 individual follow-up and advocacy interventions with a broad range of national and local key stakeholders, such as the Ministries of Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons, Social Protection, Defence, Justice and Foreign Affairs and the Security Service of Ukraine, the Civil-Military Administration in

the conflict-affected areas and armed groups. These interventions were undertaken to support the Government and non-State actors in their work to address human rights violations and improve their understanding of the challenges being faced.

Advocacy undertaken by the HRMMU, combined with awareness-raising through its monitoring and reporting activities, enabled relevant stakeholders to develop informed responses, such as the draft National Strategy for the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, pending approval in 2020, and the Cabinet of Ministers' Resolution on Compensation for Property Destroyed Due to Hostilities that was adopted in July. In August, the Government adopted a resolution regulating the movement of individuals and the transfer of goods across the contact line, taking into account comments and suggestions provided by the HRMMU and its partners. The resolution prescribes the establishment of a list of goods that are prohibited for transfer, replacing the list of goods that were permitted for transfer, and notes that children under 14 years of age will be able to cross the contact line without a passport. Lastly, advocacy undertaken by the HRMMU and partners contributed to the registration of two draft laws in the Parliament. The first relates to the payment of pensions to residents in non-Government-controlled territories and the second relates to the provision of remedies and reparations to civilian victims of the conflict. If adopted, the laws would make a meaningful difference in the well-being of tens of thousands of conflict-affected civilians.

The HRMMU remained the only entity (both national and international) that maintained a comprehensive record of conflict-related civilian casualties in Ukraine throughout the conflict period.

Relevant data was disaggregated by sex, age, place of incident, the weapon/type of incident and the entity/ies controlling the place of the incident. The record was used to regularly inform State and non-State actors about the human costs of the conflict. Such awareness-raising, coupled with consistent HRMMU advocacy aimed at the mitigation of civilian casualties, enabled the Mission to focus on life-saving activities in the east of Ukraine, including by providing a wider “protection by presence.” The HRMMU was able to reach victims and witnesses of violations, visit remote sites, shelled areas, grey zones, hotspots, checkpoints and vital civilian infrastructures; and record civilian casualties. As a result of HRMMU reporting and advocacy, which were coordinated with complementary efforts by other key actors, such as the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, in 2019, conflict-related civilian casualties were 40 per cent lower than in 2018, and reached their lowest levels for the entire conflict period. Furthermore, project activities, including advocacy related to the provision of remedy and reparations to civilian victims of the conflict, benefited communities located in the active conflict zone (within five kilometres of the ‘contact line’ of the armed group-controlled area), reaching approximately 400,000 people.

**PS3 – State authorities adopt and implement laws and programmes that prevent sexual violence from occurring in the context of conflict, violence and insecurity; they investigate and prosecute cases of sexual violence that occur.**

**16**

The HRMMU helped to strengthen oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards through the provision of technical assistance and expert legal advice on conflict-related sexual violence.

Throughout 2019, the HRMMU continued to develop joint advocacy initiatives to combat sexual and gender-based violence. This advocacy was based on findings contained in the HRMMU’s periodic reports, which provided assessments and recommendations regarding sexual violence in the context of conflict, violence and insecurity, including accountability, respect for fundamental freedoms, women’s rights and conflict-related sexual violence. To reinforce its advocacy work, the HRMMU provided technical assistance to military personnel that were scheduled to be deployed to the conflict area as part of a Civil-Military Cooperation Unit and CSOs to address conflict-related sexual violence, including through relevant capacity-building activities.

Moreover, this advocacy, coupled with technical assistance for relevant stakeholders and efforts to build on the findings of its 2017 thematic report on conflict-related sexual violence, enabled the HRMMU, in partnership with other stakeholders, particularly UN Women, to successfully encourage the Government to strengthen its commitment to address all aspects of conflict-related sexual violence. Some of the legal gaps

in the definition of rape and sexual violence, identified in the thematic report, were addressed in amendments to the Criminal Code of Ukraine, which entered into force on 11 January.

**PS3 – The UN’s early warning systems and strategies in Ukraine integrate and update human rights information and analysis.**

**16** 

The HRMMU advanced the application of human rights-based approaches to the implementation of the UN Partnership Framework (UNPF) and the formulation of the Ukraine Multi-year Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) by providing technical advice and data that informs on human rights and gender equality in key thematic areas.

To contribute to the integration of human rights into early warning and other UN strategies, the HRMMU continued advising the UNCT on the implementation of the UNPF with Ukraine, with an emphasis on applying UN programming principles related to human rights, gender equality and women’s empowerment, sustainability, resilience and accountability and the supply of data that highlights human rights and gender equality in specific thematic areas.

The HRMMU co-led Pillar 3 of the UNPF, “democratic governance, rule of law and civic participation,” thereby helping to formulate its outcomes and indicators. As part of its own work in this area, the HRMMU issued a thematic public report on civic space and fundamental freedoms ahead of the presidential, parliamentary and local elections in Ukraine in 2019-2020. It also actively participated in Pillar 4, “human security, social cohesion and recovery with a particular focus

on eastern Ukraine,” facilitating the coordination of efforts of all UN agencies in Ukraine. The HRMMU worked with the UNCT, the Humanitarian Country Team, the Gender Theme Group, the Protection Cluster and the gender-based violence sub-Cluster platforms to promote its findings and recommendations, thus helping to shape policies in response to human rights violations beyond its own capacity.

In 2019, the HRMMU led the UNCT’s Human Rights Working Group. As part of these activities, it coordinated joint UNCT submissions to the CRPD Committee in anticipation of its preparation of the list of issues related to its consideration of Ukraine’s combined second and third periodic reports. Similarly, a joint UNCT submission, coordinated by the HRMMU, was sent to the Human Rights Committee in anticipation of its preparation of the list of issues prior to its consideration of Ukraine’s eighth periodic report. Finally, the UNCT filed a joint submission to supplement Ukraine’s follow-up report to the concluding observations issued by CEDAW. In coordinating these submissions, the HRMMU promoted a unified UNCT approach and ensured that the major human rights issues affecting Ukraine were brought to the attention of the UN human rights mechanisms.

The HRMMU contributed to the renewal of the joint UN Social Cohesion Campaign by updating two of four briefing notes (on payment of pension and birth registration) and providing comments in relation to the other two (on freedom of movement and the inclusion of internally displaced persons). Furthermore, as part of the humanitarian agenda, the HRMMU analysis strongly supported the development of joint rapid response actions to address the disruption of basic services in conflict-affected areas, together with IOM, OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF and WHO. The HRMMU also helped to shape and

provide key data on the conflict-affected areas for the HRP 2019-2020, which was adopted in January.

During 2019, the HRMMU reports were quoted by the European Court of Human Rights, the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, as well as by the OSCE Election Observation Mission. The consistent and detailed documentation of civilian casualties and reported human rights violations served multiple purposes, including early warning and support for conflict resolution activities at a high level in the peace processes (the Trilateral Contact Group on Ukraine in Minsk and the Normandy Four) and in the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna, the Security Council and the Human Rights Council. It also served to inform and influence the design of humanitarian and development responses by both national and international stakeholders.

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The Government of Ukraine implements recommendations by the human rights mechanisms that affirm international human rights principles, standards and best practices.**

16 17 

The HRMMU supported the review and strengthening of the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) as a national mechanism for integrated reporting and the implementation of outstanding recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms by conducting a technical review and providing concrete recommendations.

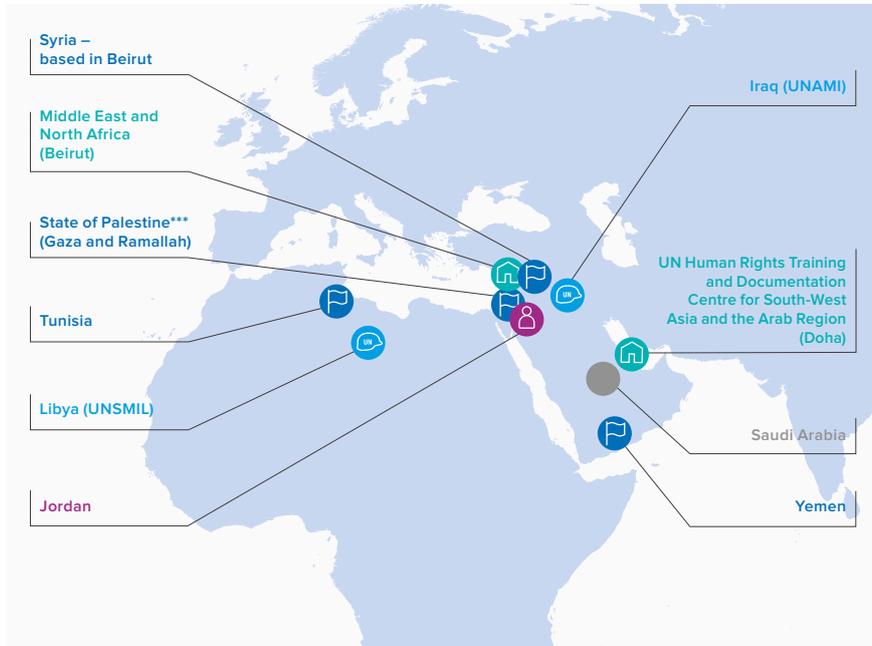
In 2019, the HRMMU continued advocating for the revision of the NHRAP, which is due to expire at the end of 2020. As a result, the HRMMU provided advocacy interventions to build the capacity of new human rights counterparts in the Government, which took over the respective national institutions and ministries following the 2019 presidential and parliamentary elections.

As a result of consistent advocacy to facilitate the implementation of international human rights principles, standards and recommendations, the Government took steps to integrate human rights recommendations into its policies and laws. For example, while reaffirming the general rule that any document issued in the armed group-controlled areas is null and void, an exception has been made, since 2019, for birth- and death-related documents that “shall be attached to the applications for registration of birth or death,” as outlined in the Law “On particular aspects of public policy aimed at safeguarding the sovereignty of Ukraine over the temporarily occupied territory of the Donetsk and

Luhansk regions of Ukraine.” After the HRMMU’s analysis and advocacy was shared, the final version of the Law “On ensuring the functioning of Ukrainian as the State language,” was amended between the first reading in October 2018 and second reading in April 2019. It now reflects a more balanced approach, particularly with respect to language proficiency requirements for running for public office and in relation to linguistic requirements in the electoral process, the media and commercial spheres. While the Law ensures the availability of adequate educational opportunities, such as preparatory language training programmes, it does not fully provide sufficient guarantees for the protection and use of minority languages.

Following a 2018 request for assistance from the Ministry of Justice to implement the newly designed methodology for the monitoring and evaluation of the 2015-2020 NHRAP, OHCHR provided technical advice to the Ministry to support its implementation. The HRMMU also coordinated joint UN efforts and prepared plans for further engagement in relation to the development of Ukraine’s next NHRAP.

# UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



## TYPE OF PRESENCE

## LOCATION

 Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions	State of Palestine***, Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut, Lebanon), Tunisia, Yemen
 Regional Offices/Centres	Middle East and North Africa (Beirut, Lebanon), UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha, Qatar)
 Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions	Iraq (UNAMI), Libya (UNSMIL)
 Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG	Jordan
 Other types of field presences	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

\*\*\* Hereinafter, all references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

## LEGEND:

### Spotlights:

-  Disabilities
-  Youth
-  Women

### Shifts:

-  Global Constituency
-  Prevention
-  Civic space
-  Climate change
-  Corruption
-  Inequalities
-  New technologies
-  People on the move

### SDGs:



The work of OHCHR in the Middle East and North Africa region covered 19 countries. The Office supported two regional offices/centres, the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (ROMENA) and the UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region; four country offices (State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen); one Human Rights Adviser (HRA) in the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Jordan; two human rights components in UN Peace Missions in Iraq and Libya; and a project presence to build national capacity in human rights-related fields in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Office provided support to two special procedures country mandates, namely, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967 and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. It also served as the Secretariat to the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, mandated by the General Assembly.

During 2019, human rights abuses and violations and breaches of international humanitarian law continued to be reported in a number of States in the region within the context of violence and armed conflicts, including mounting civilian casualties, damage to civilian infrastructure and large-scale displacements. Concerns regarding the administration of justice remained a key issue in some States in the region in light of multiple reports of arbitrary arrests, torture and ill-treatment, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and trials, which do not meet the standards for a fair trial. The death penalty was applied in a

number of States, including for juvenile offenders. Restrictions on the freedoms of opinion, expression, religion or belief, assembly and association continued to have a negative impact on civic and digital space and generated serious concern, particularly in relation to protests that took place in 2019 in a number of States.

Discrimination in law and in practice continued to be reported against women and groups in vulnerable situations, including people on the move, ethnic and religious minorities and the LGBTI community. Concerns also persisted in relation to incidents of incitement to hatred and violence. Restrictions on economic, social, and cultural rights were also documented in the context of access to social services, education and employment leading to the marginalization of women, youth and minority communities across the region.

During the course of the year, OHCHR field presences supported regional governments, civil society organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and other actors to prevent violations and strengthen the protection of human rights. To this end, the Office continued to monitor, publicly report and ensure strategic advocacy on the human rights situation, in parallel with increased engagement, technical cooperation and capacity-building with States. In this regard, the Office called for the promotion of human rights and the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict, including through the preparation of reports and briefings to the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council.

In the context of encouraging increased engagement with and providing capacity-building support to key partners, the Office organized four study visits that

were attended by more than 50 government representatives from over 15 States from the Middle East and North Africa, as well as civil society and NHRIs. The study visits sought to increase their understanding of and engagement with the human rights mechanisms and the work of OHCHR. The Office also provided grants to 10 NGOs working on projects that reach a total of 13,000 rights-holders in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, oPt, Tunisia and Yemen. These projects contributed to achieving the priorities set out in the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP), such as raising awareness about gender equality in classrooms, promoting the participation of persons with disabilities in local, regional and national political life and advocating for the rights of minorities, preventing violent extremism and promoting peacebuilding based on respect for human rights, raising awareness about the linkages between the realization of human rights and the protection of the environment, improving the reintegration of former women detainees and building the capacity of journalists to report on international human rights mechanisms. In cooperation with the Police Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPO), OHCHR undertook an initial human rights training for the peacekeeping training center of the Public Security Directorate in Jordan.

Dialogue and engagement with new and existing partners continued in 2019. Examples include supporting a training for 60 lawyers in Morocco, organizing a multi-stakeholder dialogue on business and human rights in the MENA region, supporting workshops for women human rights defenders (WHRDs) in Morocco, organizing an expert workshop for faith actors on human rights education, as well as a regional workshop on civic space and hate speech in social media, in Tunis,

and coordinating a project on the protection of religious minorities in the region (see textbox on the “Faith for Rights” framework on p. 47).

Further engagement with regional organizations was undertaken. MENA partnered with the League of Arab States (LAS), including by supporting a workshop that was organized by the Doha Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region for 45 officials of the LAS, in Cairo, on engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

With the aim of facilitating region-wide dialogue and engagement, MENA co-organized an international conference on national, regional and international mechanisms to combat impunity and ensure accountability under international law, in Doha, in April, with the Qatari National Human Rights Committee, the European Parliament and the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). The conference brought together more than 200 governmental and non-governmental organizations and international experts to discuss mechanisms that could be used to combat impunity for gross violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law and ensure accountability. Recommendations focused on the need to have a victim-centred approach in all processes related to ensuring accountability, including access to information and adequate dissemination of this information at the national and international levels.

In April, a one-day retreat was organized with the High Commissioner and Arab Group Ambassadors, in Geneva, in order to discuss human rights issues, challenges and opportunities

for engagement. During her visit to Tunisia, in June, the High Commissioner delivered keynote speeches at the RightsCon Summit on the need to keep digital spaces open, inclusive, safe and just and at an event to commemorate the 1857 Fundamental Covenant “Ahd El Aman” and the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Prior to the High Commissioner’s visit, the Office and Access Now co-facilitated an interactive session with the UNCT to raise awareness about the issue of human rights in the digital space and the relevance of taking part in RightsCon. The Office briefed the UNCT on the UN’s global contribution to RightsCon and facilitated its access to the Conference. Following the Conference, Access Now held regular briefings for OHCHR, the Resident Coordinator (RC) and representatives of the international community in Tunisia on internet governance and human rights in the country. Moreover, the Office supported a visit of the Deputy High Commissioner to Iran to promote enhanced engagement with relevant institutions, including the judiciary and relevant government ministries in order to bring an end to executions of child offenders. These efforts were strengthened through advocacy initiatives and public reporting, including two Secretary-General reports on the situation of human rights in Iran.

## IRAQ: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR IRAQ (UNAMI)

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
39.31 million	435,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.689 (rank: 120/188 in 2018)	Status B, 2015
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Peace Mission	
<b>Year established</b>		2004	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk, Mosul	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		n/a	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		44	

**XB requirements 2019** **US\$494,000**

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Participation (P)

P1 – Iraq citizens have full and equal access to basic services, including clean water, electricity, healthcare, housing, and education. The rights of freedom of expression and freedom of assembly are fully respected and protected in law and policy. The role of journalists and media professionals is respected and protected by law and policy, and they are protected from threats, intimidation or violence when they carry out their professional duties. Parliamentary and democratic procedures are consultative and participatory, notably with respect to women, youth, ethnic and religious minorities, persons with disabilities, and LGBTI persons.

**16** 

The Office contributed to increasing the protection space related to freedom of

expression and freedom of peaceful assembly, minority rights and the right to life by documenting and publicly reporting on human rights violations.

As part of its efforts to preserve civic space and protect civil society, including human rights defenders (HRDs), journalists and media outlets, the Human Rights Office (HRO) of UNAMI engaged in extensive monitoring, documenting and reporting of serious human rights violations, particularly regarding the abovementioned rights and freedoms.

Widespread demonstrations started in central and southern Iraq on 1 October. From 1 October to 31 December, the HRO documented at least 436 deaths and 8,761 injuries, including among members of the Iraqi security forces. The injuries include those who were injured by live ammunition, rubber bullets, tear gas

canisters, shrapnel or any projectiles in attacks that were recorded by the HRO. This does not, however, include the thousands of demonstrators who received 'on the spot' medical treatment for tear gas inhalation and those with minor injuries. The numbers, primarily of persons treated for excessive tear gas inhalation, are estimated to have reached 19,000 by the end of 2019. The deaths and injuries were caused by the excessive use of force by security forces, which included live ammunition to disperse demonstrators, the inappropriate use of less lethal means, such as tear gas, and deliberate shootings by armed elements. There were also circumstances of less lethal means that were used appropriately, including as crowd control and self-defence by security forces who were attacked by demonstrators with Molotov cocktails and rocks. During the first wave of demonstrations, unidentified gunmen (who were believed to be politically-affiliated armed groups) targeted peaceful demonstrators in multiple locations, with no effective intervention by State security forces.

The HRO issued three special public reports confirming human rights violations and abuses, including of the rights to life, freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. In addition, the HRO's engagement with the special procedures led to the issuance of two urgent appeals that in turn resulted in the release of two civil society activists. The activists had been allegedly abducted by the Government of Iraq and militias in the context of demonstrations. In 2019, the HRO provided information to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED), resulting in 10 urgent actions that were issued by the Committee. The HRO's monitoring, public reporting and advocacy activities were supplemented by respective statements issued by OHCHR and UN human

rights experts, in October, which may have resulted in a reduction in the use of live ammunition by Iraqi security forces, in Baghdad, from late October onwards. Moreover, Internet access was restored and criminal charges that were brought against demonstrators, which carried a mandatory death sentence under the Federal Anti-Terrorism Law, were instead brought under the Criminal Code.

Over the course of the year, the HRO continued to promote and protect the human rights of minorities. In support of the Government's efforts to implement the recommendations that were issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), in January, the HRO organized 12 round-tables, between March and August, to address various issues facing minority communities. The round-tables brought together government officials, the Independent High Commission for Human Rights, NGOs and representatives of minority communities across the country.

As a result of the HRO's advocacy and engagement initiatives and a commitment to implementing the concluding observations issued by CERD in November 2018, the Government issued a directive to issue identification cards for members of the Roma community in Iraq. The issuance of these unified identification cards, which began in March, marks the end of decades of discrimination against the Roma community in Iraq and grants them equal access to the rights to education, health and other basic services. Additionally, in August, the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers established a seven-member committee that is mandated to establish plans and policies to remove the negative effects on the Faili Kurds (who were stripped of their citizenship in the early 1980s by the Ba'athist regime) and guarantee that their rights are reinstated, including

through compensation for the properties they lost, the review of all cases and complaints related to their claims and finding suitable solutions. The recommendations proposed by the committee include: (1) the review of laws and policies that negatively affect Faili Kurds; (2) the appointment of the Faili Kurds in ministries and other governmental entities; and (3) rebuilding and developing the conflict-affected areas of the Faili Kurds. The Ministry of the Interior will facilitate the re-instatement of their citizenship.

### Accountability (A)

**A3 – Women and children who are the victims of SGBV/CSRV or honour crimes (including women from Iraq's ethnic and religious minority communities) have access to justice and appropriate support services.**



To promote accountability and judicial and legal reform, the HRO significantly increased its engagement with the High Judicial Council on fair trial standards. The HRO monitored 794 investigative and trial hearings in criminal courts, including juvenile courts, across Iraq, focusing primarily on trials of those charged under Iraq's counter-terrorism laws. Continued concerns about violations of fair trial standards include over-reliance on confessions often obtained under duress, the fairness of hearings, ineffective legal representation, a lack of adequate time and facilities to prepare cases and excessive numbers of death or lifelong imprisonment sentences in terrorism cases.

In 2019, the HRO closely collaborated with the Ministry of Justice, including by establishing a systematic detention monitoring programme that included 49

visits to places of detention across Iraq since mid-2019. The programme aims to support the Government's efforts to strengthen the protection of the rights of persons in detention and identify avenues to effectively prevent torture and ill-treatment.

The HRO provided technical expertise to ensure the increased compliance of the draft Yazidi Survivors Law, which calls for conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) crimes committed against Yazidi women and girls to be considered as genocide and for the perpetrators to be held accountable. The draft also outlines the payment of reparations and calls for 3 August to be recognized as a national day of remembrance.

Furthermore, the draft addresses the issue of children born of sexual violence. While this is a welcome development and a clear indication of the Government's commitment to seeking accountability for the atrocities committed against the Yazidi community, the draft fails to mention survivors of CRSV from other communities and does not extend to boys or men. Finally, the draft's definition of sexual violence does not cover the full range of CRSV crimes, such as forced marriage and sexual slavery.

On 7 April, the Iraqi Presidency submitted the draft to the Council of Representatives of the Iraqi Parliament for review and adoption. The draft had the first reading on 2 July and it is currently pending in Parliament.

The HRO strengthened the documentation of CRSV cases, particularly in North-Central Iraq, in order to improve victims' access to justice and support services. The HRO documented past CRSV cases from January to November, particularly in the North-Central region. The reported incidents included 13 incidents that took place in 2015, three in

2016 and five in 2019. Most of the survivors are internally displaced persons (IDPs) residing in camps located in the Kirkuk Governorate.

To promote the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and CRSV, the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) and the Monitoring Analysis Reporting Arrangements (MARA) Working Group signed an addendum on information-sharing, in October, which retroactively came into effect on 1 January. The purpose of the addendum is to provide guidelines on the sharing of information between the GBVIMS and the MARA Working Group regarding incidents of CRSV. The addendum complies with the 2015 Provisional Guidance Note on intersections between the GBVIMS and MARA.



### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND3 – The Law on domestic violence and other relevant laws and policies protect and provide care for women and children who are victims of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence. The Government holds to account those responsible for SGBV and CRSV.



The HRO contributed to the increased compliance with international standards on the prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) of the draft Anti-Domestic Violence Law and other legislation by providing technical expertise and facilitating dialogue between relevant stakeholders.

The draft law, however, remains pending and has two competing versions. One version was submitted to the Council of Representatives by the President's

Office, in September, while the other from the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers is awaiting submission to the same body. During the review of the second version by the Shura Council, at the end of 2019, the HRO supported consultations with civil society, women's organizations, government and relevant UN partners to ensure that the views of all relevant stakeholders were included. The HRO also provided technical expertise to the High Judicial Council during the review of the draft. With support from other UN partners, the HRO and OHCHR-MENA co-facilitated a technical workshop in Beirut, in September, with members of the Council of State to ensure that the draft conforms to the Iraqi Constitution and international human rights standards and norms to protect victims of domestic violence and those at risk. This enabled the inclusion of provisions that relate to safe shelters, protection orders, restrictions on the entry of perpetrators into the family home and the prosecution of perpetrators.

In September 2016, the Government and the UN signed a Joint Communiqué on the Prevention and Response to CRSV (the Joint Communiqué), which is a framework through which the UN can help strengthen the Government's capacity to address CRSV. As part of the implementation of the Joint Communiqué, the HRO facilitated a two-day workshop for representatives from NGOs in Kirkuk City, on 29 April, which focused on their role in furthering the implementation of the Joint Communiqué. A total of 15 participants (11 women, four men) attended the event. Over two days, the participants engaged in interactive discussions about the challenges facing survivors of sexual violence in conflict, including the difficulties they encounter in reintegrating into society.

In 2019, the Gender-Based Violence Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Prevention and Response, which were endorsed in 2018 by the Government, with the UN's support, continued to be rolled out across Iraq, including in the Kurdistan region. The aim of the GBV SOPs is to strengthen the Government's capacity to address GBV issues in a manner that complies with international good practices. At the federal level, the initial roll-out took place under the leadership of the Women Empowerment Department, together with related ministries and the GBV Sub-Cluster. The document serves as a reference for guiding principles, referral mechanisms and the roles and responsibilities for each sector in preventing and responding to GBV. The HRO engaged with UN partners, including the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), to organize a series of training workshops on GBV prevention and response for uniformed and armed actors across Iraq.

ND7 – Public support for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination, increases.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the narrative on the rights of ethnic and religious minority communities through awareness-raising and research initiatives.

In 2019, the HRO continued implementing a two-part project aimed at promoting protection for the human rights of religious minorities, with a particular focus on prevention through non-discrimination.

Between March and August, the HRO organized a 3By3 Film Festival on Minorities and Human Rights to support

efforts for ending discrimination. A total of 36 short film festival events were held in 17 of the 19 governorates and were attended by 4,158 Iraqis (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHRVJNYTINQ>). Social media and television coverage ensured that the event reached thousands more. The film festival events played a critical role in facilitating discussions, promoting the rights of minorities and supporting measures to end discrimination against minorities. Furthermore, the 3By3 events empowered Iraqi writers, filmmakers, directors and actors to showcase their talents by drawing attention to challenges faced by religious minorities and raising awareness about human rights issues.

The HRO conducted research that highlighted the situation of the Sunni Arab community, which was subject to the ISIL occupation. The research focused on access to education by adolescents and documented the experiences of persons who had lived in territories formerly controlled under ISIL, and are perceived to be affiliated with ISIL. Following the research, the HRO published one report, *The right to education in Iraq, Part One: The legacy of ISIL territorial control on access to education*, which was released in February 2020. The report serves as an advocacy tool to find practical solutions for the identified challenges by first, ensuring that all children have access to civil documentation necessary for formal school enrolment and second, by providing quality education.

Also, in September, the HRO produced a comprehensive review of the Bill on Protection of Persons from Enforced Disappearance that was first tabled at the Council of Representatives (Iraqi Parliament) in June. It was shared with a wide range of legislative bodies and officials, including the Speaker, the Parliamentary Human Rights

Committee, the Ministry of Justice and the Secretariat to the Council of Ministers to promote its compliance with the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (ICPPED).



### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS1 – Civilians are protected to the greatest extent possible from the effects of armed conflict. They can leave areas affected by conflict in safety and dignity, they can return to their homes in full compliance with humanitarian principles (voluntarily, and in dignity and security when it is safe to do so), and they can access basic humanitarian assistance at all times.**

5 16

The policies of the Government and the Iraqi security forces that combat terrorism, armed violence and conflict fully respect and protect human rights at all times and in all circumstances and comply with international humanitarian law standards.

The Office contributed to monitoring and reporting on violations of human rights by producing and disseminating relevant information on these violations and abuses in order to inform the responses of key stakeholders.

The HRO continued to monitor the impact of security-related incidents causing harm to civilians and other protection concerns caused by the actions of armed groups or pro-Government militias in Iraq. In 2019, the HRO documented 754 security-related incidents that resulted in 907 civilian casualties (341 deaths, including 39 children and 14 women, and 566 injuries, including 65 children and 21 women), representing a 39 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2018.

The HRO also engaged with the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights and government institutions to promote accountability for enforced disappearances, one of the most pressing human rights issues in Iraq, and to secure reparations for the families of victims. In addition, the HRO initiated a pilot monitoring project in the Anbar governorate, which focused on documenting the extent of enforced disappearances. Based on its monitoring, the HRO prepared an internal report about enforced disappearances by pro-Government forces in the Anbar governorate, which was completed in September. The report aims to promote accountability for alleged enforced disappearances in Iraq, the provision of reparations to victims and the adoption of a comprehensive and institutional approach to address past disappearances and prevent their recurrence in the future. The HRO has now extended its monitoring to the Mosul, Sallah Al Din, Kirkuk and Diyala governorates where high numbers of enforced disappearances took place during the campaign to recapture territory from ISIL.

As part of its efforts to enhance engagement between the international human rights mechanisms and the Government, the HRO interacted with CED and the Secretariat of the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances, in October, to promote accountability for enforced disappearances and support measures to determine the fate of those disappeared. This engagement helped to enhance communications with the human rights treaty bodies and special procedures mandate holders, resulting in the timely submission of petitions related to enforced disappearances and the transmission of at least 10 urgent appeals from the Committee to the Government, including in the context

of demonstrations in Iraq that began in early October. Subsequently, six of the disappeared persons who were the subject of urgent actions were located. One of the individuals was found in detention and the other five were released. While the Government has yet to investigate the circumstances of the abductions and disappearances, available information suggests that the alleged perpetrators in the majority of cases were armed men described as militia.

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – Iraq develops a plan to implement the recommendations of treaty bodies and UPR recommendations that it accepts. By the next reporting deadline, Iraq is implementing all Treaty Body and accepted UPR recommendations.**

**16 17**

The HRO continued building the capacity of the Iraqi Parliamentary Human Rights Committee, other relevant government entities and CSOs to ensure their increased engagement and compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, HRO organized 13 capacity-building sessions with at least 230 participants representing CSOs, networks and HRDs in the Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk, Mosul, Najaf, Ninewa, Sulaymaniya governorates. The sessions increased the engagement of the participants with the international human rights mechanisms with a focus on drafting stakeholder reports for the human rights treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

In September, the HRO collaborated with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Foundation to organize a UPR pre-session dialogue, in Baghdad.

The event, which was attended by 26 CSOs, provided an opportunity for dialogue with representatives of 12 UN Member States on critical human rights issues in Iraq. It also facilitated the formulation of specific and targeted recommendations in advance of Iraq's third UPR cycle.

Finally, in September, the HRO organized a technical workshop with Kurdistan regional members of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee and other parliamentary committees, in Erbil. The workshop strengthened the capacity of the Committee to engage with the human rights treaty bodies and special procedures with the objective of improving the implementation of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Iraq.

## LIBYA: UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT MISSION IN LIBYA (UNSMIL)

**Population size<sup>1</sup>** 6.78 million    **Surface area<sup>1</sup>** 1,676,000 km<sup>2</sup>    **Human Development Index<sup>2</sup>** 0.708 (rank: 111/188 in 2018)    **NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup>** Status B, 2014

<b>Type of engagement</b>	United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)
<b>Year established</b>	2011
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Tripoli and Tunis, Tunisia
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	UN Strategic Framework 2019-2020
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	13

**XB requirements 2019**

**US\$ 390,000**

**Key OMP pillars in 2019**



<sup>1,2,3</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### **Peace and Security (PS)**

PS6 – The Human Rights Due Diligence Policy is used to conduct risk assessments of all the main national security forces (as well as non-State actors and de facto authorities where applicable). The UN provides support and appropriate mitigation measures are adopted and acted on.

#### **16**

The UNSMIL Human Rights, Rule of Law and Transitional Justice Service (HRS) continued to monitor the impact of the armed conflict on civilians, with at least 287 civilians killed and at least 369 others who were injured in the last year alone. Airstrikes accounted for 60 per cent of those casualties.

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced integration of international human rights norms and standards into the work of UNSMIL by providing technical expertise

on the implementation and monitoring of the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) on UN support to non-United Nations security forces and approved mitigation measures related to the Libyan Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration and the Libyan Coast Guard.

In 2019, the Human Rights Service continued implementing the HRDDP by providing advice and assistance to Libyan security forces in order to mitigate identified risks of grave violations of international humanitarian law, international human rights law or international refugee law by non-United Nations security forces that received United Nations support.

Within the framework of the UNSMIL-United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Joint Programme's support to the Ministries of Justice and of the Interior, the UNSMIL HRS provided technical

assistance to the judicial police to organize a training for 14 police trainers, in March. The objective of the training was to review the latest curricula for new recruits to ensure their relevance and practicality.

In relation to United Nations support to the Libyan Coast Guard and the Libyan Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration, the Libyan Task Force on HRDDP endeavoured to review relevant risk assessments and related mitigation measures, particularly in light of ongoing reports of grave violations and abuses of the human rights of migrants and refugees.

In this regard, under the auspices of the Task Force on HRDDP, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) initiated a risk assessment, in November, in accordance with the HRDDP, on a planned project that seeks to dismantle criminal networks in Libya that are involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons, including by building the capacity of non-UN security forces to undertake this work.

#### **Participation (P)**

P1 – National and international stakeholders strengthen their networking and coordination. Civil society organizations provide assistance, including legal aid, to human rights defenders and victims of torture and other violations.

#### **16**

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the participation of rights-holders, especially women and members of discriminated groups, in selected public processes. This was achieved by building networks and alliances to extend human rights promotion and protection and advocating for changes to relevant legislation.

In April, UNSMIL organized a consultative meeting, in Tripoli, bringing together 30 human rights activists and civil society actors to discuss ways to address key protection concerns affecting them in Libya. The discussions focused on proposed revisions to the legal framework concerning CSOs and the development of a protection strategy in response.

UNSMIL advocated with authorities regarding the Regulations of the Presidential Council on the Civil Society Commission, issued in March, to express its concerns about burdensome registration and notification requirements. This includes the requirement to have all documents inspected by the Commission and its extensive powers to maintain stringent controls over foreign funding, which may result in the cancellation of the registration and work permits of foreign civil society organizations on seven broad grounds. All of these provisions are inconsistent with Libya's international human rights obligations on freedom of association.

### Accountability (A)

**A1 – Detention centres operate legally and under the control of the State. Trained judicial police officers and procedures are in place to prevent torture and ensure that individuals who are unlawfully detained are released.**



The HRS contributed to advancing oversight and accountability for unlawful and arbitrary detention by advocating for the implementation of the recommendations in its report on detention and providing training on international norms and standards.

## UNSMIL AND OHCHR TRAIN LIBYAN WOMEN ACTIVISTS ON THE INTEGRATION OF A GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW<sup>1</sup>

In collaboration with OHCHR, UNSMIL completed a three-day training on the integration of gender into the UPR process. The training targeted 15 geographically diverse women activists working on issues related to gender equality, combating gender-based violence and promoting human rights. It aimed to maximize knowledge among participants about undertaking gender-sensitive analyses, monitoring and formulating tailor-made and action-oriented recommendations to address gender-related human rights violations. On the last day, participants conceptualized a robust advocacy and outreach campaign strategy to build momentum for the upcoming UPR cycle review of Libya's human rights record, which is scheduled for May 2020.

Libya's third UPR cycle represents a key opportunity for the Government to provide a frank assessment of the human rights situation and challenges it faces and the steps it has taken since 2015 to address these challenges. Civil society organizations, human rights and women's rights defenders play an essential role in standing up for human rights and gender equality, including monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the commitments made by the Government at the previous UPR cycle and Libya's international human rights law obligations.

Dr. Saliha Sdaga, a law professor at the University of Omar Al-mukhtar, Al-bayda, noted that "despite my extensive knowledge in human rights mechanisms, this training delivered crucial information and provided participants with tools on how to amplify engagement and the use of international human rights mechanisms to promote human rights and gender equality."

Libya's recent election to the Human Rights Council creates an additional responsibility on the State of Libya to uphold human rights standards.

<sup>1</sup>This article was published on the UNSMIL website at <https://unsmil.unmissions.org/unsmil-and-ohchr-train-libyan-women-activists-integration-gender-perspective-universal-periodic> in December 2019.

In 2019, UNSMIL continued to provide advice to and advocate with the Government of National Accord, the judicial police and armed groups on how to improve the judicial process, including by ending arbitrary detention, transferring detainees from unlawful places of detention to official prisons, ensuring due process rights and granting human rights monitors unimpeded access to places of detention.

In particular, UNSMIL and UNDP expanded their tripartite cooperation with Libya to support the prison reform efforts of the Ministry of Justice and the judicial police. In August, the Ministry of Justice reopened the Derna and Ain Zara A prisons, with a view to addressing overcrowding, and established a new prison in Mellitah, Tripoli. The Ministry also established a clinic in the Al-Jdaida prison to improve the healthcare conditions for prisoners.

Finally, under the Mechanisms pillar, UNSMIL collaborated with OHCHR to organize two separate workshops on the UPR process for civil society representatives and government officials from the Ministries of the Interior, Justice and Foreign Affairs.

## MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Office
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates
<b>Year established</b>	2002
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Beirut
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	n/a
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	33

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$1,908,319</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$4,377,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$2,347,588</b>		
Personnel		Non-personnel	PSC*
<b>70%</b>		<b>18%</b>	<b>11%</b>
\$1,654,262		\$424,530	\$268,797
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$128,178</b>		
Personnel			
<b>100%</b>			
\$128,178			

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



\* Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Participation (P)

P1 – National and international stakeholders strengthen their networking and coordination. Civil society organizations provide assistance, including legal aid, to human rights defenders and victims of torture and other violations.



The Office contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation and policies with international human rights norms and standards related to the protection of civic space.

In March, the Office collaborated with the Maharat Foundation to organize a round-table on “Renewing adherence to international standards of the right to freedom of opinion, expression and the press.” The event brought together parliamentarians, academics, media professionals and civil society representatives and was covered by 16 national media outlets. It concluded with a set of recommendations that were outlined in the “Beirut Affirmation,” which has proven to be a useful advocacy tool

for OHCHR and other actors seeking to strengthen the rights to freedom of opinion, expression and the press.

On the occasion of International Youth Day, the Office organized a seminar on “Political participation and decision-making” at the UN House. Participants included 110 university students from across Lebanon. The seminar encouraged students to engage in a dialogue about how to interact with the international human rights mechanisms and provided a safe space for them to build a youth network for future partnerships and cooperation. They also had an opportunity to interact with the youngest Member of Parliament.

During the reporting period, the Office cooperated with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA) and the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) to produce a study examining women’s presence in judicial institutions in Arab countries. The study’s regional analysis was complemented by case studies that were conducted in five countries with a comparatively high ratio of women in the judiciary (**Jordan, Lebanon, the State of Palestine, Sudan and Tunisia**). The study establishes a base line for women’s presence in the judiciary and will be a useful advocacy tool for increasing the number of women judges in order to develop strong, independent, accessible and gender-sensitive judicial institutions and, more broadly, to help achieve gender justice within society.

**P4 – Further strengthened network of Women Human Rights Defenders in the region who have increased their capacity to address areas of concern and to participate.**



The Office continued to build the capacity of a network of WHRDs from the Arab region to increase women’s participation in human rights defence and engagement with international human rights mechanisms.

In October, the Office and the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR), in Morocco, co-organized a workshop entitled “Towards legal protection for the safety and protection of women’s human rights defenders.” For several years, OHCHR and the Doha Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region worked closely with a group of 40 WHRDs from the Arab region to build their capacity to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. This work resulted in the 2019 establishment of the Regional Network for Women Human Rights Defenders. This year’s workshop included a group of female and male lawyers who were encouraged to collaborate with the WHRDs and use the international human rights complaint systems. The WHRDs were also introduced to two human rights activists who use art as a means to communicate messages about women’s rights.

## Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND3 – At least two Governments enhance legal and policy frameworks that address gender-based violence (GBV) and promote women and girls’ autonomy and choice. They eliminate legal provisions that discriminate against women in matters of inheritance, nationality, employment, and access to credit, legal standing or other matters.**



Throughout the year, OHCHR undertook advocacy efforts related to women’s rights that were founded on a human rights-based approach (HRBA), launched capacity-building initiatives for authorities and activities to address legislative gaps and revised legislation that promoted SGBV and discriminated against women.

On the occasion of International Women’s Day, the Office launched a campaign entitled “Giving my nationality to my spouse, daughter and son is my right.” The campaign, which lasted for the month of March, focused on inequalities between women’s and men’s nationality rights in the region. The campaign was promoted through visual materials, such as posters and videos, that were published on the ROMENA website and its social media platforms, and during an interview with the regional representative of one of the leading TV stations in the Middle East. The campaign was supported by civil society and resulted in two reform proposals that were presented to the Lebanese Parliament.

In **Morocco**, the ROMENA Regional Gender Adviser collaborated with the NCHR and the Presidency of the Public Prosecution, in Rabat, to organize a workshop entitled “Law on combating violence against women in Morocco:

Between reality and prospects.” The workshop sought to strengthen the legal protection of women who are victims of violence in Morocco. To this end, several topics were discussed, including the effective implementation of Law No. 103.13 on violence against women in Morocco, the importance of strengthening measures to prevent violence against women in the public and private spheres, the extent to which this Law can be used to combat violence against women and its compatibility with international standards. Participants also learned which international standards relate to combating violence against women.

Furthermore, in anticipation of International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (on 25 November), the Office participated in the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign. OHCHR collaborated with UN partners to develop regional and country-specific public messages to address this year’s theme of “Orange the world: Generation equality stands against rape!” Social media platforms were used to ‘boost’ some of these messages. One of these messages, which addressed constitutional provisions that criminalize violence against women (VAW) in Egypt and Tunis, reached more than 70,000 people and resulted in 4,000 engagements. It also triggered discussions on related laws and procedures that could be put in place to help end VAW. The entire campaign reached more than 1.4 million individuals and created thousands of engagements.

**ND1 – National laws, policies and practices combat discrimination more effectively, particularly discrimination against religious, ethnic and national minorities, persons with disabilities, migrants, and women. Authorities in at least three countries work actively to “leave no one behind”, addressing the root causes of inequality, and linking implementation of the SDG agenda with human rights.**



Two governments in the subregion promote and defend freedom of religion and religious diversity among ethnic minorities, in accordance with articles 5 and 6 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD).

The Office initiated a comprehensive study of the standards and practices across the region to identify the root causes of discrimination and inequalities faced by various ethnic and religious groups. The study also seeks to address gaps in their protection, participation and access to rights.

In September, the Office began another study to provide a legal and sociocultural mapping and analysis of the current situation of ethnic and religious groups in the Middle East and North Africa. It specifically applies a gender lens to identify forms of intersectional discrimination and inequalities faced by women and girls belonging to ethnic and religious groups in accessing their rights and participating in society. The study contains an assessment of constitutional and legislative provisions on the protection of ethnic and religious groups and an analysis of the practices and jurisprudence of domestic courts in ensuring adherence with international human rights standards. The study will include recommendations for amendments of existing national laws,

policies and practices to ensure the protection of ethnic and religious groups. The findings and recommendations of the study are expected to be finalized and launched in 2020.

**ND6 – Three countries take steps to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW). Member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) take steps to abolish the Kafala (sponsorship) system.**



OHCHR supported selected State institutions and programmes to significantly improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards on migration.

The Office translated into Arabic the OHCHR Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders and widely disseminated this document during capacity-building activities and discussions with governmental and non-governmental partners in the region.

The Office also organized a training programme on these Guidelines and conducted training sessions on the protection of migrants across borders for the Lebanese General Security (GS). As a result of the programme, 150 GS officers were trained on human rights principles and guidelines for border management, trafficking and due process in border management. The programme assisted OHCHR to further to engage with GS and relevant UN entities to uphold the rights of people on the move.

In November, the Office participated in one of the sessions of the second

“Regional dialogue on counter-trafficking response in humanitarian settings across the Levant region” that was organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in Turkey. The meeting brought together delegations from four countries, including representatives of governments, the judiciary and CSOs, as well as representatives of the UN system. Participants in the meeting validated the draft framework to develop SOPs for crisis-sensitive anti-trafficking responses across the Levant region. The SOPs will provide useful guidance and reference the OHCHR Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders.

In December, the Office contributed to a capacity-building workshop on migration governance that was organized by ESCWA, IOM and the League of Arab States, in Cairo. The workshop served to sensitize government participants about the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and emphasized how OHCHR can better advise and support States in implementing the GCM in line with its guiding principles, all of which are grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the core international human rights instruments.

Finally, the Office continued its close collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the wider UN system and the International Committee of the Red Cross to raise concerns with authorities about cases of detention and impending deportations and the Government’s non-refoulement obligations in relation to Syrian refugees in Lebanon.



## Peace and Security (PS)

**PS2 – Steps are taken to improve compliance of civilian and military efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism with international human rights law.**

16

OHCHR supported NHRIs, CSOs, UN entities and individuals as key stakeholders by raising awareness and building their capacity for meaningful engagement with international human rights norms and standards.

In **Saudi Arabia**, the Office provided technical assistance through a three-day training workshop on “Protecting human rights while countering terrorism,” for various State actors from the security sector and representatives from the Saudi Human Rights Commission (SHRC). The workshop was held to promote the importance of respecting and protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and to raise awareness about the need to apply international human rights standards in the context of countering terrorism. To do so, the workshop focused on a wide variety of issues, including the international legal framework for respecting human rights while countering terrorism, the definition of terrorist crimes, restrictions on the use of force and arms, detention and investigation practices that respect human rights, rights that can be restricted during a state of emergency and special investigative techniques.

In Lebanon, the Office established contact with the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW), which aims to enhance the status of women and ensure equal opportunities between women and men in Lebanon. The Prime Minister assigned the NCLW to act as

the focal point in preparing the report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). At the request of the NCLW, the Office provided advice for the preparation of the national report that was submitted to the Committee in compliance with the submission guidelines. The Office also engaged with the NCLW to develop Lebanon’s first National Action Plan on Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, which was endorsed by the Government on 12 September.

Furthermore, the Office organized a panel discussion, in May, to capitalize on the momentum created by the Lebanese Parliament’s adoption of Law No. 105 on Missing and Forcibly Disappeared Persons, in November 2018. The panel brought together parliamentarians and representatives of families of missing and forcibly disappeared persons, NGOs, academics, the Government and members of the UN Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances to examine the provisions of the Law and requirements for the effective functioning of a new National Commission for the Missing and Forcibly Disappeared, in compliance with international norms and standards. The event was live streamed and a video of the event was broadcasted via social media and regional contacts. Follow-up steps are being discussed with residing UN agencies and the Lebanese Government in order to move forward with the establishment of the new Commission and support efforts to promote national reconciliation.

PS6 – In two countries, United Nations’ support to national and regional security forces and law enforcement agencies, and to non-State actors, integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.



OHCHR contributed to the increased application of UN guidelines and an HRBA to specific programmes of UN entities.

The Office continued to provide technical assistance to the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) in developing a Code of Conduct on Human Rights, which was launched in January. The Code of Conduct outlines fundamental human rights standards and principles that are relevant to law enforcement and highlights the importance of protecting women, children, the elderly, refugees and victims of human trafficking in all law enforcement-related tasks. Following the launch, the LAF announced that a number of legal adviser positions had been created in the departments responsible for monitoring the dissemination and implementation of the Code of Conduct. Moreover, the Office received official requests from the other two main security agencies in Lebanon, the Internal Security Forces and the General Security Office, to assist with the revision of their respective codes of conduct, introduce accountability elements and ensure wider dissemination of the documents among their personnel.

As Chair of the UNCT Human Rights Working Group, the Office took the lead in coordinating and finalizing a document that sets out the HRDDP Coordination Mechanism for Lebanon. It is also facilitating the regular updating of joint risk assessments under the HRDDP.

## Mechanisms (M)

M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow up (NMRFs) are established and strengthened in three countries in the sub region; their mandates are comprehensive and clear.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the effective functioning of NMRFs by providing technical support through its Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme (TBCBP).

In April, the Office supported a training course for Kuwaiti diplomats on the international human rights system, with a focus on the third UPR cycle and the role of NMRFs. The Office continues to liaise with the Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO), in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for the establishment of a follow-up mechanism. Furthermore, OHCHR supported CSOs in Kuwait to provide information to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) for the pre-sessional Working Group to elaborate its list of issues prior to reporting.

In November, the TBCBP hosted a three-day training workshop for members of the national Standing Committee for Reporting and the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD). The overall purpose of the workshop was to support the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) to strengthen its national capacity to effectively report to different human rights mechanisms and suggest ways to reconstitute and strengthen the Standing Committee for Reporting. The workshop also aimed at enhancing Saudi Arabia’s capacity to implement the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms that have been linked to

the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular through improving the information management capacity of the NMRF and use of the NRTD. Workshop participants prepared a draft Plan to Implement Recommendations, based on one of the recommendations that was issued by the UPR in relation to Saudi Arabia. The data was then inserted into the NRTD.

Furthermore, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, OHCHR held a two-day training workshop on the “Development of national indicators for human rights.” The workshop targeted key staff members of the SHRC to enhance their capacity to use indicators to measure the progress made by the KSA in realizing its human rights obligations.

In Jordan, in June, the SHRA developed a proposal for the Prime Minister, upon his request, regarding the strengthening of the NMRF. In December, the SHRC, ESCWA and the Danish Institute for Human Rights co-organized and facilitated a workshop for government liaison officers and the Office of the Government Coordinator for Human Rights. In following up on Jordan’s third UPR cycle, the SHRC facilitated discussions on the implementation of the supported recommendations with government, civil society and international stakeholders and the development of a process to prepare a national action plan on the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

## STATE OF PALESTINE\*\*\*

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
4.98 million	6,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.690 (rank: 119/188 in 2018)	Status A, 2015
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office		
<b>Year established</b>	1996		
<b>Field office(s)</b>	East Jerusalem, Gaza, Hebron, Ramallah		
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	26		
<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$1,407,463</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$3,684,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,977,661</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>†</sup>	
<b>75%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>10%</b>	
\$1,484,373	\$293,434	\$199,854	
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$2,308,119</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
<b>82%</b>	<b>18%</b>		
\$1,902,150	\$405,969		

## Key OMP pillars in 2019



\*\*\* Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

<sup>123†</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability (A)**

**A1 – Palestinian duty-bearers have agreed and sustained a de facto moratorium on the death penalty in the oPt, and have made progress towards a formal moratorium.**

16

The Office continued its efforts to engage with and facilitate dialogue between diverse stakeholders with a view towards the declaration of a formal moratorium

on the death penalty through awareness-raising, monitoring and advocacy.

A de facto moratorium on the death penalty was upheld in the West Bank and no new death sentences were handed down by courts in the West Bank in 2019. In Gaza, OHCHR continued monitoring death sentences handed down by Gaza courts and engaged with Gaza authorities advocating for a formal moratorium. In a positive development, no

death sentences were carried out during 2019. OHCHR also continued to liaise with human rights organizations on the death penalty, including in relation to sharing information and implementing joint outreach activities. To commemorate the World Day against the Death Penalty, in October, OHCHR partnered with local CSOs to commission an art exhibition regarding the death penalty. The exhibition illustrating the impact of the death penalty on communities and families was shown in various locations around the West Bank and Gaza and served as a background for discussions with duty-bearers and traditional religious and community leaders on the death penalty in the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt).

**A1 – Member States, and international and regional actors, take account of OHCHR's information, analysis and recommendations when they demand accountability for Israeli violations of IHL and IHRL in the oPt.**

16

OHCHR contributed with timely and high-quality information to raising critical human rights issues in international forums by monitoring and reporting on human rights and international humanitarian law violations by Israel and ensuring that the findings are effectively disseminated.

During the reporting period, the Office continued to carry out regular monitoring work on ongoing human rights and humanitarian law concerns, which was supported by strong legal analysis in particularly vulnerable areas, including Gaza, Hebron's H2 and East Jerusalem. As was the case in 2018, the Office produced five mandated reports (three for the Human Rights Council (HRC) and

two for the General Assembly) to inform Member States about key messages and recommendations based on their monitoring. The Office also provided timely, high-quality inputs to other mandated UN reports, including from the Security Council, the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). It also continued to actively engage in the context of the UNCT and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), ensuring strong and legally accurate messaging on violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Information and analysis produced by the Office contributed significantly to a number of advocacy initiatives carried out by the Office, the UNCT and the HCT, generating significant interest from the diplomatic community, the UN and NGO partners.

### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND3 – Israeli practices (as the occupying power) and Palestinian laws, policies and practices increasingly comply with international human rights standards with respect to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other discriminatory practices against women, as a first step towards the promotion of women's equality.



The Office continued to build its monitoring and knowledge-base on women's human rights and its advocacy efforts on women's rights through activities and initiatives for authorities and CSOs to address legislative gaps and increase the compliance of existing laws with international human rights norms. The Office

also strengthened the integration of gender equality and women's rights into its own programming.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR-oPt was one of two pilot field offices in the OHCHR Gender Accreditation Programme. The objective of the Programme is to review the Office's activities and build its internal capacities to integrate gender into all aspects of the internal and external work of the Office in a sustainable manner. On 29 January 2020, after successfully completing the one-year pilot phase of the Programme, the High Commissioner awarded OHCHR-oPt with UN Human Rights Gender Accreditation.

As a result of the work undertaken within the framework of the Gender Accreditation Programme, the monitoring of women's rights improved both quantitatively and qualitatively during the year, as evidenced by an increase in monitored cases wherein women, girls or LGBTI individuals were the primary victims. Furthermore, the Office undertook enhanced gender analysis and an assessment of the impact of discrimination and violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law against women, girls or LGBTI individuals in the oPt. Their findings and analysis were strongly reflected in advocacy documents and mandated reports. For the first time, a whole section on SGBV and gender-related killings was included in the High Commissioner's Annual Report, which will be published in 2020.

The Office continued its advocacy work on women's rights, including in events marking International Women's Day, in March. Specifically, OHCHR organized TEDx talks in Ramallah and Gaza with Palestinian women who shared their stories about tackling discrimination in their personal and professional lives. It also worked closely with national and

international partners to organize the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign entitled "Together against violence" and called for the prompt adoption of the Family Protection Bill and better access to services for GBV survivors in Palestine. The campaign gathered a record-breaking 68 national and international partners, who rolled out more than 100 coordinated activities throughout the West Bank, including in East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.

### Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.

## 16

As the Protection Cluster lead in Palestine, the Office contributed to improving the compliance of selected policy areas and legislation with international human rights norms and standards through legal analysis and advice.

In 2019, OHCHR's legal and protection analysis continued to guide the HCT's advocacy approach and the humanitarian response to violations being committed in the context of Gaza's Great March of Return protests, the recurrent escalation of hostilities in Gaza and the increasingly coercive environment in the West Bank. Particular attention was placed on women and vulnerable groups, such as children and persons with disabilities.

Moreover, under the leadership of OHCHR, the Protection Cluster supported the HCT Advocacy Working Group in conducting a series of advocacy events on the excessive use of force in different locations in the West Bank and coordinated the engagement of key protection actors. Notably, the Protection Cluster collaborated with the Health Cluster, led

by WHO, to organize a workshop in Gaza and the West Bank to discuss ways to better protect healthcare workers, the facilities of healthcare organizations and the Ministry of Health from attacks. This led to the development of an action plan. Implementation of the action plan has begun through a training on protection under international humanitarian law for healthcare workers.

**PS5 – Human rights are integrated in the Humanitarian Programme Cycle, including its strategy, planning and programming, and in advocacy by the Humanitarian Coordinator and Humanitarian Country Team.**



The Office contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into humanitarian operations by providing legal analysis to the HCT.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR collaborated with the Areas of Responsibilities (AoRs) to strengthen coordination among protection partners to identify the most vulnerable individuals and groups in need of protection services. This collaboration resulted in directing resources towards responding and scaling up the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support response to the Great March of Return protests and supporting GBV multi-sectorial responses and child protection services for women and children at risk.

In parallel to the 4W system in Gaza (a coordination and monitoring database detailing who does what, when and where), the Protection Cluster and OCHA initiated an online interface for an operational presence mapping in order to map

the operational protection actors in the West Bank in four thematic areas (child protection, mental health and psychosocial support, legal aid and mine action).

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The interministerial committee charged with coordinating implementation of Palestine’s international human rights obligations reports consistently to international human rights mechanisms and implements their recommendations. It operates in an integrated and participatory manner and includes civil society in its work.**

### 16 | 17

OHCHR contributed to improving the capacity of the Palestinian NMRF to comply with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, the Office gradually enhanced the capacity of the Palestinian NMRF, including by increasing the knowledge about the international human rights treaties and mechanisms of representatives from relevant government institutions in the NMRF, as well as the Independent Commission for Human Rights, which sits on the NMRF as an observing member. Actions taken by the Office contributed to the institutionalization of the NMRF, clearly identifying the roles and responsibilities of each of its three levels, namely, the permanent High-level Interministerial Committee, the Interministerial Technical Committee and the ministry-based working groups. In addition, the NRTD was introduced to members of the NMRF as a tool for effective follow-up on relevant concluding observations/recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

Finally, to support the work of the NMRF, the Office produced two guidance

documents (in Arabic and in English). The first is a reference manual for government officials on Palestine’s accession to the human rights treaties and the second is a user manual on the NRTD. Both were widely disseminated to government officials.

Finally, OHCHR-oPt worked towards the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the UN common country programmes, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework under the Development pillar.

## SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

**Population size<sup>1</sup>** 17.07 million    **Surface area<sup>1</sup>** 185,000 km<sup>2</sup>    **Human Development Index<sup>2</sup>** 0.549 (rank: 154/188 in 2018)    **NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup>** NA

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2018
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Based in Beirut, Lebanon with presence in Gaziantep, Turkey and Amman, Jordan
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	n/a
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	34

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$5,185,928</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$2,940,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$2,040,272</b>		
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>Non-personnel</b>	<b>PSC<sup>4</sup></b>
	\$1,502,490	\$380,229	\$157,553

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Participation (P)

**P4 – The civic space in Syria has expanded, allowing civil society actors and victims' groups to defend human rights in a safe and enabling environment.**



The Office enhanced its engagement with CSOs working inside and outside the Syrian Arab Republic by facilitating a consultation to determine key parameters for future engagement and programming.

Building on the mapping and consultation process that the Office undertook in 2018, OHCHR organized a series of

capacity-building activities for a core group of 50 targeted Syrian CSOs that are working inside and outside the country. This included the organization of three day-long round-tables on rights-based programming and inclusive approaches to advocacy. The activities culminated in a three-day workshop that was focused on a victim-centred approach to human rights advocacy and included the participation of CSOs from across the geographic and political spectrum. As a result of these events, participating CSOs adopted a victim-centred approach in their advocacy and campaigning activities and expanded the civic space to enable more connections

between organizations working on different issues. A robust coalition was set up with a joint vision for advocacy. Since then, the coalition has undertaken a common campaign in the context of UDHR71 that promotes social cohesion, including by countering hate speech.

A report outlining some of the lessons that have been learned in victim-centred advocacy activities will be issued and shared with civil society partners in early 2020.

#### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS3 – The humanitarian response in Syria integrates human rights in planning, strategy, and operations.**



OHCHR contributed to further integrating human rights protection into all areas of the Office's programming in order to better prevent and respond to conflict.

During the reporting period, OHCHR contributed to the development and implementation of a project as part of the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. In line with this project, Protection, Health and other Cluster meetings were organized to ensure that human rights concerns were regularly raised and incorporated, in collaboration with humanitarian partners.

In addition, the Office trained Syrian civil society partners on the integration of human rights into their work during four three-day trainings that were organized in different humanitarian centres of operation (namely Amman/Jordan, Gaziantep/Turkey, Damascus/Syria and Beirut/Lebanon) on applying an HRBA. These trainings resulted in the adoption of new methodologies by Syrian CSOs with a victim-centred approach. On a less formal level, OHCHR supported civil society

partners in strengthening the monitoring methodologies being used in their documentation work.

OHCHR's technical advice on necessary changes to ensure effective human rights protection was outlined in two forthcoming publications. The first publication identifies the recommendations that were issued during Syria's second UPR cycle and can be used by CSO partners in their engagement and advocacy activities. The second publication focuses on the recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Syria from 2015-2019 and from the special procedures, human rights treaty bodies and the UPR in January 2020. Both publications will be issued in Arabic and English and will serve as resources for CSOs seeking to identify strategic entry points for engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and develop HRBA programming.

Finally, OHCHR's work on HRBA programming, together with the forthcoming publications on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, will serve as a basis for supporting the effective engagement of civil society organizations in Syria's third UPR cycle in 2020 and 2021.

**PS5 – Early warning actions issued by OHCHR are regularly used by the international community and UN actors in the context of preventive action.**



The Office supported the international community in raising specific human rights issues with the Government by providing data and information on human rights concerns and key protection messages and bringing it to the attention of key stakeholders.

Throughout the year, OHCHR provided extensive information and analysis on human rights issues to humanitarian, political and policy partners working on the Syrian context. The Office issued over 65 flash reports that included OHCHR reporting and early warning analysis. The reports were disseminated to over 100 humanitarian, diplomatic and donor partners and the data was used by humanitarian and policymaking partners in their work, as reflected in public statements and briefings.

In addition, OHCHR contributed regular analysis and reports on the human rights situation in Syria, which were included in the Secretary-General's monthly reports to the Security Council, in accordance with various Security Council resolutions. OHCHR contributed to six such reports in 2019 compared to 11 in 2018.

Furthermore, human rights concerns were highlighted in seven public statements and press briefing notes that were translated into Arabic and issued by the High Commissioner and in one thematic digest. All of these documents served as early warning tools to highlight current and possible future geographic or thematic human rights concerns in Syria. They were shared with over 400 contacts, including humanitarian agencies, diplomats, policymakers and Syrian and international civil society organizations working inside and outside of Syria.

In addition to the written outputs, the Office provided frequent ad hoc briefings to diplomats, humanitarian partners and policymakers. Given the highly complex situation in Syria, appreciation was expressed to OHCHR for its verified data and analysis.

## Development (D)

**D7 – The reconstruction and development efforts of the UN and the Government integrate human rights standards.**



The Office contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles into the UN's reconstruction and development assistance.

In 2019, OHCHR focused on issues relating to medical units and personnel in its monitoring and advocacy work as part of the UN's reconstruction and development assistance, including by supporting the protection and health sectors. Specifically, the Office's work included sharing verified data with humanitarian partners on incidents affecting healthcare and health facilities. This information was reflected in OHCHR statements and press briefing notes throughout 2019 and was included in more than half of the statements issued on Syria during that time. For example, in August, the Office supported five special procedures that submitted a joint allegation letter to the Syrian Government regarding airstrikes and ground-based strikes in Syria, which damaged and destroyed medical facilities and killed medical personnel between March 2011 and July 2019.

While incidents involving medical units remain an ongoing and significant concern in Syria, OHCHR's reporting and advocacy contributed to increased attention and political pressure to address this issue. On 1 August, the General Assembly established a United Nations Headquarters Board of Inquiry to investigate a series of incidents that took place in northwest Syria after the September 2018 signing of the Russian/Turkish

Memorandum on Stabilization of the Situation in the Idlib De-escalation Area. The investigation will cover destruction or damage that was caused to medical facilities that were on the deconfliction list and to UN-supported facilities in the area. The Office supported the Board's data collection efforts by providing lists of OHCHR-verified incidents and supporting data.

## TUNISIA

Population size <sup>1</sup>	Surface area <sup>1</sup>	Human Development Index <sup>2</sup>	NHRI (if applicable) <sup>3</sup>
11.69million	164,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.739 (rank: 91/188 in 2018)	Status B, 2009
<b>Type of engagement</b>		Country Office	
<b>Year established</b>		2011	
<b>Field office(s)</b>		Tunis	
<b>UN partnership framework</b>		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019	
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>		12	

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$1,443,194</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$3,005,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$1,787,668</b>		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>4</sup>	
<b>49%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>11%</b>	
\$884,744	\$ 700,109	\$202,815	

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1234</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Development (D)

**D2 – The Government adopts and applies the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.**

**1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17**



The Office contributed to the increased compliance of corporate policies with international human rights norms and standards by facilitating workshops and sharing guidance and advice.

At the request of the Tunisia Local Network of the Global Compact, the Office delivered a training on the UN

Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) to 38 participants (11 women, 27 men) from private and public enterprises, CSOs and academia who are current or pending members of the Tunisia Global Compact Network. A representative from a major public enterprise from the chemical industry and a representative from a major private company producing cement presented their experiences and lessons learned following their OHCHR-supported participation in the seventh International Forum on Business and Human Rights, which was held in November 2018.

As a result of this training, two participating enterprises requested further in-house training for their staff members that are based in the southern region of the country. Five enterprises from various sectors with a high risk of human rights violations, including construction and public works, chemicals and mining and water distribution, expressed an interest in undertaking human rights impact assessments of their operations. To support these efforts, the Office facilitated a three-day mission to Tunis of an international expert in human rights impact assessments to discuss the assessments with the CEOs of these companies.

**D7 – National stakeholders adopt a human rights-based approach when monitoring and evaluating realization of the SDGs. Local elected representatives and public servants at local and regional levels are aware of their obligations with respect to economic, social and cultural rights.**



OHCHR helped to improve the level of compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights norms and standards through awareness-raising, human rights education and mainstreaming.

More specifically, the Office initiated discussions with the Centre for Training and Decentralization Support to build the capacities of local authorities regarding an HRBA and economic, social and cultural rights. The objective was to enable them to apply their knowledge when designing local development plans. Sessions were conducted in 18 municipalities of the southern and northern regions, which are the most marginalized areas of the country, to test the two economic, social and cultural rights-related modules that will be replicated in 2020.

The modules were tested during the first training which took place in nine municipalities of the south (Medenine, Remeda, Tataouine, Ben guerdane, Houm Soukt, Midoun, Ajem, Zarzis, and Gabes).

The Office undertook vigorous advocacy activities related to the application of an HRBA in Tunisia's first Voluntary National Report (VNR) and to ensure the integration of members of the NMRF into the VNR's drafting committee. The VNR integrates the results of the Human Rights Rapid Integrated Assessment, which was conducted, in 2018, on linkages between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their targets and the human rights commitments undertaken by Tunisia through its Constitution and the ratification of international human rights treaties. Moreover, it includes a section on "Leaving No One Behind," for which the Office had advocated, and features a list of vulnerable groups. Finally, the report includes the Office's recommendation regarding the adoption of an HRBA in relation to data collection and disaggregation on vulnerable groups, in accordance with relevant guidance on data collection in the context of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

### **Accountability (A)**

**A3 – Judges assigned to cases that involve gender-based violence are equipped to apply national legislation in compliance with international human rights standards.**



OHCHR built the capacity of the judiciary to ensure that accountability mechanisms dealing with GBV conform to international human rights standards.

Since 2017, in the context of the joint programme of the UN system and the

Government, the Office continued to enhance the capacity of judges assigned to GBV cases to interpret and apply new national legislation in accordance with international human rights standards.

The Office engaged in a series of activities designed to help advance the effective implementation by the judiciary of General Law No. 2017-58 on violence against women. In March, the Office collaborated with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Council of Europe to co-organize a two-day national conference to assess the level of implementation of the Law, one year after coming into force. The conference brought together 150 representatives (approximately 80 per cent women and 20 per cent men) from the justice, security, health and social affairs sectors, including 30 judges and lawyers from Tunis and other regions of the country. Their participation was supported by the Office. The conference identified key issues and produced recommendations for relevant ministries regarding each "P" of the law, namely, protection, prevention, prosecution and integrated policies.

Furthermore, the Office cooperated with the Centre for Judicial and Legal Studies of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to hold a workshop, in November, on protective orders, which was one of the main innovations of the Law. OHCHR enabled the participation of family law judges from all 28 national courts of first instance to discuss the obstacles they face in four specific areas, namely, procedures, gathering evidence, drafting and protective measures, in order to identify and harmonize good practices and compile case law and decisions taken.

The Office continued training the judiciary regarding VAW. Accordingly, 246 judges were trained in four sessions at the High Judicial Training Institute (ISM),

at the request of the Ministry of Justice. In July, the Office carried out a training of trainers session on the judicial management of VAW cases to enable the justice system to investigate and prosecute GBV crimes in compliance with international standards, respect the rights of victims and address gender stereotypes. The training was organized in partnership with the International Development Law Organization and enhanced the capacity of 16 practicing judges and trainers from the ISM. The training cycle consisted of sessions on Law No. 2017-58 on the prevention of VAW and good practices and basic principles in dealing with GBV victims. With the support of the Office, the trainees will be expected to deliver “application workshops” to their peers in 2020.

To support these capacity-building efforts in 2019, the Office finalized the Arabic translation of a 174-page training guide, which is available in hard and electronic copies for wider dissemination. Once clearance is received from the MoJ for the Arabic translation, the guide will be used during events planned by the Office in 2020.

## Participation (P)

**P2 – The new national human rights institution is established and functions in accordance with the Paris Principles and other relevant international standards.**

OHCHR supported the initial stages of setting up the NHRI, in December 2018, in compliance with the Paris Principles.

Following the adoption of the NHRI Law in November 2018, the Office advocated for a transparent and inclusive selection process of NHRI members. In addition, the Office and UNDP held a joint hearing with the Parliamentary Pre-selection Commission and organized a press

conference regarding the Commission’s selection process, which was followed by an open public debate. To widen the constituency of applications to the NHRI membership, including from women, the Office conducted advocacy visits to Tunisian professional organizations of doctors, journalists, lawyers and judges and sensitized eligible professional organizations to encourage women to apply for membership.

A shortlist of 25 prospective applicants, released in June, respected gender parity by including 12 women. Although the selection process was postponed pending the election of the new Parliament, the Office is committed to resuming advocacy for a transparent and inclusive selection process in 2020. A study day will be held with the elected Members of Parliament to discuss the Paris Principles and selection criteria.

**P7 – There is increasing public recognition of the importance of human rights education. Public education helps to develop effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism.**



OHCHR strengthened the narrative on select human rights issues through awareness-raising and capacity-building.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Office and the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA) and through engagement with the High Independent Authority of Elections (ISIE), the Office sensitized approximately 800 imams who are responsible for Friday prayers regarding their obligation to maintain a principle of neutrality during electoral campaigns. In August, the Office organized a series of

regional meetings aimed at enhancing the role of religious actors to facilitate free, honest, transparent and peaceful elections in 2019. The Office organized four interactive sessions on free speech in the context of countering hate speech and the partiality of imams in the electoral context. The MoRA and the ISIE have since reported that, thanks to the sensitization discussions that were conducted with OHCHR’s support, they observed no major violations of the principle of neutrality of mosques or incitement to hatred by imams during the electoral period. Through two additional workshops and bilateral meetings that were undertaken within the same framework, the Office and the MoRA consulted with the trade union of imams and the Tlili Foundation, a local CSO with expertise in the education of imams, in order to develop a three-year strategic plan to implement the MoU.

In the context of the “Faith for Rights Initiative,” the Office cooperated with the MoRA to bring together three influential religious actors from the Muslim, Jewish and Christian communities (a mufti, a chief rabbi and a bishop), as well as members of the media and artists on the occasion of an interfaith “iftar” (the evening meal that breaks the fast during Ramadan). The Initiative was organized to provide space for religious leaders to spread a message of tolerance and non-discrimination, thereby fostering a peaceful society based on understanding, compassion and solidarity.

To contribute to improved social cohesion in 2019, the Office collaborated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to prevent violent extremism among youth through education (PVE-E). More specifically, the Office and UNESCO developed a joint project on “Empowering the education system and

school communities through the promotion of human rights, global citizenship education and media and information literacy,” which falls within the Ministry of Education’s strategy on counter-terrorism. The project aims to set up a national network of experts on PVE-E, based on human rights education, that specifically targets youth educators and leaders of the school community. The Office also participated in the project “Research Fund on violent extremism,” which was led by UNDP, the National Anti-Terrorism Commission and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. The project outcome, the “Charter of Ethics for research activities in the field of violent extremism,” establishes a regulatory mechanism to prevent and treat potential risks of human rights violations while conducting research in this field. It further provides for ethical principles and values of human rights that should guide researchers in their work.

During the year, the Office continued to participate in the UN Task Force on Human Rights Education and Citizenship. With the support of the Office, the Task Force used the opportunity of the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education to discuss challenges and priorities in the Tunisian education system. The Office advocated for and supported the inclusion of human rights education in the youth centres established by the Ministry of Youth across the country. In September, the Office and the Ministry provided capacity-building trainings on human rights education for 240 youth educators from 24 regions to strengthen their capacities in relation to international human rights standards.



### Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND1 – National laws, policies and practices combat racial discrimination more effectively, including discrimination against ethnic and national minorities, persons of African descent, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, migrants, women, and LGBTI individuals.**



OHCHR took steps to improve the compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards in the areas of access to social security and the rights of persons with disability by building the capacity of duty-bearers and rights-holders. In April, the Government enacted the legal reform that the Office had strongly advocated for since 2016. The reform ensures that women agricultural workers have greater access to social security due to more flexible eligibility requirements. To inform these women about their rights, the Office organized training sessions in seven regions for 104 outreach workers (83 women, 21 men) and 81 representatives from the institutions involved in the new scheme. Overall, 2,086 women were found to be eligible for the programme, 788 submitted a request for affiliation to the Caisse Nationale de Sécurité Sociale and 233 were duly registered. A total of 45 members of nine local municipalities received training on gender and an HRBA.

During the reporting period, the Office launched a study analysing the domestic laws that protect the rights of persons with disabilities in Tunisia. The purpose of this analysis was to identify gaps and weaknesses and develop recommendations aimed at increasing the compliance of national legislation with international standards. The recommendations will serve as an advocacy tool for civil society and be compiled into a practical guide that

is available to parliamentarians to guide legislative revisions that are in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Furthermore, the Office engaged in constructive dialogue with the Ministry of Social Affairs on how to better implement CRPD provisions in Tunisia. Finally, the Office and UNDP organized a “Parliamentary Academy” sensitization workshop for parliamentarians and representatives of the Ministry regarding the rights of persons with disabilities to social integration and rehabilitation. As a result, the parliamentary committee for persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups has identified the priorities of persons with disabilities in terms of revising national laws.

The National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) organized several workshops on the rights of vulnerable populations in detention with a focus on LGBTI rights. To this end, the Office contributed to the workshops and sensitized members of the General Directorate of Prisons. It also provided assistance to an LGBTI organization in proceedings regarding freedom of association through interventions from the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.



### Peace and Security (PS)

**PS2 – The State develops and implements policies and practices to counter terrorism and violent extremism that comply with international human rights standards and relevant UN resolutions and guidelines, and ensures that civil society participates meaningfully in this process.**



OHCHR supported the Tunisian National Commission on Counter-Terrorism (NCCT) to increase the compliance of its procedures and decisions with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, OHCHR worked with the NCCT and focused on mainstreaming human rights into its work while countering terrorism. In order to better inform the public about the work of the NCCT, the Office facilitated a training workshop for journalists and civil society. The workshop strengthened the knowledge of civil society and the media about international standards for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the fight against terrorism and sensitized the media on journalistic principles and good practices when covering events related to terrorism and violent extremism.

The Office also organized a workshop for NCCT members on good practices related to gender mainstreaming in the context of countering violent extremism. After assessing expectations and gathering recommendations from NCCT members, the Office facilitated the development of a common understanding of gender mainstreaming.

**PS4 – Specialized Chambers, the Government, Parliament and civil society are equipped to fulfil their respective mandates and roles with regard to the transitional justice process.**

**16** 

The Office contributed to the strengthening of transitional justice mechanisms that conform to international human rights norms and standards by building their capacity to monitor and contribute to transitional justice processes.

During the reporting period, the Office continued to maintain and strengthen contacts and dialogue with civil society organizations and victims' groups by convening meetings and exchanging information, expertise and experiences. The Office organized several meetings with CSOs to advise them on the ways forward in supporting the transitional justice process, including the mandate of the Specialized Criminal Chambers (SCC), particularly during a time when this accountability mechanism of transitional justice was targeted by an amnesty law. CSOs and victims' groups played a key role in supporting the implementation of national transitional justice mechanisms and disseminating the final report and recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Instance Vérité et Dignité (IVD)). They also closely monitored hearings of the SCC and engaged in constructive dialogue with the Ministry of Justice and the High Judicial Council in order to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the SCC's mandate and work.

The Office provided extensive technical assistance and support to the IVD, enabling it to fulfil its mandate in conformity with international standards. In particular, technical support was provided during the elaboration phase of the final report, notably on the structure, content and drafting of the IVD's recommendations. The report's recommendations focus on the State's reforms at the legal, political and institutional levels to promote democracy, reinforce the rule of law and guarantee the non-recurrence of past human rights abuses. The final report of the IVD seeks to uncover the truth about violations of human rights committed between 1955 and 2013 and provides reparation measures for victims that have been included in a global reparation programme.

The IVD's report was submitted but has not yet been published.

In 2019, the Office continued to engage in advocacy to support the dissemination of the IVD's final report and translated the Executive Summary (approximately 522 pages) into English. The IVD transmitted 69 indictments to the SCC with regard to 1,120 cases of torture, rape and sexual violence, enforced disappearance, murder, arbitrary detention, human trafficking, corruption and the misuse of public funds. It issued 145 decisions which referred cases of a similar nature to the SCC. The cases and the decisions concerned a total number of 1,666 victims and 1,426 perpetrators. As of the end of 2019, the SCC has held more than 150 hearings on more than 100 cases of gross violations of human rights. The Office engaged in constructive discussions with the judicial authorities to enhance and support the mandate and work of the SCC, including by building the capacity of the SCC judges and organizing workshops and various technical meetings. OHCHR continued to monitor hearings throughout the year

## Mechanisms (M)

**M1 – The NMRF, the NHRI, civil society organizations, and the UN Country Team engage with international human rights mechanisms.**

**16** **17**

The Office strengthened the capacity of NHRIs, CSOs, UN entities and individuals that made substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

In 2019, thanks to the support of the Office, the NMRF submitted mid-term review reports to the Human Rights Committee and the UPR and began

working on an alternative report to CEDAW.

The Office trained NMRF members on reporting against the SDG indicators to better enable them to implement the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR and to include human rights and SDG indicators in their reports. The training also included information on enhancing follow-up to these recommendations by involving CSOs in State reporting. With the support of the Office, it has become a common practice to organize a national and a regional consultation in Tunis prior to the drafting of each report. The Office helped the NMRF to incorporate the work being undertaken by independent bodies on specific human rights issues, such as the independent body fighting human trafficking and the NPM's report on civil and political rights.

OHCHR supported the NMRF to improve its work on follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and continued its capacity-building support on human rights indicators and SDGs, particularly for the new members of the NMRF. As part of the development of the NMRF's website, the Office worked with the NMRF to embed a human rights database into its website. This will serve as a communication tool for the Tunisian NMRF and its civil society partners undertaking advocacy and for its international partners working on specific human rights issues. It is anticipated that the database will be operational by the end of 2020.

## YEMEN

<b>Population size<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Surface area<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Human Development Index<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>NHRI (if applicable)<sup>3</sup></b>
28.16 million	528,000 km <sup>2</sup>	0.463 (rank: 175/188 in 2018)	NA

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Country Office
<b>Year established</b>	2012
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Sana'a, Aden and 22 human rights field monitors in 17 governorates
<b>UN partnership framework</b>	United Nations Strategic Framework for Yemen 2017-2019
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	11

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$4,987,038</b>	
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$7,615,000</b>	
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$4,654,548</b>	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC <sup>4</sup>
<b>53%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>10%</b>
\$2,487,741	\$1,680,497	\$486,311

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

## PILLAR RESULTS:

### Participation (P)

**P5 – The capacity of civil society organizations to protect and promote human rights is strengthened.**



The Office contributed to establishing systems for protection from human rights violations, including by raising awareness and enhancing the understanding of CSOs about the international human rights mechanisms.

During the reporting period, the Office conducted six awareness-raising sessions and workshops targeting local

CSOs and vulnerable groups (IDPs, persons with disabilities, women) and youth across 11 governorates. These activities enabled 258 participants (117 women, 141 men) to increase their knowledge and understanding of the UN system, UN human rights protection mechanisms and other protection mechanisms for victims of human rights violations. As a result, civil society actors are better equipped to support victims of human rights violations and those in need of protection, including by referring them to relevant humanitarian and protection service providers across Yemen and submitting

relevant cases to the Country Office and to the special procedures. These workshops strengthened the relationship between CSOs and OHCHR, resulting in information-sharing and joint responses to alleged human rights violations.

P4 – Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the awareness and capacity of CSOs and relevant actors to identify human rights concerns, utilize the existing humanitarian and protection service providers and referral systems and develop networking opportunities.

During the reporting period, the Office conducted seven awareness-raising sessions and workshops targeting local CSOs and vulnerable groups (IDPs, persons with disabilities, women) and youth across 11 governorates. These activities enabled 262 participants (97 women, 165 men) to increase their knowledge and understanding about available protection for civilians and victims of human rights violations. As a result, civil society actors are better equipped to support victims of human rights violations and those in need of protection and to refer them to relevant humanitarian and protection service providers across Yemen. In addition, these CSOs regularly engaged with the Country Office, as well as with the special procedures, on specific cases of alleged human rights violations. They also coordinated among themselves and with OHCHR to provide support to victims.

## Accountability (A)

A1 – National institutions, including the Ministry of the Interior’s Corrections and Rehabilitation Authority and the National Commission of Inquiry to Investigate Alleged Violations to Human Rights (NCIAVHR), curb human rights violations.



The Office increased the level of compliance of the NCIHVHR with international human rights standards by providing it with specialized training and technical advice.

The Office provided ongoing capacity-building activities for members of the NCIHVHR and enhanced their knowledge and skills regarding international human rights standards and operational capacities. Thanks to OHCHR support, an increased number of field monitors were able to record 2,644 allegations of human rights violations and investigate 1,424 human rights violations between February and July.

In March, an OHCHR training workshop was held on “Principles of monitoring and documentation of international human rights and humanitarian laws.” The workshop enhanced the knowledge of 32 field monitors from the NCIHVHR (four women, 28 men), based in 15 governorates, about international human rights law and CRSV and GBV.

In April, the Office provided technical support to the NCIHVHR to strengthen its database and information technology capacities. This was undertaken following an assessment mission conducted by the Office to identify potential gaps in the NCIHVHR’s information-gathering, storage and management system.

The Office provided solar system units, which are essential for Internet access and electricity, to 30 NCIHVHR field monitors, thereby facilitating their investigations and reporting tasks and enabling them to share reports in a timely manner, consequently contributing to their accountability efforts.

The Office organized a meeting to facilitate dialogue between 37 NCIHVHR field monitors with five NCIHVHR members, including the Head of the NCIHVHR. The meeting provided participants with an opportunity to exchange views and discuss challenges and good practices. The field monitors developed their knowledge and skills on several topics related to the monitoring and documentation of human rights violations. The NCIHVHR members discussed their work approaches, performance and ways to improve their operational capacities.

In November, OHCHR facilitated a consultative meeting of 38 field monitors NCIHVHR, deployed in 15 governorates (seven women, 31 men), to enhance their capacities and encourage information-sharing on various topics, including the proper approach to handling email accounts, the geographical distribution of work and discussions about human rights concerns and trends across governorates. The meeting also served to increase their understanding of the use of evidence-based human rights analysis in the context of prosecuting the perpetrators of human rights violations.


**Peace and Security (PS)**

**PS1 – Violations of international human rights and humanitarian law are monitored and reported; particular attention is given to abuses perpetrated by parties to the conflict, especially arbitrary detention and abuses that target civilians and civilian objectives. The information gathered informs UN responses.**

**5 16** 

The Office contributed to strengthening the judicial system by providing monitoring information on human rights violations in prisons and detention facilities to relevant authorities.

In 2019, OHCHR continued to monitor prisons and detention facilities and provided technical advice aimed at improving detention conditions and promoting compliance with international human rights standards. Despite challenges faced in gaining access to prisons, particularly in the northern governorates, the Office conducted 20 visits to prisons and detention facilities in nine governorates during the reporting period. It identified humanitarian needs, including lack of access to food, drinking water and medical care, as well as human rights concerns with respect to the conduct of law enforcement officials. The human rights concerns were documented and communicated to the responsible authorities to instigate correction measures and ensure accountability. OHCHR also raised concerns about the prisoners' needs with humanitarian actors in Yemen, including the Protection Cluster.

In responding to the conflict and crisis in Yemen, the Office continued monitoring the violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law and deployed two additional field monitors focused on SGBV

and CRSV. During the reporting period, the Office drafted bi-weekly and monthly updates on the human rights situation in Yemen. The findings of human rights monitoring activities were shared with key protection actors, such as members of the Protection Cluster, the monitoring and reporting mechanism of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on grave violations of the rights of the child, the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) and the UNCT in Yemen. The Office's reports contributed essential background information on a variety of advocacy initiatives, including statements and press briefings that were released by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the RC/HC in Yemen, the High Commissioner's oral update on the human rights situation in Yemen during the HRC's fortieth session, the interactive dialogues on the second report of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts and the High Commissioner's report on the implementation of technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen during the HRC's forty-second session.

In 2019, OHCHR supported the establishment of two Community-Based Protection Networks (CBPNs) in the Abyan and Lahej governorates that helped identify human rights violations in their governorate, including SGBV cases. The CBPNs also enhanced the referral mechanism by referring victims/survivors to existing humanitarian and protection service providers in their governorates.

Finally, the Office organized four consultative meetings, in Sanaa, to strengthen the knowledge and understanding of OHCHR staff members, including translators, database personnel and field monitors on gender, SGBV, CRSV and women's economic, social and cultural rights.

## UN HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE FOR SOUTH-WEST ASIA AND THE ARAB REGION

<b>Type of engagement</b>	Regional Centre
<b>Countries of engagement</b>	Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, State of Palestine***, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
<b>Year established</b>	2009
<b>Field office(s)</b>	Doha, Qatar
<b>Staff as of 31 December 2019</b>	6

<b>Total income</b>	<b>US\$297,100</b>		
<b>XB requirements 2019</b>	<b>US\$310,000</b>		
<b>Total XB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$284,052</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC†
	<b>59%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>12%</b>
	\$167,208	\$84,166	\$32,679
<b>Total RB expenditure</b>	<b>US\$763,305</b>		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	
	<b>86%</b>	<b>14%</b>	
	\$657,367	\$105,938	

### Key OMP pillars in 2019



\*\*\* Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

### PILLAR RESULTS:

#### Mechanisms (M)

**M2 – Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.**



17

The Office contributed to the enhanced engagement of NHRIs in **Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Oman, State of Palestine** and **Sudan** and CSOs in **Qatar** and **Sudan** with the international human rights mechanisms, including by raising awareness and building their capacity.

During 2019, the Centre provided support to various stakeholders to enhance

their knowledge and improve their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. In cooperation with regional and national partners, the Centre organized 14 capacity-building and training programmes, including six regional training sessions that were attended by 527 participants (245 women) from various backgrounds and institutions.

In November, the Office and the Arab Network for National Human Rights Institutions organized a training on the role of NHRIs in human rights monitoring and reporting in Amman. The training was delivered by OHCHR staff and experts from the Jordanian NHRI to build the capacity of 18 participants (eight women) from NHRIs in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, State of Palestine, and Sudan and to increase their knowledge about human rights monitoring and reporting.

In November, the Office organized a training on the UN human rights system and the application of an HRBA, in Doha, for 15 participants (seven women) from the Qatar Social Work Foundation. The Foundation serves as a platform for discussions on social issues in the country and is composed of a number of affiliated centres that focus on protection and social rehabilitation, family counselling, orphan care, empowerment and care for the elderly, persons with disabilities and social development. The training provided the participants with practical knowledge on the international human rights system, including the functioning of the human rights mechanisms and ways that an HRBA can be applied in their work.

In December, OHCHR collaborated with the Regional Centre for Training and Development of Civil Society to organize a training, in Khartoum, on the UN human

rights system and an HRBA. The training brought together 40 participants from Sudanese NGOs and representatives of the Ministry of Youth and Sport and enhanced their knowledge about the international human rights system and its mechanisms.

## Participation (P)

**P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.**



The Office helped to increase the extent to which the ongoing implementation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education is in compliance with international human rights norms and standards. This was undertaken by facilitating dialogue between relevant stakeholders to review lessons learned and exchange good practices in the context of planning the fourth phase of the Programme (2020-2024).

In addition, in April, the Office organized a round-table discussion with 12 experts from the Arab region to review prospects and exchange experiences related to working with youth in the field of human rights. The experts highlighted previous UN initiatives and plans focused on human rights education, emphasized their linkages with the previous three phases of the Programme and described the work that was undertaken to include human rights in formal and informal education, including through the adoption of legislation and policies, planning, programmes and unofficial activities.

In December, OHCHR organized a workshop on the fourth phase of the Programme, in Tunis, for more than 40

participants from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, State of Palestine, Qatar, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States. More than half of the participants were women and approximately half were youth representing various governmental institutions, CSOs and the National Human Rights Committee.

The participants exchanged ideas about good practices, initiatives, curricula, methods and tools in relation to human rights education for youth in the region. They also explored some of the specific challenges being faced, including in relation to equality, human rights, non-discrimination and respect for diversity and opportunities to address these issues. Moreover, participants discussed the roles of their respective institutions and suggested ways that they could help to advance the implementation of the fourth phase. The Centre indicated its intention to follow up with the participants and encouraged all stakeholders to play an effective role in implementing the fourth phase.

**P4 – Further strengthened the network of Women Human Rights Defenders in the region who have increased their capacity to address areas of concern and to participate.**



The Office contributed to increasing the level of meaningful participation of women in select public processes by building networks and alliances of WHRDs in the region.

In October, OHCHR and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls organized a workshop entitled “Towards legal protection for the safety

of women’s human rights defenders” in Casablanca, Morocco. The workshop brought together approximately 30 WHRDs, activists and lawyers from Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, State of Palestine, Sudan and Tunisia to build on their common ground and exchange goals and experiences in the promotion and protection of women’s human rights.

The Office presented information on the international human rights mechanisms, the role of the human rights treaty bodies, the HRC, the special procedures and individual complaint procedures. The sessions emphasized the important role of HRDs in submitting written communications related to the violations of human rights.

**P5 – In two countries, OHCHR increases its monitoring and reporting on human rights violations committed against civil society.**



The Office contributed to increased monitoring and reporting on human rights violations by building the capacity of different stakeholders to address violations of freedom of speech, expression and assembly.

In April, on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, the Office organized a national seminar on “New media spaces: Opportunities and challenges” and a national training workshop on “Protection of human rights in new media spaces” in Rabat, Morocco. These activities were undertaken in collaboration with the Al-Shuruq Centre for Media, Democracy and Human Rights and the Al-Jazeera Public Liberties and Human Rights Centre.

The seminar was attended by 60 participants, government officials, academics, university students and researchers, 25 of whom were women. The seminar focused on the challenges and opportunities presented by new media and digital technology from a human rights perspective. More specifically, participants discussed freedom of speech and expression, freedom of assembly, how new media is being used to spread discrimination and incitement to hatred and innovative ways that previously voiceless groups can use new media for outreach. Various relevant initiatives were explored that dealt with emerging challenges, such as the phenomenon of terrorism, extremism and responsibilities of the Internet industry. Finally, participants discussed the fundamental risks for violations of the right to privacy due to the unprecedented capacities of governments to monitor users in digital spaces as a result of technological advancements.

The training workshop was attended by 32 journalists, half of whom were women from various media platforms, and media students. The training addressed guarantees of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the right to access and disseminate information and the right to participate in public affairs under international and regional human rights law. In addition, the training discussed the role of the media in promoting human rights and a human rights-based approach to journalism. The participants exchanged ideas on initiatives to counter the spread of speech advocating national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence.

### Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1— National laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination and in particular discrimination against religious, ethnic and national minorities, people with disabilities, migrants and women facing discrimination, and responsible authorities actively work to “leave no one behind”, including by addressing the root causes of inequality and couple the SDG agenda and HR.



The Office contributed to improving the human rights narrative regarding minority rights and religious freedoms by producing specialized guidance materials that were translated into Arabic.

During the reporting period, OHCHR issued two publications, in Arabic, on minority rights. The Compilation of Recommendations of the first 10 sessions of the United Nations Forum on Minority Issues: 2008 to 2017, which covers the right to education, political participation, economic rights, the rights of minority women, statelessness as a minority issue, religious minorities, minorities in the criminal justice system and minorities in situations of humanitarian crises. The reference guide Minorities’ rights: Standards and guidance reproduces the main documents related to minority rights, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, the Commentary of the Working Group on minorities to the Declaration, the relevant general comments/recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the Guidance Note of the Secretary-General on racial discrimination and protection of minorities and the mandate and methods of work of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues.

To enhance freedom of religion and facilitate the creation of harmony between religious values and human rights principles, the Office revised, edited, translated into Arabic and published the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence and the Beirut Declaration and its 18 commitments on “Faith for Rights,” as well as other statements issued by the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The Office will distribute the publications to the participants of the training programme, its partners and other OHCHR field presences.

# UN HUMAN RIGHTS AT HEADQUARTERS

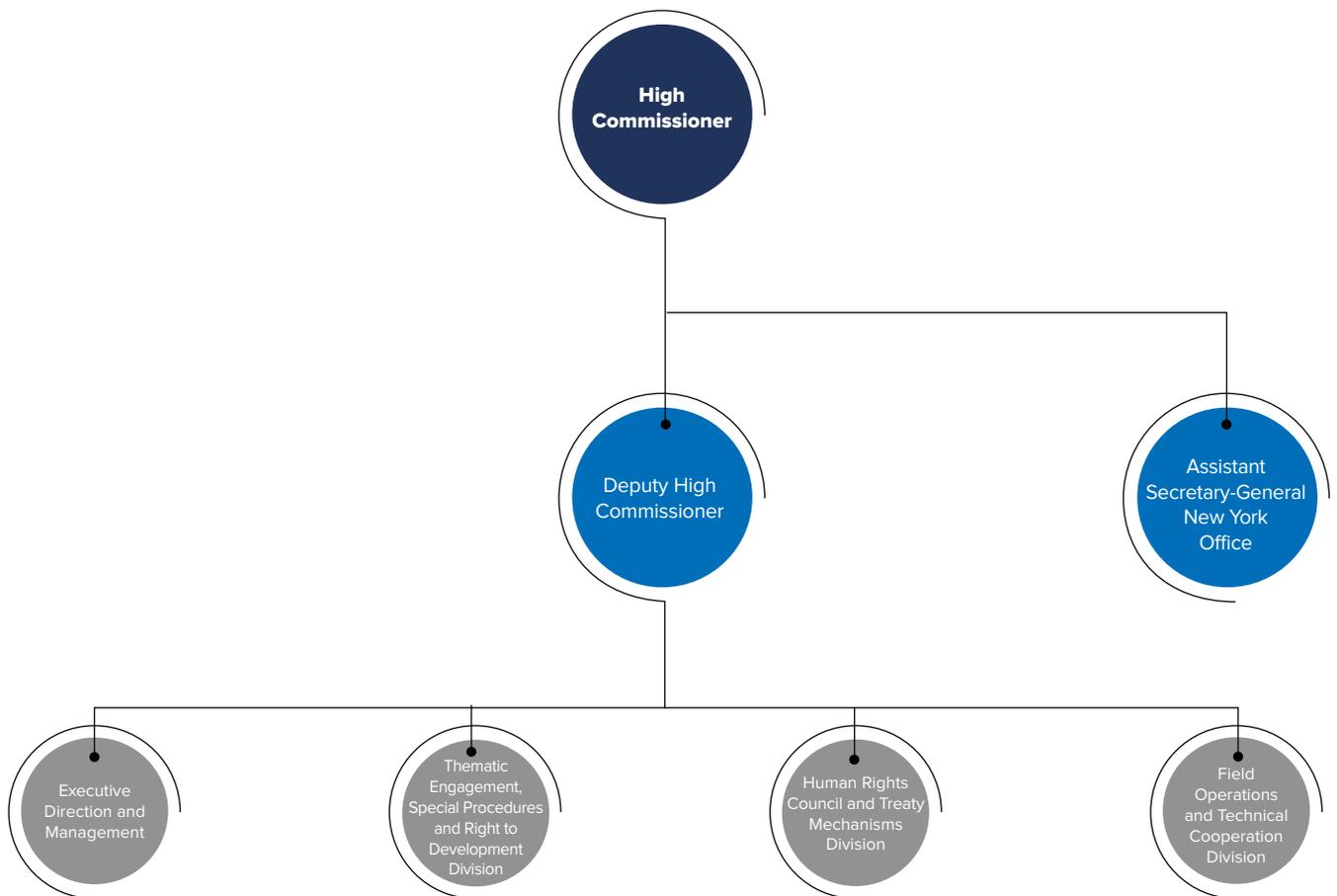


Palais Wilson, OHCHR Geneva headquarters. ©OHCHR

## BACKGROUND

OHCHR headquarters is located in Geneva and it also maintains an office in New York. The Geneva-based headquarters consists of three substantive divisions and the Executive Direction

and Management, which handles management, planning, coordination and outreach functions. This chapter outlines their structure, functions and key achievements in 2019.



**EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT**

The Executive Direction and Management directly supports the High Commissioner, the Deputy High Commissioner and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights in their work and indirectly the entire Office. It is composed of the Executive Office, the New York Office, the External Outreach Service, the Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service, the Programme Support and Management Services and the Safety and Security Section.

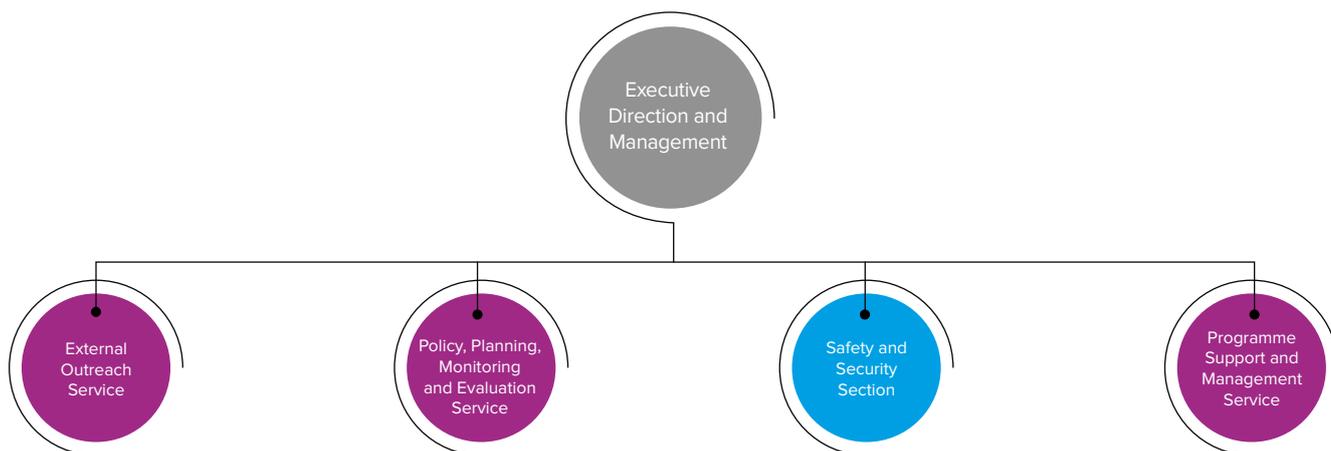
Reinforcing existing partnerships and building meaningful new ones was a key feature of the High Commissioner’s work in 2019. As the United Nations system’s principal advocate for the promotion and protection of human rights, the High Commissioner voiced concerns about global human rights issues through country missions, statements and briefings. The High Commissioner also worked towards strengthening the role of Member States as duty-bearers by proposing assistance that would enable States to build effective national human rights protection systems, including legal frameworks, institutions and practices, and promote respect for and enjoyment of human rights for all without discrimination.

The High Commissioner, the Deputy High Commissioner and the Assistant-Secretary-General for Human Rights engaged in dialogue with Members States, the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly, as well as with numerous other stakeholders. These efforts were guided by the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP), which provides the road map for the work of the organization until 2021.

Member States, civil society, human rights institutions, regional organizations and many other partners benefited from the High Commissioner’s leadership and advocacy role in addressing issues of mutual interest and concern. These same actors contributed to the High Commissioner’s analysis of activities that can bring about positive change.

Advocacy by the High Commissioner, the Deputy High Commissioner and the Assistant Secretary-General took the form of keynote speeches and participation at important events in 2019, such as Human Rights Day, the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP25), and the Tech Festival.

On 6 December 2019, the Secretary-General announced the appointment of Nada Al-Nashif of Jordan as Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights and of Ilze Brands Kehris of Latvia as Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head of the OHCHR New York Office.



## Executive Office

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The Executive Office (EO) supports the High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner in their daily work, primarily in their interactions with partners. The EO assists them in relation to their strategic leadership and management activities, ensures coordination between divisions of the Office and the integration of the Office's priorities, including a gender perspective, into submitted inputs. The Executive Office is the principal focal point for overall coordination with the UN system and, in close collaboration with the New York Office, with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. It also facilitates the efficient processing of internal and external communications and correspondence. The EO provides substantive guidance to all parts of OHCHR headquarters and field operations, including on key legal issues, notably arising in the preparation of meetings with partners, and speeches and reports of the Secretary-General or the High Commissioner to UN intergovernmental bodies.

The EO continued to act as the Office's coordination focal point for the implementation of the Human Rights Screening Policy, leading to a substantial increase in the workload during the reporting period. The EO also supported the Executive Office of the Secretary-General with the recruitment processes for the posts of Deputy High Commissioner and Assistant Secretary-General, following their advertisement during the second half of the year, and took steps to support the transition.

In 2019, the EO supported the High Commissioner's and the Deputy High Commissioner's missions to Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Fiji, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia,

Mexico, New Zealand, Senegal, Tunisia and Venezuela. In addition, the High Commissioner actively participated in COP25, which was held in Madrid, Spain, and the Deputy High Commissioner attended the Tech Festival in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The legal policy team in the Executive Office provided legal advice to the High Commissioner on current and emerging issues and identified areas where the High Commissioner's legal advocacy could be brought to bear. In 2019, the High Commissioner filed *amicus curiae* briefs before the European Court of Human Rights and the Constitutional Court of Ecuador on key issues of legal concern to her. The legal policy team and the UN Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) provided extensive advice on the operationalization of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar, which was declared operational by the Secretary-General, in August. OLA and the EO maintained close cooperation throughout the reporting period, with a focus on accountability issues that arose in relation to requests from international, regional and national judicial mechanisms for judicial cooperation. The legal policy team in the EO also advised on the negotiation and conclusion of agreements with Member States - particularly for the formal establishment or renewal of OHCHR field presences in Colombia, Niger, Sudan and Uganda - as well as arrangements with regional mechanisms.

Following the 2018 launch of the internal "Light Up" challenge to promote innovation across the organization, in accordance with the OMP 2018-2021, the EO coordinated the establishment of an informal network of innovators called the "Light Up! Innovation Engine," in 2019. The EO provided coordination and

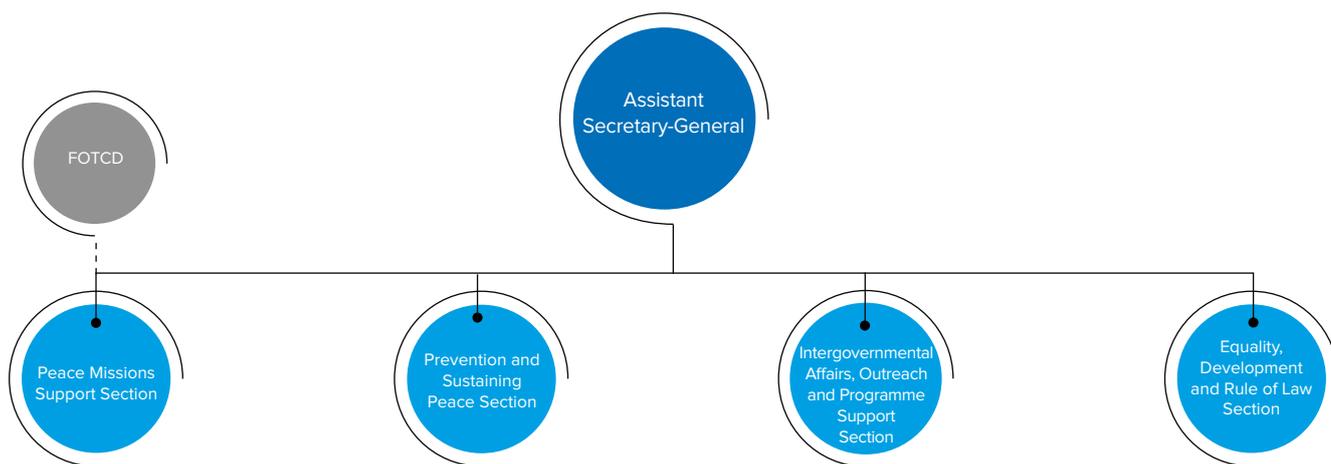
Secretariat services for its 25 members and ensured that the group participated in and contributed to UN and other key forums on innovation, including on follow-up to decisions issued by the Chief Executives Board for Coordination. As part of the "Light Up! Innovation Engine" initiative, two pilot projects on e-learning and data visualization were supported by interns from the University of Geneva's Innovation Hub, which is in charge of the Master's Programme in Innovation, Human Development and Sustainability. The EO provided direction and coordination for the implementation of the nine Organizational Effectiveness Action Plans (OEAPs) across the Office with a special emphasis on the participation of field presences. The EO played a leading role in accelerating the delivery of OEAPs.

### New York Office

OHCHR’s New York Office (NYO) is headed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights. The principal objective of the NYO is to integrate human rights norms and standards into policies, discussions and decisions made in intergovernmental, inter-departmental and inter-agency bodies at UN Headquarters in New York, including by engaging with Member States, intergovernmental bodies, UN system entities, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the media. Under the leadership of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, the NYO is responsible for the reprisals mandate, which seeks to strengthen the UN’s response to intimidation and reprisals against those cooperating with the UN on human rights matters.

The NYO is composed of four substantive sections, namely, the Intergovernmental Affairs, Outreach and Programme Support Section, the Equality, Development and Rule of Law Section, the Prevention and Sustaining Peace Section and the Peace Missions Support Section.

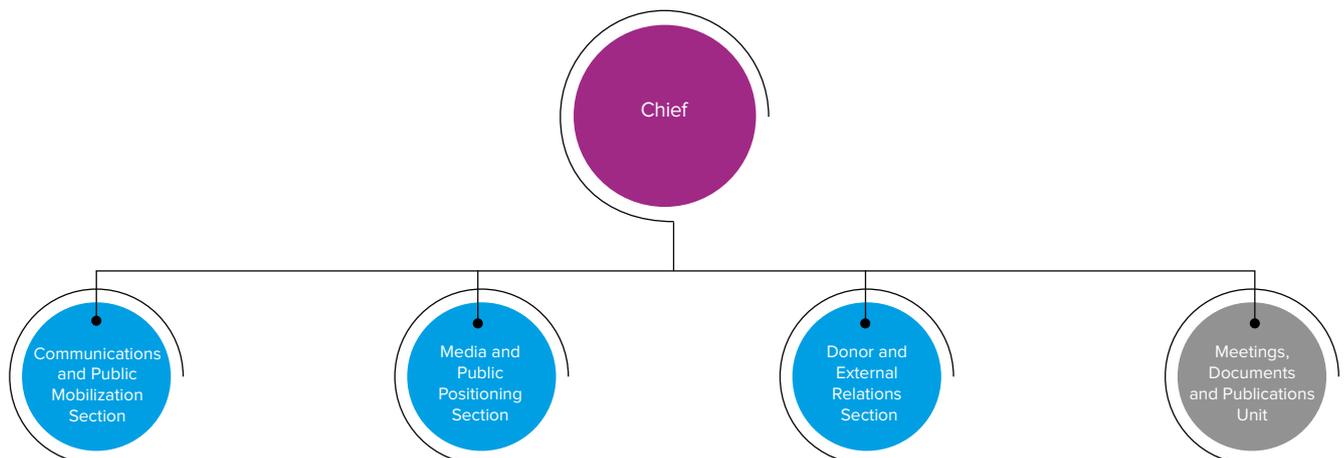
- The **Intergovernmental Affairs, Outreach and Programme Support Section** leads engagement with the General Assembly and other intergovernmental bodies, media correspondents, civil society organizations and academic institutions in New York.
- The **Equality, Development and Rule of Law Section** covers all special groups and issues relating to equality and non-discrimination, rule of law, counter-terrorism, justice, reprisals as well as human rights and development issues.
- The **Prevention and Sustaining Peace Section** works to mainstream human rights into wider UN efforts to prevent conflict and crisis and promote sustainable peace; and
- The **Peace Missions Support Section** works to support the integration of human rights into UN peace operations through support for planning and the operations of human rights components of peace missions. It has a dual reporting line to FOTCD at headquarters.



## External Outreach Service

The External Outreach Service (EOS) leads OHCHR's external outreach efforts and works to create synergies between the different external relations sections to maximize the impact of their work. The External Outreach Service is composed of four sections, namely, the Communications and Public Mobilization Section, the Donor and External Relations Section, the Media and Public Positioning Section and the Meetings, Documents and Publications Unit.

- The **Communications and Public Mobilization Section** focuses on the branding of the Office and develops and implements outreach strategies for the Office's engagement with new audiences. The Section works closely with the High Commissioner and the Office to draw attention to critical human rights situations, advocate for the practical implementation of human rights standards and inform rights-holders about their rights. The Section's main functions include the development and distribution of public information campaigns, the production of print, audiovisual and online outreach materials, engagement with the public through social media and the provision of support to the Office regarding relevant communications. The Section coordinates with the United Nations Department of Global Communications to mainstream human rights and strengthen coherence for increased visibility.
- The **Donor and External Relations Section** has primary responsibility for mobilizing financial resources to enable OHCHR to implement its programme of work, as outlined in the OMP 2018-2021. It does so by building robust relationships with existing donors and exploring funding opportunities with potential donors. The Section mobilizes funds, negotiates and manages a large number of contribution agreements and organizes and services numerous meetings, briefings and consultations with donors. In addition, it serves as an entry point for Member States and others seeking general information on OHCHR's current work, future priorities and funding needs.
- The **Media and Public Positioning Section** focuses on engagement with the media and promotes the messaging of the High Commissioner and the Office through speeches, news releases, press briefings and other media products and activities. In 2019, the Section managed the media launch of a number of major reports and key missions undertaken by the High Commissioner.



• The **Meetings, Documents and Publications Unit** is responsible for coordinating OHCHR's annual programme of around 220 meetings and for planning, coordinating, verifying and submitting all OHCHR official documents for processing. It provides advice on documentation and meetings management. The Unit is responsible for the OHCHR Publications Programme and serves as Secretariat to the Office's publications oversight body, the OHCHR Publications Committee, for which it provides publishing policy advice and operational support. The Unit develops policies for the planning, quality assurance, distribution and impact assessment of OHCHR publications. It oversees the production of OHCHR publications in print and electronic formats and in all official UN languages, and disseminates thousands of print materials to varied target audiences worldwide.

#### **Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service**

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The Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Service (PPMES) takes the lead in translating the High Commissioner's strategic vision into concrete priorities and operational programmes that focus on the achievement of results. The Service works to instil a culture of results-based planning, programming and budgeting across OHCHR. It ensures that programme implementation and results are effectively monitored, including programme risks, and evaluated and that lessons learned and good practices are incorporated into programme design and implementation. Through ongoing analysis of OHCHR's organizational environment, PPMES helps to identify substantive or managerial gaps in OHCHR's policies and results-based programming and proposes remedial actions.

In 2019, PPMES prepared the first annual programme plan in line with the Secretary-General's ongoing management reform of the UN Secretariat. It also provided programmatic guidance to OHCHR programming entities with regard to the roll-out of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) in the context of the UN Development System reform at the country level.

### Programme Support and Management Services

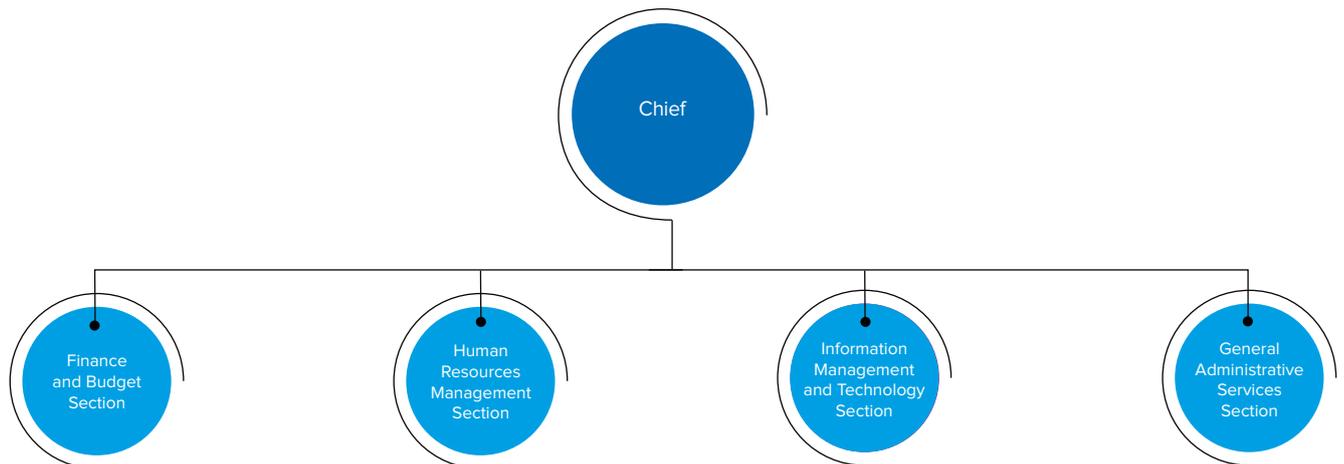
The Programme Support and Management Services (PSMS) provide administrative support within the Office, including budget and financial management, recruitment and human resources management, procurement, asset management and general logistical support, travel services, information technology and staff development. The PSMS consist of the Finance and Budget Section, the General Administrative Services Section, the Human Resources Management Section and the Information Management and Technology Section.

Within the context of the Secretary-General's overall management reform, full decision-making authority in the areas of finance and budget, human resources, procurement and property management, was delegated to all Heads of Entities from 1 January 2019. In this context, a phased approach to implementing the delegations of authority in all administrative areas continued in 2019, with the objective of exercising full delegation by OHCHR in all areas in 2020. OHCHR also pursued the phased roll-out of Umoja to field presences in 2019, with successful implementations taking place in Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and Uganda.

A number of health, well-being, fairness and equality strategies were launched in 2019. Measures included two reviews of the conditions of service for national and general service staff in field presences and headquarters locations; the development of a mental health and well-being action plan; the implementation of 360-degree feedback review for all managers and supervisors; and the issuance of internal protocols on prohibited conduct in the workplace.

### Safety and Security Section

The Safety and Security Section coordinates security operations in accordance with the established UN security risk management practices and in close coordination with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security. The Section is an integral part of the OHCHR mechanism to support activities mandated by the Human Rights Council (HRC), such as fact-finding missions and commissions of inquiry.

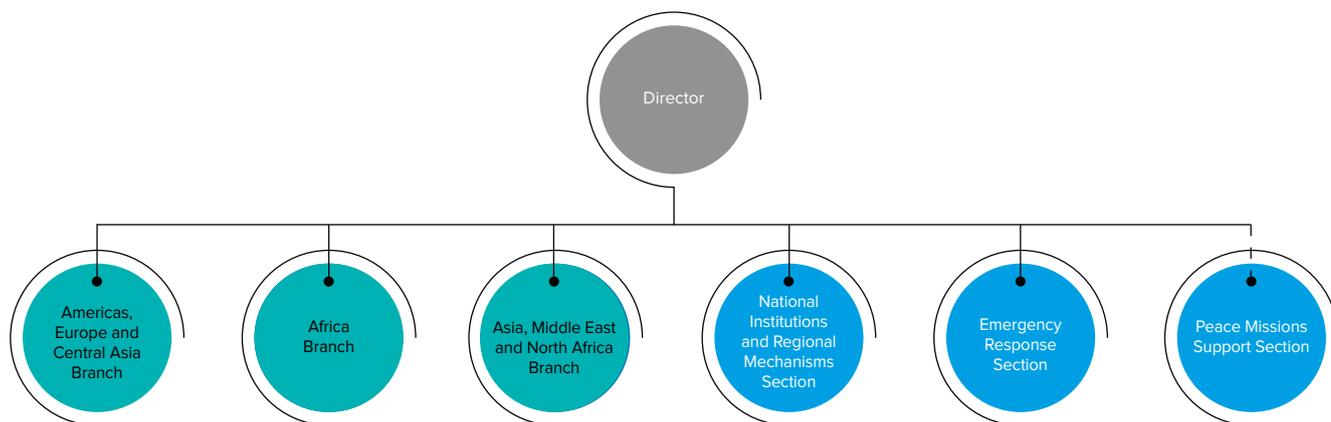


The Section participates in system-wide UN security policymaking forums to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed into staff security policies and that procedures are applicable to all UN agencies, funds and programmes. At the operational level, the Section conducts security risk assessments, provides technical supervision and assistance on policies, procedures and minimum operating security standards for all staff, field presences and activities and manages the global security clearance and travel advisory service. It also provides support to the human rights mechanisms during country visits and missions.

**FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION**

The Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division (FOTCD) is composed of the Office of the Director and three geographic branches, which in turn are divided into five sections, namely, Africa I (East and Southern Africa), Africa II (West and Central Africa), Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and North Africa, the Americas, and Europe and Central Asia. It also includes three specialized support sections, namely, the National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms Section, the Emergency Response Section and the Peace Missions Support Section. These geographic branches and sections are responsible for the day-to-day work of OHCHR in the field, such as following human rights developments at the national and regional levels, interacting with governments, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), civil society actors and the UN system, and engaging with the international human rights mechanisms.

FOTCD is based at OHCHR headquarters in Geneva and the Peace Missions Support Section is located in the New York Office. FOTCD provides substantive, programmatic, budgetary and human resource support and strategic oversight to all OHCHR field presences.



The Division is responsible for providing direction, management and support to the work and engagement of OHCHR in the field at national, regional and international levels. This is achieved through 84 human rights presences in the field undertaking monitoring, analysis and reporting on human rights developments, early warning and prevention activities, providing advisory services and technical cooperation, deploying human rights capacity to the Resident Coordinators and Country Teams under the UNSDG Framework and by managing the deployment of monitoring, fact-finding and emergency response missions. In addition, OHCHR contributes to broader United Nations efforts on human rights, peace and security and development (the three United Nations pillars), including through the integration of human rights across and within all pillars.

FOTCD is responsible for the implementation of the High Commissioner's mandate and supports the implementation of the specific mandates of the HRC and General Assembly in relation to public reporting on human rights issues in countries and disputed territories. This includes 12 special procedures country mandates of the HRC and the establishment of and support to international commissions of inquiry, fact-finding missions and investigations mandated by the Council. In cooperation with other parts of OHCHR, FOTCD contributes to strengthening the understanding of national authorities and civil society actors about international human rights standards and their capacities to translate these standards into national-level legislation, regulations and policies. The ultimate objective of this work is to ensure that duty-bearers are better equipped to address chronic and emerging human rights issues and that rights-holders are better protected and

empowered. FOTCD fulfils its consultation and cooperation role with national, regional and international partners, including government actors, NHRIs, civil society, regional organizations and the United Nations system.

The **Emergency Response Section** coordinates OHCHR's engagement in and effective response to ongoing or emerging crises and ensures, from a prevention perspective, that potential emergency situations are addressed through the deployment of fact-finding, monitoring or emergency response missions, the provision of early warning and information management and the integration of human rights into humanitarian action. This includes the deployment of human rights teams in the context of complex emergencies or natural disasters or for the purpose of preventive advocacy and action, including participation in multidisciplinary UN teams under the Secretary-General's Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Action Plan. The Section is also responsible for the operationalization of activities mandated by United Nations intergovernmental bodies (mainly the Human Rights Council), such as the establishment of and support to commissions of inquiry and fact-finding missions. Moreover, the Section leads the provision of early warning information management and analyses to various UN processes, including the United Nations Operations and Crisis Centre and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness.

The **Peace Missions Support Section**, located in the New York Office, provides strategic and operational support and guidance to the human rights components of United Nations peacekeeping and special political missions and supports the implementation of Security

Council mandates for United Nations peace operations, in close coordination with the FOTCD geographic Branches. The Peace Missions Support Section ensures that the UN peace and security agenda integrates human rights into activities undertaken at political, strategic and operational levels.

The **National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms Section** provides advice and support to the establishment and strengthening of NHRIs, in compliance with the Paris Principles, and serves as the Secretariat for the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). The Section is focused on strengthening cooperation and engagement between the regional human rights mechanisms and the international human rights mechanisms.

The Division also administers the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights and acts as Secretariat of its Board of Trustees.

**THEMATIC ENGAGEMENT, SPECIAL PROCEDURES AND RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

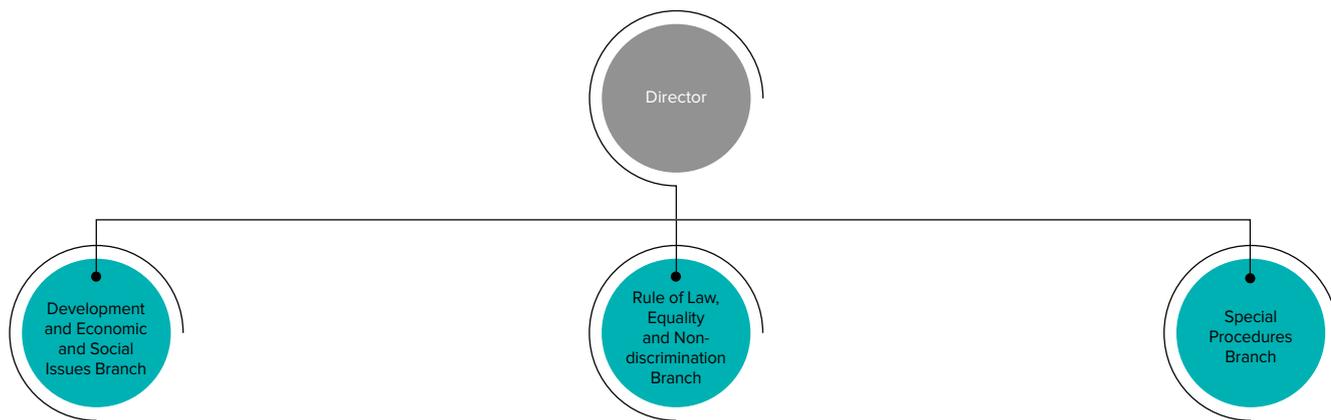
The Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division (TESPRDD) is composed of the Office of the Director, the Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch, the Rule of Law, Equality and Non-discrimination Branch and the Special Procedures Branch.

The Division’s main functions include:

- Supporting the High Commissioner’s global leadership role in advocacy on thematic human rights issues in terms of research, advice, advocacy and capacity-development.
- Developing methodologies and policies relating to human rights work, namely translating international human rights law and principles into practical methods, approaches, standards, procedures and tools for the human rights work that is carried out by OHCHR and other UN, international and national actors.
- Promoting the integration of human rights into the policy, management and operational work of the UN in order to strengthen its normative and operational linkages. This is primarily undertaken through OHCHR’s work with the UNSDG, in connection with the HRuF Action Plan, through participation in inter-agency groups, during meetings

and through bilateral cooperation with UN agencies, programmes and UN Country Teams (UNCTs). The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provide the framework for this work.

- Contributing to increased knowledge and understanding of human rights through education and training, the development of materials, policies, methodologies and programmes and the provision of training, advice and coordination under the Plan of Action for the Third Phase (2015-2019) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education.
- Supporting the international human rights mechanisms, in particular the special procedures, and providing substantive input and organizational assistance to the HRC.
- Taking the lead with respect to ensuring that a gender perspective is effectively integrated into all OHCHR policies, programmes and processes and contributing to enhanced staff skills in this regard.



The work of the **Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch** and the **Rule of Law, Equality and Non-discrimination Branch** includes conducting thematic research and contributing to policy development and the mainstreaming of human rights across the work of the United Nations; producing tools and learning packages and providing expertise on human rights themes to many stakeholders, as mandated by the HRC, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and as specified in internationally agreed development goals; and leading efforts to advance the right to development in accordance with the High Commissioner's mandate to promote and protect the realization of the right to development and to enhance support from relevant bodies of the United Nations system for this purpose. The two branches also undertake human rights research and advocacy work and contribute to national-level implementation through the provision of advisory services, legal and policy reviews and capacity-development, which is often undertaken by OHCHR field presences.

The **Special Procedures Branch** supports the special procedures system and its thematic mandates. In 2019, the system was composed of 56 mandates (44 thematic and 12 country mandates) with 80 mandate holders. Special procedures contribute to the development of international human rights law; undertake thematic studies; conduct country visits; send communications to States and other actors regarding human rights cases and issues; provide advisory services; and engage in awareness-raising activities. SPB supports these mandates in the abovementioned functional areas; on policy issues; and in adopting efficiency measures through streamlining work processes and strengthening the special procedures system. This is primarily achieved through cooperation between human rights systems at the international, regional and national level and the UN system and other stakeholders. SPB assisted the Coordination Committee of special procedures mandate holders throughout the year and supported the engagement of special procedures with regional mechanisms, such as the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

## Special Procedures Mandate Holders (as at 31 December 2019)

MANDATE	ESTABLISHED	MANDATE HOLDER
<b>Country-specific mandates</b>		
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in <b>Belarus</b>	2012	Ms. <b>Anais Marin</b> (France) since October 2018
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in <b>Cambodia</b>	1993	Ms. <b>Rhona Smith</b> (United Kingdom) since May 2015
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the <b>Central African Republic</b>	2013	Ms. <b>Marie-Therese Keita Bocoum</b> (Côte d'Ivoire) until October 2019 and Mr. <b>Yao Agbetse</b> (Togo) since November 2019
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the <b>Democratic People's Republic of Korea</b>	2004	Mr. <b>Tomás Ojea Quintana</b> (Argentina) since August 2016
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in <b>Eritrea</b>	2012	Ms. <b>Daniela Kravetz</b> (Chile) since November 2018
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the <b>Islamic Republic of Iran</b>	2011	Mr. <b>Javaid Rehman</b> (Pakistan) since June 2018
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in <b>Mali</b>	2013	Mr. <b>Alioune Tine</b> (Senegal) since May 2018
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in <b>Myanmar</b>	1992	Ms. <b>Yanghee Lee</b> (Republic of Korea) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the <b>Palestinian territory occupied since 1967</b>	1993	Mr. <b>Michael Lynk</b> (Canada) since May 2016
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in <b>Somalia</b>	1993	Mr. <b>Bahame Tom Mukirya Nyanduga</b> (United Republic of Tanzania) since June 2014
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the <b>Sudan</b>	2005 (SR) 2009 (IE)	Mr. <b>Aristide Nononsi</b> (Benin) since December 2014
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the <b>Syrian Arab Republic</b>	2011	Mr. <b>Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro</b> (Brazil) will start once the mandate of the Commission of inquiry ends

## Thematic mandates

Working Group of experts on people of <b>African descent</b>	2002	Mr. <b>Ahmed Reid</b> (Jamaica) since November 2015 Mr. <b>Michal Balcerzak</b> (Poland) since December 2014 Mr. <b>Ricardo III Sunga</b> (the Philippines) since December 2014 Ms. <b>Dominique Day</b> (United States of America) since November 2018 Mr. <b>Sabelo Gumedze</b> (South Africa) since August 2014
Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by <b>persons with albinism</b>	2015	Ms. <b>Ikponwosa Ero</b> (Nigeria) since August 2015 Mr. <b>Sètondji Roland Jean-Baptiste Adjovi</b> (Benin) since June 2014 Mr. <b>Seong-Phil Hong</b> (Republic of Korea) since August 2014 Ms. <b>Elina Steinerte</b> (Latvia) since November 2016 Ms. <b>Leigh Toomey</b> (Australia) since August 2015 Mr. <b>José Guevara</b> (Mexico) since June 2014
Working Group on <b>Arbitrary Detention</b>	1991	Ms. <b>Karima Bennoune</b> (USA) since November 2015 Mr. <b>Saad Alfarargi</b> (Egypt) since March 2017 Mr. <b>Livingstone Sewanyana</b> (Uganda) since May 2018 Ms. <b>Elizabeth Broderick</b> (Australia) since November 2017 Ms. <b>Melissa Upreti</b> (Nepal) since November 2017 Ms. <b>Meskerem Techane</b> (Ethiopia) since November 2017 Ms. <b>Ivana Radacic</b> (Croatia) since November 2017 Ms. <b>Alda Facio</b> (Costa Rica) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur in the field of <b>cultural rights</b>	2009	Ms. <b>Catalina Devandas Aguilar</b> (Costa Rica) since December 2014 Mr. <b>Henrikas Mickevicius</b> (Lithuania) since September 2015 Mr. <b>Bernard Duhaime</b> (Canada) since December 2014 Mr. <b>Luciano Hazan</b> (Argentina) since May 2017 Mr. <b>Tae-Ung Baik</b> (Republic of Korea) since August 2015 Ms. <b>Houria Es Slami</b> (Morocco) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the right to <b>development</b>	2016	Ms. <b>Boly Barry Koumbou</b> (Burkina Faso) since August 2016
Independent expert on the promotion of a <b>democratic and equitable international order</b>	2011	Mr. <b>David R. Boyd</b> (Canada) since August 2018
Working Group on <b>discrimination against women and girls</b>	2010	
Special Rapporteur on the rights of <b>persons with disabilities</b>	2014	
Working Group on <b>enforced or involuntary disappearances</b>	1980	
Special Rapporteur on the right to <b>education</b>	1998	
Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable <b>environment</b>	2012	

Special Rapporteur on extreme <b>poverty</b> and human rights	1998	Mr. <b>Philip Alston</b> (Australia) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the right to <b>food</b>	2000	Ms. <b>Hilal Elver</b> (Turkey) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to <b>freedom of opinion and expression</b>	1993	Mr. <b>David Kaye</b> (USA) since August 2014
Special Rapporteur on the <b>rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association</b>	2010	Mr. <b>Nyaletsossi Clément Voule</b> (Togo) since May 2018
Special Rapporteur on <b>freedom of religion or belief</b>	1986	Mr. <b>Ahmed Shaheed</b> (Maldives) since November 2016
Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental <b>health</b>	2002	Mr. <b>Dainius Pūras</b> (Lithuania) since August 2014
Special Rapporteur on adequate <b>housing</b> as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living	2000	Ms. <b>Leilani Farha</b> (Canada) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the situation of <b>human rights defenders</b>	2000	Mr. <b>Michel Forst</b> (France) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the <b>independence of judges and lawyers</b>	1994	Mr. <b>Diego García-Sayán</b> (Peru) since December 2016
Special Rapporteur on the rights of <b>indigenous peoples</b>	2001	Ms. <b>Victoria Lucia Tauli-Corpuz</b> (Philippines) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the human rights of <b>internally displaced persons</b>	2004	Ms. <b>Cecilia Jimenez-Damary</b> (Philippines) since November 2016
Special Rapporteur on the elimination of <b>discrimination against persons affected by leprosy</b> and their family members	2017	Ms. <b>Alice Cruz</b> (Portugal) since November 2017
Working Group on the use of <b>mercenaries</b> as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	2005	Mr. <b>Chris Kwaja</b> (Nigeria) since May 2018 Mr. <b>Saeed Mokbil</b> (Yemen) since June 2014 Ms. <b>Lillian Bobea</b> (Dominican Republic) since May 2018 Ms. <b>Jelena Aparac</b> (Croatia) since May 2018 Mr. <b>Sorcha Macleod</b> (United Kingdom) since August 2018
Special Rapporteur on the human rights of <b>migrants</b>	1999	Mr. <b>Felipe González Morales</b> (Chile) since August 2017
Special Rapporteur on <b>minority issues</b>	2005	Mr. <b>Fernand De Varennes</b> (Canada) since August 2017
Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by <b>older persons</b>	2013	Ms. <b>Rosa Kornfeld-Matte</b> (Chile) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the right to <b>privacy</b>	2015	Mr. <b>Joseph Cannataci</b> (Malta) since July 2015
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of <b>racism</b> , racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	1993	Ms. <b>E. Tendayi Achiume</b> (Zambia) since November 2017
Special Rapporteur on the <b>sale and sexual exploitation of children</b> , including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material	1990	Ms. <b>Maud De Boer-Buquicchio</b> (The Netherlands) since June 2014

Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on <b>sexual orientation and gender identity</b>	2016	Mr. <b>Victor Madrigal-Borloz</b> (Costa Rica) since January 2018
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of <b>slavery</b> , including its causes and its consequences	2007	Ms. <b>Urmila Bhoola</b> (South Africa) since June 2014
Independent Expert on human rights and <b>international solidarity</b>	2005	Mr. <b>Obiora C. Okafor</b> (Nigeria) since August 2017
Special Rapporteur on <b>extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions</b>	1982	Ms. <b>Agnès Callamard</b> (France) since August 2016
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering <b>terrorism</b>	2005	Ms. <b>Fionnuala Ni Aoláin</b> (Ireland) since August 2017
Special Rapporteur on <b>torture</b> and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	1985	Mr. <b>Nils Melzer</b> (Switzerland) since November 2016
Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of <b>hazardous substances and wastes</b>	1995	Mr. <b>Baskut Tuncak</b> (Turkey) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on <b>trafficking in persons</b> , especially women and children	2004	Ms. <b>Maria Grazia Giammarinaro</b> (Italy) since August 2014
Working Group on the issue of human rights and <b>transnational corporations</b> and other business enterprises	2011	Mr. <b>Surya Deva</b> (India) since May 2016 Mr. <b>Githu Muigai</b> (Kenya) since August 2018 Mr. <b>Elzbieta Karska</b> (Poland) since August 2018 Mr. <b>Dante Pesce</b> (Chile) since May 2015 Ms. <b>Anita Ramasastry</b> (USA) since August 2016
Special Rapporteur on the promotion of <b>truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence</b>	2011	Mr. <b>Fabián Salvioli</b> (Argentina) since May 2018
Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of <b>unilateral coercive measures</b> on the enjoyment of human rights	2014	Mr. <b>Idriss Jazairy</b> (Algeria) since May 2015
Special Rapporteur on <b>violence against women</b> , its causes and consequences	1994	Ms. <b>Dubravka Šimonovic</b> (Croatia) since August 2015
Independent Expert on the effects of <b>foreign debt</b> and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights	2000	Mr. <b>Juan Bohoslavsky</b> (Argentina) since June 2014
Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking <b>water and sanitation</b>	2008	Mr. <b>Léo Heller</b> (Brazil) since December 2014

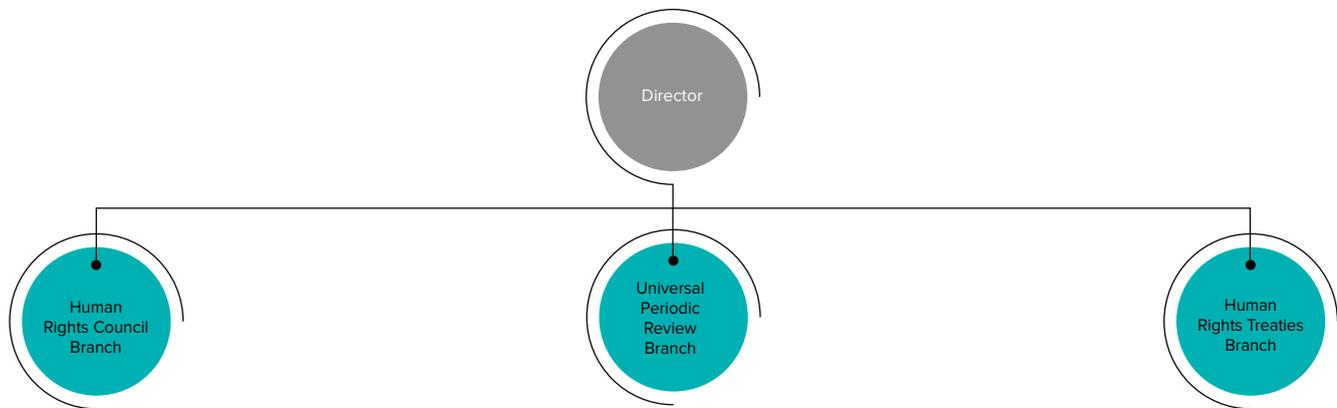
## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL AND TREATY MECHANISMS DIVISION

The Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division (CTMD) consists of the Office of the Director, the Human Rights Council Branch, the Human Rights Treaties Branch (HRTB) and the Universal Periodic Review Branch (UPRB).

The Division has a core mandate to support the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary mechanisms, the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and the human rights treaty bodies. The Division is well placed within OHCHR to take a leading role in ensuring that the significant normative value of the mechanisms is matched by committed follow-up to the implementation of their recommendations.

The **Human Rights Council Branch** supports the Human Rights Council, an intergovernmental body composed of 47 Member States that are elected by the General Assembly for a three-year period. The Council is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe. It was established by and is a subsidiary body of the General Assembly.

In 2019, the Council discussed a wide range of issues at its three regular sessions and intersessional meetings, including during panel discussions on various topics, such as the question of the death penalty, the rights of the child, the rights of persons with disabilities, the mitigation and countering of rising nationalist populism and extreme supremacist ideologies, the rights of older persons and the impact of climate change on women's rights and the rights of indigenous peoples. In 2019, the Council adopted a total of 136 resolutions, decisions and President's Statements.



The **Universal Period Review Branch** supports the Human Rights Council's UPR process. The third UPR cycle provided OHCHR with an opportunity to strengthen engagement with all Member States on the implementation of and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, particularly those of the UPR. The third UPR cycle provided an important basis for Member States to achieve greater results in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and human rights protection at the country level through the creation of National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up and comprehensive national human rights action plans or implementation plans, as recommended in the Secretary-General's report A/72/351 and HRC resolution 36/29. In 2019, OHCHR provided Secretariat support to the thirty-second, thirty-third and thirty-fourth Working Group sessions and the UPR segments of the fortieth, forty-first and forty-second plenary sessions. The Office prepared 168 documents and published 42 national reports and 39 addendum reports. Strong cooperation from stakeholders was evidenced through 1,381 written contributions and 306 interventions that were made during the adoption of the UPR outcomes at the HRC plenary sessions.

The **Human Rights Treaties Branch** supports the ten human rights treaty bodies, which are independent committees that were established under the nine international human rights treaties and their optional protocols. They are composed of experts serving pro bono in their personal capacity who are elected by States Parties<sup>7</sup>. The treaty bodies monitor the implementation of human rights treaties through the examination of reports that are periodically submitted by States Parties to each treaty. All international human rights treaties are supplemented by optional protocols or contain optional provisions that empower the committees to examine individual complaints, inter-State communications and conduct inquiries on allegations of human rights violations. Treaty bodies collaborate with a wide range of stakeholders, including Member States, civil society organizations and NHRIs.

<sup>7</sup> In the case of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, members are elected for a term of four years by ECOSOC Member States.

## Human Rights Council – Outcomes of sessions held in 2019

### **40TH SESSION (25 FEBRUARY – 22 MARCH 2019)**

The Council adopted resolutions, decisions and President's Statements on: The right to food; the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights; promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity; negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin to the countries of origin on the enjoyment of human rights and the importance of improving international cooperation; the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights; human rights, democracy and the rule of law; thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; rights of the child: empowering children with disabilities for the enjoyment of their human rights, including through inclusive education; freedom of religion or belief; recognizing the contribution of environmental human rights defenders to the enjoyment of human rights, environmental protection and sustainable development; question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights, equality and non-discrimination of persons with disabilities and the right of persons with disabilities to justice; combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief; mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka; promotion and protection of human rights in Nicaragua; the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; the situation of human rights in Myanmar; the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; the situation of human rights in South Sudan; the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic, human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan; the right of the Palestinian

people to self-determination; the State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem; Israeli settlements in the State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem and in the occupied Syrian Golan; ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem; technical assistance to Libya and Mali in the field of human rights and cooperation with Georgia; outcomes of the Universal Periodic Review: Belize, the Central African Republic, Chad, China, the Republic of the Congo, Jordan, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Senegal.

### **41ST SESSION (24 JUNE – 12 JULY 2019)**

The Council adopted resolutions, decisions and President's Statements on: Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and girls; consequences of child, early and forced marriage; accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in the world of work; youth and human rights; mandate of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; the right to education: follow-up to Human Rights Council resolution 8/4; the human rights of migrants; the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights; human rights and international solidarity; access to medicines and vaccines in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights; the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights; new and emerging digital technologies and human rights; the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; impact of arms transfers on human rights; equal pay; human rights and climate change; mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally

displaced persons; Social Forum; promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines; the situation of human rights in Belarus; the situation of human rights in Eritrea; the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic; technical assistance to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and accountability concerning the events in the Kasai region; cooperation with and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights; outcomes of the Universal Periodic Review: Afghanistan, Cambodia, Chile, the Comoros, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Slovakia, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and Yemen.

#### **42ND SESSION (9-27 SEPTEMBER 2019)**

The Council adopted resolutions, decisions and President's Statements on: Marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; the right to privacy in the digital age; the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the right to development; the composition of staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights; promoting international cooperation to support national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up; human rights and indigenous peoples; the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation; World Programme for Human Rights Education: adoption of the plan of action for the fourth phase; promotion of a democratic and equitable international order; the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination; the role of prevention in the promotion and protection of human rights; the human rights of older persons; the right to social security; Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences;

mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples; human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice; arbitrary detention; human rights and transitional justice; the question of the death penalty; terrorism and human rights; protection of the rights of workers exposed to hazardous substances and wastes; from rhetoric to reality: a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights; promotion and protection of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; strengthening cooperation and technical assistance in the field of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar; the situation of human rights in Burundi; the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic; the human rights situation in Yemen; technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic; technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan; assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights; technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights; advisory services and technical assistance for Cambodia; outcomes of the Universal Periodic Review: Albania, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal and Qatar.

The Council also adopted, at its organizational session on 6 December, a President's Statement on enhancing the efficiency of the Human Rights Council, including addressing financial and time constraints.

## Treaty Bodies in Numbers

In 2019, the human rights treaty bodies reviewed 133 States Parties by holding a constructive dialogue and issuing recommendations to ensure their compliance with the provisions of the treaties. OHCHR supported the work of 172 treaty body experts for 27 sessions and a total of 95 weeks and two days, which includes sessions of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT) and the Annual Meeting of Chairpersons of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies.

The treaty bodies prepared a total of 308 concluding observations and list of issues prior to reporting, including 15 reports from the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture. The treaty bodies also prepared a Secretary-General's report on the status of the treaty body system.

In 2019, SPT carried out seven country visits (Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Ghana, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and the United Kingdom), resulting in visits to more than 130 places of deprivation of liberty, including:

- 49 prisons, including female, male and juvenile facilities
- 57 police stations
- 10 migrant detention centres/centres for undocumented persons
- 8 psychiatric/mental health institutions
- 10 other types of facilities, such as rehabilitation centres, court cells and religious closed boarding school

During the visits to places of deprivation of liberty, SPT conducted over 1,500 individual and collective interviews with detainees (female, male, children and transgender persons) and with other officials, law enforcement personnel and medical staff.

With regard to State Party reporting, in 2019 there were:

- 37 ratifications/accessions
- 21 States Parties that submitted Co-mmon Core Documents
- 151 State Party reports received
- 58 State Party reports due and received
- 1,313 documents received from CSOs for State Party reviews
- 131 documents received from NHRIs for State Party reviews
- 365 documents received from UN agencies for State Party reviews

As of 31 December, the eight treaty bodies that can receive individual complaints had registered a total of 640 new individual communications and adopted 376 final decisions on communications. The Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) registered 248 new Urgent Actions and adopted 139 follow-up decisions with regard to the registered Urgent Actions, bringing the total number of decisions adopted by CED in 2019 to 387.

In addition, the statistics on individual complaints in 2019 are as follows:

- Number of registered individual communications: **3,360**
- Number of decisions to close Urgent Actions: **65**
- Number of correspondences received through the Petitions email address: **27,771**
- Number of correspondences sent from the Petitions email address: **26,810**

In 2018, the committees adopted 191 decisions for individual complaints, and in 2019 they adopted 270. With current staff resources, the committees would need more than six years to clear the existing backlog, without considering new individual communications.

Nine State Party reviews were held remotely through videoconferencing and approximately 122 stakeholders remotely participated in the work of the treaty bodies. In 2019, there were two treaty signatures, 19 ratifications and 18 accessions.

As of 31 October, seven general comments were under development by the treaty bodies (CERD 1, Human Rights Committee 1, CESCR 2, CEDAW 1, CRC 1, CMW 1), which provide interpretive guidance on how the provisions of the treaties should be implemented by States Parties. The Committees with competence to initiate inquiries initiated five inquiries of serious, grave or systematic violations of the treaties in a State party, one of which resulted in a country visit.

The treaty bodies also issue recommendations to States Parties, encourage priority follow-up on certain matters and adopt general comments/general recommendations on thematic or procedural issues. In 2019, the treaty bodies reviewed 133 States Parties. OHCHR supported the work of 172 treaty body experts during 27 sessions for a total of 95 weeks and two days. The treaty bodies prepared a total of 308 concluding observations and lists of issues prior to reporting.

During the 2018-2019 biennium, the treaty body system was unable to utilize all of the approved meeting time as it was not accompanied by requisite staff resources, in particular for individual communications. Without the required staffing levels to ensure the proper processing of individual communications throughout their life cycle, including timely screening of incoming communications, preliminary legal analysis, the corroboration of details and case management, the number of draft decisions reaching committees for consideration and decision-making was below the workload targets for 2018-2019, leading to a corresponding adjustment of their respective meeting time.

In addition to supporting the treaty bodies, the Branch is responsible for promoting the continued improvement and harmonization of the work of the treaty bodies through the annual Meeting of Chairpersons of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies and consistent follow-up with the individual treaty bodies; and preparing for the 2020 comprehensive review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/268 on strengthening the human rights treaty body system. In June, the 10 Chairs of the treaty bodies agreed on a position paper that aims to streamline the reporting process and

progressively introduce a coordinated schedule of country reviews in accordance with fixed cycles.

Furthermore, the Division manages the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme that was established by General Assembly resolution 68/268 as one of the outcomes of the treaty body strengthening process. Recognizing that many Member States have difficulties in fulfilling their multiple reporting obligations, General Assembly resolution 68/268 outlined a comprehensive capacity-building programme to support States Parties in building their capacity to implement their treaty obligations. The Programme was established at the beginning of 2015 with a team that operates in the field with support from OHCHR headquarters. In 2019, the capacity-building programme provided training and support to State officials in 61 countries, organized more than 125 activities in which 2,446 persons participated to increase their knowledge and skills on specific treaties and issues and encouraged new ratifications and the timely submission of outstanding reports.

The Division also administers the following six Trust Funds:

- the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the work of the Human Rights Council;
- the Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review;
- the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review;
- the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

- the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery; and

- the Special Fund of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Detailed information on the Trust Funds is presented in the chapter on Funds Administered by UN Human Rights on pp. 112-129.

## PILLAR RESULTS

### Mechanisms (M)

**M1** – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations.

#### Shifts / SDGs



#### Results

In 2019, technical assistance provided through the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme contributed to six new ratifications by Angola, Antigua and Barbuda and Kyrgyzstan; submission of 12 outstanding State Party reports, responses and common core documents by Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Niger, Senegal, South Africa and Uzbekistan; and the establishment and/or strengthening of National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) in Botswana, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Haiti, Kenya, Mauritius, the Republic of North Macedonia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Zambia. The Programme also initiated the roll-out of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) in Botswana, Mauritius, Montenegro, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone and the State of Palestine<sup>1</sup>. The NRTD is a tool that enables States to design plans for the implementation of human rights recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. It is available in Arabic, English, French and Spanish and will be available in Russian in April 2020.

The Office continued to support the engagement of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms and facilitated the circulation of seven written NHRI submissions as official UN documents, as well as 16 pre-recorded video statements and 29 oral statements presented by NHRIs, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and its Regional Networks. OHCHR also submitted 230 briefing notes to the human rights treaty bodies in relation to NHRIs in States Parties under review.

OHCHR organized the first human rights training for a delegation of officials from the DPRK on the Universal Periodic Review, treaty body reporting and migration and ILO labour standards, in Geneva, from 13 to 16 May. Building on the success of this first training, additional trainings of DPRK officials are planned for 2020 on a variety of human rights issues and mechanisms.

<sup>1</sup> Hereinafter, all references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

**M2 – Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.**

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

OHCHR continued to pay increased attention to the importance of protecting civil society actors against reprisals. The Office consistently ensured that cases of reprisals against those who had interacted with international human rights mechanisms were identified and addressed by the international community, in particular, by the President of the Human Rights Council (HRC) and the relevant human rights treaty bodies. Indeed, in 2019, OHCHR supported the treaty bodies in developing mechanisms to prevent and help protect human rights defenders (HRDs) in accordance with the San Jose Guidelines against Intimidation or Reprisals, as referenced in General Assembly resolution 68/268. Specifically, OHCHR updated a common treaty body web page on reprisals that shows how the treaty bodies address cases of intimidation and reprisals and outlines how such allegations need to be reported. In addition, the treaty bodies continued to facilitate the engagement of civil society and defenders of alleged victims through various actions and by adopting decisions (interim measures) on individual cases of reprisals.

The Platform of independent international and regional mechanisms on violence against women and women's rights, an initiative that was convened and led by the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, continued to meet at CSW, in March. The Council of Europe convened a similar meeting, in May. Furthermore, joint statements were issued in relation to the roll backs on women's rights and the identification of violence against women in custodial cases.

Over 200 participants, representing several civil society coalitions from Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and North America, engaged in extensive consultations prior to a one-day consultation on the modalities of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent (pursuant to the General Assembly resolution 73/262). The participants submitted a consensus document with concrete proposals, signifying a high level of interest and the shared aspirations of people of African descent.

**M3 – Policymakers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international and regional human rights mechanisms.**

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

National courts took opinions of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention into account on a number of occasions, including in Turkey where two detained individuals were conditionally released and during a public hearing before the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea regarding conscientious objection to military service and its status under international human rights law. In the latter case, the Government informed the Working Group that, in November 2018, the Supreme Court reversed its existing jurisprudence that consistently justified the punishment of conscientious objectors as a means of protecting public safety. As a result of the reversal, detained objectors may now be eligible to file a claim for compensation.

In his March report, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran undertook an in-depth analysis on the execution of child offenders in Iran and made a variety of specific recommendations that were addressed to the Iranian Parliament and the judiciary on steps that needed to be taken to end this practice. This led to enhanced engagement between the Special Rapporteur with the Permanent Missions of Iran in Geneva and New York, including during discussions regarding the report's recommendations. In the context of his mission to Brussels, in February, the Special Rapporteur reiterated his recommendations on abolishing the death penalty for child offenders in Iran. These and other outreach efforts that were undertaken with States during the year led nine States to intervene at the General Assembly's Third Committee meeting, in New York, in October. A total of 34 States intervened during Iran's UPR session, in November, recommending changes concerning the application of the death penalty, particularly in relation to child offenders. NGOs and HRDs strongly supported the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran in their advocacy on human rights in that country, often referring to his reports and recommendations when speaking out on issues concerning child offender executions, the death penalty and minority rights.

Regional human rights institutions continued to interact with mandate holders on human rights issues of concern. For example, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) engaged with the Special Rapporteurs on human rights defenders and on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association about the issue of civic space. The sixty-four and sixty-fifth session of the ACHPR, held in the Egypt and the Gambia, in May and October and November, highlighted the importance of domestic legislation to protect HRDs, particularly as some African countries have taken a leading role on this issue. In the Americas, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association participated in several hearings and consultations in the first session of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in the Caribbean region, held in Jamaica, in December. The hearings focused on civic space and development and business and human rights.

In cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and various Member States, a side event was organized during the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly, in New York, with the participation of 80 members of parliament from 35 countries. The event promoted the establishment of parliamentary human rights committees, which was recommended in the OHCHR report, *Contribution of parliaments to the work of the Human Rights Council and its Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/38/25)*. The outcome document highlights good practices of parliamentary human rights committees that are an important point of reference for parliaments worldwide.

Supported by OHCHR, the treaty bodies shared jurisprudence with the European Court of Human Rights and Inter-American Court of Human Rights to determine whether complaints have been submitted to the regional mechanisms. The Human Rights Committee held a half-day colloquium with judges from the European Court of Human Rights in order to exchange views and experiences on human rights achievements and common challenges, highlighting the complementarities of the two bodies. The European Court of Human Rights regularly draws upon the jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee, cites the views it has adopted and takes cognizance of its general comments. Judges of the Court referred to the Grand Chamber case, *B. v. Hungary*, which drew from the Human Rights Committee's jurisprudence and general comments, particularly General Comment No. 34 (2011) on article 19. In following the Committee's jurisprudence, the Court shifted the burden of proof to the State, which had to demonstrate that there were other objective justifications for the termination of the mandate of the judge. The Court applied strict scrutiny of the judicial proceedings and a low margin of appreciation, in line with the Committee's principles. The Human Rights Committee similarly drew from the Court's jurisprudence. In a recent case against Paraguay on contamination by pesticides, the Committee followed the reasoning of the *L.O. v. Spain* case in linking environmental law to the right to life.

#### M4 – International human rights mechanisms contribute to the elaboration of international law and jurisprudence, in particular in the context of emerging human rights concerns (frontier issues).

##### Shifts / SDGs



##### Results

With substantive and Secretariat support from the Office, the human rights treaty bodies examined a large number of cases, including on frontier issues, such as deportation and extradition; climate change; the international custody of children; and international criminality, including human trafficking and the enforced disappearances of migrants. In all of these contexts, the treaty bodies continued to define their jurisprudence, provide legal analyses and ensure that they shared a harmonized approach. In September, five treaty bodies, namely, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW), the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), adopted a statement on human rights and climate change ahead of the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit. Furthermore, at the eighty-first session of CRC, in May, General Comment No. 24 on children's rights in the child justice system was adopted. The Committee also began working on a new general comment on children's rights and the digital environment. In addition, both CEDAW and CMW continued working on general recommendations on trafficking in women and girls in the context of global migration and the right of migrants to liberty and freedom from arbitrary detention, respectively. In November, in its first ruling on a complaint by an individual seeking asylum due to the effects of climate change, the Human Rights Committee stated that without robust national and international efforts, the effects of climate change in sending States may trigger the non-refoulement obligations of receiving States. Given the extremity of the risk of an entire country becoming submerged under water, the conditions of life in such a country may become incompatible with the right to life with dignity before the risk is realized.

In 2019, the Committee against Torture (CAT), CEDAW, CRPD, CRC and the Human Rights Committee adopted many decisions related to the situation of migrants and asylum seekers. Under its urgent actions procedure, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances addressed specific recommendations to concerned States Parties regarding the challenges that arise in searching for disappeared persons along migration routes. The Committee invited these States Parties to adopt search and investigation strategies that are suited to the specific circumstances of each case and are in line with principle 9 of the Guiding Principles for the search for disappeared persons. Specifically, Principle 9 asserts that “States that send and receive migrants and refugees should adopt specific search mechanisms that take account of the difficulties associated with migration situations. They should offer guarantees and safe conditions to persons who can give testimony about enforced disappearances linked to migration.” The Committee also recalled the obligation of States Parties to afford one another the greatest measure of mutual assistance and cooperation, in compliance with article 14 of the Convention, through the development of cooperation agreements and the establishment of competent authorities to allow for effective coordination in the search for disappeared persons at each stage of migration. The Committee further included recommendations on ensuring that the family, relatives and representatives of disappeared migrants have the necessary support to gain access to information that is relevant to their case and participate in procedures, in accordance with principle 9(4) of the Guiding Principles.

The treaty bodies also addressed issues related to the protection of the right to a healthy environment and safe climate (for example, Human Rights Committee, *Cáceres v. Paraguay*); the right to adequate housing (CESCR, *Gómez-Limón Pardo v. Spain*); and the right of persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities to live in the community and not to be institutionalized (CRPD, *Doolan v. Australia* and *Christopher Leo v. Australia*).

The Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights presented his report to the General Assembly, in October, on digital welfare states and human rights. The report highlights the threats posed by the emergence of the digital welfare state on economic and social rights, which is often neglected by analyses of the impact of digital technology on human rights. The Special Rapporteur points out that the social protection systems premised on the rights to social security and an adequate standard of living are increasingly eroded by various uses of digital technologies in welfare systems, such as the use of biometric identification and automated decision-making in assessing eligibility for welfare benefits.

With the substantive support of OHCHR, the treaty bodies issued decisions on individual complaints, which were implemented by the States concerned:

- CE, a Moroccan child who was abandoned at birth and fostered by a Belgian-Moroccan couple under a Kafalah arrangement was denied a visa to join her family in Belgium. As a result, the family was separated for seven years. After the case was brought to CRC, the Committee found that Belgian authorities had failed to take the best interests of the child into account. Belgium implemented the Committee’s decision by re-examining CE’s application, hearing her and granting her a visa to join her family in Belgium.
- AN was a victim of torture from Eritrea with post-traumatic stress disorder. CAT determined that the author could not be sent back to Italy as he would not have received necessary support and assistance. The author has been granted asylum in Switzerland.
- M. and N., together with their two children, were evicted from their home after they failed to pay rent during the economic crisis in Spain. The family was told that there was no alternative housing that could shelter the whole family so they were forced to sleep in their car. CESCR found that the family’s right to adequate housing had been violated. Spanish authorities provided the family with social housing and new legislation in Spain now allows for delayed evictions when rent has not been paid in light of the vulnerability of the tenants.

OHCHR contributed to the increased attention paid to protection gaps regarding the human rights of older persons at the Human Rights Council and in the work of the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR supported the strengthened engagement of key States, national human rights institutions and civil society stakeholders working on the human rights of older persons, including at the International Conference on Human Rights of Older Persons, held in Vienna, in November. The Conference was hosted by the Government of Austria and the Africa Regional High-level Conference on the Human Rights Situation of Older Persons in Africa, in Abuja, from 25 to 26 November.



OHCHR also supported the organization of the tenth session of the Open-ended working group on ageing for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons. The session was mandated to consider proposals for an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons. This included preparing substantive background documents that guided the discussion towards the protection of the human rights of older persons in relation to social protection and social security, including social protection floors and education, training, lifelong learning and capacity-building. Discussions also focused on identifying the primary gaps in ensuring the full protection of the human rights of older persons in these areas and raising awareness about the need for an international instrument on the rights of older persons. The Office was actively engaged during the session, including by delivering presentations at the plenary panel discussions, organizing a side event and moderating and speaking at six other side events as co-sponsor.

## M5 – International human rights mechanisms are increasingly effective in promoting and protecting human rights.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

In the context of enhancing the efficiency of the HRC and the rationalization of its initiatives, seven resolutions became biennial and three resolutions became triennial. In addition, out of the six new thematic resolutions adopted in 2019, three were one-time resolutions. One-time resolutions represent a very good practice wherein a resolution is adopted on an issue that has gained political momentum in the Council. Of all “active” HRC resolutions, 78 are now biennial or triennial and only 33 are annual. In 2019, OHCHR provided support to the President and the Bureau on streamlining the work of the Council, which resulted in the adoption of a President’s Statement on this subject. In addition, several new information tools were implemented to make the work of the Council more effective and enhance its visibility. These measures include maintaining a real-time speakers list on an HRC online platform/HRC application; creating links to the webcast archives of relevant meetings that can be posted on the HRC extranet; and publishing UPR draft reports on the extranet and ensuring that each delegation is able to easily access their recommendations and check their translations.

OHCHR supported the treaty bodies to become more accessible in order to increase their engagement with all stakeholders. CAT and CED have been using videoconferencing and webcasting for public reviews, private hearings with NGOs, NHRIs, the UN in the field and, in the case of CAT, National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) and for joint meetings with regional courts. During the eighty-second session of CRC and the seventy-third session of CEDAW, the dialogue with Mozambique took place through videoconferencing. Furthermore, CEDAW waived the State Party requirement to submit a common core document for those wishing to avail themselves of the simplified reporting procedure in relation to the submission of periodic reports. CRPD continued implementing accessibility measures by ensuring remote captioning, international sign interpretation, national sign language interpretation, webcasting and Braille transcriptions. Remote captioning was provided for all dialogues that took place with State Party delegations during the Committee’s twenty-first and twenty-second sessions. The Committee also facilitated accessibility arrangements, in particular remote captioning, during private briefings with organizations of persons with disabilities, other civil society organizations and NHRIs on country situations.

The thirty-first annual Meeting of Chairpersons of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies was held in New York from 24 to 28 June. In anticipation of the 2020 UN Human Rights Treaty Body Review, the Chairs agreed on a future vision of the treaty body system, which will be reviewed by States in 2020. To enhance the visibility of the treaty bodies and raise the awareness of delegations in New York about the upcoming review, OHCHR organized three side events in the margins of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly. The side event entitled “Perspectives on the 2020 treaty body review,” held on 8 October, was co-organized by the Permanent Missions of Costa Rica and Switzerland and the Geneva Human Rights Platform Academy, with the participation of the Chairs of CEDAW and CRC. The side event “2020 and beyond: Vision for the treaty body system,” held on 15 October, was co-organized by the Office with the Chairs of the Human Rights Committee, CESCR, CAT, SPT, CMW and CED. A side event on the 2020 treaty body review was co-organized by OIF and OHCHR for French-speaking delegations based in New York, on 29 October, with the participation of the Chair of CERD.

OHCHR engaged with Member States in the Third and Fifth Committees during the seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions of the General Assembly in order to pursue favourable outcomes from New York-based intergovernmental processes that have an impact on human rights. OHCHR also closely coordinated with the Office of Legal Affairs, the Secretariat of the Third Committee and its Chair and Bureau to address possible political, legal and procedural difficulties.



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OHCHR provided technical and substantive support to the Working Group of Experts on people of African descent during three fact-finding missions to Argentina, Belgium and Ecuador, where it met with approximately 600 representatives of governments, NHRIs, CSOs and people of African descent. The Working Group issued its conclusions and recommendations to these governments to assist them in countering structural and racial discrimination and protecting the human rights of people of African descent. The Working Group also sent 44 allegation letters and urgent appeals on behalf of over 30,200 victims.

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OHCHR provided technical and substantive support to the Group of Independent Eminent Experts on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. The group discussed strategies and adopted 11 recommendations on four thematic issues, including racist hate speech and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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In 2019, the Department of Political Affairs of the African Union Commission and OHCHR organized a meeting of technical experts from the African Union and the UN, in Addis Ababa, in June. The meeting resulted in the development of a draft Framework on Human Rights and a road map. The first AU-UN High-level Dialogue on Human Rights, which was held in Addis Ababa, in 2018, had the principal objective of enhancing strategic partnerships between the AU and the UN in the area of human rights. The leadership of both institutions committed to develop, adopt and implement a joint AU-UN framework on human rights to complement existing joint frameworks (i.e., on peace and security and on development), thereby finalizing the institutionalization of a partnership of the three core pillars of the UN. This foundation paved the way for the development of the draft Framework on Human Rights.

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To facilitate deliberations of the international human rights mechanisms and other bodies in 2019, OHCHR submitted 3,174 official documents, of which 1,424 were for meetings of the human rights treaty bodies, 1,362 for meetings of the HRC, 297 for meetings of HRC's subsidiary bodies, 89 for the General Assembly and two for ECOSOC. The Office ensured that there was 91 per cent submission compliance for all of the slotted pre-session parliamentary documents that it submitted for meetings taking place between 1 January and 31 December in Geneva and New York. This represents an increase of three per cent from 2018 and the first time that the Office achieved the 90 per cent benchmark set by the General Assembly.

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OHCHR facilitated a highly successful expert mission to UN headquarters by the rapporteurs of HRC resolution 38/18 on "the contribution of the Human Rights Council to the prevention of human rights violations." Over the course of three days, the experts engaged in a wide range of meetings with NY-based actors, including Member States, UN departments, funds and programmes and NGOs, in order to look at various aspects of the prevention agenda in New York. As a result, the experts received suggestions and useful information for shaping their report to the HRC, which is due in March 2020. The Office worked closely with the experts and is preparing to support the next steps once the HRC has considered the recommendations of the experts.

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Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

## Development (D)

**D1 – Judicial and non-judicial mechanisms hold business and other economic actors to account for rights abuses and provide remedies to victims.**

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

OHCHR continued to work on the third phase of the Accountability and Remedy Project, which is focused on non-State grievance mechanisms related to business and human rights. The Office undertook targeted outreach to NHRIs and the independent accountability mechanisms of development finance institutions regarding their role in providing or facilitating access to remedy in business-related human rights cases. This resulted in a greater level of awareness and an increased capacity of NHRIs in countries such as South Africa on how to enable or contribute to remedy for victims by applying effectively address these issues in their work and underscored the relevance of OHCHR guidance. Furthermore, advice was provided to a number of field presences, including Colombia, in order to support remedial actions in the context of development projects.

In September, the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes presented a report to the HRC (A/HRC/42/41) containing 15 principles that build on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), ILO conventions and multilateral environmental agreements on toxics to help States, businesses and other key actors to better protect workers from toxic exposure and provide remedies when their rights have been violated. The report constituted the fruit of 25 years of research under the mandate and its recommendations were echoed in a resolution adopted by the HRC.

OHCHR and the International Civil Aviation Organization continued the collaboration that started in 2018 to develop rights-based guidelines, in the UN's six official languages, to train cabin crews to identify and respond to cases of trafficking in persons. In 2019, the partnership prepared an e-learning tool as well as guidelines on reporting cases identified on board flights, with the involvement of 58 airlines and aviation authorities.

## D2 – Business actors implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights effectively.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

The roll-out of the Standards of Conduct for tackling discrimination against LGBTI persons continued in 2019. The Standards of Conduct were disseminated at key global corporate events, such as the World Economic Forum in Davos, South by Southwest and the Women's Forum for the Economy and Society, and they have now received the support of 270 of the largest companies in the world. OHCHR also helped to launch a complementary document that was produced by Open for Business, entitled Channels of Influence. In addition, the Office established a partnership with the newly created non-profit Partnership for Global LGBTI Equality to bring companies up to speed and assist them in operationalizing the Standards of Conduct. OHCHR hosted a meeting in Berlin, in July, with 50 representatives from civil society and 20 from various business organizations to discuss a paper for the forthcoming OHCHR publication, *Minding the corporate gap: How activists and companies can work together to tackle LGBTI discrimination*. This manual for HRDs around the world highlights the potential role of the private sector in tackling discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons, including by using the Standards of Conducts as a tool for effective engagement and collaboration.

## D3 – State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

In view of the critical role played by cities and local governments in an urbanizing world, OHCHR collaborated with United Cities and Local Governments to organize the first meeting, in Geneva, bringing together a group of 20 mayors and representatives of local governments to share their experience in promoting and protecting human rights. This joint initiative with United Cities and Local Governments led to a number of recommendations to strengthen the engagement of cities and local governments with international human rights mechanisms and opened avenues for strategic collaboration for the promotion and protection of human rights.

As a result of advocacy undertaken by OHCHR and the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context and civil society, Canada adopted a national housing strategy, in June, that explicitly incorporates the right to housing in a national law for the first time. The Government also established an accountability mechanism, the Federal Housing Advocate, to monitor its implementation. Furthermore, in Portugal, a new housing law entered into force, on 1 October, in response to a key recommendation made during an earlier visit of the Special Rapporteur. The legislation guarantees the right to housing, the participation of citizens in housing policy and improved protections against evictions. With OHCHR's support, the Special Rapporteur continued to raise alleged violations of the right to housing in communications with States and business entities. As of 17 December, a total of 43 communications had been sent.

As land is often a root cause of conflict, OHCHR actively contributed to the development of the Secretary-General's Guidance Note on land and conflict, which was endorsed by the Executive Committee, in March. The Guidance Note is considered a milestone in the journey towards the sustained and coherent engagement of the UN system on land and conflict. It is strongly human rights-based and provides a useful tool for OHCHR in its interaction with States, UN agencies and other partners as it makes a clear link between human rights, development, violence and conflict prevention, non-recurrence and sustainable peace with regard to land issues.

#### D4 – Public health approaches, including sexual and reproductive health policies, comply with international human rights standards and provide non-discriminatory access, especially to children, adolescents, women and migrants.

##### Shifts / SDGs



##### Results

OHCHR worked through various partnerships to ensure that public health approaches comply with international human rights principles and standards, including a joint OHCHR-WHO workplan for 2019 that builds on the Framework of Cooperation, which was signed in 2017. As part of the joint workplan, OHCHR and WHO worked together to identify good practices from the Western Pacific Region that are in line with the WHO QualityRights Initiative. This Initiative aims to improve access to quality mental health and social services and promote the rights of people with mental health conditions.

OHCHR continued to advocate for universal health coverage and human rights through the High Commissioner's annual report to ECOSOC on economic, social and cultural rights, which was dedicated to the theme of universal health coverage and human rights in 2019 (E/2019/52). In addition, the report contributed to the recognition of human rights in the outcome of the General Assembly's High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage that was held in September.

The Office supported efforts to apply a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to maternal mortality and morbidity. At the request of the HRC, OHCHR also organized an expert group meeting on applying a human rights-based approach to ending preventable maternal mortality and morbidity in humanitarian settings, which for the first time brought together 35 experts from humanitarian, health and human rights fields ([https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage\\_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/39/26](https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/39/26)). This has set the foundation for further work by the Office with partners moving forward, including contributions in 2019 to ongoing humanitarian processes by IASC and the Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crises.

During an expert group meeting (EGM) on disability and bioethics, the Special Rapporteurs on the rights of persons with disabilities, on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse, and the International Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity provided States with guidance on how to apply an HRBA to disability in legislation, policies, customs and practices related to prevention, cures and assisted dying. They also contributed to the depathologization of trans identities in the eleventh version of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11), which was adopted by the World Health Assembly, in May. This was part of a recommendation articulated by the Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity in his 2018 report to the General Assembly, which advocates for age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health education and public awareness-raising campaigns, particularly regarding the adverse effects of early marriage and female genital mutilation on the well-being of children.

**D5 – Environmental and climate policies and plans increasingly respect, protect and fulfil human rights, guaranteeing those affected access to information, decision-making, public participation and remedies.**

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

In 2019, the High Commissioner called for the global recognition of the human right to a healthy environment and delivered her statement to the forty-second session of the Human Rights Council, with a particular focus on climate change; following signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UN Environment Programme to jointly advance work on human rights and the environment strategic priorities were defined in a joint consultation; while the UN Environment Assembly approved its first resolution on women's rights and gender equality; the Office co-organized and co-facilitated the first workshop on building capacity for integrating human rights into climate action at the UNFCCC with the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building; the Office also co-organized the Peoples' Summit on Climate, Rights and Human Survival with several partners contributing to multiple outcomes including a Declaration to which more than 400 organizations signed on; the Office also co-organized with several partners two workshops on integrating human rights in nationally determined contributions which included a total of roughly 100 participants representing States, NHRIs, UN organizations and civil society organization; the High Commissioner attended COP25 participating among other things in events to launch a new ECLAC/OHCHR publication on *Climate change and human rights: contributions by and for Latin America and the Caribbean and an Intergovernmental Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Change*; and a number of NHRIs and other government entities were trained to increase their capacity to address the human rights impacts of climate change.

The Human Rights Council adopted a resolution on environmental human rights defenders; the Human Rights Committee issued a general comment on the right to life (CCPR/C/GC/36), adopted on 30 October 2018, which explicitly references the environment and climate change; the special procedures mandates on human rights and the environment, on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples and on the human rights of internally displaced persons advocated for the right to a safe climate as a component of the right to a healthy environment at the General Assembly; and the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment attended the 2019 UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) and facilitated workshops to build the capacity of CSOs on access to justice and effective remedies in relation to human rights and the environment.

**D6 – Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent or redress the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects.**

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

OHCHR worked in partnership with the Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) of multilateral development banks (MDBs) to develop policies and procedures on reprisals and contextual risk assessment tools and to strengthen the effectiveness of IAMs. The High Commissioner headlined a high-level event in the margins of the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings on reprisals in Washington D.C., which built momentum for more IAMs to adopt policies related to reprisals during the year.

OHCHR continued its research and advocacy on the safeguard policy review processes of MDBs, with a particular focus on the European Bank for Reconstruction, the Asian Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank Group. The Office produced a draft due diligence benchmarking study to compare the safeguard policies of development financing institutions against the standards outlined in the UNGPs, which influence safeguard policy revision processes. OHCHR also produced a series of project case studies as part of its advocacy efforts on the safeguard policy review processes of MDBs.

The Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights issued the Guiding Principles on Human Rights Impact Assessments of Economic Reforms. Stakeholders, such as governments, the UN and other intergovernmental organizations, NHRIs, NGOs and the private sector, are encouraged to take the Principles into account in the formulation and implementation of their economic reform policies. The Guiding Principles were noted with appreciation by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 40/8.

**D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms’ outcomes, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work.**



## Results

In March, CESCR adopted a statement on the pledge to “Leave No One Behind” (LNOB) as its input into the 2019 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The statement outlines the rights-based methodology of the ICESCR, which should help States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CEDAW, CED, CERD, CRPD and CRC submitted written contributions to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in response to a call for inputs by the High-level Political Forum. In its summary report, ECOSOC referred to some of the key recommendations of CRC, in particular on facilitating meaningful child participation in the implementation, monitoring and review of the 2030 Agenda.

CEDAW continued monitoring the implementation of SDG target 5.1, including through the adoption of a Guidance Note for States Parties on the preparation of reports under article 18 of CEDAW in the context of the SDGs (CEDAW/C/74/3), with the support of OHCHR and UN Women.

Since 2017, OHCHR’s partnership with UN DESA has been instrumental in ensuring that the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms are integrated into the efforts of States to meet the targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Through continued advocacy and collaboration, OHCHR tools and approaches have been included in the revised DESA Handbook for the preparation of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs): The 2020 edition. The booklet includes references to the international human rights mechanisms, the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI), NMRFs and the application of an HRBA to data. OHCHR also contributed to the updated Secretary-General’s common reporting guidelines for VNRs. OHCHR’s inputs focused on: the use of existing national reports to regional and international mechanisms in the VNR; reducing the reporting burden through collaboration between NMRFs and SDG coordination structures to increase coherence between SDG and human rights reporting and implementation; effectiveness, accountability and inclusiveness of SDG implementation mechanisms; and incorporating analysis, guidance and recommendations from regional and international human rights mechanisms in national frameworks and policies in support of SDG implementation.

UNCTs further enhanced their role to promote the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. In 2019, the first training package was developed on applying a human rights-based approach to the new Common Country Analysis (CCAs) and Cooperation Frameworks in order to increase the engagement of UNCTs and States with the international human rights mechanisms. The content was conceptualized by OHCHR in cooperation with the UN Development Coordination Office. The new training package was used at subregional events in Eastern Europe and Eastern Africa that were organized by OHCHR, and included participants from Resident Coordinator Offices, UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNESCO, FAO and IOM.

The “Surge Initiative,” which was in place from September to December and composed of four staff, including a senior economist specialized in human rights and inequalities, reached out to over 40 OHCHR field presences to support them in their local engagement related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The surge team focused on building an understanding of opportunities and entry points of the 2030 Agenda and the reform of the UN Development System to facilitate human rights implementation (with a focus on ESCR and LNOB), documented impactful country experiences and advised on how these can be scaled up or replicated in the lead up to 2020 planning. The surge team played a critical role in initiating new field projects, providing specialized human rights analytical content for the CCAs and sharing good practices.

OHCHR established a group to elaborate a draft convention on the right to development, with a view to supporting the Chair-Rapporteur of the Open-ended International Working Group on the right to development. In collaboration with various partners, the Office delivered an interactive online module on operationalizing the right to development in implementing the SDGs. This module supported the capacity-building of 104 participants across all stakeholder groups worldwide, bringing the total of participants to 306 in 116 countries.

Throughout 2018 and 2019, the Special Rapporteur on the right to development convened a series of five regional consultations, culminating in an expert meeting in Dakar, Senegal, in April 2019. The consultations resulted in the development of a set of practical guidelines and recommendations to design, monitor and assess the structures, processes and outcomes of human rights-motivated development policies. The guidelines were presented to the HRC at its forty-second session (A/HRC/42/38). They were welcomed by the HRC, CSOs and development practitioners and will be used in advocacy efforts to promote participation, accountability and access to remedies in development processes. In 2019, the Special Rapporteur also conducted a country visit to Switzerland to assess the integration of the right to development into the country's development policies. The report from that visit will be presented to the HRC during its forty-fifth session.

In New York, OHCHR strengthened the commitment and policy coherence on human rights integration in development, including by enhancing guidance and the capacity to integrate human rights into efforts of the UN Development System at global, regional and country levels, including in SDG implementation. The Office participated in all of the UN Development System reform work streams and processes, most importantly in the development of the Management and Accountability Framework, the new Guidance for the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), the System-wide Strategic Document and the Regional Review. The final UNSDCF has a strong normative and human rights foundation and will provide a strong basis for OHCHR's engagement at headquarters and regional and country levels to integrate human rights into UN development work and to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Regarding the deployment of Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) to UNCTs, progress was made by ensuring more sustainability in funding and facilitating decision-making through the Multi-Donor Trust Fund Steering Committee. In addition, annual progress reports were prepared and substantive support was provided to HRAs and UNCTs. These efforts resulted in a significant increase in funding for the UNSDG-Human Rights Mainstreaming Multi-Donor Trust Fund, with funding being secured for the entire HRA programme for 2020.

#### D8 – National institutions, assisted by communities, systematically collect, disaggregate and use data relevant for advancing human rights when they monitor and implement the SDGs.

##### Shifts / SDGs



##### Results

The methodologies developed by OHCHR for SDG indicator 16.1.2 on the number of conflict-related deaths and SDG indicator 10.3.1/16.b.1 on the percentage of the population experiencing discrimination on grounds prohibited by international law was endorsed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators, which is composed of Member States. This result increases potential opportunities for OHCHR to further mainstream human rights obligations and the prevention of human rights violations in the implementation and accountability framework of the SDGs at country, regional and global levels. OHCHR also supported the development of methodologies to monitor and collect data on the national implementation of human rights education in the context of SDG target 4.7 and the World Programme for Human Rights Education and advocated for the inclusion of human rights education in UNESCO's work with regard to SDG target 4.7.

OHCHR increased the capacity of national stakeholders of Albania, Kenya, Kosovo<sup>4</sup>, Pakistan, Russian Federation, South Africa and Uganda to operationalize a human rights-based approach to data in order to leave no one behind in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. OHCHR also finalized a joint publication with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on *People of African Descent in Latin America and the Caribbean: Developing Indicators to Measure and Counter Inequalities*, which contains a set of indicators to measure ethnic and racial inequalities and gaps between Afrodescendant and non-Afrodescendant populations.

<sup>4</sup> All references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

## Peace and Security (PS)

**PS1** – Parties to conflict and actors involved in peace operations increasingly comply with international human rights and humanitarian law and provide greater protection to civilians.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

In the context of the protracted conflict in Transnistria (Republic of Moldova), OHCHR supported Thomas Hammarberg, UN Senior Expert for the Transnistrian region, to prepare a follow-up report to his 2013 baseline study and contributed to his end-of-mission statement that outlined the need to better integrate human rights into the ongoing settlement process. The report was presented to the constitutional and de facto authorities and contributed to advocacy efforts to widen civic space and minimize protection gaps.

OHCHR provided substantive and programmatic support to implement the Compliance Framework for the G5 Sahel Joint Force. The Office provided legal and policy advice on specific incidents and reviewed draft guidance and the standard operating procedures (SOPs) of the G5 Sahel Force. It also facilitated specialized training on human rights and international law for the G5 Sahel Joint Force at the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in San Remo, reviewed the San Remo training modules and facilitated coordination workshops for national and international partners that were held in Niger and Mauritania.

Regarding training for UN troops, OHCHR developed new training materials for UN military observers, UNPOL, DPO/DPPA staff members and maritime peacekeeping units, which integrate human rights into their mandatory training, thereby reaching thousands of soldiers and police. It also delivered its new course on Human Rights in UN Policing to the Standing Police Capacity in Cyprus, Italy and Jordan, conveying a practical understanding of UNPOL's human rights roles in peacekeeping to instructors, senior officers and other stakeholders. In addition, OHCHR delivered training sessions on human rights, protection and gender issues at 21 DPO and other peacekeeping trainings, directly reaching more than 500 current and future mission leaders, police, military officers and civilian staff.

In November, OHCHR and DPO organized a workshop on lessons learned in collaboration with selected UN human rights and military components. Six military participants and three civilian participants from MINUSCA, MINUSMA, MONUSCO, UNMISS and UNSOM were invited to participate in the workshop, providing an important opportunity to reflect on how the collaboration between the two UN components evolved to protect and promote human rights. The best practices and lessons learned identified during the workshop will be used to update the *UN Handbook on integrating human rights in the work of UN military components*.

OHCHR participated in five assessment missions to promote human rights integration into peace operations, including in the context of transitions, namely, UNAMID (March), AMISOM technical review (March), UNSOM review (May), MONUSCO independent strategic review (June/July) and UNOAU (October/November). Following these missions, OHCHR secured a central role for human rights during the transitions of UNAMID and MONUSCO. The independent MONUSCO strategic review report indicates that “human rights will be the main barometer for judging progress on various peace, security and rule of law efforts” in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and, “as human rights will be a key weather vane informing political engagement and protection tasks, a strong presence of the UN Joint Human Rights Office should continue in Kinshasa and the provinces,” even where the Mission is advised to drawdown. This provides an excellent basis for positioning human rights at the core of the transition, conflict prevention and peacebuilding work in the DRC.

### PS2 – Efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism comply with international law.

#### Shifts / SDGs



#### Results

OHCHR participated in an Expert Group Meeting that was co-organized by UNODC and the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, which brought together independent experts, UN experts from various entities, country officials and civil society, with a view to developing a compendium of good practices of strategies on prosecution, rehabilitation and the reintegration of persons associated with terrorist groups. It also provided regular legal and policy advice on counter-terrorism and security-related issues, for example with respect to Ethiopia, Iraq, Sri Lanka and Boko Haram-affected areas.

### PS3 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.

#### Shifts / SDGs



#### Results

OHCHR partnered with DPO, DPPA and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict to draft and sign a new joint United Nations Field Missions Policy: Preventing and responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, which provides guidance and explains the responsibilities and complementarity of mission components in peace operations, including the leading role of human rights components in implementing Security Council mandates on CRSV. The policy entered into force on 1 January 2020.

Over the year, the Office led the process towards signing MoUs with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the ACHPR and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, which constitute major breakthroughs for generating a commitment to the integration of human rights into conflict prevention.

OHCHR ensured the integration of human rights into the work of an Internal UN Working Group on Turkey by participating in monthly meetings with DPA, UNDP and other entities with a view to coordinating a cohesive UN approach in relation to the country.

OHCHR supported the development of a regional UN-wide strategy on sustaining peace in the Western Balkans. In March, the Office hosted an expanded retreat for the Western Balkan Inter-Agency Working Group and Resident Coordinators from the region and facilitated human rights briefings. The adoption by the Secretary-General of a UN Action Plan for the Western Balkans, in June, created space for OHCHR to promote a human rights-based approach to its implementation and enhance its work in the region, together with UN entities and other partners. In this regard, OHCHR continued to undertake high-level advocacy on human rights concerns, including through increased engagement with authorities and an enhanced presence in the region. With the deployment of an HRA to Montenegro, in September, OHCHR has four field presences in the Western Balkans.



Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

OHCHR continued to provide technical guidance to UN entities in peace missions on the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP). The Office engaged with regional forces, such as AMISOM and the G5 Sahel Joint Force, to use the HRDDP and the Human Rights Compliance Framework for the G5 Sahel Joint Force as strategic tools to integrate human rights considerations into their activities. In relation to the Compliance Framework, OHCHR, DPPA/DPO, UNOAU and DOS collaborated with the ACHPR to implement the 2018 Joint Declaration of Shared Commitments on the Framework for AU peace operations, which includes human rights, conduct and discipline. OHCHR provided guidance and shared lessons learned to contribute to the development and review of the AU's compliance architecture and staffing requirements for its Peace Support Operations.

The Office engaged with Security Council experts to provide them with a human rights analysis of primary conflict drivers in order to support the shaping of human rights mandates for peace operations that can effectively address those drivers. As a result, 12 Security Council resolutions adopted in 2019 include dedicated sections on human rights with a monitoring and reporting mandate.

Additionally, OHCHR worked closely with the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate to develop a common understanding of victims' rights within the UN system. It also supported the development of a statement on victims' rights, which includes elements related to legal and other forms of assistance, justice and accountability, informed consent and victim/witness protection.

**PS4 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.**

**Shifts / SDGs**



**Results**

OHCHR provided advice and in-country support to a wide range of stakeholders (States, civil society, victim groups, UN partners, etc.) engaged in reflection on and the design or implementation of transitional justice processes and mechanisms, including in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Colombia, El Salvador, the Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Mali, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria and the Western Balkans. Examples include advice/support on the design of a comprehensive transitional justice strategy (Central African Republic, the Gambia), draft legislation on transitional justice processes and mechanisms (Central African Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Kosovo), draft regulations on reparations programmes (the Gambia), justice-sensitive security sector reform processes (the Gambia), and the socio-economic re-integration of members of armed and terrorist groups (the DRC). UN Human Rights worked with the broader UN system to develop a one-UN strategy on reconciliation and trust-building in the Western Balkans.

**PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated in early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.**

**Shifts / SDGs**



**Results**

OHCHR developed information analysis and data visualization tools to assist in risk analysis, early warning and prevention work. In 2019, approximately 80 visual information projects were completed, including maps, infographics and multipage visual summaries.

In the framework of OHCHR's efforts to pursue the Secretary-General's vision of establishing prevention platforms and enhancing the UN's role at the regional level, a new regional emergency response team (ERT) was set up at OHCHR's West Africa Regional Office, in Dakar. Together with established presences in Bangkok and Pretoria, the three ERTs developed risk analysis to more directly influence UN responses at the field level. In 2019, for example, this included the development of an early warning system in Myanmar and the identification of emerging risks in the north of Mozambique, which led to the improved coordination of UN responses, including the deployment of additional OHCHR capacity.

In 2019, the Regional Monthly Review (RMR) process was relaunched with a strengthened analytical methodology, which is at the heart of the Secretary-General's prevention strategy. OHCHR actively engaged in this process, in particular by identifying targeted and specific mitigation actions to improve UN responses to crises. Also during the reporting period, OHCHR provided inputs to RMRs in Albania, Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guinea, Honduras, Iraq, Mozambique, Republic of Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe. OHCHR contributed human rights risk analyses for 10 regional scans, as well as five regional specific or thematic reviews of UN system outcomes. OHCHR also ensured that specific country situations of concern were added to the RMR agenda.

In addition, the Office was instrumental in the deployment of two multidisciplinary light teams to Comoros and Malawi. Both light teams included human rights capacity, which strengthened the UN's preventive role in the run-up to potentially destabilizing elections. For example, in Malawi, OHCHR developed an in-country prevention platform, which provided integrated UN analysis throughout the electoral process to guide UN responses, particularly those of the Resident Coordinator. The Office deployed a surge team to Bolivia to monitor the human rights situation in the electoral context. Surge teams were also deployed to Chile and Ecuador in the context of protests in both countries.

In terms of support for humanitarian action, OHCHR remained active in the IASC and related mechanisms and became a recognized contributor to various policy-related discussions, including in the area of the humanitarian/development nexus. In 2019, OHCHR supported UN Humanitarian Country Teams in the Bahamas, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe and participated in the Operational Peer Review of the response to Cyclone Idai in Mozambique.

With regards to policy development, OHCHR contributed to the IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, which were officially launched, in November. The Guidelines are founded on CRPD and are the first humanitarian guidelines developed by persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, together with humanitarian stakeholders.

In a follow-up to a lessons learned exercise on OHCHR's response to the Honduras crisis, OHCHR developed new SOPs on OHCHR preparedness and response. This will enhance and systematize its future efforts to undertake early warning analysis, contingency planning and coordinated action in relation to prevention and response.

OHCHR further expanded its work on integrating ESCR into early warning and conflict prevention frameworks, based on an analytical framework that was developed in 2016 (E/2016/58). It convened a workshop on prevention and ESCR, in June, which examined the impact of inequality on the enjoyment of human rights and its contribution to social unrest and conflict. The workshop facilitated an exchange of experiences among field staff from Colombia, Jordan, Somalia, South Africa and Thailand, staff from New York, Brussels and Geneva and external experts, including the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights and the Special Rapporteur on the right to food. The workshop's recommendations contributed to a strengthening of interlinkages between OHCHR's work on SDGs, prevention and ESCR and an increased integration of ESCR in response to recent global protests.

In terms of the international human rights mechanisms, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions adopted 85 opinions and the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances transmitted 140 urgent action procedures to address cases of enforced disappearances in the context of conflict, violence and insecurity. These outputs brought cases and patterns of disappearances to the attention of States and reminded them of their human rights obligations, while also providing victims and their families a measure of protection. During a country visit to Zimbabwe, in November, the Special Rapporteur on the right to food emphasized the necessity of preventing further human rights violations and urgently called for the establishment of early warning mechanisms aimed at monitoring all economic and social rights.



**PS6** – United Nations’ support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies, and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.

Shifts / SDGs



**Results**

Building on the 2018 global review on the implementation of the HRDDP and subsequent decisions made at the Secretary-General’s Executive Committee, including decision 2019/04, which confirms support for the HRDDP from the UN system, OHCHR is working to raise the awareness of both internal and external partners about the HRDDP, including Member States and civil society, as a way to leverage their support for the policy and its implementation. OHCHR continued to provide policy guidance on the implementation of the HRDDP in mission settings, including by providing tailored and targeted support to develop HRDDP risk assessments and mitigating measures, taking into consideration the evolving context of peace operations and regional actors, as well as emerging areas of possible applications. To this end, OHCHR provided technical support to MINUSMA and Resident Coordinators in G5 Sahel countries to establish a common understanding of Security Council resolution 2480 (2019) and to plan possible ways to implement the HRDDP in G5 Sahel countries. Security Council resolution 2480, which renewed the mandate of MINUSMA, made strong references to compliance with the HRDDP regarding UN support to non-UN security forces, in particular in relation to the FC-G5S. The Security Council further required MINUSMA to develop an approach to provide support in compliance with the HRDDP across five countries. To this end, OHCHR provided technical and operational support to MINUSMA for the organization of regional consultations on the implementation of the HRDDP in the context of MINUSMA’s support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force outside of Mali. In line with the outcome of the meetings, a draft General and Preliminary Risk Assessment Framework (GPRAF) on MINUSMA support to the FC-G5S is under preparation, which will serve as a basis for specific HRDDP risk assessments for cases/operations/forces.

**PS7** – The use of private military and security companies, and the development and deployment of new technologies, weapons and tactics, are increasingly consistent with and respect international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Shifts / SDGs



**Results**

The Working Group on mercenaries participated in the first session of the OEIGWG on private military and security companies (PMSCs) and reiterated its support for a legally binding instrument (supported by the findings made in its two thematic reports on the human rights impact of PMSCs in the extractive sector (A/HRC/42/42) and on gender and PMSCs (A/74/244), which highlighted the gaps in regulation and accountability created by insufficient PMSC regulation). It also stressed the importance of ensuring strong human rights safeguards in any future regulatory mechanism. The mandate consistently emphasized the need for strengthened regulation, including in engagements with States, private industry and in the context of multi-stakeholder initiatives.

## Non-discrimination (ND)

**ND1** – Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to ‘leave no one behind’, including by addressing the root causes of inequality.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

After its country visit to Belgium, in February, the Working Group of Experts on people of African descent recommended, among other things, that the Belgian Government publicly apologize for atrocities committed during colonization. In line with this recommendation, the Prime Minister, Mr. Charles Michel, apologized for the injustice and suffering inflicted against the “métis” children of Belgian settlers and local women who were forcibly taken from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda during its colonial rule. Following the formal apology, the Government indicated that it would provide resources to finance additional research on the issue and offer administrative assistance to those seeking to gain access to their official records and apply for Belgian nationality.

Several special procedures mandates actively worked to combat discrimination. In his report to the General Assembly, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants emphasized the individual experience and the challenges faced by women and girls on the move and called for a gender-responsive approach. Furthermore, at a commemoration event marking the twentieth anniversary of the mandate, which included representatives of Member States, civil society and academia, the Special Rapporteur advocated for the application of a human rights-based approach in migration governance. The Special Rapporteur continued to engage with the UN Network on Migration and contributed to the human rights-based implementation of the Global Compact on Migration. He participated in a debriefing with Member States during the annual meeting of the UN Network on Migration and emphasized the importance of placing human rights at the centre of migration governance. The report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief on antisemitism raised awareness about the resurgence of antisemitism around the world, received widespread media attention and led to more partnerships with UN and regional institutions and civil society partners. The Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism and various partners developed a Regional Action Plan on Albinism in Africa (2017-2021), which was adopted as a policy by the African Union.

**ND2** – Justice systems and related institutions increasingly monitor and investigate discrimination and provide redress to victims.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

OHCHR contributed to the capacity-building of national institutions and equality bodies, mainly in Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean, and provided substantive inputs to national non-discrimination bills and plans against racism. For instance, as follow-up to recommendations issued by the UPR, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Government of Belgium in its preparations of a national action plan against racism.

**ND3 – Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote women’s and girls’ autonomy and choice and protect them from violence, including in the digital space.**

**Shifts / SDGs**



**Results**

OHCHR launched a project in its Regional Office for Southern Africa through which CSOs can monitor online discrimination against women, migrants, persons with albinism and persons with disabilities. The project is testing strategic approaches to expanding/protecting civic space at the national level and providing assistance with the replication of protection practices that have proven useful elsewhere. The initial phase of the project focuses on selected countries with strong records of respecting civic space.

Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 38/6, OHCHR organized a two day Expert Meeting on the elimination of female genital mutilation (FGM), in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in close cooperation with UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO. The meeting discussed progress, gaps and challenges to ensuring the elimination of female genital mutilation and produced a set of recommendations including the need to regularly monitor the human rights impact on women and girls of legislative and policy interventions to address the practice. It gathered together 30 experts from 15 countries and built on the African Union’s Continental Initiative to End FGM.

The Working Group on discrimination against women and girls convened a number of regional thematic consultations for the preparation of forthcoming thematic reports, including on women’s rights in the world of work, sexual and reproductive health and rights in crises and the rights of girls. These consultations enabled the Working Group to reach grassroots organizations and strengthen the knowledge of women human rights defenders (WHRDs) about the UN human rights system. Furthermore, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences produced a groundbreaking report on a human rights-based approach to mistreatment and violence against women in reproductive health services, with a focus on childbirth and obstetric violence, which received vast media coverage. The Special Rapporteur continued to lead the platform of UN and regional independent expert mechanisms on ending discrimination and violence against women. The platform issued a number of joint statements calling for strengthened efforts to fight against pushbacks on women’s rights in all regions of the world; highlighting intimate partner violence against women as an essential factor in the determination of child custody; and jointly calling upon all States and relevant stakeholders to act against rape as a form of gender-based violence and to ensure that the definition of rape is based on the absence of consent, in line with international standards.

**ND4 – Judicial institutions, media, and other sectors increasingly recognize and challenge harmful gender stereotypes and gender norms with a view to their eradication.**

**Shifts / SDGs**



**Results**

In Paraguay, Law No. 6338/19 was adopted on 1 July, amending article 10 of Law No. 5407/15 on domestic workers and improving their working conditions. This amendment was undertaken in response to a recommendation of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences during her visit to Paraguay in 2017.

The visits of the Special Rapporteur on the sale and exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse to the Dominican Republic and Malaysia led to discussions on the revision of the minimum legal age of marriage in each country.

## ND5 – Principles and practices effectively counter discrimination and hate speech in the digital space.



### Results

The High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner raised their concerns about the pushback on women's rights and gender equality, including in online attacks, misogyny and hate speech in several high-level discussions, including at the Commission on the Status of Women, in New York, in March, at the Women Deliver 2019 Conference, in Vancouver, in June, and at the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development in Nairobi, in November. The Office also contributed to the Doha Forum's panel on "New Models for Online Content Governance," during which panellists explored issues such as current and proposed efforts to monitor, regulate and curate online content; who should define what constitutes misinformation, hatred and violence on digital platforms; and risks associated with private actors developing their own decision-making frameworks for the removal of content. To this end, the Office developed a joint project with UN Global Pulse for monitoring online hate speech and incitement.

OHCHR continued supporting a project entitled "Overcoming Hate Speech in the Media, Southern Region, Ukraine," which was implemented by the Youth Centre for Effective Communication in Ukraine. The project monitors traditional and social media, undertakes research on incitement to hatred and manifestations of hostility and aggression and raises awareness about hate speech prevention among journalists and others in Ukraine.

The Special Rapporteur on minority issues addressed hate speech and incitement to hatred, including in the online news media and across social media platforms, during country visits to Spain (January) and Kyrgyzstan (December). Furthermore, on 23 September, the Special Rapporteur and other mandate holders issued a joint, open letter and statement calling on States and social media firms to take action to curb the spread of online and offline hate speech.

## ND6 – The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected.



### Results

OHCHR continued to support Member States in the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration, including as a member of the Executive Committee of the UN Migration Network and as a member and co-lead of a number of the Network's Working Groups. It continued to visit key border and transit locations, undertaking monitoring missions to Ecuador and Peru on the human rights of migrants from Venezuela, an assessment mission to determine how to provide support to the Republic of Korea in ensuring a human rights-based approach to border governance and a remote monitoring mission to Tunisia on the human rights of migrants in Libya. It further actively engaged in strategic litigation efforts, including by supporting OHCHR presences with drafting amicus curiae, and carried out research and policy development on key issues such as returns, pathways for regular migration and vulnerability of migrants. In addition, OHCHR supported the development of the African Union three-year Plan of Action for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Africa (2020-2022). OHCHR, in collaboration with the UN Office on Counter-Terrorism, finalized a training package on human rights at borders, based on its Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders (2014). OHCHR also organized a training of trainers course for OHCHR and UNOCT staff on human rights at international borders and a number of field presences have applied the tools in their country contexts.

As part of its efforts to advocate for the integration of a human rights-based migration perspective into development policymaking, the Office contributed to the review of the 2030 Agenda goals and targets that are relevant to migration by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, including through its participation at the UN DESA Expert Symposium on International Migration and Development and at the General Assembly High-level Debate on International Migration and Development. More specifically, OHCHR raised awareness about a human rights-based approach, the perspective of migrants and their participation in the implementation of the SDGs. Furthermore, OHCHR successfully advocated for the inclusion of human rights standards in General Assembly resolution 74/148 on the protection of migrants during meetings with various Member States and the sponsors of the resolution. This resulted in the adoption of a resolution that is aligned with the human rights principles and standards outlined in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

In 2019, concluding observations issued by CMW in relation to Argentina, Colombia and Guatemala addressed frontier issues, such as mixed migratory movements, and in particular, migrations known as the “migrant caravans.” The Committee also highlighted the human rights of women and children on the move in the context of the massive migration of Venezuelan citizens, including in relation to citizenship for Venezuelan children born in Argentina and Colombia, family reunification, border management capacities and the lack of infrastructure at border crossing points. The Committee expressed its concern about the persistence of xenophobic attacks and hate speech against migrants from the media. In addition, CRPD issued recommendations concerning people’s displacement and movement, particularly migrants, asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities, in 15 out of 18 concluding observations and recommendations that were issued during the year.

### ND7 – Public support for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination, increases.

#### Shifts / SDGs



#### Results

The UN Free & Equal campaign launched four mini-campaigns reaching more than 14.3 million people in 2019 alone through campaign videos and more than 187,000 people through its Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts. In March, the campaign celebrated International Transgender Day of Visibility with a short video. In May, International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia was marked with a campaign celebrating political progress achieved by human rights activists and LGBTI communities in countries around the world. In October, a mini-campaign for Spirit Day called on allies to stand up for the rights of LGBTI kids experiencing bullying. In December, a mini-campaign was launched to laud the dedication of some of Africa’s most inspiring allies, including Willy Mutunga, former Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, Seun Kuti, a musician and activist from Nigeria, Bishop Ssenyonjo, a theologian from Uganda and Alice Nkom, a lawyer from Cameroon.

OHCHR undertook an assessment mission to Italy (Rome and Naples) on racial discrimination, with a focus on incitement to racial hatred and discrimination. Meetings were held with national, regional and local authorities and people and organizations from a range of backgrounds, including civil society representatives, lawyers, doctors, social workers, service providers and journalists, members of the Roma community, families and victims of racial discrimination and religious organizations.

The Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism engaged with various partners, including a dermatology company, to launch the largest worldwide campaign on albinism. This included NYDG’s ColourFull campaign, which used billboards in New York’s Times Square on International Albinism Awareness Day to advocate for the rights of persons with albinism. Similar billboard campaigns were launched in other cities, including London and Hong Kong. In conjunction with the campaign, a consultation was held in New York bringing together Member States, UN entities, media representatives and communications specialists to reinforce advocacy efforts to combat discrimination against persons with albinism. The Independent Expert continued to advocate and promote “Champions for Albinism” to increase dialogue in civic space on persons with albinism. OHCHR has set up a dedicated web page (<https://albinism.ohchr.org/>) on its website that features champion advocates for albinism. The Independent Expert visited South Africa during national albinism month. While there, the President of South Africa delivered a national statement that acknowledged the need to address challenges faced by persons with albinism.

**ND8** – The UN system implements a coherent and human rights-based response to inequality and discrimination, including intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

OHCHR helped to ensure that the UNSDG Operational Guide on Leaving No One Behind incorporates an HRBA and is grounded in the principles of equality and non-discrimination. The Office contributed to the piloting of this Guide to catalyze action at the national level by encouraging Resident Coordinators and UNCTs to adopt a more coherent human rights-based approach to LNOB, including by consistently identifying multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and other forms of inequalities, and building strategies to combat these problems through UN support. The impact of the Guide is now being seen through new CCA analyses at the country level.

OHCHR and UN Women undertook a comprehensive review of progress achieved across the UN system in the implementation of the UN Chief Executives Board framework for action on “Leaving No One Behind: Equality and non-discrimination at the heart of sustainable development.” The review identified the extent to which the UN has paid attention to inequalities and discrimination against marginalized groups, particularly gender discrimination. To translate these commitments into action and challenge inequalities and discrimination, OHCHR contributed to UN guidance on economic transformation and stressed that the UN’s economic policy guidance for States should focus on addressing inequalities, discrimination and exclusion through transformative economies.

The Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities continued to actively promote a process to strengthen UN system-wide accessibility, inclusion and mainstreaming of the rights of persons with disabilities. The findings of the 2018 baseline review of UN action to mainstream accessibility and disability inclusion informed the development of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) in 2019. The Special Rapporteur engaged directly with the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General and collaborated with the Inter-Agency Support Group using CRPD as a reference point, which led to the adoption and launch of the UNDIS, in June. OHCHR supported the development of the UNDIS and began preparations to produce its first report.



Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

## Accountability (A)

**A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.**

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

OHCHR provided support and advice to national law enforcement agencies and collaborated with international organizations, such as INTERPOL, to increase their knowledge on the human rights aspects of policing. It also provided support to: Afghanistan, Angola, Belarus, Chad, Fiji, the Gambia, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Nepal, Somalia, Thailand, Tunisia and Zimbabwe.

OHCHR supported the initiatives of Member States to protect human rights in the context of the deprivation of liberty and the prohibition and prevention of torture. Initiatives included the ongoing drafting of a universal protocol on investigative interviewing and associated safeguards and the drafting of a resolution to end the trade of goods for the use of torture and capital punishment. The resolution, adopted by the General Assembly, in June, requests that the Secretary-General seek the views of Member States on the feasibility of developing a legally binding instrument, establish a group of government experts to work on the instrument and submit a report to the General Assembly in 2020. OHCHR will support the preparation of the report.

Prevention and non-recurrence of human rights violations remained a primary objective for the Human Rights Council complaint procedure. The complaint procedure continued to deal with cases related to alleged arbitrary arrests and detention, enforced or involuntary disappearances and the failure to investigate them and the deprivation of the right to a fair trial and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal. At various stages of the process, both Working Groups (on communications and on situations) of the complaint procedure sought concrete commitments from States on the alignment of national laws with international human rights standards, the non-recurrence of violations and the provision of reparations and rehabilitation for victims of human rights violations before cases were discontinued or referred to the Council. In 2019, a total of 2,917 complaints were processed by the HRC complaint procedure. Some States took measures to address allegations of consistent patterns of reliably attested violations of human rights, including the establishment of national commissions of inquiry, the release of victims of human rights violations and the submission of updated information on the situation of alleged victims.

The SPT carried out seven country visits (Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Ghana, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and the United Kingdom). During its seven visits, the SPT visited more than 130 places of deprivation of liberty, including 49 prisons, 57 police stations, 10 migrant detention centres/centres for undocumented persons, eight psychiatric/mental health institutions and 10 other types of facilities, such as rehabilitation centres, court cells and religious closed boarding schools. During these visits, SPT conducted over 1,500 interviews (individual or collective) with detainees, officials, law enforcement personnel and medical staff.

In June, a presidential decree was published in Brazil, stripping the NPM of its official status, removing all of its experts from their functions and rendering their positions unpaid. SPT, which has a mandate to make recommendations to the State Party with a view to strengthening the mandate and capacity of the NPM, initiated a series of direct negotiations with the highest authorities of the State Party and submitted its views on the compatibility of the presidential decree with the provisions of CAT. The views of SPT were submitted to the Office of the Public Prosecutor which presented the views to the Brazilian courts. A Federal Court provisionally ordered that the effect of the presidential decree be reversed and reinstated the experts. Pending the final decision of the Supreme Court, SPT will continue to support the State Party and the NPM to ensure that the latter has the mandate and capacity to prevent torture.

OHCHR contributed to the sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the UNODC EGM on data collection regarding drug-related issues for the formulation of effective policies. It also participated in seven events for the promotion and dissemination of the UN System Common Position on Drug Policy in Brussels, Dhaka, Geneva, Lisbon, Porto and Vienna. OHCHR contributed to the development of the international guidelines on human rights and drug control, which were launched at the CND, in March. The Office also collaborated with a member of the Human Rights Committee, the Centre for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria and the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights in developing the United Nations Human Rights Guidance on Less-lethal Weapons in Law Enforcement. The Guidance has received positive feedback from users and will be published in 2020.

## A2 – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

Under the individual complaint procedure of the human rights treaty bodies, individuals have the right to complain about alleged human rights violations. In 2019, the eight treaty bodies that can receive individual complaints had registered a total of 640 new individual communications and had adopted 376 final decisions on communications. CED registered 248 new urgent actions and adopted 139 follow-up decisions with regard to registered urgent actions, bringing the total number of decisions it adopted in 2019 to 389. In addition, 3,360 individual communications were registered in 2019 and 65 decisions were adopted to close urgent actions.

## A3 – Justice systems investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more effectively.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

Protection measures were awarded for victims of sexual violence participating in the trial of a former leader of an armed group in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, enabling more than 20 victims and witnesses to safely testify in court. Individual protection measures were also granted to 11 victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the Central African Republic. These measures enabled victims to participate in a public hearing, in Bangui, from 11 to 15 March.

The July report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in Venezuela documented the specific impact on women and girls of violations of various rights, such as food, education and health, as well as violations of sexual and reproductive health and rights. It also identified various forms of sexual and gender-based violence experienced by women, including WHRDs, in contexts such as detention, security operations and house raids. The report of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, supported by the Office, included an analysis of discrimination against women and girls, focusing on teenage pregnancies, access to education and the discriminatory imposition on women and girls of “curfews.” The report of the Group of Eminent Experts of Yemen, also supported by the Office, dedicated a specific chapter to targeted attacks against WHRDs and the impact of the conflict on women and girls.



Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

**A4 – States take measures to ensure that their decision-making, policies and actions are more transparent and the public has access to information for accountability purposes.**

**Shifts / SDGs**



**Results**

OHCHR worked closely with the Government and the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to consolidate the establishment and ensure the smooth functioning of the domestic human rights screening mechanism.

**A5 – UN efforts for the rule of law, justice, counter-terrorism and accountability put human rights at the core.**

**Shifts / SDGs**



**Results**

OHCHR continued holding substantive discussions with UN entities working on counter-terrorism with a view to developing more meaningful partnerships that give due consideration to human rights. These included conversations with the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (OCT) on implementing the UN counter-terrorism travel programme and highlighting key human rights concerns in specific countries; with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) in relation to supporting their country assessments with human rights analysis; and with UNODC on developing UN strategies regarding prosecution, rehabilitation and the reintegration of persons allegedly associated with terrorist groups. OHCHR also provided inputs to the CTED for the Secretary-General's tenth report to the Security Council on the threat posed by ISIL/Daesh, covering the period from July to December, and to the OCT for the Secretary-General's report mandated by resolution A/RES/73/305 on victims of terrorism. In September, UN Women finalized the Guidance Note on gender mainstreaming principles, dimensions and priorities for preventing and countering violent extremism, to which OHCHR contributed.

During 2019, the Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections (GFP) continued to meet regularly and learned that a number of its supported joint programmes were being challenged by troubling changes taking place on the ground, notably the deterioration of the human rights environment. Consequently, at the Senior Partners Meeting of the GFP, OHCHR advocated for the urgent need to clearly assess and draw attention to the specific human rights-related tensions and unsettled issues during the corresponding GFP field assessment missions and in the subsequent programme documents. Thus, while positioning human rights concerns as potential drivers of conflict, OHCHR aimed at strengthening human rights within work related to the rule of law.

## Participation (P)

**P1** – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.

### Shifts / SDGs



### Results

Through press releases, OHCHR expressed concern over the situation of HRDs in 13 countries in the Americas region: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, the USA and Venezuela. The Office welcomed the ratification of the Escazu Agreement by five countries (Bolivia, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Uruguay).

The Office organized the first regional workshop on civic space and hate speech in social media in Tunis in October. The 36 workshop participants (21 women, 15 men, primarily media workers, HRDs and social influencers from 15 countries), discussed challenges facing civil society in the Middle East and North Africa and explored ways to broaden civic space and address hate speech on social media platforms. The participants considered potential activities to counter the shrinking digital civic space through awareness-raising, strategic advocacy and digital partnerships and to develop a compilation of good practices on how to address hate speech in social media. The participants discussed several case studies on the implementation of the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, the Beirut Declaration on “Faith for Rights”, the UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech and the Christchurch Call to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist online content.

The [Participation Guidelines](#), produced by OHCHR and adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2018, were distributed to a wide range of audiences, focusing on youth, women and local government. The Guidelines are a tool for states and civil society alike and provide practical guidance on how to implement the right to participate in public affairs at all levels of decision-making. The Guidelines web page was updated and a user-friendly version was issued in all UN languages. The Guidelines were also presented at the SDG 16 conference in Rome, in May, and widely disseminated at the High-level Political Forum in New York, in July.

In following up on the report of the Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, OHCHR initiated new research, which led to the development of guidance on the application of international human rights law to technology. OHCHR also advocated for an increased understanding of human rights at a range of expert meetings related to digital technology and civic space, including HRC side events, workshops on AI and facial recognition and the Internet Governance Forum.

Special procedures mandates on freedom of opinion and expression, peaceful association and assembly, a democratic and equitable international order, cultural rights, human rights defenders, minority issues and counter-terrorism contributed to policy and legal recommendations on strengthening freedom of expression through 12 commentaries on domestic laws in 2019. The special procedures mandate holders emphasized the importance of public spaces for the exercise of cultural rights and the realization of human rights; communicated with governments on the situation of HRDs, highlighting attacks and persecution against HRDs working on minority issues; and identified trends and patterns in the use of counter-terrorism measures against civil society actors and HRDs.



Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

**P2 – The UN system and international, regional and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to civil society organizations and individuals (including from reprisals).**

## Shifts / SDGs



### Results

OHCHR continued to facilitate regular exchanges between NGOs and the President of the HRC to create opportunities for civil society to discuss issues of critical concern. This included discussions on how to address reprisals occurring in the context of HRC sessions and enhancing the methods of work of the HRC while safeguarding civil society space. With regard to allegations of reprisals reported to OHCHR during the reporting period, the internal protocol for handling such cases in connection with HRC sessions was put in motion and recommendations on appropriate action were made to the HRC President on each case. The recording and monitoring of cases through in-house coordination ensured the rapid identification of trends and the development of good practices in handling such cases.

To ensure that HRDs and civil society can engage with the UN without fear of reprisals or intimidation, the human rights treaty bodies were supported in effectively addressing allegations of reprisals. CERD adopted guidelines on reprisals, which outline the different steps of considering and following up on cases of allegations, and explored possibilities of enhancing its cooperation with NGOs. In 2019, OHCHR published a common treaty body web page on reprisals, which provides easy access to information on how the treaty bodies address and report on cases of intimidation and reprisals. In addition, the treaty bodies continued to facilitate accessibility for civil society and HRDs, including by adopting decisions (interim measures) on individual cases of reprisals. During the year, various treaty bodies flagged concerns regarding the work of HRDs during the dialogue with the State Party concerned, reflected these concerns in recommendations and published letters of alleged reprisals on the web page of the committees. An absence of Secretariat resources and tools to verify the allegations, conduct further research and translate documentation affected the ability of the Secretariat to assist the committees to address all cases in an effective manner.

The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders participated in the implementation of the global communication campaign on the twentieth anniversary of the UN Declaration on human rights defenders, which was launched in December 2018. The website established for the occasion (<https://togetherwedefend.org/>) included stories of HRDs that had been champions in protecting civic space in various regions of the world and focused on a variety of human rights issues. The digital campaign featured a flagship video that told the story of grassroots and high profile defenders around the world, two made-for-social videos, campaign branding, an interactive website to showcase the stories of 10 HRDs, including a tool to send a message of solidarity to a defender, and a digital toolkit to enable partners to share the campaign materials on social media. The Special Rapporteur met with HRDs from around the world and devoted his report to the General Assembly to the persistent impunity for human rights violations committed against HRDs. The findings of the report are the result of extensive consultations with HRDs that have taken place since the beginning of his mandate, five regional consultations held in 2018 and 2019, the review of communications sent by the Special Rapporteur and 71 submissions collected through a survey.

OHCHR contributed to the 2019 annual report of the Secretary-General on Cooperation with the UN, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights (A/HRC/42/30), which was presented to the HRC, in September. It includes cases from 48 States, reflecting the increased documentation of information on trends and cases in the public domain. For comparison, from 2010 to 2016, an average of 15 countries are included in the annual reports. The 2017 report mentions 29 States and the 2018 report lists 38 States. The 2019 report also includes good practices to address and prevent reprisals, as suggested by Member States during the interactive dialogue on the 2018 report.

2019 marked the tenth anniversary of HRC resolution 12/2, in which the Council requested the UN to take urgent steps to address intimidation and reprisals. The strong commitment to confront this issue was renewed by the Council, in September, with HRC resolution 42/28. Furthermore, in October, during the Third Committee of the General Assembly, 71 Member States issued a joint statement welcoming the HRC resolution. The General Assembly also adopted, by consensus, resolutions that condemn reprisals (A/RES/72/247 in 2017; A/RES/74/146 in 2019).

In April, OHCHR convened a consultative working group of UN entities in New York and Geneva to develop a UN guidance document on preventing and addressing reprisals. As a result, a discussion paper was prepared to answer in-depth questions on how the UN is dealing with this issue. It also developed a user-friendly protocol/checklist that multiple actors in the UN system can use as a reference guide to prevent and address reprisals at the international level and in the field.

A human rights assessment mission was deployed to Sri Lanka, in consultation with the Resident Coordinator, to support the monitoring and risk assessment work of the HRA, particularly in the context of the presidential elections held on 16 November. The mission convened more than 70 meetings with different interlocutors, including the Resident Coordinator, national and international electoral observation organizations, religious organizations and civil society actors. The mission bolstered the human rights monitoring capacity of the HRA and provided additional early warning analysis to inform the UN system on the level and type of risks for further deterioration of the human rights situation. Finally, the mission paid particular attention to the situation of victims, HRDs, journalists and civil society activists. It identified and recommended measures for the protection of those under potential threat by bringing them to the attention of the Resident Coordinator.

### P3 – Business, policymakers and the public at large increasingly value and support civic space.

#### Shifts / SDGs

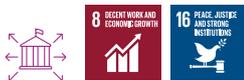


#### Results

Multi-stakeholder dialogues on human rights defenders and civic space took place during specific sessions of the Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights in November in Geneva and at regional consultations. Providing guidance for business on engaging, respecting and supporting human rights defenders in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (in coordination with the Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders) is in progress.

### P4 – Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.

#### Shifts / SDGs



#### Results

The Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members has developed a network of professional groups and relevant stakeholders working in the field of leprosy. She has worked closely with this network in relation to the regular work of the mandate and on specific occasions, such as the preparation of public reports, country visits and communications.

### P5 – More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place.

#### Shifts / SDGs



#### Results

With support from the special procedures, OHCHR conducted a human rights analysis of the draft amendments to legislation “On audio-visual media in the Republic of Albania.” Recommendations from OHCHR and other UN agencies were presented by the Resident Coordinator to the Albanian Parliament on 25 November. This advocacy effort helped to prevent the adoption of amendments with the potential to limit freedom of expression and human rights activism.

OHCHR prepared a draft checklist on monitoring civic space trends in order to develop a practical framework to assist field presences with assessing and documenting civic space trends at regional and national levels. The draft checklist was shared with a select number of field presences (i.e., in Burkina Faso, Southern Africa, Southeast Asia and Ukraine) on a pilot basis and served to produce background notes on countries.



Corruption



Inequalities



New technologies



People on the move

In March, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders held a regional consultation in Nairobi, with HRDs from English- and French-speaking African countries. In June, he held a similar regional event with approximately 40 HRDs from the Middle East and North Africa in Tunisia. Both consultations informed the drafting of his thematic report on impunity. In June, he held an online expert webinar on the recommendations related to this thematic report. In addition, the Special Rapporteur sent joint communications highlighting attacks and persecution against HRDs working on minority issues, including in Algeria, Bangladesh, China, India, Kyrgyzstan and Myanmar.

**P6** –The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard.

## Shifts / SDGs



## Results

The Secretary-General's Executive Committee decision 2018/63 of November 2018 on protecting civic space requested that OHCHR and UN Women map the UN's practices, concrete recommendations and lessons learned related to protection, expansion and promotion of civic space. As a result, from April to May, a UN system-wide online survey was conducted, building on previous reports and assessments on civil society engagement with the UN system. In total, 100 UN entities responded to the survey. The survey shows that each UN pillar could benefit from better cross-learning and sharing of good practices. The survey results were presented to the Secretary-General's Executive Committee, in August. In its decision 2019/53, the Executive Committee tasked OHCHR with developing a Secretary-General's Guidance Note and UN system-wide strategy on civic space, including through broad consultations with civic society.

OHCHR supported the sixth meeting of the Central American network of women defenders of sexual and reproductive rights, in Panama, from 27-28 May. This contributed to strengthening their advocacy capacities for the adoption of legislation and public policies for the advancement of sexual and reproductive health and rights in Central America.

Thirty-five indigenous fellows (18 women, 17 men) from 28 countries/territories participated in the Indigenous Fellowship Programme, which was held in English, French, Russian and Spanish. Thirty minority fellows (15 women, 15 men) participated in the Minorities Fellowship Programme, which was held in Arabic, English and Russian. Additionally, twelve young activist of African descent from 11 countries participated in the Fellowship programme for people of African descent. These Programmes contributed to empower young activists to promote the human rights of their communities worldwide. Former fellows are conducting human rights trainings for their communities, they are engaging with the development of legislation, policies and programmes at national level, as well as with UN human rights mechanisms.

# ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS RESULTS



## OEAP Strategic Leadership and Direction

UN Human Rights leadership bodies are making timely, evidence-based strategic decisions in line with results-based management principles.

- The High Commissioner launched a number of initiatives to “re-set” key operational issues, such as a review of the terms and conditions for national staff and General Service staff and the launch of a UN Human Rights health and well-being action plan. Three “Communities of Practice” were launched in relation to communication (CommsNet), administration (AdminNet) and leadership (LeadingNet) in order to foster exchange, peer-to-peer learning and information sharing.
- A UN Human Rights Global Meeting was organized, in Geneva, in July, bringing together approximately 400 staff, including over 70 colleagues from field presences, to inspire, innovate, learn, communicate and operate as One Office. The Global Meeting furthered the discussions and confirmed the commitment to the four “re-sets” to sharpen the focus of the Office on: 1) Leadership and silo disruption; 2) Technical cooperation; 3) Engaging with Member States; and 4) Communication and storytelling. In addition, a fifth “re-set” was confirmed with regard to how the Office can enhance its work on the three priority areas identified by the High Commissioner in 2018 (SDGs, prevention and ESCR).
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on Internal Communication were approved by senior management and issued to all staff. The SOPs stipulate that all staff have a responsibility to stay informed and share information. In particular, they mandate all managers to hold regular meetings with their teams and reiterate their accountability for ensuring that senior management decisions are communicated to all staff in the respective divisions.
- As part of efforts to revamp the intranet, a new intranet homepage was launched with a more user-friendly design and interface. This new homepage facilitates the sharing of information, in particular regarding what is happening in the Office, and guides users to information in a more intuitive way. The process of upgrading remaining content and navigation will continue in 2020.
- The idea of an OHCHR radio or podcast was explored and a survey was distributed to staff to gauge their interest and seek feedback. The response was very positive and a podcast for staff was launched in early 2020 as an innovative way of disseminating information.
- To increase coherence and strengthen the internal governance bodies, twelve regular meetings and one extraordinary meeting of the PBRB were held during 2019, thereby contributing to the improved internal governance of office-wide programming, budgeting and financial planning. In the course of 2019, the PBRB reviewed approximately 70 fundraising and fund allocation proposals from both headquarters and the field, which is a record number indicating an increased involvement of staff in resource mobilization. Over half of these proposals were processed by the PBRB Secretariat as electronic reviews to optimize the use of PBRB meeting time and enable timely decisions between meetings. While monthly monitoring of extrabudgetary financial expenditures and income have been on the agenda for a long time, monitoring of human resources and the regular budget situation became regular items on the agenda in 2019. This contributed to effective and efficient internal governance and coordinated timely and coherent messaging from senior management to staff on hot topics, such as the evolving regular budget situation.

- Another indicator of increased coherence and a strengthening of the internal governance bodies was the approval, on 28 June, of the integrated budget for the Task Forces on SDGs, prevention and ESCR and the endorsement of the National Staff Review recommendations regarding the use and replacement of Service Contracts. In November, the PBRB decided to dedicate quarterly or six monthly meetings to human resources. The 2020 budget process was finalized in February 2020 and yielded a number of lessons learned that will be taken into account during the “Budget Re-set” in 2020. To inform PBRB decision-making and build capacity around the Performance Monitoring System as an information management tool, Annual Workplans 2020 were analysed internally using substantive expertise in the Office. The quality of the analysis was recognized by the PBRB and will be further discussed at the beginning of 2020.
- Following an internal survey-based assessment of the PAG, it was decided that the PAG meetings would be organized when needed, instead of on a weekly basis. The meetings will focus on strategic areas of intervention by OHCHR. In 2019, three PAG meetings were held in relation to: (i) possible focus areas for speeches and statements by the High Commissioner for the year; (ii) crisis preparedness and response; and (iii) UN Human Rights’ response to global protests. The recommendations from these meetings were taken up by the SMT.
- Extended PAG (ePAG) meetings with managers continued to be organized on a bimonthly basis as a forum to share and discuss management issues. Discussion items included the Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) evaluation; the UN’s internal administration of justice system; a 360-degree review for managers; health and well-being, including flexible working arrangements and smoking; the Dignity@Work policy; diversity and UN Human Rights demography; the branding project; web redesign and security accountability.
- In 2019, the evaluations of the Uganda Country Programme and RBM were finalized. The Uganda evaluation was effectively used during renegotiations related to the continuation of the OHCHR presence in Uganda. The evaluation on transitions from peace operations was initiated with missions to New York, Geneva and Liberia. In addition, preparations began for the country programme evaluations for Cambodia, Central America, Colombia and Ukraine.
- The report of the MOPAN assessment was launched and a management response and action plan were finalized and approved by the PBRB. Internal reviews were conducted for the Gender Facilitators Network, the UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region, internal communications and the staffing of the front offices of senior managers. A start-up review of the G5 Sahel project was also completed during the reporting period. Gender was mainstreamed into evaluations that were conducted and the integration of Disability Inclusion was initiated following the adoption of the new UN Disability Inclusion Strategy, including in relation to evaluations that were undertaken by the UNEG Working Group on human rights and gender equality and UN Women.
- In preparation for the Secretariat’s move towards an annual programme budget document in 2020, OHCHR developed the 2020 Budget Report programme plan. One element of the new format entailed the drafting of narrative “results stories.” The preparation of the document required a higher investment of time than in previous years due to a complete change in its format. To solicit the support, the Office engaged with Member States, which included a presentation of the planned programme to Member States that was conducted by the High Commissioner. The briefing was well attended and many countries from different regions took the floor to support the programme. Nevertheless, due to a lack of consensus on the new format of the Secretary-General’s programme plans, the Committee for Programme and Coordination referred all programme plans including programme 20 – Human Rights to the General Assembly for review.



Across UN Human Rights, innovation is encouraged, supported and its results are implemented accordingly.

- As part of the Innovation Action Plan, the Office Innovation Challenge was launched, in April, to generate out-of-the-box ideas in order to transform how UN Human Rights works and can achieve human rights impact. The Challenge provided staff with a platform to identify actions that OHCHR could stop doing and/or propose new and creative alternatives in which it could invest. A total of 29 proposals were submitted and 10 were shortlisted and invited to make a pitch for seed funding. A pitch event was held during the Global Meeting with three external panel experts. Staff voted to identify four winning innovation projects that were awarded seed funds for implementation.
  - › “Ditch UNfair internships” came in first and received seed funding of US\$25,000 to support a pilot programme to bring candidates from the Global South to Geneva. OHCHR also took part in the 100-day internship challenge to come up with concrete, actionable recommendations for the senior management of UN Geneva that would improve the internship experience in the UN Secretariat. Key achievements included assigning dedicated slots in language and other training courses for interns, free meals for interns in UN cafeterias after hours and a more structured onboarding and exit package.
  - › The other three winning proposals focused on the volunteer mobility programme for national staff, investing in technology as a force for good and establishing a Human Rights Officers Academy.
    - › The diversity of proposals, the engagement of the candidates and the feedback of the experts indicated success and a growing interest in innovation within the organization.
    - › The OHCHR Innovation Challenge also attracted interest from other UN partners who have replicated and adapted the concept within their organizations. All four winning proposals from the 2017 Innovation Challenge were implemented with seed funds by the end of 2019, including one information management project that attracted significant donor interest and led to an expansion of the original concept.
- The Office undertook a number of initiatives as part of an effort to strengthen information management using innovative approaches to support information and data requirements for human rights. For example, tools were developed to cultivate open source data that can be included in human rights analysis to augment existing internal datasets. Amongst these initiatives, the CESC Secretariat devised and introduced an online CESC submissions system to facilitate engagement with CSOs and other stakeholders in a more efficient manner and allow for better information management, while simultaneously building up a user-friendly database of stakeholders.
- The UHRI project “Invest in technology as a force for good” was one of the finalists in the 2019 OHCHR Innovation Challenge during the Global Meeting, in July. This cross-divisional proposal suggested the use of word recognition technology to tag or index reports that need to be added to the UHRI.
- OHCHR developed links and cooperated with UN agencies with more advanced approaches to and programmes in support of innovation, including UNHCR, WIPO, UNDP and UN Global Pulse, to support the conceptualization and creation of the “Light Up! Innovation Engine” project, which included a study tour of UNHCR’s innovation services. The Office facilitated a workshop on design thinking methods for the members of this project to help them identify and prioritize their work.
- The Office organized a workshop with Element AI to generate ideas for repetitive tasks that would benefit from the use of automation and artificial intelligence. Four ideas from different parts of the Office emerged at the workshop, two of which will be further developed during 2020. UN Human Rights also deepened its relationship with the Master’s Programme in Innovation of the University of Geneva in partnership with the Tsinghua University in Beijing in order to connect with its students for joint innovation projects. Three of these projects have been agreed upon for implementation in 2020.
- The Office also worked to produce its own innovative products and processes, including by adopting new ways to disseminate publications and materials that it produces, mapping where technology can contribute to the methodology development process and developing partnerships for rethinking approaches to remote learning. The Global Meeting Knowledge Fair explored innovative ways that OHCHR knowledge products could be disseminated to stakeholders. Located on the Yammer platform, the Office Light Bulbs Group provides the Office with an online space for ideation and collaboration.


**OEAP Dynamic Knowledge**

UN Human Rights' knowledge base is used strategically to actively shape programming, capacity, culture and structure.

- In 2019, the Office's "Community of Practice on SDGs, prevention, ESCR and Right to Development" (2030 CoP) was launched on Yammer, as one of the outcomes of the three Task Forces convened by the High Commissioner. The 2030 CoP has three objectives, namely, to (a) facilitate peer-to-peer support, so colleagues can share knowledge and experiences and support each other in their work; (b) share good practices, materials, stories and initiatives that can be built upon; and (c) serve as a directory for cross-fertilization so that colleagues with specific thematic expertise and practical experience can be easily identified. Soon after its launch, active exchanges took place between field and headquarters staff and participants immediately noted several promising practices and opportunities for cross-fertilization, including on the right to water (Colombia, Kenya, Mexico), the justiciability of ESCR (Tunisia) and focused discussions on economic analysis and human rights. As of the end of the year, the 2030 CoP had more than 300 members, comprised of OHCHR staff from headquarters and field presences.
- The Office developed and disseminated new tools and guidelines to support the creation of CoPs, networks and "new generation" groups, including:
  - › Terms of reference for new OHCHR "Communities of Practice";
  - › "How-to" lists and checklists for moderators of CoPs, networks and groups;
  - › Reference list of OHCHR-specific tags to use in CoPs, networks and groups (supporting search function and consolidation of input);
  - › Etiquette for good collaboration ("do's and don'ts") benchmarks when using Yammer and for good online collaboration; and
  - › Several tailor-made video tutorials to support the use of Yammer.
- OHCHR's Knowledge Sharing Toolkit (Acquire, Inspire, Innovate!) developed in 2013 has been updated. The Toolkit offers a vast array of methodological options to facilitate and promote collaborative and participatory consultations, training sessions and strategic discussions. The updated Toolkit was disseminated to all field presences and headquarters staff, in digital and hard copy, and is available on the Dynamic Knowledge intranet page.
- The comprehensive resource mobilization guide and "quick guide" to resource mobilization and standardized funding proposal templates, developed by the Office in 2018, were widely distributed in 2019 and continue to be available to OHCHR staff on the intranet. The documents will be updated in 2020 by the new capacity-building staff.
- Three "Communities of Practice" were launched in relation to communication (CommsNet), administration (AdminNet) and leadership (LeadingNet) in order to foster exchange, peer-to-peer learning and information sharing.



## OEAP External Communications

UN Human Rights' human rights impact and messages are effectively communicated, helping to position it as a partner of choice for its key stakeholders.

- The Office contributed to and reviewed a significant number of substantive internal documents prepared by field presences or regional sections in Geneva headquarters, including correspondence with high-level UN officials, external correspondence (particularly with Member States), public statements, speeches and other documents. Moreover, the Office coordinated and processed information from field offices regarding alerts on reprisals and follow-up actions, such as advocacy on specific cases, and provided guidance on country engagement strategies, public reporting and the production of factsheets for field presences to enhance outreach, visibility and fundraising opportunities. The reviews ensured the consistent production of high quality external products representing the work of the Office and field presences. In turn, this ensured consistency in how the Office communicates and is externally presented, including to the media, donors, governments and others.
- Approximately 140 press statements, press briefings, media statements and media advisories on human rights situations in countries and territories were issued with inputs and advice from field presences. OHCHR reviewed, edited and cleared approximately 30 reports from the High Commissioner, peace missions and in relation to country situations, in addition to 40 reports that were submitted to the Human Rights Council and 11 reports that were submitted to the General Assembly.
- In July, OHCHR recruited a communications consultant (as planned under the “Light Up” Innovation Challenge) to focus on telling the stories of the work of the Office in the Africa region. Throughout the year, the Africa Branch issued bimonthly reports under a new format that showcases its human rights impact in line with the OMP. It also issued human interest stories that were posted on social media and the OHCHR website. These stories attracted considerable attention from a large audience.
- The Human Rights Council media team developed a Council website, in 2018, introducing new features in 2019. A new logo, in all official UN languages, has been applied to all HRC public materials and web-based platforms. In 2019, the HRC logo was included for the first time on correspondence sent by the HRC Presidency.
- Outreach considerably bolstered HRC’s storytelling and constructive messaging capacities. A number of videos were posted on a wide range of topics stemming from the Council’s activities, including those of its investigative bodies, such as the Commissions of Inquiry and Fact-Finding Missions on Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, occupied Palestinian territory, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. Multiple feature stories, including on the activities of the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council, the Nelson Mandela Human Rights Moot Court Competition, model UN events that simulated the Council and a series of reports by the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, which attracted substantial public attention and generated 300 media clicks in addition to the 1,200 clicks triggered during the launch of the report.
- Moreover, UN News published several positive pieces on the special procedures, the UPR and other features that stressed the important link between the three pillars in the UN. The HRC media team continued to develop and expand on its internal database, which now includes nearly 100 success stories emanating from the HRC, which are drawn upon when opportunities for narration present themselves. The database has also been extensively used to produce talking points for the HRC President, the High Commissioner and other senior officials.
- The Human Rights Council media team supported the investigative bodies established by the Council. The report and activities of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, for the second year in a row, and the report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the protests in the occupied Palestinian territory, were widely praised by States, NGOs and the media. The vast array of public information materials to support the findings of these entities, helped to raise awareness and enhance their visibility. More importantly, they drew attention to the plight of the many victims highlighted in the reports. Infographics and several targeted videos were particularly effective in translating the activities of the Council into something more concrete. The report of the Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar continued to receive significant media attention after its launch, particularly during the International Court of Justice hearings on Myanmar, in December. The media team promoted

- these reports on the HRC social media accounts, which resulted in a sizable spike in followers and likes on these platforms. The views on HRC tweets potentially increased by more than 200 per cent and Instagram followers number increased by 125 per cent, while the report of the Commission of Inquiry on the OPT protests triggered an increase of daily views of HRC Facebook posts by almost 420 per cent.
- The Office continued to invest significant resources in updating the web pages on reprisals, the individual human rights treaty bodies, the Meeting of Chairpersons of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies and the 2020 treaty body review. The UHRI is consistently updated with recommendations issued by the treaty bodies, the UPR and the special procedures. For individual complaints submitted to the treaty bodies, a new platform has been proposed for more effective, transparent and accessible case management and information sharing. Two of the committees, CRC and CEDAW, used videoconferencing for their respective reviews of the State Party reports of Mozambique. Webcasting of sessions continued to be crucial in expanding the number of stakeholders that were able to follow the work of the treaty bodies.
  - With the support of the UPR Trust Funds, the Office prepared infographic pages, reflecting trends in terms of accepted recommendations and the links between UPR recommendations and the top five SDGs. These infographic pages served as a tool for monitoring implementation within States after their reviews and for the programming activities of the UNCTs.
  - The Office continued to build on the efforts undertaken by the special procedures mandates to strengthen its communication and outreach strategy. This was primarily accomplished through the use of social media platforms, which enabled the Office to engage with non-traditional actors, while also increasing the visibility of and accessibility to the activities of the mandate holders, thereby maximizing their impact. To this end, a special procedures Twitter account was created and guidance provided to SPB colleagues in this regard. Social media proved to be an effective tool for reaching out to non-traditional audiences, such as those living in rural areas in the countries visited by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.
  - In 2018, OHCHR launched a branding exercise that continued throughout 2019. The branding company presented its results, proposed a strategy and worked with OHCHR to develop and launch the 2019 Human Rights Day campaign. It also presented a first draft of the new UN Human Rights brand book.
  - The multi-year Web Transformation Project launched in 2018 aims to produce a new, user-friendly OHCHR.org website that leverages current technology and is effectively governed. In 2019, it focused on content revision, governance and procurement. The bulk of the content work involved auditing existing web pages to recommend what content to update, remove or migrate.
  - Strong emphasis was placed on the use of multimedia, visual storytelling through social videos, interactive Instagram stories and animated infographics. This improved the Office's capacities to tell stories and convey its messages in different formats. OHCHR explored new ways of storytelling, both in terms of format and venue, taking advantage of new platforms, such as Exposure or Medium. In addition, the Office developed unique visual messaging for various communications products and produced many social media-only stories in an immersive mobile format. In the second half of 2019, multilingual accounts were created in French ([facebook.com/onudroitsdelhomme](https://facebook.com/onudroitsdelhomme)) and Spanish ([facebook.com/onuderechoshumanos](https://facebook.com/onuderechoshumanos) and [instagram.com/onuderechoshumanos](https://instagram.com/onuderechoshumanos)). These new pages will help the Office to increase its content promotion and audience engagement in multiple languages.
  - Following the organization of the OHCHR Global Meeting, OHCHR launched a communications "Community of Practice," which serves as a group that shares communications successes, procedures, policies and initiatives and seeks to improve the results of the Office.
  - There was a 46.5 per cent increase in the number of media articles citing OHCHR between 2018 (41,629 articles) and 2019 (61,015 articles). The total percentage increase since 2017 was 154 per cent, or almost eight times the target figure of a 20 per cent increase in the number of media articles by 2021. The 2019 total is the highest annual total achieved and includes the highest figure reached for a single month.

The record number of media articles generated by the Office reflects stronger storytelling and clear and effective messaging. The launches of a number of key OHCHR reports, particularly those on Chile, Kashmir and Venezuela, were especially effective. The July launches of the reports on Kashmir and Venezuela and the High Commissioner's high-profile visit to Venezuela the previous month, were the primary reasons for the record monthly media pick-up of just under 10,000 articles, in July.

- The Publications Committee continued to provide expert oversight of the Office's publications programme. The Committee held nine regular meetings, during which it approved 11 publishing proposals for new official publications, and considered six manuscripts. In 2019, the Office continued to raise the visibility of the OHCHR publications programme and increase awareness about its published works and publishing procedures among various stakeholders. OHCHR dispatched over 85,000 print materials to 51 countries worldwide. Over 52,920 of these were official publications and 32,086 were corporate reports, civil society guides and promotional materials. Most print materials were slated for local and regional distribution through OHCHR offices, UN agencies, government departments and NGOs. Others were used as resource materials for training courses, workshops and meetings and to stock human rights resource centres (predominantly in Gabon, Honduras, Liberia, Togo, Uganda and Uzbekistan).
- In 2019, multilingualism was emphasized as an essential means of promoting unity in diversity and an international understanding of human rights issues. Of the more than 85,000 print materials that were distributed, 43.46 per cent were original English language editions, 21.44 per cent were in French, 18.03 per cent were in Spanish, 10.20 per cent were in Russian, 5.73 per cent were in Arabic and 1.14 per cent were in Chinese. OHCHR's promotional efforts led to an increase in the number of publication web visits from 3.7 million in 2018 to more than 4.89 million in 2019. Notwithstanding the augmented online presence, linguistic diversity was less varied in electronic format and the highest demand was for English and Spanish titles. The Office continued to promote its publications through its online catalogue, order forms (in six official languages) and UN sales channels.



Investment in and support for UN Human Rights has expanded and donors are expressing confidence in the value delivered by these investments.

- Total voluntary contributions amounted to US\$179 million, representing a decrease of 4.3 per cent compared to 2018. It should be noted, however, that 2018 was an exceptional year, which saw the highest amount ever received by the Office (US\$187.1 million) with a 31 per cent increase over 2017. A total of 85 funding agreements were signed with donors in 2019. Online donations to OHCHR reached US\$12,200 in 2019 (not counting donations received via the United Nations Foundation), which is more than was received in 2018 but less than in 2017 when over US\$15,900 was raised from individual donors.
- In terms of diversifying the donor base, OHCHR's strategic partnership with Microsoft was cultivated and maintained. In 2019, the company donated US\$1 million to OHCHR, which was divided 85/15 between cash and pro bono services. Grants were secured from the MacArthur Foundation (US\$180,000) and the Open Society Foundations (US\$214,000) and a proposal was submitted to the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund (US\$200,000), which was approved in early 2020. During the last quarter of 2019, the Office outlined steps to more proactively reach out to private and corporate foundations in 2020. A series of events will be organized throughout the year with the aim of paving the way for the creation of new platforms for their engagement with the Office. In addition, OHCHR provided support for fundraising initiatives related to the Free & Equal campaign, through the UN Foundation, with the following results: US\$450,000 from H&M, US\$80,000 from the Gap and additional support from Kenneth Cole, Global Brands Group and Under Armour (amounts pending confirmation). A technology initiative entitled "Call for Code," sponsored by IBM, resulted in a US\$105,000 contribution, representing an increase of US\$80,000 more than was received the previous year. Finally, the University of Auckland provided US\$10,484 for the OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme.
- On 1 October, OHCHR signed a MoU with a funding component with two Qatari non-profit NGOs, namely, Silatech and Education Above All. The purpose of this MoU is to promote and protect the rights of young people, realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development relating to youth and implement the United Nations Youth Strategy.
- OHCHR, in response to request from donors, continued working with an external communications specialist to produce stories on the impact of the Office in the field. In 2019, six stories were produced (two from Guinea-Bissau, two from Senegal and two from Tunisia). The stories will be posted on the Exposure platform in early 2020. The eight stories produced and posted on Exposure since 2018 have an average of between 4,000 and 7,000 views. A few of stories have many more views, such as a story on the Republic of Moldova ("End discrimination: How UN Human Rights helps to shape laws to end discrimination in Moldova") that was published in February and had 43,796 views by the end of the year.
- OHCHR prepared a position paper on the office-wide approach to JPO management and made specific recommendations on aligning JPO management with the OMP and its annual planning and monitoring processes. The paper was considered and endorsed by the PBRB at its December session for implementation.
- While much remains to be done with regard to resource mobilization, the impact of the capacity-building workshops organized in 2018 for 56 field colleagues and 26 colleagues from headquarters began to materialize in 2019. In terms of donor reporting, a marked improvement from several colleagues who attended the training was achieved. For example, the United Kingdom pointed out that reporting on one of the projects it is funding had improved following the training.
- In 2019, the Office submitted 210 narrative reports (most of which included financial statements) to donors whose reporting requirements were not met by the Annual Report, resulting in a more than doubling (128 per cent) of the number of reports produced by the Office in the previous year (which was 92). This leap is partly due to the record amount of income received in 2018 coupled with the multiplication of earmarkings.
- The Annual Appeal 2020 was produced and posted on the OHCHR website at the end of December. The brochure had a thematic focus on "frontier" issues and included stories on the impact of the Office's work in those areas.
- Based on the 2018 analysis of previous Annual Reports, available donor feedback, further discussions and an overview of best reporting practices, the UN Human Rights Report 2018, which was produced during the first half of 2019, underwent significant changes in terms of content and format.

Compared to recent Annual Reports, the 2018 edition had a number of novel features. In addition, a new format was introduced that aligned with the 2018-2021 results framework, used data visualization and infographics to illustrate key results, featured a selection of in-depth highlights of results, linked OMP results with Sustainable Development Goals, consolidated regular budget and extrabudgetary funding and highlighted funding gaps. The report also emphasized human interest stories and the online version was made available as a user-friendly, searchable pdf file.

- › The UN Human Rights Report 2018 was launched on 14 June 2019 and widely disseminated to partners via regular mail and email and was posted on the OHCHR website. Several donors commended the new format at the launch and during subsequent bilateral meetings.
- › The Office conducted a review of the 2018 reporting process and produced recommendations that were integrated into the 2019 end-of-year reporting cycle and the UN Human Rights Report 2019 workplan. The production of the report began in November and incorporated lessons learned from the 2018 reporting process.
- › An assessment of the UN Human Rights Report was included in the Office evaluation plan for 2020-2021 to determine the report's long-term efficacy and efficiency in serving its purpose.
- The Case for Support, produced in 2019, was printed in early 2020. It will be available at several UN Human Rights events with the aim of proactively reaching out to private and corporate foundations and paving the way for the creation of new platforms for their engagement with OHCHR.
- The Office organized 12 annual consultations with donors in 2019 (Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden and the United Kingdom) compared to nine in the previous year. These consultations focused on the strategic direction for OHCHR in 2019 and beyond, the role of OHCHR within the UN system, financial and organizational management, and geographic and thematic human rights issues. At the request of a small group of donors, OHCHR also organized a field trip to the Regional Office in Bangkok and to the Cambodia Country Office. This enabled the Office to showcase its added value and concrete examples of its impact on the ground. It also allowed donors to hear directly from partners of the Office (civil society, government entities and other UN entities) the value they saw in the work of the Office.
- A total of ten thematic briefings were organized for groups of donors in order to solicit contributions for specific priorities, including on human rights indicators, the HRuF campaign, the rule of law and sexual and gender-based violence/conflict prevention. The Office provided support to the Boards of the Torture, Slavery and Indigenous Peoples Voluntary Funds for brainstorming meetings on their respective fundraising strategies. Country briefings were organized on countries from the Middle East and North Africa, Myanmar, State of Palestine and Venezuela. Furthermore, at least 19 ad hoc meetings were organized with selected donors, seven of which were with the European Commission

and five of which were with Sweden (in addition to annual consultations). In collaboration with the Swedish Permanent Mission, OHCHR organized a donor briefing on the role of human rights and OHCHR in UN reform, in December, for New York-based development and political/peace and security delegates.

- To enhance an enabling environment for resource mobilization in the Office, a short publication was prepared with an overview of the full 2018-2021 results framework. This user-friendly tool is aimed at helping colleagues to mobilize resources in their work by ensuring the results framework is used and implemented in a cohesive way. It was launched and distributed to colleagues during the RBM workshops at the Global Meeting and later shared with all staff. The workshop also featured an RBM quiz to help colleagues refresh their understanding of RBM concepts. An expanded version of the 2018-2021 results framework, which includes field results, was also made available on the website.
- In April, the agreement with the customer relationship management platform, Salesforce, was signed and, in May, OHCHR purchased its first licenses. In June, UN Human Rights began working with a consultant to adapt the system to its donor relations needs and the first modules were developed and tested. In addition, the consultant facilitated three trainings for the staff members of donor relations to explain the system's main features. The Office will begin using the system in 2020 and it will be further customized with the support of a consultant.

- In May, UN Human Rights deployed a P4 Human Rights Officer to work within the Financing for Peace Section of the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), with a view to mobilizing more resources for UN Human Rights projects from the Peacebuilding Fund. Initial indications show that the deployment is improving the institutional links between OHCHR and the PBSO, resulting in more quality submissions from UN Human Rights. A joint UN Human Rights-PBSO workplan that was finalized and adopted by both offices in 2019 is being implemented.

## OEAP Partnerships

UN Human Rights has broadened and diversified its institutional partners and maximized the mutually reinforcing human rights benefits of exchange of expertise, reach and resources.

- OHCHR launched an internal taskforce to develop a road map for partnerships, which will include the identification of key partners and enablers, as well as a vision and toolkit for the establishment of partnerships in the future.
- OHCHR established a new partnership with HURIDOCS to automatize the UHRI, which will include tagging the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms against SDGs and targets through a pioneering use of artificial intelligence. OHCHR supported the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights in developing the European Union Fundamental Rights Information System (EFRIS) by drawing on data from the Council of Europe and OHCHR (UHRI, the jurisprudence database, the database of the human rights treaty bodies/special procedures).
- The collaboration with the World Bank progressed well in 2019. Building on the success of the High Commissioner's engagement at the 2018 World Bank Spring Meetings, the High Commissioner participated in a prominent event on fragility, conflict and violence (FCV) at the 2019 Spring Meetings that were held in April, in Washington D.C., with CEO Kristalina Georgieva. UN Human Rights supported the High Commissioner's participation in the FCV event and coordinated the engagement of UN Human Rights with the World Bank's

consultation process as it develops its first draft Strategy for FCV. As of the end of the year, this process was ongoing.

- In 2019, the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights initiated a multi-year cooperation programme with UNESCO to develop a manual and toolkit that promotes a human rights-based approach to cultural diversity and the importance of safeguarding cultural heritage in humanitarian action and during security, peacebuilding and peacekeeping operations.
- The Office continued to support the AU in integrating human rights norms and standards into its work. In 2019, OHCHR contributed to the finalization of the draft AU-UN Human Rights Framework and organized joint consultations in New York between the AU and UN entities, in September. The document was finalized at the end of the year for signing in early 2020. Additionally, OHCHR contributed to the workshop organized by the AU on the architecture of the Compliance Framework for AU peace operations and provided extensive comments on a document entitled Mapping the AU headquarters. The document focused on the evaluation of capacities in addressing prevention, monitoring and responses to conduct and discipline abuses and violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law committed in the context of AU Peace Support Operations at AU headquarters and the mission level.
- OHCHR supported the implementation of the UN strategic framework for the African Great Lakes region. OHCHR was a co-lead of the sixth pillar on justice and conflict prevention. More specifically, OHCHR assisted the Office of the Special Envoy of the

United Nations Secretary-General for the Great Lakes with the preparations for the high-level regional consultation on justice and good governance that took place in Nairobi, in May. The conference was co-organized by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the Office of the Special Envoy and OHCHR. The consultation consisted of two sequenced segments, namely, a two-day technical-level conference that was followed by a meeting of the ICGLR Ministers of Justice. The objective of the technical-level conference was to review progress, challenges and next steps concerning the administration of justice and the fight against impunity. The outcome of the technical-level conference was the adoption of the draft Nairobi Declaration on Justice and Good Governance. The draft includes recommendations and priority measures on effective transitional justice legal frameworks, policies, strategies and programmes to ensure improved access to justice, especially for the most vulnerable groups. To advance the implementation of recommendations set out in the draft, OHCHR will support ICGLR Member States to develop a road map with clear timelines and specific benchmarks.

- Partnerships were established between international human rights mechanisms and non-traditional actors to increase non-traditional networks and facilitate cross-learning and the exchange of information/resources while building on their existing engagement with CSOs and NHRIs. OHCHR organized several briefings on the human rights treaty bodies and the work of the Office and widely disseminated information on the work of the treaty bodies to regional human rights mechanisms, the public (web page), governments (letters,

reviews, lists of issues prior to reporting and concluding observations) and the media (press releases and other media engagement). To strengthen its contacts and cooperation with regional bodies, the Office liaised with NGOs, NHRIs and field presences for the preparation of treaty body reviews. Furthermore, the Office invested significant time and energy liaising with regional organizations, NGOs and regional courts and fostering partnerships with NGOs and NGO networks that are focused on work that is specific to the treaties, such as Child Rights Connect, TB-Net, ESCR-Net and women's rights NGOs. The reports provided by these NGOs and networks were crucial to the successful functioning of the treaty bodies. For individual complaints submitted to the treaty bodies, a project was prepared for the establishment of a platform for more effective, transparent and accessible case management and information sharing.

- Through a seminar that was jointly organized with the European Youth Forum and the International Cooperation Meeting of Youth Organizations (ICMYO), OHCHR established a basis for cooperation and the development of partnerships between OHCHR youth officers and global and regional youth networks and platforms. The seminar brought together representatives from over 15 youth organizations. Furthermore, OHCHR built the capacity of youth organizations to engage with the international human rights mechanisms, including the treaty bodies, the UPR and the special procedures.
- In New York, OHCHR closely engaged with delegates from permanent missions in the Third and Fifth Committees. It also undertook systematic outreach with members of the Committee for

Programme and Coordination during the seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions of the General Assembly to complement previous efforts of staff from Geneva headquarters and/or the field to pursue favourable outcomes from New York intergovernmental processes that impact on human rights. In line with the High Commissioner's priority to strengthen engagement with Member States, the Office continued to systematically connect with delegates in intergovernmental programme budget processes to initiate and maintain dialogue regarding OHCHR's programme priorities. Efforts were undertaken to preserve OHCHR's regular contact with Third Committee delegates on substantive issues, including in relation to the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR also continued its advocacy with Member States and other stakeholders, such as NGOs, to identify expected resolutions of strategic importance to the Office. Moreover, it sought to address concerns by participating in informal discussions and meetings, maintaining regular contacts with civil society representatives and facilitating office-wide coordination.

- Two new databases were updated on civil society focal points in the different UN entities at UN Headquarters. By joining regular civil society-related meetings involving other entities and through networking and collaboration with UN Women, steps were taken to expand the civil society database. The database expanded from 618 CSO representatives to 655. In addition, the Office collaborated with 37 new CSO partners compared to 2018. Finally, relationships with foundations such as the Open Society Foundations and the Ford Foundation were established and strengthened.

- OHCHR partnered with a commercial web applications company, Kahoot!, to develop an online human rights quiz game, which was debuted at the Human Rights Day event in New York attended by delegates, UN officials and young people. The game will be expanded and made available to schools and others as an educational tool.

- OHCHR broadened its partnership base by initiating a collaborative publishing venture with a public research institution in the USA, namely, the University of Berkeley, California. The Office expanded its partnership with UN agencies to include the UN Office on Counter-Terrorism. OHCHR also leveraged its successful publishing collaboration with the Canadian-headquartered human rights education organization, Equitas International, by initiating a co-publication agreement for a compendium of good practices on human rights education. Similarly, OHCHR extended its fruitful publishing partnership with UN Women by concluding a joint publishing agreement for the second edition of *Realizing women's rights to land and other productive resources*.


**OEAP Operations Management**

UN Human Rights managers are enabling the most efficient and responsible use of all available resources, supported by the effective deployment of relevant technologies.

- The Office managed the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC), Section 23, to enhance knowledge, skills, institutional capabilities and policymaking abilities as part of a larger capacity-development process being implemented by both global and regional entities. OHCHR provided substantive support to the sections that applied for the use of these funds, reviewed all proposals, monitored implementation and reporting and prepared the annual OHCHR contribution to the Secretary-General's performance report on technical cooperation. Through RPTC funds, OHCHR developed activities to support Member States in strengthening their national and regional structures through advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities. Direct impact included adopting laws establishing new NHRIs, strengthening their capacity and that of CSOs in the field of human rights, facilitating regional consultations and implementing national action plans and projects that apply a human rights-based approach.
- A total of 30 field presences submitted proposals to the PBRB for review, clearance and follow-up on questions during the reporting period. The PBRB approved field-related proposals based on their current and potential contribution to the approved OMP 2018-2021 planning cycle results. Information and support, in particular on the enhancement of activities on SDGs, prevention

and ESCR, as well as on spotlight populations, was provided throughout the year, including during the Annual Workplan and cost plan exercises.

- OHCHR continued contributing to the operationalization of the UNSDG Strategy for the Deployment of Human Rights Advisers and ensured the timely and effective processing of extensions and processing of new approved deployments. As a result, at the end of 2019, all HRAs in 37 countries were operating under the aligned terms of reference that were managed in close cooperation between OHCHR and the UN Development Cooperation Office. New deployments were secured for Belize, Burkina Faso, Guyana, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal and Trinidad and Tobago.
- The Board of Trustees for the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights organized a session of the Board during the forty-eighth session, in Geneva, in March, and during the forty-ninth session, in Pretoria, South Africa and Maputo, Mozambique, in November. Targeted support was also provided in relation to the Board's presentation of its Annual Report at the March session of the HRC. As part of efforts to expand the funding basis of the Office and broaden the global constituency for human rights, three briefings were organized during the sessions for the Board and the international and donor community.
- In 2019, the Office contributed to start-up planning for a new special political mission in Haiti, the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) including drafting initial staffing proposals, designing a new human rights component and start-up recruitment for the BINUH Human Rights Unit.

At the same time, OHCHR supported the downsizing of human rights components and their staff in MINUJUSTH and MONUSCO. These actions were in line with the relevant policy framework pertaining to the lateral transfer and placement of eligible staff members from downsizing missions and were undertaken with support from the Department of Operational Support.

- The Office continued to support the identification of suitable human rights officer profiles for deployment to MONUSCO, MINUSCA, MINUSMA, UNMISS, UNAMA and UNMIK by reviewing over 200 candidate profiles for technical clearance and reviewing the functional profiling of skills. The Office continued its work on a model and modular human rights component across mission phases that was based on an analysis of trends in mandates and budgets.
- In 2019, the Office continued to emphasize client orientation and streamlined the delivery of its safety and security services to staff and field operations. It deployed security officers to the field on missions covering several countries in order to conduct security assessment missions and security coordination missions in connection with field operations and highly sensitive missions of special procedures mandate holders. Security management was associated with 123 security incidents that had direct implications for staff in the biennium (49 in 2019 and 74 in 2018). Staff were kept informed of important security matters through 63 all staff messages and security information reports were emailed to senior management. During the biennium, the Office directly supported 58 elevated risk field missions (26 in 2019 and 32 in 2018) by deploying security staff.

- The introduction and implementation of Skype for Business facilitated face-to-face meetings online. Regular training sessions are taking place on this platform with field staff through shared screens. The same platform is being regularly used for one-on-one training of field staff.
- Greening awareness messages are sent to staff on a regular basis. The emission reduction plan continues to be implemented. The greenhouse gas emissions for headquarters are calculated annually and waste measures are now included in this calculation. In 2019, UN Human Rights was assessed as being climate neutral, for the first time, as a result of the Secretariat's initiative of offsetting its 2018 carbon footprint.
- OHCHR continued to work with field offices on the implementation of the Umoja Module for procurement, including by providing support for mapping processes; developing a range of training materials and training sessions; providing one-on-one Skype sessions with individuals and helping field offices to carry out local testing. Each field office is at a different stage of the roll-out. In 2019, the Umoja travel module was rolled out to more offices in the field, including Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Ethiopia. It is anticipated that the module will be rolled out to a few more field presences in 2020, including the OHCHR country offices in Bangkok, Ukraine and Yemen. Most field offices continue to rely on a combination of Umoja and UNDP, with the intention of gradually moving more procurement to the Umoja platform when additional resources are made available.
- As of 1 January, the delegation of authority to the Heads of entities was enhanced as part of the Secretary-General's management reform. This shift introduced many changes in property management policies that required a review of processes, the development of new guidelines and the need for a capacity-building and training. The work will continue into 2020.
- The implementation of the filing plan continued in 2019 and model file plans for all OHCHR field presences were created. The guidelines that were developed for file naming, archival and disposal are being successfully employed by OHCHR field presences. The Records Management Team was responsible for coordinating and facilitating the OIOS Audit of OHCHR data privacy and compliance, which was part of a UN Secretariat-wide exercise. The Office is awaiting the conclusions and recommendations of OIOS to be issued in early 2020.
- Dedicated security support was provided to special rapporteurs and treaty bodies during their sensitive missions, as well as to the commissions of inquiry during their fact-finding, assessment and mapping missions. This approach, based on detailed security concepts of operations and security risk assessments, developed in accordance with the UN's security management system policies, has been very effective in ensuring a safe working environment for the international human rights mechanisms. In 2018-2019, the Office's Safety and Security team supported and coordinated 80 field missions, specifically 42 missions of special rapporteurs, working groups and independent experts (22 in 2019 and 20 in 2018) and 38 commissions of inquiry, fact-finding missions and investigation teams (14 in 2019 and 24 in 2018).



## OEAP Diversity and Gender

Respect for diversity, gender equality and inclusion is at the centre of UN Human Rights' organizational culture and is fully supported by appropriate organizational arrangements.

- The pilot phase of the new UN Human Rights Gender Accreditation Programme was launched in 2019 in the OHCHR offices in the State of Palestine and Cambodia. The Programme responds to a need to translate the external and internal commitments of UN Human Rights to gender equality, diversity and inclusion into concrete actions. The Programme aims to build and reinforce the capacity of the OHCHR country offices to integrate gender into advocacy and programmatic work by providing sustained on-the-job technical support. A dedicated intranet page was designed for the programme. An internal platform was also established to help the offices to report on their commitments under the new Gender Accreditation tool. OHCHR organized an awards ceremony in Geneva, in January 2020, for the first two field presences that successfully completed the Programme. The Office issued a call for applications for 2020.
- OHCHR piloted its LGBTI Fellowship, in November, as part of the OEAP on diversity and inclusion. The Fellowship seeks to raise awareness and build the capacity of LGBTI HRDs with regard to protecting and promoting the rights of LGBTI persons through the work of the international human rights mechanisms and within the international human rights law framework. It also aims to strengthen the capacities of the Office to integrate the human rights of these populations into its work. This year, a transgender person from Kenya was selected in recognition of the violence and discrimination that transgender persons face in all regions of the world. Additional funds were obtained for 2020 for work related to the human rights of LGBTI persons, which will ensure that the team is strengthened.
- OHCHR prepared a discussion paper on Transforming our own demography for greater diversity (also known as The Rainbow paper). The discussion paper takes stock of the Office's achievements in recent years in terms of diversity and remaining challenges. It also showcases staff profiles by gender and geography in comparison to the world population. The discussion paper was instrumental in the launch of a set of Diversity Dialogues in the Office to encourage an open exchange on what actions could be taken to ensure that its demography is more in sync with the world's population. The feedback received will be compiled into a set of concrete measures for the High Commissioner to approve for implementation in 2020.
- As part of the Dignity@Work policy and action plan, the support Dignity@Work Contacts Network – comprising staff volunteers recruited and trained to expand the ways in which staff can seek confidential advice if they have concerns or questions about behaviour and treatment within the Office, and/or are considering lodging a report of prohibited conduct concluded an internal evaluation. The evaluation affirmed that the Network was adding significant value and recommended expansion for better field coverage. Regional expansion will deliver 21 newly trained volunteers. The Dignity@Work policy was a recognized finalist in the 2019 Secretary-General Awards in the category of Staff Engagement.
- OHCHR committed in line with the Secretary General's policy on gender equality to reach parity. According to the 2019 UN-SWAP reporting guidelines, OHCHR reached the status of "approaching requirements" in its 2019 report for the equal representation of women or gender parity (for the purposes of UN-SWAP reporting, gender parity is considered to be within the 47 and 53 per cent margin). This meant that that 58 per cent of OHCHR staff employed directly at the Professional and General Service levels on fixed-term, continuous and permanent contracts are women (826 staff). The challenge remains at the management levels where, for example, 3 of 14 staff at the D1 level are women. Significant advances at the P5 level have improved the equal representation of women from 38 per cent in 2018 to 43 per cent in 2019 (88 staff). At the P3 and P4 levels, equal representation of women has been exceeded with 61 per cent women at the P3 level (264 staff); and 56 per cent women at the P4 level (246 staff). OHCHR reports on staff movements through appointment, placement, promotion or separation on a quarterly basis and include gender and geographical statistics. A Workforce Planning Officer is being recruited to bring a strategic focus to gender equality and diversity.
- In the first quarter of 2019, an initial proposal was drafted in a cross-office consultative process for a Women's Mentoring Programme that is based on lessons learned and good practices by UNAIDS.



## OEAP Talent and Career Management

UN Human Rights is actively unleashing the full potential of its staff with focused talent and career management accessible to all.

- A workload analysis process has been completed for the treaty bodies and a similar process for the Human Rights Council Branch is underway. The analysis collated all relevant qualitative and quantitative evidence and information from various sources. The analysis found that treaty bodies lacked the equivalent of 17 full time staff members to fully implement their workloads.
- A review of the work undertaken by the General Services staff in OHCHR headquarters commenced, with a view to reviewing assigned work, the organizational structure and related classification levels. In addition, the regularization of staff was underway throughout the year and a comprehensive review of the conditions of service for national staff in field offices was concluded.
- As of the 2019-2020 Performance Cycle, all field-based national staff members have an external Inspira account, which gives them access to the Inspira Performance Evaluation module and the Learning Catalogue for mandatory training. This access enables all OHCHR staff to comply with mandatory learning requirements and affords access to numerous online training offerings that were not previously available. Finally, through uniform access to Inspira, all staff within OHCHR will process performance evaluations under the same system. This resulted in improved reporting and monitoring

through the Office. Individual Inspira guidance and support is provided to staff members and supervisors who have difficulty registering for training courses or connecting to live classroom instruction and computer-based training courses.

- In 2019, OHCHR targeted support and access to learning opportunities for field-based staff members through the promotion of the new learning platform, LinkedIn Learning, and through the organization of the Field Administrative Staff Consultations that took place in Geneva, in May, for 28 field-based administrative staff. A total of 46 OHCHR staff members used LinkedIn Learning in 2019. Opportunities for knowledge and capacity-building on substantive human rights were also offered through Coffee Briefings. In 2019, 571 staff members attended 22 Coffee Briefings. The Coffee Briefings were made available to field-based staff through podcasts and all sessions were accessible via Skype for Business. Some events were not recorded due to the sensitivity of the information shared. Furthermore, 48 new staff members benefited from a three-day orientation programme on the mandate, strategy and functioning of the Office. During the reporting period, staff members increased their understanding of and competencies on gender-related issues through the inclusion of gender components in the orientation programme.
- Following the 2018 launch of the 360-degree feedback project as a pilot for senior leaders (D1 level and above), OHCHR facilitated the delivery of the executive coaching package. The 360-degree feedback cycle for all managers supervising four or more staff members was rolled out in November 2018. Over 160 managers received

feedback until the survey campaign closed on 9 March. After reaching out to colleagues in Geneva, New York and all field presences, the data was collected and uploaded to the Vision Metrics platform, which was the main tool used to facilitate the implementation of the process. The survey was reviewed and adjusted according to the lessons learned from the pilot with the senior leadership. The project was underpinned by a communication strategy to ensure active participation. The final reports were completed on 9 March. Colleagues that received feedback discussed the results and designed their professional development plans through coaching.

- In 2019, special focus continued to be placed on women leaders within OHCHR. A total of five staff members attended the UNSSC Women Leadership programme, EMERGE - the Programme for Emerging Women Leaders. During an office-wide collaborative effort in the first quarter of 2019, an initial proposal was developed for a Women's Mentoring Programme that was based on learnings and good practices by UNAIDS.
  - › EMERGE is a leadership development and coaching programme that promotes and develops women leaders with the aim of closing the gender parity gap in the UN system. It was co-developed for women leaders by 11 UN partners (ILO, ITU, OCHA, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOG, UNSSC, WHO and WIPO) to implement the 2017 UN Leadership Framework. Specifically it identified four leadership behaviours that exemplify the new way of working, namely, focusing on impact, driving transformational change, systems thinking and co-creation.

The commitment to and belief in inter-agency collaboration and gender equality resulted in a high level of engagement by 33 participants and 28 organizers, including learning managers, from the 11 entities over a sustained period of three years.

› In 2019, UN Human Rights jointly with ILO, ITU, OCHA, UNAIDS, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOG, UNSSC, WHO and WIPO won the International Coaching Federation's Prism Award for EMERGE, in recognition of its high-quality standards of professional coaching. The award honours organizations of all sizes and in all sectors that have enhanced their organizational performance through the deployment of coaching for a change in culture, leadership and people development, organizational productivity and performance improvement. The third edition began in 2019.

• OHCHR actively promotes and implements workplace flexibility, family-friendly policies and standards of conduct in accordance with Secretariat policy. Workplace flexibility measures include the implementation of flexible working arrangements. Family-friendly policies include parental leave (maternity and paternity), breastfeeding arrangements during working hours and special leave without pay. The OHCHR Dignity@Work Policy and Action Plan reinforces standards of conduct with measures that include: the Dignity Contacts Network, staff dialogues, 360 feedback to managers, standard e-Performance goals, internal protocols for reporting and responding to prohibited conduct, and the Human Resources Case Management Service for managing staff complaints.

• In support of the United Nations System Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy, HRMS is actively supporting workplace well-being and is introducing a Mental Health and Well-Being Action Plan that will set out measures to improve access to psychosocial resources, promote health services, provision of preparedness and critical incident training, and wider integration of well-being into management frameworks.



**UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE**

**PALAIS DES NATIONS**  
CH 1211 GENEVA 10 – SWITZERLAND  
T +41 22 917 92 20 F +41 22 917 90 08  
OHCHR.ORG

**FULL ONLINE REPORT**



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