



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
10 April 2025

Original: English

---

## Human Rights Council Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

### **Communications transmitted, cases examined, observations made and other activities conducted by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances\***

**135th session (27–31 January 2025)**

#### **I. Communications**

1. The present report covers the activities of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances between 26 September 2024 and 31 January 2025.
2. During the reporting period, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances transmitted 289 cases under its urgent procedure, to Burundi (1), China (4), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (3), Guinea (2), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (1), Israel (99), Nicaragua (6), Pakistan (6), the Russian Federation (131),<sup>1</sup> Rwanda (5), Saudi Arabia (1), the Syrian Arab Republic (1), Türkiye (4), the United Arab Emirates (1), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (23) and Viet Nam (1).
3. At its 135th session, held in Geneva from 27 to 31 January 2025, the Working Group decided to transmit 100 newly reported cases of enforced disappearance, to Azerbaijan (6), Belarus (1), China (2), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (10), Egypt (3), El Salvador (7), Equatorial Guinea (1), Iraq (1), Lebanon (1), Libya (2), Nicaragua (2), Pakistan (20), Spain (1), the Syrian Arab Republic (39), the United Arab Emirates (1), the United Republic of Tanzania (1) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (2).
4. The Working Group clarified 127 cases concerning Chad (1), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2), Egypt (8), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (1), Lebanon (1), Libya (2), Mexico (1), Pakistan (7), the Russian Federation (85), Rwanda (1), Saudi Arabia (1) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (17). A total of 2 cases were clarified on the basis of information provided by Governments and 125 cases on the basis of information provided by sources.
5. During the reporting period, the Working Group transmitted 44 communications jointly with other special procedure mechanisms. The communications consisted of 3 prompt intervention letters, sent to Honduras (1) and Pakistan (2); 10 joint urgent appeals, sent to Belarus (1), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (1), Iraq (1), Kenya (1), Lebanon (1), Mozambique (1), Nicaragua (1), the Russian Federation (1), Türkiye (1) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (1); 30 joint allegation letters, sent to

---

\* The annexes to the present document are reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.

<sup>1</sup> For the Russian Federation, the Working Group also decided to include in the present report the cases that were transmitted under the urgent procedure on 10 March 2025, as they were reviewed during the session.



Argentina (2), China (2), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (1), the Dominican Republic (1), Egypt (2), El Salvador (1), Iraq (1), Mauritania (1), Mexico (1), Nepal (1), Pakistan (1), Rwanda (1), Spain (1), Sri Lanka (1), Thailand (2), Tunisia (1), Türkiye (1), Uganda (1), the United Kingdom (1), the United Republic of Tanzania (2), the United States of America (1), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (1) and Viet Nam (1), as well as to other actors, namely, the World Bank Group (1) and the European Union (1); and a joint other letter, sent to Egypt (1).

6. At its 135th session, the Working Group also reviewed and adopted two general allegations, concerning Israel and Kenya (see annex II).

7. The full list of press releases and statements issued by the Working Group during the reporting period is contained in annex III.

## II. Other activities

8. During the session, the Working Group welcomed Mohammed Al-Obaidi as a member, for the Asia-Pacific region. Mr. Al-Obaidi is an Iraqi legal expert and human rights advocate who formerly served as a member of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances. His term as a member of the Working Group commenced in November 2024.

9. The Working Group held meetings with representatives of the Governments of Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Canada, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Guatemala, Japan, Kenya, the Republic of Korea and Togo, as well as with representatives of the Department for the Execution of the Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights and the Independent Institution on Missing Persons in the Syrian Arab Republic. It also held in-person and online meetings with relatives of disappeared persons, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders.

10. On 28 January 2025, the Working Group held the third regional consultation on its forthcoming thematic report on enforced disappearances in the context of the defence of land, natural resources, and the environment, with participants from the Africa region. The thematic report will be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session.<sup>2</sup>

11. During the session, the Working Group continued its discussions on the forthcoming study on the use of universal criminal jurisdiction in cases of enforced disappearance, which will also be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session.<sup>3</sup>

12. The Working Group decided to focus its next thematic study on enforced disappearances and memorialization processes. A call for inputs will be announced in the second half of 2025.

13. Moreover, the Working Group discussed future country visits and made progress in following up on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report issued after the visit carried out to Cyprus in 2022. A related report will be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session. With regard to its future country visits, the Working Group appreciates the invitations received from the Governments of Bangladesh, Canada, Guatemala, Maldives and the Republic of Korea. The Working Group had initially agreed on the dates for a country visit to the Republic of Korea (in June 2025), which had to be postponed due to the ongoing liquidity crisis. The Working Group regrets the postponement and remains committed to carrying out country visits as a crucial part of its mandate, and it is doing its best to ensure that visits are carried out during the second half of the year. Relevant decisions will be communicated in due course.

---

<sup>2</sup> The call for input is now closed. The submissions received are available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/calls-for-input/2025/call-submissions-thematic-report-enforced-disappearances-context-defense-land>.

<sup>3</sup> The call for input is now closed. The submissions received are available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/calls-for-input/2025/call-inputs-research-working-group-enforced-or-involuntary-disappearances-use>.

14. The Working Group also conducted several intersessional activities during the reporting period.

15. On 21 October 2024, the Chair-Rapporteur presented the Working Group's annual report to the General Assembly<sup>4</sup> and gave a press conference.<sup>5</sup> The Chair-Rapporteur also briefed New York-based civil society organizations, during a meeting convened by Amnesty International on 22 October 2024, to explain the mandate and functioning of the Working Group. On 23 October 2024, the Chair-Rapporteur also intervened in a round table on new technologies and enforced disappearances, convened by the Working Group, SITU Studio and the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice of New York University School of Law.

16. From 20 to 26 November 2024, the Working Group conducted an official visit to Lithuania. During the visit, the Working Group met with representatives of several authorities, as well as with human rights defenders, lawyers, academics and other civil society representatives and with representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Lithuanian Red Cross Society. The Working Group issued preliminary observations<sup>6</sup> at the end of the visit, and a report on the visit will be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session.

17. On 15 and 16 January 2025, the first World Congress on Enforced Disappearances was held in Geneva. The Working Group co-convened the event, participated in different panels and had the opportunity to meet with families of forcibly disappeared persons and representatives of non-governmental organizations and State authorities who attended the Congress. During the Congress, pledges were submitted by various actors, including 16 States, 5 regional and international organizations and 25 civil society organizations.<sup>7</sup>

18. A list of other activities conducted by the members of the Working Group during the reporting period is contained in annex IV.

19. The 136th session of the Working Group is scheduled to be held from 28 April to 2 May 2025 in Bangkok.

### **III. Information concerning enforced disappearances in States reviewed by the Working Group during the session**

#### **Algeria**

##### **Reopening of cases**

20. During the session, the Working Group examined new information provided by the source in one case and decided to retransmit the case to the Government in accordance with paragraph 32 of its methods of work.

##### **Duplicate**

21. The Working Group decided to consider two cases as duplicates. The duplicate case was consequently deleted from the records of the Working Group.

#### **Argentina**

##### **Joint allegation letters and replies**

22. On 4 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning regressive measures in the context of

<sup>4</sup> See <https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1x/k1xu9oa72b>.

<sup>5</sup> See <https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1w/k1weg3swp>.

<sup>6</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/disappearances/statements/WGEID-EOM-Statement-Lithuania-20241126.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> The report of the World Congress on Enforced Disappearances is available at <https://www.cedi193.org/report>.

the processes of truth, justice, reparation, memory and guarantees of non-recurrence, including the repeal of Decree No. 715/2004, which had provided for the creation of a special unit for the investigation of disappearances of children within the National Commission for the Right to Identity.<sup>8</sup>

23. On 12 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning draft laws and decrees that may affect the prosecution and criminal punishment of crimes against humanity, and renewed measures that may affect the processes of truth, memory and guarantees of non-recurrence.<sup>9</sup>

24. On 4 December 2024, the Government of Argentina responded to the above-mentioned joint allegation letter dated 4 October 2024.<sup>10</sup>

25. On 14 February 2025, the Government of Argentina responded to the above-mentioned joint allegation letter dated 12 November 2024.<sup>11</sup>

## **Armenia**

### **Information from the Government**

26. On 23 December 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning 38 cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

## **Azerbaijan**

### **Standard procedure**

27. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted six cases, concerning Armenian nationals Maksim Grigoryan, Arsen Hayrapetyan, Hayk Khachaturov, Mikayel Mkrtumyan, Karen Petrosyan and Yurik Poghosyan, who disappeared in October 2020, after being captured by Azerbaijani forces in the context of the 44-day war in Nagorno-Karabakh.

28. In relation to these cases, the Working Group transmitted copies of the case files to Armenia, in accordance with its methods of work.

### **Information from sources**

29. The Working Group considered the new and updated information provided by the sources concerning the cases of Yervand Geghamian, Boris Hairoumian, Artour Haroutiounian and Hrant Verdian.

### **Observations**

30. In its reply to a joint allegation letter,<sup>12</sup> the Government provided information concerning, inter alia, 15 outstanding cases registered with the Working Group under its humanitarian mandate. Having considered this information, the Working Group decided to update the cases and seek additional clarifications from the Government.

## **Belarus**

### **Standard procedure**

31. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case, concerning Viktor Babaryka, a political opposition figure who disappeared from a penitentiary facility

---

<sup>8</sup> See communication ARG 9/2024. All communications, and replies thereto, mentioned in the present report are available from <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/Tmsearch/TMDocuments>.

<sup>9</sup> ARG 10/2024.

<sup>10</sup> See reply to ARG 9/2024.

<sup>11</sup> See reply to ARG 10/2024.

<sup>12</sup> AZE 3/2024. See also [A/HRC/WGEID/134/1](#), paras. 29 and 30.

where he had been serving a sentence in relation to the mass protests held in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election in Belarus.

#### **Information from the Government**

32. On 19 December 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning four cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

#### **Information from sources**

33. Sources provided updated information on two outstanding cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

#### **Observations**

34. The Working Group considered the information that had been published online concerning the case of Maria Kalesnikava and decided to transmit the updated case file to the Government, in accordance with its methods of work.

#### **Joint urgent appeal and reply**

35. On 23 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning alleged human rights violations against persons deprived of liberty on criminal and administrative charges in Belarus, including ill-treatment in detention and unnecessary and disproportionate restrictions on the enjoyment of human rights by former prisoners.<sup>13</sup>

36. On 20 December 2024, the Government of Belarus replied to the above-mentioned joint urgent appeal.<sup>14</sup>

### **Burundi**

#### **Urgent procedure**

37. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case, concerning Protais Ndayizeye, who was reportedly abducted on 2 January 2025 in Bujumbura by Burundian police officers.

### **Cambodia**

#### **Information from the Government**

38. On 6 September 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

### **Chad**

#### **Clarification based on information from sources**

39. Having considered information provided by the sources, the Working Group decided to clarify the case of Ismaël Ngakoutou, who is reportedly at liberty.

### **China**

#### **Urgent procedure**

40. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted four cases, concerning the alleged arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance of two Tibetan monks, Lobsang

<sup>13</sup> BLR 6/2024.

<sup>14</sup> See reply to BLR 6/2024.

Samten and Lobsang Trinley (Luorang Chenglijiamucuo), and of Tsering Tashi (Cirang Zhaxi) and Wangkyi (Wan Jie) in early September 2024 in Amdo Region, Ngawa Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, by Chinese State agents.

#### **Standard procedure**

41. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted two cases, concerning two individuals who were reportedly arbitrarily detained around March 2018 in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region by Chinese police officers and taken to an unknown location.

#### **Information from sources**

42. Sources provided updated information on three outstanding cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

#### **Information from the Government**

43. On 26 November 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

#### **Joint allegation letters and reply**

44. On 14 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the alleged recurring patterns of repression, including incommunicado detention and enforced disappearance, aimed at restricting artistic, cultural and religious expressions and silencing human rights defenders and dissenting or opposing views critical of the Government.<sup>15</sup>

45. On 3 January 2025, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the sentencing, in October 2024, by the Huixian Municipal Court in Xinxiang, Henan Province, of woman human rights defender He Fangmei to five years and six months in prison and the apparent disappearance of two of her children.<sup>16</sup>

46. On 13 January 2025, the Government of China responded to the above-mentioned joint allegation letter dated 14 November 2024.<sup>17</sup>

### **Colombia**

#### **Information from the Government**

47. On 14 October 2024, the Government provided information about 944 cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

48. On 12 November 2024, the Government provided information about one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

### **Cyprus**

#### **Information from the Government**

49. On 21 January 2025, the Government transmitted information concerning 77 cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

---

<sup>15</sup> CHN 15/2024.

<sup>16</sup> CHN 17/2024.

<sup>17</sup> See reply to CHN 15/2024.

## Democratic People's Republic of Korea

### Standard procedure

50. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted 10 cases, concerning:

(a) Three individuals who were allegedly arbitrarily detained between October and December 2007 in South Hamgyong Province by State agents of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(b) Byung-wook Cho, a national of the Republic of Korea, who was allegedly abducted in late September 1950 by military officers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(c) Keigo Kamiya and his three sons, Keigoro Kamiya, Norihito Kamiya and Hayami Kamiya, nationals of Japan, who were allegedly abducted at sea on 7 November 1967 by State agents of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, after departing from the north shore port of "Motoinepu" in Omu-Cho, Hokkaido Prefecture, Japan, at about 6 a.m. to fish with a squid trawler;

(d) Hideko Watanbe, a Japanese woman who was allegedly abducted between March and June 1974 in Kamifukuoka (now Fujimino), Saitama Prefecture, Japan, by State agents of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(e) Kimiko Fukutome, a Japanese woman who was reportedly abducted around 1976 in Tokyo by State agents of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and forced into marriage in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

51. In relation to these cases, the Working Group decided to transmit them also to Japan or to the Republic of Korea, as appropriate, in accordance with its methods of work.

### Information from sources

52. The Working Group considered information provided by the sources concerning two outstanding cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

### Information from other States concerned

53. On 28 November 2024, the Government of China transmitted information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

### Joint allegation letter

54. On 6 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the execution of two women and the life imprisonment of nine others, all of whom had been forcibly repatriated by China to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.<sup>18</sup>

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

### Urgent procedure

55. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted three cases, concerning:

(a) Two individuals who were reportedly arbitrarily detained around August 2024 in Goma by police officers and intelligence officials of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and transferred to the National Intelligence Agency in Kinshasa, where they were forcibly disappeared;

(b) Daniel Safu, who was reportedly abducted on 11 July 2024 at N'djili Airport in Kinshasa by officers of the immigration service of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

<sup>18</sup> PRK 3/2024.

**Clarification based on information from sources**

56. The Working Group considered information provided by sources and decided to clarify two cases. The individuals concerned are reportedly at liberty.

**Dominican Republic****Joint allegation letter**

57. On 21 January 2025, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the collective deportation of more than 60,000 migrants between 2 October and 5 November 2024, as a result of the implementation of measures that allegedly facilitated the repatriation and deportation of up to 10,000 migrants per week without an individualized assessment of their protection needs, contrary to the principle of non-refoulement.<sup>19</sup>

**Ecuador****Information from other States concerned**

58. On 12 December 2024, the Government of Colombia provided information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

**Egypt****Standard procedure**

59. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted three cases to the Government, concerning:

- (a) Omar Mohamed Ali Ali Hammad, who was arrested on 13 August 2013 by armed, uniformed military officers;
- (b) Mostafa El Nagar, who was arrested on 28 September 2018 in Edfu, Aswan Governorate, by Egyptian State security agents;
- (c) Ahmed Mohamed Hamza, who was arrested on 24 September 2024 in North Sinai Governorate by police officers.

**Information from sources**

60. Sources provided updated information on 13 outstanding cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

**Clarification based on information from sources**

61. On the basis of information provided by sources, the Working Group decided to clarify eight cases, concerning Omar Abdelhamid Abul Naga, Abdul Rahman Ismael Ibrahim Hassan, Mostafa Gamal Awad el Sayed, Mahmoud Mamdouh Fouad Abdelnabi and Gouda Harbi, who are reportedly in detention, and Nada Adel Mohammed Mohammed Morsy, Reda Mohamed Abulatif Osman and Mohamed Mohamed Ahmed Osman, who are reportedly at liberty.

**Discontinuation**

62. The Working Group decided, exceptionally, and in accordance with paragraph 31 of its methods of work, to discontinue one outstanding case, concerning Khaled Ahmed Abdel-Hamid Saad Sleiman. The case may, however, be reopened at any time, in accordance with paragraph 32 of the Working Group's methods of work.

---

<sup>19</sup> DOM 2/2024.



### Joint allegation letters

63. On 23 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted an allegation letter, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, concerning the continued harassment and transnational repression suffered by the exiled Egyptian investigative journalist and human rights defender Basma Mostafa in Germany, Switzerland and other countries by alleged Egyptian State agents or agents apparently acting on behalf of, or with the acquiescence of, Egyptian State authorities.<sup>20</sup>

64. On 8 January 2025, the Working Group transmitted an allegation letter, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, concerning the repeated use of similar national security- and counter-terrorism-related charges against human rights defenders in detention, including Aisha al-Shater, Hoda Abdel-Moneim and Ibrahim Metwally. The allegation letter also raises concerns about the allegedly poor prison conditions in which the human rights defenders are kept and their continued lack of access to appropriate healthcare.<sup>21</sup>

### Joint other letter

65. On 8 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted a joint other letter, with other special procedure mechanisms, concerning a draft law to repeal Law No. 150 of 1950 promulgating the Code of Criminal Procedure and any provision in contradiction of the draft law.<sup>22</sup>

## El Salvador

### Standard procedure

66. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted seven cases to the Government, concerning:

(a) Dominga Morales Rafael, a woman who was allegedly detained on 14 May 2022 while working in the market of Sonsonate, by agents of the National Civil Police;

(b) Maritza Roxana Alvarado Sibrán, a woman who was allegedly detained on 12 April 2022 in Metalío, Sonsonate Department, by agents of the National Civil Police;

(c) Maritza Mejía Orellana, a woman who was allegedly detained on 23 April 2024 while working in the central market of Santa Tecla, La Libertad Department, by agents of the National Civil Police;

(d) Jorge Luis Caridad Amaya, a man who was allegedly detained on 14 May 2022 while walking in Norberto Morán Central Park, Quezaltepeque, by agents of the National Civil Police;

(e) Norma Elizabeth Hernández Gamero, a woman who was allegedly detained on 22 June 2022 while working in the central market of Santa Tecla, La Libertad Department, by agents of the National Civil Police;

(f) Verónica Patricia López, a woman who was allegedly detained on 22 June 2022 while working in the central market of Santa Tecla, La Libertad Department, by agents of the National Civil Police;

(g) Ana Ruth López de Saavedra, a woman who was allegedly detained on 22 June 2022 while working in the Santa Tecla central market, La Libertad Department, by agents of the National Civil Police.

### Joint allegation letter

67. On 23 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the lack of progress in the

<sup>20</sup> EGY 6/2024.

<sup>21</sup> EGY 8/2024.

<sup>22</sup> EGY 5/2024.

implementation of the transitional justice agenda, as established in the Peace Agreement between the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional (Chapultepec Agreement), the recommendations contained in the final report of the United Nations-backed Truth Commission for El Salvador and the recommendations contained in the report on the country visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence.<sup>23</sup>

## **Equatorial Guinea**

### **Standard procedure**

68. Under the standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government concerning Anacleto Micha Ndong Nlang, a human rights defender who was allegedly arbitrarily detained on 26 January 2024 in Pérez, Malabo, by officials of the national gendarmerie.

## **Guatemala**

### **Information from the Government**

69. On 3 September 2024, the Government transmitted information about 2,897 cases, but the information provided was considered too general and thus insufficient to clarify the cases.

## **Guinea**

### **Urgent procedure**

70. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted two cases, concerning Billo Bah Mamadou and Oumar Sylla, two human rights defenders who were reportedly abducted on 9 July 2024 in Conakry by Guinean military officers.

## **Honduras**

### **Prompt intervention letter and reply**

71. On 14 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter, concerning failure to comply with precautionary measures granted by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in favour of Miriam Miranda, a woman human rights defender and the General Coordinator of the Fraternal Black Organization of Honduras.<sup>24</sup>

72. On 19 December 2024, the Government of Honduras provided a reply to the above-mentioned prompt intervention letter.<sup>25</sup>

## **Iran (Islamic Republic of)**

### **Urgent procedure**

73. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Wahid Baloch, a Pakistani national, who was abducted on 19 July 2024 in Kimran, Islamic Republic of Iran, by individuals believed to be Pakistani State agents.

74. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Pakistan.

---

<sup>23</sup> SLV 3/2024.

<sup>24</sup> HND 2/2024.

<sup>25</sup> See reply to HND 2/2024.

### Clarification based on information from the Government

75. On the basis of information previously provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify one case, following the expiry of the period prescribed by the six-month rule.<sup>26</sup> The case concerns Omar Ahmadi, who is reportedly deceased.

### Joint urgent appeal and reply

76. On 3 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning the recent death sentence handed down to Varisheh Moradi, the third woman political prisoner to receive a death sentence on charges of *baghy* (armed rebellion against the State) in 2024.<sup>27</sup>

77. On 12 February 2025, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran provided a reply to the above-mentioned joint urgent appeal.<sup>28</sup>

## Iraq

### Standard procedure

78. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Kawa Al-Talabani, who was arrested on 2 May 2006 in Baghdad by uniformed officers of the Ministry of Interior.

### Joint allegation letter

79. On 21 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted an allegation letter, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, concerning the arrest, detention and prosecution on espionage charges of the journalist Sulaiman Ahmad by the authorities of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.<sup>29</sup>

### Joint urgent appeal

80. On 11 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning the situation of Aish Ali Husain Al-Harbi, a Saudi asylum-seeker detained in Iraq and at imminent risk of extradition to Saudi Arabia. There are well-founded reasons to believe that he would risk being subjected to torture or other forms of ill-treatment, enforced disappearance and arbitrary deprivation of life if extradited.<sup>30</sup>

## Israel

### Urgent procedure

81. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted to the Government 99 cases, concerning Abdelrahman Ashour, Abdullah Ashour, Adam Karaja, Ahmed Khader, Ahmed Abu Mughasib, Mahmoud Abu Mughasib, Ahmed Abu Te'ima, Ahmed al-Kahlout, Ahmed Daloul, A'laa al-Nabaheen, Anas al-Hasanat, Bahaa' A'tallah, Bahaa' El-Deen al-Madhoun, Emad al-Swerki, Imad Abu Shakil, Izz El-Deen Al-A'jrami, Jaber Abu Salah, Khalil Al-Taweel, Maher Kuhail, Mahmoud al-Zaa'nin, Mahmoud Meqled, Mahmoud Radwan, Maisara al-A'jouri, Mohammed Abu Sa'eed, Mohammed Abu Samra, Mohammed A'ram, Mohammed Atallah, Mohammed Madi, Mohammed Marzouq, Mohammed Sbaih, Rasheed Abu Ras, Sae'd Abu A'rar, Saleh Salama, Seif El-Deen al-Harazeen, Suliman Abu Tagoon, Talal A'jour, Tamer Qarmout, Yehia Abu Owda, Youssef Meqbel, Youssef Saa'd, Zuhdi E'ita, Abdullah Abu Naim, Ahmed Murtaja, Alaa' Abu Dan, Ata Al-Madhoun, Hamdi

<sup>26</sup> A/HRC/WGEID/133/1, para. 42.

<sup>27</sup> IRN 21/2024.

<sup>28</sup> See reply to IRN 21/2024.

<sup>29</sup> IRQ 5/2024.

<sup>30</sup> IRQ 6/2024.

Al Sharif, Hamed Abu Aql, Imad Al-Amur, Hasanain Taaima, Mousa Al-Mughrabi, Hazem Al-Mughrabi, Ibrahim Al-Mughrabi, Ihab Afana, Ihab Shikshik, Issam Abu Al-Aoun, Karim Hamad, Mahmoud Abu Al-Ata, Mahmoud Al-Mabhouh, Mohammed Al-Qasas, Mohammed Al-Sheikh Khalil, Mohammed Jendia, Mohammed Murtaja, Nadi Okal, Mohammed Okal, Emad Okal, Mohand Al-Dassouki, Fadda Abu Madi, Haneen Abu Madi, Yasmeen Abu Madi, Malak Abu Madi, Sahar Farjallah, Afaf Al-ashqar, Moamen Abu Awda, Munir Abu Abdo, Munir Al-Faqawi, Yasin Al-Faqawi, Nafez Emad, Nour Abu Al-Aoun, Mohammed Al-Mabhouh, Qusay Al-Mabhouh, Ramzi Abu Awda, Seraj Kaskeen, Yusuf Abu Nar, Zakaria Al Dramly, Dughmush Ahmed, Awad Noufal, Emad Abu Zaid, Fawzy Saleh, Ibrahim Hamad, Ibrahim Meqdad, Mohammed Ahmed, Mohammed Al-Dardsawi, Abu Shaqfa Mohammed Awad, Mohammed Halawa, Ibrahim Osama, Rajab Kharis, Salah Shabat, Tamer Al-Jibaly and Hussam Abu Safiya, who were forcibly disappeared by the Israel Defense Forces after 7 October 2023.

82. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, copies of the cases were forwarded to the authorities of the State of Palestine.

### **General allegation**

83. The Working Group received information from credible sources concerning alleged violations and obstacles encountered in Israel in the implementation of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in particular with respect to alleged enforced disappearances committed by Israeli armed forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, namely, Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, since 7 October 2023 (see annex II).

## **Kenya**

### **General allegation**

84. The Working Group received information from credible sources concerning alleged violations and obstacles encountered in Kenya in the implementation of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in particular concerning instances of enforced disappearance, including so-called short-term enforced disappearance, in the context of the protests that began in June 2024 against the proposed 2024 finance bill (see annex II).

### **Joint urgent appeal**

85. On 1 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning allegations of abduction, enforced disappearance and detention, including of protesters, activists, lawyers, medical professionals and human rights defenders, in relation to the protests of June to August 2024, calling for the withdrawal of the proposed 2024 finance bill and accountability for the Government.<sup>31</sup>

## **Lebanon**

### **Standard procedure**

86. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Andre Morcos, who was allegedly abducted on 9 August 2017 in Bouar, Keserwan District, by State agents.

87. In relation to this case, the Working Group transmitted a copy to Qatar, in line with its methods of work.

---

<sup>31</sup> KEN 4/2024.

### Clarification based on information from sources

88. During the session, on the basis of information provided by sources, the Working Group decided to clarify the case of Al Haj Ahmad Ahmad, who is reportedly at liberty.

### Joint urgent appeal

89. On 6 January 2025, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning the purported imminent extradition from Lebanon to Egypt or to the United Arab Emirates of Abdulrahman Yusuf Al-Qaradawi, a dual national of Egypt and Türkiye, who was held in detention in Lebanon, reportedly on the basis of charges including spreading false news, insulting the judiciary in Egypt and inciting the destabilization of security in the United Arab Emirates. The experts noted that, if extradited, Mr. Al-Qaradawi would face a significant risk of being subjected to torture or other forms of ill-treatment and to enforced disappearance,<sup>32</sup> yet he was extradited on 8 January 2025.

## Libya

### Standard procedure

90. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted two cases to the Government, concerning:

(a) Abdul Hamid Khateeb, a national of the Syrian Arab Republic, who was allegedly arrested on 1 October 2024 in Tripoli;

(b) Aminata Gonezie Gore, a woman national of Côte d'Ivoire, who was reportedly intercepted at sea on 19 November 2023 by the Tunisian National Guard and forcibly transferred to Libyan security forces in Tripoli.

91. In relation to the above-mentioned cases, the Working Group transmitted copies of the case files to Côte d'Ivoire, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia, as appropriate, in accordance with its methods of work.

### Clarification based on information from sources

92. On the basis of information provided by sources, the Working Group decided to clarify two cases, concerning Aboubakr Abraheem Aboubakr Al Khazmi and Embarek Ibrahim Aboubakr Al Khazmi, who are reportedly in prison.

## Mauritania

### Information from other Governments

93. During the session, the Working Group considered the information provided by the Government of France concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify the case.

### Joint allegation letter

94. On 4 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning impunity for crimes committed during the period of unresolved humanitarian issues (*passif humanitaire*), and the lack of justice for the alleged enforced disappearances, including those of Oumar Sall, Abdoulaye Sall and Amadou Mamadou Sow, and of reparations to their families.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>32</sup> LBN 1/2025. See also annex III, para. 21, below, concerning a related press release.

<sup>33</sup> MRT 1/2024.

## Mexico

### Information from the Government

95. On 9 September 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning 81 cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

### Clarification based on information from the Government

96. On the basis of information previously provided by the Government, the Working Group decided to clarify one case, following the expiry of the period prescribed by the six-month rule as contained in its methods of work.<sup>34</sup> The case concerns Ernesto Cordero Anguiano, who is deceased and whose remains have been exhumed and identified.

### Joint allegation letter and reply

97. On 3 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning widespread violence against women journalists and human rights defenders, especially during peaceful demonstrations, and the lack of full application of a gender perspective in the actions of the Federal Mechanism for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists.<sup>35</sup>

98. On 18 February 2025, the Government of Mexico provided a reply to the joint allegation letter dated 3 October 2024.<sup>36</sup>

## Morocco

### Information from the Government

99. The Working Group examined the information provided by the Government on 21 October 2024 concerning 38 outstanding cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify the cases.

100. In relation to these cases, the Working Group decided to transmit copies of the relevant cases to the Government of Spain, in accordance with its methods of work.

### Duplicates

101. The Working Group decided to consider four cases as duplicates. The duplicate cases were consequently deleted from the records of the Working Group.

## Mozambique

### Joint urgent appeal

102. On 14 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning reports of serious human rights violations following the general elections held in Mozambique on 9 October 2024, such as excessive and disproportionate use of force, including lethal force, by security forces against peaceful protesters, patterns of repression of demonstrations, including physical attacks, arbitrary arrests and detentions, intimidation against journalists, lawyers and human rights defenders, and restrictions on access to information and freedom of the media, including Internet shutdowns. The circumstances in question have reportedly led to the death of protesters and bystanders, including at least one child, and have left many injured.<sup>37</sup>

---

<sup>34</sup> [A/HRC/WGEID/133/1](#), para. 55.

<sup>35</sup> MEX 14/2024.

<sup>36</sup> See reply to MEX 14/2024.

<sup>37</sup> MOZ 2/2024.

## Nepal

### Information from sources

103. Sources provided information on one outstanding case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

### Joint allegation letter

104. On 30 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning deaths in custody; overcrowded conditions and lack of access to basic amenities in detention centres; alleged torture, including of juveniles; and issues surrounding investigations, disproportionately affecting persons belonging to the Dalit caste. In this respect, the letter referred to the illustrative case of the alleged secret transfer of Sundar Harijan, an individual belonging to the Dalit caste, and his death in custody at Rolpa Prison on 18 May 2022.<sup>38</sup>

## Nicaragua

### Urgent procedure

105. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted six cases to the Government, concerning:

(a) Lesbia del Socorro Gutiérrez Poveda, a woman member of a church in Matagalpa, who was allegedly arrested on 10 August 2024 in San Ramón, Matagalpa Department, by agents of the National Police of Nicaragua and persons dressed in civilian clothes;

(b) Carmen María Sáez Martínez, a woman member of a church in Matagalpa, who was allegedly arrested on 10 August 2024 in her house by agents belonging to the special operations team of the National Police of Nicaragua;

(c) Julio Antonio Quintana Carvajal, a member of the Unión Democrática Renovadora (Union for Democratic Renewal), a political party, who was allegedly arrested on 26 November 2024 at his house in León by agents of the National Police of Nicaragua;

(d) Catalino Leo Cárcamo Herrera, a member of the Unión Democrática Renovadora, who was allegedly arrested on 22 November 2024 while walking in the streets of León by agents of the National Police of Nicaragua;

(e) Luis Rodolfo Ibarra González, a former member of the military, who was allegedly arrested on 11 December 2024, in Estelí, while driving to the local market, by agents of the National Police of Nicaragua;

(f) Steadman Fagot Muller, co-founder of the Yapti Tasba Masraka Nanih Asla Takanka political party and a former presidential adviser for Indigenous affairs, who was allegedly arrested on 14 September 2024 at a hotel in Waspán, in the Costa Caribe Norte Autonomous Region, by members of the military.

### Standard procedure

106. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted two cases to the Government, concerning:

(a) Eveling Carolina Matus Hernández, a woman who was allegedly arrested on 25 June 2024 by agents belonging to the special operations team of the National Police of Nicaragua while she was leaving her business in Managua;

(b) Gersom Antonio Zeledon Motta, who was allegedly arrested on 5 March 2024 at a friend's house located on the highway to León by agents of the the National Police of Nicaragua.

<sup>38</sup> NPL 4/2024.

**Information from sources**

107. Sources provided information on one outstanding case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

**Joint urgent appeal**

108. On 16 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning the arbitrary and extended deprivation of liberty of Jaime Enrique Navarrete Blandón and the inadequate prison conditions to which he was allegedly subjected, which could endanger his life and increase the risk of enforced disappearance.<sup>39</sup>

**Pakistan****Urgent procedure**

109. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted six cases to the Government, concerning:

- (a) Junaid Hameed, who was allegedly abducted in Hub on 8 October 2024 by the Frontier Corps and military intelligence personnel;
- (b) Yasir Hameed, who was allegedly abducted in Kalat, Balochistan Province, on 11 October 2024 by the Frontier Corps;
- (c) Qamber Ali, who was allegedly abducted in Karachi on 16 October 2024 by the Sindh Police and intelligence agencies;
- (d) Sabir Noor, who was allegedly abducted in Panjgur District, Balochistan Province, on 30 September 2024 by the Frontier Corps and military intelligence personnel;
- (e) Abid Noor, who was allegedly abducted in Panjgur District, Balochistan Province, on 30 September 2024 by the Frontier Corps and military intelligence personnel;
- (f) Muhammad Ishaq, who was allegedly abducted in Peshawar, on 4 January 2025, by the police.

**Standard procedure**

110. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted 20 cases to the Government (see annex I).

**Information from sources**

111. Sources provided updated information on two outstanding cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify the cases.

**Clarification based on information from sources**

112. The Working Group considered information provided by sources and decided to clarify seven cases, concerning Farhad Ali Shah Syed, Ghulam Shabir, Mazhar-ul-Hassan Qazi, Sabir Ali Noor, Abid Noor and another individual, who are reportedly at liberty, and Muhammad Ishaq, who is reportedly in detention.

**Prompt intervention letters**

113. On 7 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter concerning arbitrary travel restrictions against woman human rights defender Sammi Deen Baloch, which had prevented her

---

<sup>39</sup> NIC 4/2024.



engagement with the Working Group and her participation in the fifty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council.<sup>40</sup>

114. On 25 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter concerning the alleged acts of intimidation and harassment, including through arbitrary travel restrictions and the filing of allegedly baseless criminal charges, against woman human rights defender Mahrang Baloch.<sup>41</sup>

### **Joint allegation letter**

115. On 10 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning ongoing unlawful imprisonment following a secret military trial, lack of access to a fair trial and an appeal, inadequate prison conditions, and lack of an effective remedy and reparations for the multiple serious human rights violations, including enforced disappearance and alleged torture and ill-treatment, to which Muhammad Idris Khattak had been subjected by the Pakistan authorities in the previous five years, in relation to the exercise of his rights to freedom of association and of expression and his human rights work.<sup>42</sup>

## **Peru**

### **Information from the Government**

116. On 16 August 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning 2,361 cases, but it was considered too general and therefore insufficient to clarify them.

## **Russian Federation**

### **Urgent procedure**

117. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted to the Government 131 cases, concerning:

(a) Denis Voskoboinyk, Hryhorii Nazarchuk, Oleksandr Drozdenko, Dmytro Chernikov, Borys Nezhura, Oleksandr Maznytskyi, Mykola Belym, Volodymyr Remez, Yurii Karpenko, Illia Popov, Oleksii Kovalenko, Oleh Bryniuk, Serhii Cherviatyuk, Mykhailo Holian, Volodymyr Holubko, Andrii Kovlev, Serhii Markus, Mykola Nieviedrov, Ihor Vasylyshyn, Valentyn Zhenko, Dmytro Vapelnik, Yevhenii Polishko, Stepan Okhota, Stanislav Boroshevskiy, Vitalii Leskov, Oleh Brazhnyk, Volodymyr Semchysyn, Volodymyr Tereb, Andrii Anikeiev, Oleksii Toporkov, Roman Popovych, Serhii Artiukhov, Bohdan Stetsiuk, Volodymyr Levkiv, Andrii Tkachyk, Oleksii Nevynnyi, Dmytro Kulikov, Maksym Sabadash, Yevhen Nikitin, Danylo Shokaliuk, Artem Baranik, Vasyl Antosina, Mykola Bohdanov, Anatolii Kyrychenko, Mykola Ilchenko, Yurii Mykhailiuk, Andrii Dalekyi, Yevhenii Zaichenko, Yevhenii Patrushev, Bohdan Havinskyi, Oleksandr Lukianenko, Dmytro Kuzievych, Ihor Karp and Andrii Sukhovii, who allegedly disappeared between 19 May 2022 and 26 December 2024 after combat engagements with Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups in Donetsk Province of Ukraine;

(b) Yevhenii Stefanyshyn, Denys Zorin, Serhii Kozakov, Maksym Trokhymenko, Yevhen Fedorov, Yevhenii Kononenko, Serhii Zholobenko, Serhii Piatunin, Yevhen Batsalai, Oleksii Kaluhin, Oleksandr Bondar, Yevhen Fattakhov, Ivan Shmilo, Oleksandr Didukh, Yurii Niunko, Serhii Slobodianiuk, Anatolii Krasovskyi, Nazarii Medulka and Oleksandr Rybaltovskyi, who allegedly disappeared between 7 March 2022 and 28 December 2024 after combat engagements with Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups in Kharkiv Province of Ukraine;

<sup>40</sup> PAK 4/2024.

<sup>41</sup> PAK 6/2024.

<sup>42</sup> PAK 8/2024.

(c) Oleksandr Strohan, who allegedly disappeared on 11 August 2022 after being abducted by Russian soldiers from his place of residence in Chornobaivka, Kherson Province of Ukraine, at that time occupied by the Russian Federation;

(d) Ihor Hurych, Pavlo Kuzmych, Danylo Kalita, Oleksii Filonenko, Viktor Nevhad, Oleh Sharypov, Yevhen Shapoval, Oleksandr Bezditnyi, Viktor Polishchuk, Andrii Huleichuk, Serhii Hibkin, Yurii Lankevych, Stanislav Klochkovskyi, Vadym Diachenko, Mykola Kuzmenko, Oleksandr Maiba, Andrii Zarubinskyi and Maksym Tsybulskyi, who allegedly disappeared between 13 August and 19 December 2024 after combat engagements with Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups in Kursk Province of the Russian Federation;

(e) Viktor Tsybenko, who allegedly disappeared on 9 March 2022, during the evacuation of a military hospital, from Irpin, Kyiv Province of Ukraine, at that time occupied by the Russian Federation;

(f) Kostianty Neliubov, Mykola Slobotskyi, Yevhenii Khudan, Ruslan Motnin, Viacheslav Sinikin and Serhii Lapenko, who allegedly disappeared between 5 May 2022 and 6 October 2024 after combat engagements with Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups in Luhansk Province of Ukraine;

(g) Oleksandr Korzh, Maksym Starykovskyi, Volodymyr Kit, Ivan Savchuk, Serhii Tymus, Vadym Kazmiruk, Oleksandr Khomiak, Serhii Kosets, Dmytro Manolii, Viktor Chernyshov, Ruslan Ivaniuk, Andrii Androshchuk, Ivan Cherednychenko, Andrii Harbuz, Vitalii Tkachenko, Yurii Bilyi, Serhii Ushakov, Artem Yahodynskyi, Serhii Vyskrebits, Oleksii Hordiienko, Yevhenii Hudymenko, Vasyl Polishko, Artem Burka, Pavlo Zahrunnyi, Denys Demidov, Andrii Trytinichenko, Dmytro Zhurbin, Oleksii Klantsatyi, Andrii Petlokha, Ms. Natalia Shulha, Ruslan Lavryk and Viktor Ivanchenko, who allegedly disappeared between 16 December 2022 and 20 December 2024 after combat engagements with Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups or after being abducted by Russian forces in the territory of Zaporizhzhia Province of Ukraine, occupied by the Russian Federation.

118. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, copies of the case files were transmitted to the Government of Ukraine. A copy of the case file concerning Viktor Tsybenko was also transmitted to the Government of Belarus.

#### **Information from sources**

119. Sources provided updated information on 104 outstanding cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

#### **Clarification based on information from sources**

120. The Working Group considered information provided by sources and decided to clarify 85 cases, concerning Vladyslav Danylenko, Anton Avramov, Rustam Aliiarov, Artem Andrusenko, Kyrylo Astashov, Kostiantyn Babych, Andrii Babchynskyi, Anatolii Bondarenko, Oleksandr Bordiuhovskiy, Dmytro Brahida, Oleksandr Brytan, Viktor Burenok, Yevhen Veremeienko, Vitalii Verteletsykyi, Artem Vovk, Ruslan Vorona, Oleksandr Hluzd, Zakhar Hliatsevych, Yevhenii Holovinov, Roman Honcharenko, Roman Horilyk, Ihor Hrek, Mykola Hrytsky, Andrii Hryshchenko, Mykola Hruzd, Vladyslav Datsko, Mykola Dehtiar, Volodymyr Derba, Hennadii Detsiuk, Dmytro Donchenko, Vladyslav Doroshok, Artem Druz, Denys Dubrova, Viacheslav Zhyhyr, Denys Zhmyria, Valentyn Zinovchuk, Vladyslav Zubok, Pavlo Ivashutych, Hennadii Ihnatenko, Valerii Yovenko, Yaroslav Kalchenko, Roman Kamka, Andrii Karpenko, Viacheslav Kasian, Dmytro Kyhym, Oleksii Kyrylenko, Denys Kyrychanskyi, Dmytro Kysil, Bohdan Kiriienko, Roman Komlash, Bohdan Korniets, Mykhailo Korchan, Serhii Kravchenko, Dmytro Kulish, Ivan Kupriienko, Artem Lutchenko, Oleksii Lutchenko, Andrii Malofiienko, Oleksandr Martyniuk, Mykola Marfych, Yurii Melnyk, Oleksii Moloiko, Artem Naboichenko, Oleksandr Naumenko, Oleksandr Nesterenko, Vasyl Neshcheret, Oleh Petrenko, Vitalii Pihor, Artem Popok, Volodymyr Protsenko, Andrii Rubakha, Vladyslav Savchenko, Vladyslav Sapsai, Vitalii Selezen, Roman Serdiuk, Vladyslav Sielieznov, Denys Syvoraksha, Bohdan Susha, Maksym Fedorchenko, Oleksandr Khandohii, Serhii Shepka, Bohdan Shydlovskiy and Yaroslav Yakubets, who have

been released from captivity by Russian forces and are reportedly at liberty; Oleksii Lustov, who is reportedly in prison; and Oleksandr Kushnarov, who is reportedly deceased.

### **Observations**

121. The Working Group considered the information published online concerning 45 outstanding cases and decided to transmit the updated case files to the Government, in accordance with its methods of work.

122. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, copies of the case files were transmitted to the Government of Ukraine.

### **Joint urgent appeal**

123. On 22 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning allegations of escalating and systematic attacks by Russian armed forces against the electricity system of Ukraine, which posed real risks of an imminent nuclear disaster that could result in widespread and large-scale radioactive contamination, including loss of life and long-term health consequences for countless people in Ukraine, as well as in the Russian Federation and other neighbouring countries. It was also emphasized that the significant reduction in the capacity of the electricity system of Ukraine, which was a result of attacks by Russian armed forces, had grave consequences for the human rights of people in vulnerable situations, in particular children, older persons, persons with disabilities and members of other vulnerable groups.<sup>43</sup>

## **Rwanda**

### **Urgent procedure**

124. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted to the Government five cases, concerning:

(a) Kambale Kighusu Arsène, Kasereka Kighusu Clovis, Kasereka Ndasimwa Obed and Kakule Kighihere, who were reportedly abducted in early September 2024 in Rubare, North Kivu Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo, by armed persons belonging to Alliance Fleuve Congo and the Mouvement du 23 mars (March 23 Movement);

(b) John Kasimba, a humanitarian worker who was allegedly abducted on 10 January 2025 in Lubero Territory, Democratic Republic of the Congo, by armed men belonging to the Alliance Fleuve Congo and the Mouvement du 23 mars.

125. In relation to these cases, the Working Group transmitted copies to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in accordance with its methods of work.

### **Clarification based on information from sources**

126. Having considered information provided by a source, the Working Group decided to clarify the case of Kasereka Ndasimwa Obed, who is reportedly at liberty.

### **Joint allegation letter**

127. On 17 January 2025, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the alleged abduction and enforced disappearance of John Kasimba, Kakule Kighihere, Kambale Kighusu Arsène and Kasereka Kighusu Clovis in North Kivu Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo, by members of armed groups acting with the support or acquiescence of the Government of Rwanda.<sup>44</sup>

<sup>43</sup> RUS 10/2024.

<sup>44</sup> RWA 1/2025.

## **Saudi Arabia**

### **Urgent procedure**

128. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning an individual arrested on 31 August 2024 at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh.

### **Clarification based on information from sources**

129. On the basis of information provided by a source, the Working Group decided to clarify one case, concerning an individual who is reportedly in prison.

### **Application of the six-month rule**

130. The Government provided information on two outstanding cases, on the basis of which the Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule, in accordance with its methods of work.

## **Spain**

### **Standard procedure**

131. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Francisco Moral González, who was allegedly arrested on 29 September 1948 by agents of the Civil Guard.

### **Information from the Government**

132. On 10 January 2025, the Government transmitted information concerning three cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them. Following a decision of the Working Group, and in accordance with its methods of work, copies of two of the cases were transmitted to the Government of Algeria and to the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex).

### **Joint allegation letter and reply**

133. On 13 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the apparent impossibility of processing criminal complaints relating to crimes against humanity committed during the Franco dictatorship in State courts, in contravention of article 2 (3) of Act No. 20/2022 on Democratic Memory and international human rights standards.<sup>45</sup>

134. On 19 February 2025, the Government provided a reply to the joint allegation letter dated 13 December 2024.<sup>46</sup>

## **Sri Lanka**

### **Information from the Government**

135. On 20 September 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

### **Joint allegation letter**

136. On 25 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the reported threats against and intimidation of woman human rights defender Nelum Kumuduni Jayasekara.<sup>47</sup>

---

<sup>45</sup> ESP 6/2024.

<sup>46</sup> See reply to ESP 6/2024.

<sup>47</sup> LKA 4/2024.

137. On 26 December 2024, the Government of Sri Lanka responded to the joint allegation letter dated 25 October 2024.

## **Syrian Arab Republic**

### **Urgent procedure**

138. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Ahmad Sattouf, who was allegedly arrested on 21 September 2024 in Keserwan-Jbeil Governorate, Lebanon, and allegedly transferred to the Syrian Arab Republic shortly thereafter by the Syrian military security service.

### **Standard procedure**

139. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted 39 cases to the Government (see annex I).

### **Information from sources**

140. Sources provided updated information on one outstanding case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

## **Thailand**

### **Application of the six-month rule**

141. The Government provided information on one outstanding case, based on which the Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule, in accordance with its methods of work.

### **Information from the Government**

142. On 24 December 2024 and 31 January 2025, the Government transmitted information concerning 28 cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

### **Joint allegation letters and reply**

143. On 23 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the forthcoming expiration, on 25 October 2024, of the statute of limitation for the killings of 84 individuals belonging to the Malay Muslim community, a religious minority group, by security officials in the Tak Bai incident in October 2004, which would bring an end to ongoing attempts to prosecute those responsible.<sup>48</sup>

144. On 20 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the sentencing of journalist and human rights defender Duong Van Thai to 12 years in prison by the Hanoi People's Court in October 2024.<sup>49</sup>

145. On 30 October 2024, the Government of Thailand acknowledged receipt of the joint allegation letter sent on 23 October 2024.<sup>50</sup>

## **Togo**

### **Information from the Government**

146. On 10 October 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning 10 cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

<sup>48</sup> THA 12/2024.

<sup>49</sup> THA 15/2024.

<sup>50</sup> See reply to THA 12/2024.

## Tunisia

### Information from the Government

147. On 11 October 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning five cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

### Joint allegation letter

148. On 1 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the interception of migrants at sea, the reception of migrants, including victims of trafficking or potential victims, in the context of disembarkation procedures at Tunisian ports, and allegations of failure to identify and provide assistance to victims, which could constitute a violation of international obligations, including the principle of non-refoulement and the human rights of migrants, including children, as well as the obligation to assist and protect victims of trafficking in persons in the context of mixed movements.<sup>51</sup> A similar allegation letter was transmitted to the European Union.<sup>52</sup>

## Türkiye

### Urgent procedure

149. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted four cases to the Government, concerning Ozturk Uzun, Alparslan Taşcı, Mustafa Genç and Hüseyin Yeşilsu, who allegedly disappeared on 18 October 2024, after being abducted in Nairobi by Kenyan national intelligence officers, with the involvement of the Turkish authorities, and was later presumably transferred to Türkiye.

150. In accordance with its methods of work, the Working Group sent copies of the case files to the Government of Kenya.

### Joint urgent appeal and reply

151. On 16 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning the alleged arbitrary detention and forcible return from Türkiye of an estimated 300 Eritreans, in violation of the non-refoulement principle. Reference was also made to the imminent risk of refoulement from Türkiye of an additional group of approximately 50 Eritreans, at risk of being subjected to serious human rights violations, including torture, enforced disappearance and arbitrary detention, upon their return to Eritrea.<sup>53</sup>

152. On 12 December 2024, the Government of Türkiye replied to the above-mentioned joint urgent appeal.<sup>54</sup>

### Joint allegation letter and reply

153. On 7 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning alleged measures of systematic repression against persons ostensibly affiliated with the Gülen movement through the misuse of counter-terrorism legislation, and the concomitant impact on civil society, human rights defenders, political dissidents and journalists. These measures include: (a) mass arrests, detentions and judicial control orders; (b) transnational renditions; (c) the expansion of terrorist “grey lists”; and (d) the misuse of surveillance powers.<sup>55</sup>

---

<sup>51</sup> TUN 6/2024. Copies of the letter were transmitted to the Governments of Algeria, Italy, and Libya.

<sup>52</sup> OTH/129/2024. Copies of the letter were transmitted to the Governments of Algeria, Italy and Libya.

<sup>53</sup> TUR 6/2024.

<sup>54</sup> See reply to TUR 6/2024.

<sup>55</sup> TUR 5/2024.

154. On 30 October 2024, the Government of Türkiye replied to the above-mentioned joint allegation letter.<sup>56</sup>

## Uganda

### Joint allegation letter

155. On 19 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning allegations of severe environmental, climate and human rights impacts, as well as a systematic pattern of oppression and human rights violations against environmental human rights defenders in Uganda, in relation to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline and the Tilenga and Kingfisher Projects. Reportedly, at least 129 persons have been arrested and deprived of their liberty, and there have been cases of incommunicado detentions and ill-treatment. There have also been reports of recurrent arrests and detentions, enforced disappearances, the forced eviction of more than 42 communities and widespread judicial harassment. These attacks and threats appear to be directly related to the legitimate human rights activities of environmental human rights defenders, especially their defence of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, which has been ongoing since at least 2022.<sup>57</sup>

## United Arab Emirates

### Urgent procedure

156. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Abdulrahman Yusuf Al-Qaradawi, a dual national of Egypt and Türkiye, who was extradited from Rafic Hariri International Airport in Beirut to Abu Dhabi and allegedly forcibly disappeared.<sup>58</sup>

157. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, copies of the case were forwarded to the Governments of Egypt, Lebanon and Türkiye.

### Standard procedure

158. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Talifu Aihemaiti, a Chinese national who was allegedly arrested on 12 February 2018 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, by officers of the Dubai Police.

159. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of China.

### Information from sources

160. Sources provided information on one outstanding case, but the information was considered insufficient to clarify it.

## United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

### Joint urgent appeal and reply

161. On 29 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an urgent appeal concerning the alleged arbitrary detention of three British children and their mother in the Al-Roj camp in the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic. Concern was also raised with regard to the incommunicado detention of the mother

<sup>56</sup> See reply to TUR 5/2024.

<sup>57</sup> UGA 4/2024.

<sup>58</sup> See para. 89 above.

in the camp from September to 12 November 2024, which had exposed her to a risk of being subjected to an act tantamount to enforced disappearance.<sup>59</sup>

162. On 22 January 2025, the Government provided a reply to the above-mentioned joint urgent appeal.<sup>60</sup>

#### **Joint allegation letter and reply**

163. On 21 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the apparently unjustified use of the provisions of the Terrorism Act 2000, the Terrorism Act 2006 and the Sentencing Act 2020 against political protesters, raising concerns about potential infringements of their fundamental rights.<sup>61</sup>

164. On 24 January 2025, the Government provided a reply to the above-mentioned joint allegation letter.<sup>62</sup>

### **United Republic of Tanzania**

#### **Standard procedure**

165. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Musa Venerable Mziba, who was allegedly arrested on 7 December 2023 in Dar es Salaam by persons believed to be police officers.

#### **Joint allegation letters**

166. On 9 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted an allegation letter, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, concerning the ongoing and escalating crackdown, characterized by grave human rights violations, including enforced disappearances, against opposition political parties, civil society organizations, journalists and human rights defenders in the United Republic of Tanzania. In addition, the allegation letter raises concern about the alleged enforced disappearance of Deusdedith Soka.<sup>63</sup>

167. On 18 October 2024, the Working Group transmitted an allegation letter, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, raising concern about the Resilient Natural Resource Management Tourism and Growth project in the United Republic of Tanzania. The aim of the project is to develop protected areas to increase tourism in the southern region of the United Republic of Tanzania, and it has allegedly resulted and continues to result in grave violations of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and of other affected communities near Ruaha National Park. The alleged human rights violations include the threat of forced evictions, extrajudicial killings, excessive use of force, enforced disappearances, violence against women, and massive cattle seizures by the Tanzania National Parks Authority.<sup>64</sup> A similar allegation letter was transmitted to the World Bank Group.<sup>65</sup>

### **United States of America**

#### **Information from the Government**

168. On 10 September 2024, the Government transmitted information concerning four cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

---

<sup>59</sup> GBR 12/2024.

<sup>60</sup> See reply to GBR 12/2024.

<sup>61</sup> GBR 13/2024.

<sup>62</sup> See reply to GBR 13/2024.

<sup>63</sup> TZA 3/2024.

<sup>64</sup> TZA 4/2024.

<sup>65</sup> OTH 135/2024.



**Joint allegation letter**

169. On 14 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the Lafarge forfeiture funds, corresponding to \$687 million, collected by the Government of the United States after Lafarge had pled guilty to conspiracy to provide material support to a terrorist organization. There is no information on the intended use of the forfeited funds.<sup>66</sup>

**Uruguay****Application of the six-month rule**

170. The Government provided information on one outstanding case, based on which the Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule, in accordance with its methods of work.

**Information from the Government**

171. On 12 January 2025, the Government transmitted information concerning 18 cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

**Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)****Urgent procedure**

172. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted 23 cases to the Government (see annex I).

**Standard procedure**

173. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted two cases to the Government, concerning Fabián Buglione Reyes, national of Uruguay, who was allegedly arrested on 19 October 2024 at the border between Colombia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) by agents of the General Directorate of Military Counter-Intelligence, and David Barroso Chirinos, who was allegedly arrested on 1 October 2024 in Maracaibo, Zulia State, by agents of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Services. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case concerning Fabián Buglione Reyes was forwarded to the Government of Uruguay.

**Clarification based on information from sources**

174. On the basis of information provided by sources, the Working Group decided to clarify 17 cases, concerning:

- (a) Víctor Manuel Castillo Vizcaya, who is currently detained at the headquarters of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service, known as El Helicoide, in Caracas;
- (b) Ambar Andreina Márquez Barrientos, who is currently detained at the headquarters of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service in Caracas;
- (c) Williams Daniel Dávila Barrios, who was taken to the Hospital de Clínicas, in Caracas, and subsequently transferred to the headquarters of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service in Caracas;
- (d) Fernando José Feo Henríquez, who is currently detained at the headquarters of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service in Caracas;
- (e) Ricardo Ludwig Estévez Mazza, who is currently detained at the headquarters of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service in Caracas;
- (f) Johangel Rafael Bolívar Beroes, who is held in the Aragua Penitentiary Centre, known as Tocarón prison, in Aragua State;

<sup>66</sup> USA 25/2024.

- (g) Douglas Abelardo Magallanes, who is held in the Aragua Penitentiary Centre, in Aragua State;
- (h) Fraider Miguel Magallanes, who is held in the Aragua Penitentiary Centre, in Aragua State;
- (i) Dilia Pérez, who is currently at liberty, under non-custodial measures;
- (j) Carlos Correa, who is currently at liberty, under non-custodial measures;
- (k) Edward Ocariz, who is held in the Tucuyito Penal Centre, known as Tucuyito prison, in Carabobo State;
- (l) Yousnel Alvarado, who is held in the Aragua Penitentiary Centre, in Aragua State;
- (m) Edward Noriega, who is held at the Zone 7 detention centre in Carabobo State;
- (n) Paul León, who is currently detained;
- (o) Ricardo Alberto Albacete Vidal, who is currently at liberty;
- (p) Sofía María Sahagun Ortiz, who is currently detained at the headquarters of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service in Caracas;
- (q) María Andreina Oropeza Zuñiga, who is currently detained in Caracas.

**Information from sources**

175. Sources provided information on one outstanding case, but the information was considered insufficient to clarify the case.

**Information from other concerned States**

176. On 12 November 2024, the Government of Colombia transmitted information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

177. On 6 December 2024, the Government of Czechia transmitted information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

178. On 22 November 2024, the Government of Peru transmitted information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

179. On 17 and 23 January 2025, the Government of Spain transmitted information concerning three cases, but it was considered insufficient to clarify them.

180. On 31 January 2025, the Government of Argentina transmitted information concerning one case, but it was considered insufficient to clarify it.

**Joint allegation letter**

181. On 13 November 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, an allegation letter concerning the inadequate detention conditions in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which included a systemic lack of adequate access to food, water and sanitation, and medical care and treatment in detention, penitentiary and pretrial centres. These alleged conditions particularly affect women, older persons and persons with disabilities, among others.<sup>67</sup>

**Viet Nam****Urgent procedure**

182. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted one case to the Government, concerning Y Thinh Nie, a member of the Evangelical Church of Viet Nam, in

---

<sup>67</sup> VEN 11/2024.

Cur M'Gar District, who was allegedly arrested on 5 September 2024 at his house by agents of the National Police.

#### **Application of the six-month rule**

183. The Government provided information on one outstanding case, on the basis of which the Working Group decided to apply the six-month rule, in accordance with its methods of work.

#### **Joint allegation letter**

184. On 20 December 2024, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with other special procedure mechanisms, a letter concerning the sentencing of journalist and human rights defender Duong Van Thai to 12 years in prison by the Hanoi People's Court in October 2024 after he had been forcibly returned from Thailand.<sup>68</sup>

### **IV. Information concerning acts tantamount to enforced disappearance attributable to non-State actors reviewed by the Working Group during the session<sup>69</sup>**

#### **Syrian Arab Republic (de facto authorities in north and east of the Syrian Arab Republic)**

##### **Information from concerned State**

185. On 20 December 2024, the Government of Sweden provided information concerning three outstanding cases registered under the statistics of the de facto authorities in the north and east of the Syrian Arab Republic. The information was considered insufficient to clarify those cases.

<sup>68</sup> VNM 5/2024. See para. 144 above.

<sup>69</sup> Cases transmitted to non-State actors do not in any way imply the expression of any opinion concerning the legal status of any territory, city or area or of its authorities by the Working Group or the United Nations.

## Annex I

[English only]

### Urgent procedure cases

#### Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

1. Under its urgent procedure, the Working Group transmitted 23 urgent cases to the Government concerning:

(a) Ubencio Manuel Pacheco, a member of Vente Venezuela, an opposition political party, allegedly arrested on 30 July 2024 by agents of the Penal Intelligence Division (DPI) and the Bolivarian National Police (PNB) while riding his motorcycle in the La Clave, Pampam, Trujillo State;

(b) Amerigo de Grazia, dual national of Italy and Venezuela, deputy of the National Assembly of Venezuela and leader of the Guyana Libre platform, allegedly arrested on 7 August 2024 by agents of the Bolivarian Intelligence Service (SEBIN). In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Italy;

(c) María Andreina Oropeza Zuñiga, a woman leader of the Con Venezuela political campaign allegedly detained on 7 August 2024 in her home in Portuguesa State;

(d) Manuel Alejandro Tique Chaves, a national of Colombia, allegedly detained at the border between Colombia and Venezuela on 14 September 2024 by Venezuelan immigration agents and subsequently transferred to the headquarters of the General Directorate of Military Counterintelligence (DGCIM) in Caracas. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Colombia;

(e) Perkins Asdrubal Rocha Contreras, lawyer and legal coordinator for the Vente Venezuela political party, allegedly arrested on 27 August 2024 in Caracas by individuals wearing black clothing;

(f) Jan Darmovzal, a national of the Czech Republic, allegedly arrested at his hotel in Atabapo, Amazonas State, on 5 September 2024 by officers of the Bolivarian National Guard (PNB). In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of the Czech Republic;

(g) Eduardo Emiro Labrador, deputy of the Legislative Council of the State of Zulia, allegedly arrested on 18 October 2024 while travelling in the highway by agents of the Zulia regional police;

(h) Raymar Nottely Pérez Alvarado, allegedly detained on 22 September 2024 at a military checkpoint in Peracal, Táchira State, by agents of the Bolivarian National Guard (PNB) and immigration officials;

(i) Rosa Carolina Chirinos Zambrano, a woman allegedly detained on 22 September 2024 at a military checkpoint in Peracal, Táchira State, by agents of the Bolivarian National Guard (PNB) and immigration officials;

(j) David Josué Misse Durán, dual national of Colombia and Venezuela, allegedly detained on 22 September 2024 at a military checkpoint in Peracal, Táchira state, by members of the Bolivarian National Guard (GNB) and immigration officials. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Colombia;

(k) Renzo Yasir Huamanchumo Castillo, national of Peru, allegedly detained on 22 September 2024 at a military checkpoint in Peracal, Táchira State, by agents of the Bolivarian National Guard (PNB) and immigration officials. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Peru;

(l) Edwin Ivan Colmenares García, a national of Colombia, allegedly detained on 1 November 2024 while crossing the International Arauca Bridge towards Cúcuta, Colombia, by agents of the Administrative Service of Identification, Migration, and Immigration (SAIME). In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Colombia;

(m) Alejandro José Betancourt Guaicaia, allegedly detained on 22 September 2024 at a military checkpoint in Peracal, Táchira state, by members of the Bolivarian National Guard (GNB), and immigration officials;

(n) Sofía María Sahagun Ortiz, a woman holding dual nationality of Spain and Venezuela, allegedly detained on 23 October 2024 at the Simon Bolivar Airport in Maiquetía, La Guaira State, by members of the Administrative Service of Identification, Migration, and Immigration (SAIME). In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Spain;

(o) David Estrella, a dual national of Ecuador and the United States of America, allegedly detained by agents of the Venezuelan police on 10 September 2024 after entering Venezuela through the Border with Colombia in Cúcuta. In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Governments of Ecuador and the United States of America;

(p) José María Basoa Valdovinos, national of Spain, allegedly detained on 2 September 2024 near Morganito, in Amazonas State, by local authorities and subsequently handed into agents of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service (SEBIN). In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Spain;

(q) Andrés Martínez Adasme, national of Spain, allegedly detained on 2 September 2024 near Morganito, in Amazonas State, by local authorities and subsequently handed in to agents of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service (SEBIN). In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Spain;

(r) Jesús Armas, campaign leader of the Vente Venezuela political party, allegedly detained on 10 December 2024 outside a café in Caracas by six alleged unidentified police agents with covered faces;

(s) Luis Andrés Tarbay Villamizar, member of the Vente Venezuela political party, allegedly detained on 19 December 2024 in Caracas by members of the Bolivarian National Police (PNB);

(t) Nahuel Agustín Gallo, national of Argentina, and Corporal of the Argentine Gendarmerie, allegedly detained on 8 December 2024 at the border crossing between Venezuela and Colombia by agents of the General Directorate of Military Counterintelligence (DGCIM). In accordance with the Working Group's methods of work, a copy of the case was forwarded to the Government of Argentina;

(u) An individual allegedly detained on 15 November 2024 at the Guasdalito checkpoint in Apure State by the Administrative Service of Identification, Migration and Foreign Affairs (SAIME);

(v) Carlos Correa, Executive Director of the NGO Espacio Público, allegedly detained on 7 January 2024 in downtown Caracas by alleged security agents dressed in black and subsequently transferred to the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service (SEBIN) headquarters;

(w) Rafael Eduardo Tudares Bracho, son-in-law of a candidate in the national presidential elections, was detained on 7 January 2025 by agents of the Strategic and Tactical Actions Directorate (DAET) of the Bolivarian National Police (PNB).

## Standard procedure cases

### Pakistan

2. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted 20 cases to the Government concerning:

- (a) Usman Ali, allegedly arrested in Karachi, on 30 May 2013, by paramilitary rangers;
- (b) Muhammad Saeed, allegedly arrested in Karachi on 17 March 2013, by paramilitary rangers;
- (c) Usman Ali, allegedly abducted in Charsadda, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on 5 May 2023, by the police;
- (d) Muhammad Idrees Ismail, allegedly abducted in Karachi on 28 February 2018, by the police;
- (e) Muhammad Ismail Khan, allegedly abducted in Karachi on 24 July 2010, by members of a security or intelligence agency;
- (f) Muhammad Rafaqat Awan, allegedly abducted in Rawalpindi, on 29 June 2019, by members of a security or intelligence agency;
- (g) Muhammad Haider Khan, allegedly abducted in Muzaffarabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, on 23 October 2012, by Military Intelligence officials.
- (h) Atta Ullah, allegedly abducted in Karachi on 19 February 2015, by Military Intelligence officers.
- (i) Syed Zulfuqar Ali Mohajar, allegedly abducted in Karachi, on 9 February 2021, by agents believed to be from the Inter-services Intelligence.
- (j) Mehran Gul, allegedly abducted in Karachi on 11 January 2023, by agents believed to be from the Inter-services Intelligence.
- (k) Danish Aqeel Ansari, allegedly abducted in Lahore on 27 August 2013, by members of an intelligence agency.
- (l) Rahmat Ullah, allegedly abducted in Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on 11 April 2020, by members of an intelligence agency.
- (m) Rafe Ullah, allegedly abducted in Peshawar on 23 May 2024, by members of an intelligence agency.
- (n) Waqar Rehman, allegedly abducted in Karachi, on 13 August 2015, by Pakistani Rangers.
- (o) Noor Ul Haq, allegedly abducted in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on 13 August 2010, by the police and members of an intelligence agency.
- (p) Zaheer Ahmed, allegedly abducted on 27 June 2024, in Quetta, by the police and agents believed to be from the Counter-Terrorism Department.
- (q) Khanan Ullah, allegedly abducted in Sararogha, South Waziristan District on 10 January 2018, by Pakistani rangers.
- (r) Muhammad Shah, allegedly abducted in Khel, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on 22 July 2014, by Frontier Corps and Military officers.
- (s) Showrang, allegedly abducted in South Waziristan, on 7 March 2015, by Pakistani security forces.
- (t) Allah Noor Khan, allegedly abducted in Surabghot, Karachi, on 17 June 2014, by the police.

## Syrian Arab Republic

3. Under its standard procedure, the Working Group transmitted 39 cases to the Government concerning:

- (a) An individual allegedly abducted in Saida in 1991;
- (b) An individual allegedly arrested on 20 February 2012 from a checkpoint at the entrance to Maarat al-Numan city in Idlib by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (c) An individual allegedly last seen in March 2012 during his military service in Auras region, south of Homs Governorate;
- (d) An individual allegedly arrested in May 2012 from the Qnainis neighbourhood in Latakia city by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (e) An individual allegedly arrested on 2 May 2012 from Al-Salhiya Farms located on Al-Adawi Street in Damascus by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (f) An individual allegedly arrested on 23 June 2012 from his home located in the Haj Ali neighbourhood, in the town of Arbin, by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (g) An individual allegedly arrested in July 2012 from a checkpoint on highway connecting Baniyas and Homs city by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (h) An individual allegedly arrested on 29 July 2012 at a checkpoint in Aleppo by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (i) An individual allegedly arrested in September 2012 from Cairo Street in Homs city by armed men in civilian clothing believed to be agents of the National Defence Forces;
- (j) An individual allegedly abducted on 24 September 2012 in Damascus and reportedly seen in the custody of officers of the Military Intelligence;
- (k) An individual allegedly arrested on 24 September 2012 near the village of al-Qastal by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (l) An individual allegedly arrested on 26 September 2012 from the village of Hutaytet al-Turkman of the Rif Dimashq Governorate by armed military officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (m) An individual allegedly arrested on 9 October 2012 from the Homs-Tartous Road by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (n) An individual allegedly arrested on 24 October 2012 at a checkpoint near the al Assad Hospital in Deir Ez-Zour city by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (o) An individual allegedly arrested on 4 November 2012 from Sheikh Kheder neighbourhood of Aleppo city by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (p) Two individuals who were arrested on 6 November 2012 at the Military Police Street in Deir Ez-Zour city by officers of the Military Security Force;
- (q) An individual allegedly abducted on 7 November 2012 from Fayez Mansour Street by officers of the Syrian Airforce Intelligence.
- (r) An individual allegedly arrested in December 2012 from the Al Furqan neighbourhood in Aleppo city by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (s) A minor allegedly arrested on 1 December 2012 from the Mezzeh Commercial Secondary School in the Mezzeh neighbourhood in Damascus by officers of the Military Intelligence Division;
- (t) An individual allegedly arrested on 18 December 2012 by officers of the Syrian Air Force intelligence and detained at the Al Mazze Airport;
- (u) An individual allegedly arrested on 22 January 2013 from his family home in the Al Amara neighbourhood of Damascus by armed men believed to be officers of the Syrian Arab Army;

- (v) An individual allegedly arrested on 4 March 2013 from a checkpoint at the Jdaidet Yabous (al Masnaa) border crossing by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (w) An individual allegedly arrested on 21 April 2013 from the Immigration and Passport Department building in the Rukn al-Din neighbourhood of Damascus by the Immigration and Passport Police;
- (x) Two individuals allegedly arrested on 28 April 2013 from a checkpoint in Halab al Jadida neighbourhood in Aleppo City by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (y) An individual allegedly arrested in June 2013 from the checkpoint near al Kiswa city by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (z) An individual and a minor, aged 15 allegedly arrested on 24 June 2013 from their home located in Abu Jarin village by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (aa) An individual allegedly arrested on 24 June 2013 from his home in Junaïd village, As-Safira district, Aleppo Governorate, by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (bb) Two individuals allegedly arrested on 11 August 2013 from the Qnenis neighbourhood in Latakia by armed men of the Hilal Al-Assad's militia which is affiliated with the Syrian Arab Army;
- (cc) An individual allegedly arrested on 27 April 2014 at the bridge checkpoint in Tartous, by officers of the Military Intelligence Division;
- (dd) An individual allegedly arrested in November 2014 from a checkpoint in Dara'a by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (ee) An individual allegedly arrested on 24 April 2015 from his home near the al Kura al Ardiyya Roundabout, in the al Joura neighbourhood in Deir Ez-Zour city by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (ff) An individual allegedly arrested in November 2016 from Jibrin Shelter Centre near Aleppo International Airport by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (gg) An individual allegedly arrested on 14 February 2018 from Al Suqaylabiyah town, Hama Governorate by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (hh) An individual allegedly arrested on 26 August 2018 near the Al Rukban camp by officers of the Syrian Arab Army;
- (ii) An individual allegedly arrested on 11 May 2022 by officers of the Military Intelligence Division from his home in the northern neighbourhood of Nawa city.



## Annex II

[English only]

### General allegations

#### Israel

The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (hereafter, ‘the Working Group’) received information from the sources concerning obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (hereafter, ‘the Declaration’) by Israel.

1. This general allegation focuses on the obstacles encountered in the application of the Declaration, in particular with respect to alleged enforced disappearances committed by Israeli armed forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, namely, Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem from 7 October 2023 until date.
2. According to the information received by the Working Group, following the attacks perpetrated by members of Hamas Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades and other Palestinian armed groups on 7 October 2023, Israeli armed forces have been detaining Palestinians on a massive scale in Gaza and transferring them to military camps (including Ofer, Sde Teiman, Naftali and Anatot) and prisons (including Negev, Nafha, Ofer, Ashkelon, Ramlah, Mascobeya and Jalama) located in Israel and the Occupied West Bank, where the fate and whereabouts of many among them become unknown.
3. Reportedly, the situation is especially severe in northern Gaza, where, since October 2024, the implementation by Israel of the so-called Generals’ Plan (also known as ‘Eiland Plan’, whose alleged contents and aims were published in September 2024 by the Forum of Commanders and Soldiers in the Reserves, i.e. a group of senior Israeli reservists) led to over 4,000 Palestinians, including women and children, killed or forcibly disappeared and 1,750 detained.
4. In this context, among others, the following patterns of enforced disappearance were registered: persons who were last seen near the security fences between Israel and the Gaza Strip on 7 October 2023; persons who were last seen while trying to cross from the north of Gaza to the south or vice-versa at the Netzarim checkpoint controlled by the Israeli Defence Forces (hereafter, ‘IDF’); persons who were arrested by officers of the IDF during ground operations in refugee camps (e.g. al-Maghazi, al-Nuseirat, al-Bureji and Jabalia); and persons who were arrested from various residential neighbourhoods during the ground invasion by the IDF. The fate and whereabouts of many of those last seen in these circumstances remain unknown.
5. The Working Group was also informed that, oftentimes, the operations of the IDF target patients and medical staff from hospitals. An instance is that of the operation conducted on 28 December 2024 by members of the IDF at the Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza, where more than 240 patients and medical staff were arrested. According to the information received, the fate and whereabouts of many of those deprived of their liberty in these circumstances remain unknown.

#### Legislation enabling enforced disappearance

6. According to the information submitted to the Working Group, arrests and detentions by the IDF in Gaza are carried out pursuant to the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law No. 5762-2002, enacted in 2002 and subsequently amended on multiple occasions. The law introduces the category of “unlawful combatants”, who can be detained indefinitely without trial.
7. Art. 3(a) of the law defines an “unlawful combatant” as any person who takes part in hostile activity against the State of Israel, directly or indirectly, or belongs to a force engaged in hostile activity against the State of Israel, but does not meet the conditions granting the

status of prisoner of war under international law, as detailed in article 4 of the Third Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 regarding the treatment of prisoners of war.

8. Pursuant to this definition, it is not essential for someone to take part in hostilities against the State of Israel. The mere fact of being a member of a “force carrying out hostile acts” would be considered as sufficient to fall under this category. In a judgment delivered in 2008, the Supreme Court of Israel held that this would amount to a “sub-category of civilians under international law”.

9. On 18 December 2023, Amendment No. 4 to the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law and Temporary Provision – Iron Swords, was adopted. It was originally conceived as a temporary provision for a period of four months (i.e. until 17 May 2024), but it was extended (the latest extension – for other four months – having been approved on 29 July 2024). The Working Group recalls that this amendment raised concerns regarding its alignment with Israel’s human rights obligations addressed by the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism in [OL ISR 12/2024](#). The Working Group regrets the lack of response from your Excellency’s Government.

10. Pursuant to the further amendments in December 2023, the period of time within which a military commander is required to issue a detention order for a person designated as “unlawful combatant” is 45 days (prior to the amendment, it was 96 hours). Moreover, 75 days (instead of 14 days) may now pass before judicial review of such a detention order, and the judicial review will be undertaken by video conference, even when the person deprived of liberty is not represented by an attorney. Furthermore, the period of time during which an “unlawful combatant” may be denied a meeting with an attorney will be 75 days, with the approval of the official established in the law, and a cumulative period of 180 days with the approval of the court (instead of 10 and 21 days, respectively). These prolonged terms are seemingly at odds with international human rights law, including due process guarantees, and international humanitarian law and, in particular, if the fate and whereabouts of those deprived of liberty under these circumstances are not disclosed, this amounts to an enforced disappearance.

11. In this regard, the Working Group has received information according to which the implementation of this legislation allows for the indefinite incommunicado detention of persons and, in practice, it enables the enforced disappearance of the individuals concerned. According to the sources, those detained pursuant to the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law, including women and children, are held in inhumane conditions, frequently subjected to torture and other forms of ill-treatment – on occasions resulting in the death of the detainees – and without any contact with the outside world, not being allowed to communicate or being visited by their families or any other person of choice, nor by the International Committee of the Red Cross (hereafter, ‘ICRC’).

#### **Obstacles, intimidation and reprisals faced by lawyers of families and civil society organisations**

12. Reportedly, attempts made by families of those detained pursuant to the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law to inquire before the Israeli Prison Service (hereafter, ‘IPS’) to determine the fate and whereabouts of their loved ones encounter major obstacles. In particular, lawyers representing families of persons detained under these circumstances have allegedly been repeatedly summoned and interrogated by Israeli security apparatus, including the Israeli General Security Service, and warned not to continue sending inquiries to the IPS. A complaint against one of the lawyers representing the families of Palestinian detained in Gaza under these circumstances was lodged by the IPS with the Israeli Bar Association and, in May 2024, the Central Court in Israel issued an urgent decision pursuant to a request from the IPS preventing the lawyer concerned from visiting detainees. As a result of these decisions and out of fear for his and his family’s life, the lawyer quit his job. According to the information received by the Working Group, the lawyer who took over the docket of cases of these families was equally banned from visiting and inquiring about Palestinian detainees for a period of six months. Also this lawyer reportedly quitted the job out of fear.

13. The Working Group has been informed that, under the present circumstances, the work of civil society associations concerned with attempting to establish the circumstances of enforced disappearances and the fate of disappeared persons and to assist victims of enforced disappearance in Gaza, would be jeopardised and rendered almost impossible, including because of the security risks for the staff and their families, who are frequently subjected to threats and intimidation.

14. The Working Group received information according to which the IPS responds only to a limited number of the formal requests for information on Palestinians from Gaza detained pursuant to the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law whose fate and whereabouts are currently unknown. The criteria for deciding which requests receive a response and which are ignored are unknown.

#### **Systematic obstacles to visits to detainees**

15. Furthermore, the sources referred to the Working Group about the multiple obstacles encountered in the submission of requests, coordination, and conduction of visits by lawyers to detainees, which must be submitted either to the Military Command Centre for Prisons (hereafter, ‘MCCP’) for those held in Israeli military camps or, for those held in prisons run by the IPS, directly to the detention facility concerned.

16. First, many requests for visits are rejected because the detainees concerned are formally prohibited from receiving visits pursuant to the applicable legislation. There are also instances where authorities systematically fail to respond to visit requests, despite several follow-ups from the lawyers. Sources indicated that this is especially evident with Ramlah and Ashkelon Prisons.

17. Second, when a visit of the lawyer is eventually allowed – frequently after lulls and considerable delays in the provision of an answer and after repeated follow-ups – the prison administration reportedly restricts the number of detainees that can be met during a single visit or the number of visits that one lawyer can conduct per month. The practice is reportedly most prevalent at the Nafha Prison, where the maximum number of detainees allowed is limited to three per visit, and at the Negev Prison, where only five detainees were allegedly allowed to be visited.

18. Sources informed the Working Group that the last minute cancellation of visits previously granted is also frequent and that, in these cases, either no justification is provided, or generic “emergency situations” are invoked. The Working Group was also alerted about instances where detainees are suddenly transferred on the same day as the previously agreed visit, after which, their fate and whereabouts usually become again unknown. It must be recalled that an enforced disappearance may be initiated also by an initially legal arrest or detention and it may occur in the context of the transfer of a person deprived of liberty. That is to say, the protection of a person from enforced disappearance must be effective upon the act of deprivation of liberty and throughout his or her detention.

19. Third, pursuant to the information brought to the consideration of the Working Group, when visits eventually take place, further challenges emerge, and lawyers have to undergo several stringent security checks and are not allowed to carry any documents or personal items. Meetings of lawyers with detainees usually last between 30 and 45 minutes, and take place in temporary barracks, frequently lacking adequate air conditioning. The lawyer is usually separated from the detainee by a thick wire fence with narrow holes, and with no privacy, as soldiers stand behind the detainee, listening to the whole conversation, which is also videotaped. Instances where soldiers would intervene in the discussion between the lawyer and the detainee, especially at the Neftali Camp, have been reported. The Working Group was also informed that detainees are frequently physically abused and subjected to ill-treatment, including humiliating treatment, by soldiers and prison guards while they are being escorted to meet lawyers.

**Lack of effective, independent, impartial and thorough investigations and failure to identify and return the mortal remains of persons deprived of their liberty who die in custody**

20. According to the reports submitted to the Working Group, despite the numerous cases of enforced disappearances of Palestinians reported, Israeli authorities systematically fail to open *ex officio* investigations directed at both disclosing the fate and whereabouts of the disappeared persons and identifying perpetrators, prosecuting and, where appropriate, sanctioning them. Hence, relatives of disappeared persons are reportedly left without any effective remedy.

21. As mentioned above, persons detained pursuant to the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law are frequently subjected to torture and other forms of ill-treatment and, in many cases, they died in custody. Sources indicated to the Working Group that allegations of torture and deaths in custody are equally not subjected to any thorough, impartial, independent and effective investigation.

22. Moreover, the Working Group has been informed that, when detainees allegedly die in custody, relatives are not informed of the circumstances and cause of death and the destination of the remains. Indeed, there allegedly are no instances where the mortal remains of those who allegedly died in custody were returned to the families and, reportedly Israeli authorities do not undertake any adequate measure to determine the cause of death, respect and identify the remains, thus also failing to adopt actions that would allow to establish the truth on forcibly disappeared persons.

23. The Working Group welcomes the entry into force of a ceasefire agreement on 19 January 2025, which it hopes will allow for a change in the policies and practices illustrated in the previous paragraphs.

24. With regard to the allegations contained in this document, the Working Group would like to bring to the Government's attention articles 2, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 20 and 21 of the Declaration.

25. The Working Group wishes to recall that the absolute prohibition of enforced disappearances and the corresponding obligation to investigate them and hold perpetrators accountable have attained the status of *jus cogens*.

26. Moreover, enforced disappearance is prohibited also pursuant to customary international humanitarian law (Rule 98). Each party to the conflict must take all feasible measures to account for persons reported missing as a result of armed conflict and must provide their family members with any information it has on their fate (Rule 117). Furthermore, parties of a conflict also have obligations regarding the dead, including taking all possible measures to search for, collect and evacuate them, returning remains, respecting and maintaining graves, as well as record all available information before disposal and marking the location of graves (Rules 112-116). Rules 118 to 128 of customary international humanitarian law enshrine the guarantees to be ensured to persons deprived of their liberty, including the ICRC access (Rule 124) and the visits to persons deprived of their liberty (Rule 126).

27. The Working Group notes that the category of "unlawful combatants" does not exist in international humanitarian law, neither does any "sub-category" of civilians. Accordingly, the traditional categories of combatants, civilians and prisoners of war (hereafter, 'POWs') and the corresponding guarantees shall be applied.

28. In this regard, the third Geneva Convention provides standards of treatment for POWs and the fourth Geneva Convention affords protection to civilians, including in occupied territory. The first Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions contains additional protection measures, including dealing particularly with missing and dead persons (Articles 32-34). All those provisions provide valuable protection for detained persons, ensuring that their detention is recorded and the detained persons remain in contact with their families, thus preventing enforced disappearances.

29. Furthermore, the Working Group notes that, pursuant to Rules 25 and 28 of customary international humanitarian law, medical personnel and medical units exclusively assigned to

medical duties must be respected and protected in all circumstances. According to Rule 35, directing an attack against a zone established to shelter the wounded and the sick from the effects of hostilities is prohibited. In addition, the Working Group recalls that, as emphasised in its [study on enforced disappearance and economic, social and cultural rights](#), victims of enforced disappearances often include persons who were active in promoting the enjoyment of rights, and, in these cases, the disappearance of one person, may have a negative effect on the larger community.

30. Rules 134 and 135 of customary international humanitarian law afford special protection respectively to women and children. In this regard, the Working Group recalls its general comments on [women affected by enforced disappearances and children and enforced disappearances](#).

31. Furthermore, the Working Group wishes to refer to its [general comment on Article 10 of the Declaration](#), spelling out the guarantees due to persons deprived of their liberty, especially in pre-trial detention, as well as its [joint statement on so-called “short-term enforced disappearances”](#), which clarifies that, in order to constitute an enforced disappearance, the deprivation of liberty of a person must be followed by a refusal to acknowledge such deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person, which place such a person outside the protection of the law, regardless of the duration of the said deprivation of liberty or concealment.

32. The Working Group wishes to also recall the obligations of the State pursuant to the [2019 Guiding Principles for the Search for Disappeared Persons](#); the Working Group’s General comment on the Right to the Truth in Relation to Enforced Disappearances (A/HRC/16/48, para. 39), which elaborates on the right to the truth as both a collective and an individual right; its [report on standards and public policies for an effective investigation of enforced disappearances](#); as well as the [Revised United Nations Manual on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions](#) (hereafter, ‘Minnesota Protocol’); and [the Revised version of the Manual on Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment](#) (hereafter, ‘Istanbul Protocol’).

33. The Working Group would be grateful for your Excellency’s Government cooperation and observations on the following questions:

(a) Please provide any additional information and any comment you may have on the above-mentioned allegations.

(b) Please provide information on how the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law 2002 – as amended in December 2023 –complies with your Excellency’s Government’s obligations pursuant to international human rights and humanitarian law. In particular, please provide any information on how the category of “unlawful combatants” would align with your Excellency’s Government’s obligations under international humanitarian law.

(c) Please provide information on the measures taken to guarantee to any person with a legitimate interest, such as the relatives of the person deprived of liberty, their representatives or their counsel, access to information on whether a person is held in detention, where and on the state of health of such a person.

(d) Please provide information on the measures adopted by your Excellency’s Government to ensure that medical personnel and medical units exclusively assigned to medical duties are respected and protected in all circumstances, especially by preventing their enforced disappearance. Moreover, please provide information on the special measures adopted to prevent the enforced disappearance of women and children.

(e) Please provide information on the measures taken by your Excellency’s Government to ensure that any person deprived of liberty is authorized to communicate with, and be visited by, his or her family, counsel or any other person of his or her choice. In particular, kindly illustrate how the restrictions, *de jure* and *de facto*, posed on the visits to persons deprived of their liberty pursuant to the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law would align to your Excellency’s Government obligations pursuant to international humanitarian and human rights law.

(f) Please provide information on the measures taken by your Excellency's Government to ensure that the ICRC has access and can visit persons deprived of their liberty in military camps and prisons in Israel and in the Occupied West Bank.

(g) Please provide detailed information on the measures undertaken to ensure that all those involved in the investigation of alleged enforced disappearances and in the search for the disappeared persons, including the complainant, counsel, witnesses and relatives of the disappeared person are protected against ill-treatment, intimidation or reprisal and, any such instance is appropriately investigated and punished.

(h) Please inform on the measures taken by your Excellency's Government to guarantee the right to form and participate freely in organizations and associations concerned with attempting to establish the circumstances of enforced disappearances and the fate of disappeared persons, and to assist victims of enforced disappearance.

(i) Please provide detailed information on how your Excellency's Government ensures that any person having knowledge or legitimate interest, who alleges that a person has been subjected to enforced disappearance, is able to lodge a complaint to a competent and independent State authority. Furthermore, please provide information on how your Government ensures that enforced disappearances are promptly, thoroughly, independently and impartially investigated by the authorities, even if there has been no formal complaint.

(j) Please provide detailed information on the measures taken by your Excellency's Government to investigate allegations of torture and deaths in custody of persons deprived of their liberty in military camps and prisons in Israel and in the Occupied West Bank, pursuant to international standards, including the Minnesota and Istanbul Protocols.

(k) Please provide information on the measures taken to determine the cause of death of persons deprived of their liberty deceased in custody, respect and return their remains to their families.

34. The Working Group requests your Excellency's Government to provide a response to the above questions within 60 days. The text of the general allegation will be published along with the Working Group's post-session report and on its website, where also any response received by your Excellency's Government will be made public.

## **Kenya**

The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances ('the Working Group') received information from sources concerning obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (hereafter, 'the Declaration') in Kenya.

1. The Working Group is alarmed by the allegations from credible sources related to the instances of enforced disappearances including so-called short-term enforced disappearances, in the context of the protests which began in June 2024 against the proposed Finance Bill 2024 introduced in a special issue of the Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 102 (National Assembly Bills No. 30). Sources estimate that approximately 60 individuals have been forcibly disappeared; however, it is impossible to determine the exact number as it continues to fluctuate with ongoing reports of new cases and developments. Some of the disappeared have later reappeared, while others were found dead and the fate and whereabouts of some remain unknown. Those who have reappeared reported experiencing torture during their detention. The Working Group recalls that this issue was raised in [JUA KEN 4/2024](#) and we regret the lack of response from your Excellency's Government.

2. According to sources, the proposed bill has provoked widespread indignation among the population due to the economic hardships caused by the introduction of new taxes. In response, residents took to the streets in protest. Reportedly, hundreds of protestors were arbitrarily arrested on the first three days of the protests, with at least two individuals losing their lives as a result of the disproportionate and excessive use of force by the police. As the protests grew, the Kenyan Parliament approved the bill, and protesters forcefully entered the



Parliament building. Sources cite instances of arbitrary killings, abduction and shootings with life and rubber bullets.

3. Based on available information, enforced disappearances continue even as protests have diminished in scale. The reported cases of enforced disappearances reveal systematic patterns in the profiles of the targeted individuals, methods of abduction, reasons for detention, and eventual release. The majority of those disappeared were individuals involved in protests or perceived as key voices in society, including human rights defenders, journalists, medical and legal professionals, bloggers and community leaders. Those considered to be spearheading protests or playing a key role in funding them are reportedly especially targeted.

4. Reports received by the Working Group strongly suggest that targets were often identified through prior surveillance of social media or communications and that security services had unrestricted access to call data for real-time tracking, frequently bypassing legal procedures. These allegations raise further concerns about the role of digital surveillance in these violations.

5. According to the information received, a special team from the National Intelligence Service and from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations is purportedly behind the deprivation of liberty followed by enforced disappearance of protestors. Reports indicate that abductions were typically carried out by plainclothes officers in unmarked vehicles. Victims were forcibly taken from various locations, including their homes and public areas, often using force and methods like handcuffing and blindfolding. Interrogations during detention focused on protest-related activities, such as funding and organization, with reports of mistreatment and torture and detention periods ranging from a few hours to 32 days. The Working Group recalls that duration is not a constitutive element of enforced disappearances and that State's obligations under international human rights law are the same regardless of the duration of the disappearances. Sources further indicated that many victims were released after interventions by professional associations, family members, or civil society groups, with releases often occurring in remote areas or at police stations.

6. The Working Group further noted with concern the challenges highlighted in the information received, notably on surrounding accountability and investigations into enforced disappearances. It appears from the reports that, despite constitutional protections, the lack of a specific legal framework criminalizing enforced disappearances at the domestic level and frequent non-compliance with habeas corpus orders seem to undermine efforts to address these violations. Reports indicate instances of judicial orders being disregarded, with allegations of retaliation against the judiciary further eroding confidence in accountability mechanisms. Additionally, no arrests or prosecutions have been reported for perpetrators of enforced disappearances during or after the 2024 protests. Sources question the veracity of official information on cases being resolved and underscore that no evidence of comprehensive investigations has been provided or rendered publicly available. The allegations brought to the Working Group raise concerns related to the absence of action by oversight bodies, such as the Independent Policing Oversight Authority and the National Police Service.

7. The Working Group would like to bring to the Government's attention articles 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 19 of the Declaration, which are directly related to the present allegation.

8. The Working Group would recall that the absolute prohibition of enforced disappearances and the corresponding obligation to investigate them have attained the status of *jus cogens*, thus triggering obligations *erga omnes*. We also recall the Working Group's thematic studies on the [Thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance](#); [New technologies and enforced disappearances](#), [Standards and public policies for an effective investigation of enforced disappearances](#), as well as, the [Joint statement on so-called "short-term enforced disappearances"](#) and the [Guiding principles for the search for the disappeared persons](#).

9. The Working Group would like to respectfully request the Government's observations on the following questions:

(a) Please provide any additional information and any comment on the allegations mentioned above.

(b) Please provide detailed information on the guarantees to prevent enforced disappearances in the context of manifestations and protests.

(c) Please provide information on State measures and protocols to ensure that the use of force in manifestations and protests is proportionate, necessary and reasonable to prevent arbitrary detentions that might amount to enforced disappearances.

(d) Please provide details on the measures taken to search for individuals who have disappeared during or after the protests, including information on coordination between relevant agencies and the outcomes of these efforts.

(e) Please outline the steps taken to investigate allegations of enforced disappearances, including the status of any ongoing investigations, the involvement of oversight or accountability mechanisms, and the prosecution of perpetrators.

(f) Please provide information on the applicable legal framework regarding enforced disappearances and indicate whether there are any ongoing or planned initiatives to amend the legislation to codify enforced disappearance as a standalone crime.

(g) Please provide information on the use of digital technologies to identify individuals targeted in connection with protests, including how these technologies are regulated to ensure compliance with data protection and privacy laws and international human rights standards.

(h) Please identify the Government units or agencies responsible for operations resulting in the alleged enforced disappearances and explain the measures in place to ensure accountability and oversight for their actions.

10. The Working Group requests your Excellency's Government to provide a response to the above questions within 60 days. The text of the general allegation will be published alongside the Working Group's post-sessional report on its website, and also any responses received from your Government.



## Annex III

[English only]

### Press releases and statements

1. On 7 October 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling for the end of violence and accountability after one year of human losses and suffering and blatant disregard for international law in Gaza.<sup>1</sup>
2. On 8 October 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling on Rwanda to provide answers on the fate of disappeared brothers Jean Nsengimana and Antoine Zihabamwe.<sup>2</sup>
3. On 10 October 2024, the Working Group, other special procedures mechanisms, and the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights issued a press release concerning abducted human rights defenders Mamadou Billo Bah and Oumar Sylla in Guinea, at risk of torture, ill-treatment and extrajudicial execution for defending democracy and human rights.<sup>3</sup>
4. On 14 October 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release expressing concern over the safety of migrants, refugees and victims of trafficking in Tunisia.<sup>4</sup>
5. On 16 October 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release alerting Thailand of a court ruling putting a human rights defender in danger, if extradited to Viet Nam.<sup>5</sup>
6. On 17 October 2024, the Working Group and other special procedures mechanisms issued a press release calling on Tanzania for urgent action amid a crackdown on civil society ahead of elections.<sup>6</sup>
7. On 21 October 2024, the Working Group addressed the UN General Assembly, and issued a press release highlighting how enforced disappearances have a ripple effect on the communities and societies where they occur due to the continuous nature of the crime.<sup>7</sup>
8. On 22 October 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release urgently seeking confirmation by Russia of reports of the death of Victoria Roshchyna, a Ukrainian journalist and woman human rights defender.<sup>8</sup>
9. On 24 October 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release stressing that the statute of limitations must not deny justice to families of 85 victims killed in the Tak Bai incident in Thailand.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/7-october-un-experts-call-end-violence-and-accountability-after-year-human>.

<sup>2</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/rwanda-must-provide-answers-fate-abducted-brothers-jean-nsengimana-and>.

<sup>3</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/guinea-growing-concern-health-and-well-being-disappeared-human-rights>.

<sup>4</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/tunisia-un-experts-concerned-over-safety-migrants-refugees-and-victims>.

<sup>5</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/thailand-court-ruling-puts-human-rights-defender-danger-if-extradited-viet>.

<sup>6</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/tanzania-experts-call-urgent-action-amid-crackdown-civil-society-ahead>.

<sup>7</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/victims-must-be-core-action-combat-enforced-disappearance-says-working-group>.

<sup>8</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/russia-must-confirm-news-ukrainian-journalists-death-custody-un-experts>.

<sup>9</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/thailand-statute-limitations-must-not-deny-justice-families-85-victims>.

10. On 31 October 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release concerning inmate ill-treatment and possible enforced disappearances in Belarus.<sup>10</sup>

11. On 15 November 2024, the Working Group and other special procedures mechanisms issued a press release calling Mozambique to stop post-electoral violence and repression.<sup>11</sup>

12. On 25 November 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling for the immediate end of Russian attacks on Ukraine's electricity system to avoid the risk of nuclear disaster.<sup>12</sup>

13. On 26 November 2024, the Working Group issued a press release at the end of an official country visit to Lithuania, acknowledging the country's solid legal framework as sound basis to continue progress in preventing enforced disappearance and sharing its preliminary findings.<sup>13</sup>

14. On 26 November 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release urging full compliance with the International Criminal Court's (ICC) arrest warrants issued against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant, and against Hamas commander Mohammed Diab Ibrahim Al-Masri (Deif) for war crimes and crimes against humanity.<sup>14</sup>

15. On 2 December 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling for a "course correction" in the international response to the escalating crisis in Myanmar, as the civilian death toll eclipsed 6,000.<sup>15</sup>

16. On 11 December 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release highlighting how enforced disappearances and arbitrary detentions are still used to silence opposition and critics in Nicaragua.<sup>16</sup>

17. On 20 December 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling for unified support for Syria in its critical transition following the fall of the Assad regime.<sup>17</sup>

18. On 23 December 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling for the release of activist Idris Khattak after five years in detention in Pakistan.<sup>18</sup>

19. On 23 December 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release highlighting the documentation and preservation of evidence of gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed during years of conflict and authoritarianism in Syria, as critical to ensure truth and accountability in pivotal moment of early transition in Syria.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>10</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/10/belarus-inmate-ill-treatment-and-possible-enforced-disappearances-ongoing>.

<sup>11</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/11/mozambique-post-election-violence-and-repression-must-stop-say-un-experts>.

<sup>12</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/11/un-experts-call-immediate-end-russian-attacks-ukraines-electricity-system>.

<sup>13</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/11/lithuania-solid-legal-framework-sound-basis-continue-progress-preventing>.

<sup>14</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/11/icc-arrest-warrants-can-help-save-lives-must-be-respected-and-complied-un>.

<sup>15</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/12/myanmar-un-experts-urge-course-correction-civilian-deaths-exceed-6000>.

<sup>16</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/12/nicaragua-enforced-disappearances-and-arbitrary-detentions-still-used>.

<sup>17</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/12/syria-experts-advocate-sovereignty-democratic-reconstruction-and-respect>.

<sup>18</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/12/pakistan-experts-call-release-activist-idris-khattak-after-five-years>.

<sup>19</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/12/syria-evidence-gross-human-rights-violations-and-international-crimes-must>.

20. On 23 December 2024, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release expressing serious concern at what appears to be an increase in systematic targeting of women belonging to the Baha'i religious minority throughout the country in Iran.<sup>20</sup>

21. On 8 January 2025, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling on Lebanon to stop the extradition of Abdulrahman Al-Qaradawi to the United Arab Emirates.<sup>21</sup>

22. On 8 January 2025, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling on the United States for the release of Guantánamo Bay detainee Abu Zubaydah, arbitrarily detained for over two decades.<sup>22</sup>

23. On 10 January 2025, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, issued a press release calling on Venezuela to respect the right to peaceful protest and democratic dissent as new presidential term begins.<sup>23</sup>

24. On 15 January 2025, the Working Group, together with other special procedures mechanisms, endorsed a press release by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, expressing concern about the use of anti-terrorism legislation against human rights defenders in Egypt.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>20</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/12/iran-experts-alarmed-systematic-targeting-bahai-women>.

<sup>21</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2025/01/lebanon-must-stop-extradition-abdulrahman-al-qaradawi-united-arab-emirates>.

<sup>22</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2025/01/experts-call-release-guantanamo-bay-detainee-abu-zubaydah-arbitrarily>.

<sup>23</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2025/01/venezuela-must-respect-right-peaceful-protest-and-democratic-dissent-new>.

<sup>24</sup> See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2025/01/egypt-special-rapporteur-concerned-about-use-anti-terrorism-legislation>.

## Annex IV

[English only]

### Intersessional activities of the members

1. On 2 October 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez met with ex-political prisoners exiled from Nicaragua to Guatemala.
2. On 2 October 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a meeting with Indigenous leaders in Guatemala.
3. On 16 October 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez met with different areas of the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City, such as the Human Rights Program and the Migration Program.
4. On 16 October 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a meeting with students of Berkeley's Human Rights Program who are providing support to the thematic study on "Enforced Disappearances in the context of the defense of land, natural resources and the environment".
5. On 24 October 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez delivered a lecture at the Diplomado de Formación en el Sistema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos "Héctor Fix Zamudio" at the Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, about the Special Procedures mechanisms.
6. From 28 to 31 October 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez attended the United Nations Biodiversity Conference "COP 16" in Colombia, where she had the opportunity to meet with several civil society organizations and victims.
7. On 27 October 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a meeting with Indigenous leaders from the Amazon, in Bogotá.
8. On 29 October 2024, in the framework of the COP16 on Biodiversity, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez, with the support of Centro por la Justicia y el Derecho Internacional, CEJIL, Nomadesc, and the Berkeley Lay Human Rights Clinic, held the Americas regional consultation on "Enforced Disappearances in the context of the defense of land, natural resources and the environment".
9. On 5 November 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez met with the director of the Red de Derechos Humanos Todos los Derechos para Todos, México.
10. On 5 November 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez met with Justice Defenders Sub-Saharan Africa Program of the American Bar Association Center for Human Rights, to plan the Africa consultation for the thematic study on "Enforced Disappearances in the context of the defense of land, natural resources and environment."
11. On 5 November 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez met with the organization Serapaz from México.
12. On 9 November 2024, Ms. Aua Baldé delivered a lecture on "os mecanismos de proteção de direitos humanos na ONU: o Grupo de Trabalho sobre Desaparecimentos Forçados e Involuntários", Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Faculdade de Direito, Escola do Porto.
13. On 13 November 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a meeting on the thematic study on "Enforced Disappearances in the context of the defense of land, natural resources and environment" with the Mexican Human Rights Network.
14. On 14 November 2024, Mr. Mohammed T Al-Obaidi delivered a video message to a conference organized by the Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances (AFAD).
15. On 20 November 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez met with El Banco de Datos Forenses de Migrantes No Localizados of Honduras.

16. Further to Thailand's ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of Enforced Disappearances, from 25 to 29 November 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez participated in a dialogue on enforced disappearances with UN member States in the region. She also met with victims, civil society organizations and State representatives of Viet Nam, Philippines, Timor Leste, Malaysia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Thailand.
17. On 25 November 2024, with the support of the OHCHR Regional Office in South-East Asia, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo held a consultation with civil society organizations for the thematic study on "Enforced disappearances in the context of the defense of land, natural resources and the environment."
18. On 4 December 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez delivered a presentation on the so-called short-term enforced disappearances at the XXV Jornadas sobre Justicia Penal ([https://www.youtube.com/live/uy00j\\_uZuDY](https://www.youtube.com/live/uy00j_uZuDY)), Homenaje a Sergio García Ramírez.
19. On 5 December 2024, Ms. Gabriella Citroni delivered a presentation on the forthcoming study on the use of universal criminal jurisdiction in cases of enforced disappearances to the students of the Legal Clinic and the Master 2 in Human Rights and Humanitarian Law of the Université Paris 2 – Panthéon-Assas.
20. On 10 December 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a training on enforced disappearances with civil society organizations of Venezuela.
21. On 18 December 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez participated in the webinar organized by Asia Europe People's Forum and ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights, Facing the Corporate-Government Nexus: Defending People's and Community Rights ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_JTmVluH7Es](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_JTmVluH7Es)), around the 12 years since the enforced disappearance of Sombath Somphone.
22. On 19 December 2024, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a meeting with members of the academia from Nuremberg University who will contribute to the report on "Enforced Disappearances in the context of the defense of land, natural resources and the environment."
23. On 8 January 2025, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a meeting with the Unidad de Búsqueda de Personas dadas por Desaparecidas from Colombia to advance on the technical cooperation.
24. From 6 to 10 of January 2025, Ms. Aua Baldé participated in a training to 20 Bissau-Guinean human rights defenders on the use of United Nations and the African Union human rights protection mechanism, titled "Improving the human rights protection system in Guinea-Bissau", Bissau, Guinea-Bissau.
25. On 10 January 2025, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a meeting with the organization Cristosal from El Salvador.
26. On 10 January 2025, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez held a meeting with the Argentinian Forensic Anthropology Team.
27. On 15 January 2025, Ms. Grażyna Baranowska contributed to the panel on universal jurisdiction and enforced disappearances during the World Congress on Enforced Disappearance in Geneva.
28. On 15 January 2025, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez participated in the panel Connecting victims and CSOs to United Nations mechanisms: how to foster effective engagement (<https://www.edworldcongress.org/post/the-video-recordings-the-1st-wced-are-available-t>) during the World Congress on Enforced Disappearance in Geneva.
29. On 16 January 2025, Ms. Grażyna Baranowska moderated a panel on children and enforced disappearances during the World Congress on Enforced Disappearance in Geneva.
30. On 16 January 2025, Ms. Grażyna Banowska moderated the closing ceremony of the World Congress on Enforced Disappearance in Geneva.
31. On 16 January 2025, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez participated on the closing ceremony of the World Congress on Enforced Disappearance in Geneva.

32. On 20 January 2025, Ana Lorena Delgadillo, member of the Working Group provided capacity building to public officials working in the Search Unit for Missing Persons of Colombia (Unidad de Búsqueda de Personas dadas por Desaparecidas) on “Transitional search and Investigation Mechanisms”, which is part of a technical cooperation agreement with this entity.<sup>25</sup>

33. On 22 January 2025, as part of the Technical cooperation agreement with the Government of Chile, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez met with academics and non-governmental organizations working in the country.

34. On 23 January 2025, Ms. Gabriella Citroni participated as a panellist in the event “SOS Ecuador. Niñez y adolescencia en peligro”, organised by Integración Ciudadana Suiza and National Human Rights Network at the University of Geneva.

35. On 23 January 2025, Ms. Aua Baldé delivered a presentation on “Grupo de Trabalho sobre Desaparecimentos Forçados e Involuntários da ONU” in a Brown Bag Lunch at UN House, Bissau, Guinea-Bissau.

36. On 24 January 2025, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez attended the 16th anniversary of the disappearance of José Antonio Robledo Fernández ([https://x.com/wgeid/status/1889770525200642190?s=46&t=YRknTvL81V3\\_GFXsGPwi3Q](https://x.com/wgeid/status/1889770525200642190?s=46&t=YRknTvL81V3_GFXsGPwi3Q)) in Mexico City.

37. On 27 January 2025, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez gave an interview with El Pitazo about the situation of enforced disappearances in Venezuela. (<https://www.youtube.com/live/0t4BI7HfMFk>).

38. On 28 January 2025, Ms. Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez gave an interview on (<https://www.youtube.com/live/0t4BI7HfMFk>) Noticias con Carmen Aristegui (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBAAEGVfaJ4>) about enforced disappearances in Venezuela.

---

<sup>25</sup> A/HRC/WGEID/133/1, para. 11 and A/HRC/WGEID/134/1, para. 14.