



General Assembly

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Human Rights Council Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Communications, cases examined, observations and other activities conducted by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

110th session (19 – 23 September 2016)

I. Communications

1. Between its 109th and 110th sessions, the Working Group transmitted 122 cases under its urgent action procedure, to Bangladesh (2), Burundi (2), Egypt (8), Ethiopia (1), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (1), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (3), Lebanon (1), Mexico (1), Pakistan (97), the Russian Federation (1), the Sudan (3) and Turkey (2).
2. At its 110th session, the Working Group decided to transmit 214 newly reported cases of enforced disappearance to 15 States. It also clarified 74 cases, in Bahrain (3), Egypt (53), Kuwait (1), Lebanon (1), Pakistan (6), the Sudan (1), Turkey (3) and the United Arab Emirates (4). Sixteen cases were clarified on the basis of information provided by Governments, and 58 on the basis of information provided by sources.
3. Between its 109th and 110th sessions, the Working Group transmitted 13 communications jointly with other special procedure mechanisms; six urgent appeals to Chad, Ethiopia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Thailand and Turkey; three allegation letters to Kenya, Mexico and Mozambique; and three prompt intervention letters, to Iran (Islamic Republic of), India and Sri Lanka, and an "other letter" to the Government of Sri Lanka.
4. At its 110th session, the Working Group reviewed a general allegation concerning the Russian Federation.

II. Other activities

5. At the opening of the session, the Members re-appointed Houria Eslami as Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group and Bernard Duhaime as its Vice-President.
6. During the session, the Working Group met with relatives of victims of enforced disappearances, and also with representatives of non-governmental organizations working

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on the issue. The Working Group also held formal meetings with representatives of the Governments of Japan and Peru.

7. The Working Group discussed future visits, the scarcity of invitations to visit countries, and how to encourage States to accept its visit requests. It continued to discuss improvements of its case management workload, including measures to reduce the backlog of cases, and internal guidelines on accessing and managing the archives of the Working Group. It also discussed the upcoming follow-up reports on Chile and Spain, and the preparation of its 111th session, to be held in the Republic of Korea from 6 to 10 February 2017.

8. During the session, the Working Group also discussed its forthcoming study on enforced disappearances in the context of migration.

9. The 110th session coincided with the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council, during which the Working Group presented to the Council its annual report (A/HRC/33/51), its reports on its missions to Turkey (A/HRC/33/51/Add.1), Sri Lanka (A/HRC/33/51/Add.2) and Peru (A/HRC/33/51/Add.3), its follow-up report on the recommendations made by the Working Group following its visits to the Congo and to Pakistan (A/HRC/33/51/Add.7), and its preliminary observations on the study on migration and enforced disappearances.

III. Information concerning enforced or involuntary disappearances in States reviewed by the Working Group

Algeria

Standard procedure

10. The Working Group transmitted 34 cases to the Government of Algeria, concerning:

- (a) Nadji Serrar, allegedly arrested on 17 September 1996 in Messaâd, Djelfa by the military;
- (b) Mohamed Toumi, allegedly arrested on 8 February 1996 in Algiers by military security officers;
- (c) Fayçal Rahmoune, allegedly abducted on 5 November 1995 in Algiers by military security officers;
- (d) Ahmed Ghoul, allegedly arrested on 15 February 1995 in Algiers by police officers from Kolea and communal guards from Douaouda;
- (e) Thameur Taibi, allegedly arrested on 27 April 1994 in the Wilaya of Laghouat by a police officer;
- (f) Kamal Tadjrouni, allegedly arrested on 3 January 1996 in Algiers by police officers;
- (g) Nourredine Tandjaoui, allegedly arrested on 11 June 1995 in the Wilaya of Blida by military security officers;
- (h) Fadhil Tlemçani, allegedly arrested on 18 August 1994 in the village of Bourbache by the military;
- (i) Ali Djennadi, allegedly abducted on 10 July 1994 in the Wilaya of Bouira by military security officers;

Congo

Observation

31. The Working Group regrets that the Government of the Congo did not cooperate with the Working Group in preparing the follow-up report (A/HRC/33/51/Add.7). It hopes that the recommendations contained in the report will be duly and promptly implemented. It also regrets that no reply has been received from the Government since 2011 on the cases transmitted in the past.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Standard procedure

32. The Working Group transmitted 16 cases to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, concerning:

(a) Hong Seob Lee, a national of the Republic of Korea, allegedly abducted on 4 February 1972 by armed patrol boats of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the Yellow Sea;

(b) Du-sun Kim, a national of the Republic of Korea, allegedly abducted on 4 February 1972 by armed patrol boats of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the Yellow Sea;

(c) Kyung Hee Han, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly abducted in June 1989 from her home in Pyongyang by Korean National Security agents;

(d) Gun Mok Jeong, a national of the Republic of Korea, allegedly abducted on 28 December 1972 by gunboats of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the Yellow Sea, near the North limit line;

(e) Jung Un Ji, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested on 31 August 1992, at the Shinuiju border, by National Security agents;

(f) Kil Ja Yoon, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested in August 2005 by Chinese police in the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia and subsequently repatriated to the Eundeok Security Agency in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(g) Bong Chun Kang, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested by Chinese police on 2 June 2003 in Jinan, China and subsequently repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(h) Cheol Moon, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested by Chinese police on 2 June 2003 in Jinan, China and subsequently repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(i) Hak Guk Choi, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested by Chinese police on 2 June 2003 in Jinan, China and subsequently repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(j) Gwang Cheol Nam, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested by Chinese police on 2 June 2003 in Jinan, China and subsequently repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(k) Hye Yeon Lim, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, reportedly last seen in 2009 in the custody of the North Hamkyung Provincial Security Agency in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(l) Kangnam Cho, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested on 19 January 2006 by Chinese police in the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia and subsequently repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(m) Keumhwa Cho, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested on 19 January 2006 by Chinese police in the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia and subsequently repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(n) Kiseon Cho, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested on 19 January 2006 by Chinese police in the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia and subsequently repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(o) Keumsun Cho, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly arrested on 19 January 2006 by Chinese police in the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia and subsequently repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(p) Keumryeo Cho, a national of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, allegedly disappeared in February 2007 while attempting to leave the country, last seen in an identified political prison camp in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

33. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, the Government of China also received a copy of the cases of Ms. Kil Ja Yoon, Mr. Bong Chun Kang, Mr. Cheol Moon, Mr. Hak Guk Choi, Mr. Gwang Cheol Nam, Ms. Hye Yeon Lim, Mr. Kangnam Cho, Ms. Keumhwa Cho, Mr. Kiseon Cho and Ms. Keumsun Cho.

Information from the Government

34. During the period under review, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea transmitted information concerning 13 outstanding cases. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Standard procedure

35. The Working Group transmitted a case to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo concerning Bazana Edadi Fidèle, allegedly disappeared in Kinshasa since 1 June 2010.

Ecuador

Information from the Government

36. During the period under review, the Government of Colombia transmitted information concerning an outstanding case under the records of Ecuador. The information provided was considered insufficient to lead to a clarification.