



# General Assembly

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

### Post-sessional document

102nd session (3–7 February 2014)

#### I. Introduction

1. The present document reflects the communications and cases examined and other activities by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances at its 102nd session, held from 3 to 7 February 2014.

#### II. Communications

2. Between its 101st and 102nd sessions, the Working Group transmitted eight cases under its urgent action procedure to Bahrain (4), Bangladesh (2), Mexico (1) and Pakistan (1).

3. At its 102nd session, the Working Group decided to transmit 87 newly reported cases of enforced disappearance to 11 States. The Working Group also clarified three cases, in Bahrain and Sri Lanka. Of the three cases, one was clarified on the basis of the information provided by the Government, and two on the basis of information provided by sources.

4. Between its 101st and 102nd sessions, the Working Group, following its prompt intervention procedure, transmitted, jointly with other special procedures mechanisms, three communications, to El Salvador (2) and Thailand (1). The Working Group also transmitted, jointly with other special procedures mechanisms, 10 urgent appeals concerning persons who had been arrested, detained, abducted or otherwise deprived of their liberty or who had been forcibly disappeared or were at risk of disappearance in Algeria, Bahrain, China, Egypt, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and the United Arab Emirates.

5. At its 102nd session, the Working Group also reviewed two general allegations concerning Algeria and Sri Lanka.

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### III. Other activities

6. At its 102nd session, the Working Group adopted its revised methods of work (A/HRC/WGEID/102/2).

7. The Working Group decided to discuss and adopt the thematic study on enforced disappearance and economic, social and cultural rights during its 103rd session.

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

#### 1. Algeria

##### Standard procedure

8. The Working Group transmitted 17 cases to the Government.

9. The first case concerned Mr. **Sadek Sadki**, allegedly last seen on 11 September 1996 at the headquarters of the El Aouana National Gendarmerie Brigade, where he was being detained.

10. The second case concerned Mr. **Salah Sameh**, allegedly last seen on 22 June 1994 at the headquarters of the 17th Rapid Response Unit of the National Gendarmerie of Bouhamdoune, based in Bouhamdoune – Tassoust.

11. The third case concerned Mr. **Ahcène Saada**, allegedly last seen on 12 September 1994 at an army barracks in Ziana Mansouriah, in the centre of Jijel.

12. The fourth case concerned Mr. **Abdeslam Sloubi**, allegedly last seen on 9 June 1994 at the headquarters of the 17th Rapid Response Unit of the National Gendarmerie of Bouhamdoune.

13. The fifth case concerned Mr. **Hocine Sameh**, allegedly last seen on 25 March 1994 at the headquarters of the 17th Rapid Response Unit of the National Gendarmerie of Bouhamdoune.

14. The sixth case concerned Mr. **Abdelaziz Souilah**, allegedly last seen on 10 September 1996 at the headquarters of the El Aouana National Gendarmerie Brigade.

15. The seventh case concerned Mr. **Cherif Temiza**, allegedly last seen on 8 January 1994 at a barracks in the centre of Texenna.

16. The eighth case concerned Mr. **Samir Tiar**, allegedly abducted on 8 March 1994 from his residence by members of the gendarmerie and army officers.

17. The ninth case concerned Mr. **Bilal Touafek**, allegedly last seen on 12 September 1996 at the Territorial Centres for Research and Investigation, opposite El Koudia prison.

18. The tenth case concerned Mr. **Kamel Yedri**, allegedly last seen on 20 September 1994 at the headquarters of the operational military sector of Jijel.

19. The eleventh case concerned Mr. **Farid Yedri**, allegedly last seen on 30 September 1995 at the headquarters of the operational military sector of Jijel.

20. The twelfth case concerned Mr. **Ferhat Zeghoud**, allegedly last seen on 27 January 1996 at the headquarters of the operational military sector of Jijel.

## Observations

48. The Working Group thanks the Government for its replies. Regarding the issued addressed in the prompt intervention letters, the Working Group recalls article 13 of the Declaration, which provides that “steps shall be taken to ensure that all involved in the investigation, including the complainant, counsel, witnesses and those conducting the investigation, are protected against ill-treatment, intimidation or reprisal”, and that “steps shall be taken to ensure that any ill-treatment, intimidation or reprisal or any other form of interference on the occasion of the lodging of a complaint or during the investigation procedure is appropriately punished”. In addition, the Working Group also recalls Human Rights Council resolution 21/4, in which the Council urged States to take steps to provide adequate protection to, among others, human rights defenders acting against enforced disappearances and families of disappeared persons against any intimidation, persecution, reprisals or ill-treatment to which they might be subjected.

## 8. Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

### Standard procedure

49. The Working Group transmitted 10 cases to the Government of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, the Government of the Republic of Korea also received copies of the said cases.

50. The first case concerned Mr. **Ahn Hak-soo**, who allegedly disappeared on 9 September 1966 after he left for a regular trip to Saigon to collect medical supplies when he was serving in Viet Nam. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, the Government of Viet Nam was also provided with a copy of this case.

51. The second case concerned Ms. **Kim Hee-yeon**, below the age of 18 at the time of the alleged disappearance, who was allegedly abducted on 27 September 1950 by the army of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea from the Red Cross hospital in Seoul, where she was working as a trainee nurse.

52. The third case concerned Mr. **Kim Kyeong-du**, who was allegedly abducted on 6 June 1968 by forces of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea when the fishing boat on which he was working, the “Bukil-ho”, was reportedly captured.

53. The fourth case concerned Mr. **Kim Seok-man**, who was allegedly abducted on 4 February 1972 by forces of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea when the fishing boat on which he was working, the “Anyoung 36”, was reportedly captured.

54. The fifth case concerned Mr. **Son Hae-kyeong**, who was allegedly abducted on 28 September 1950 by the army of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea from 372 Jigok-ri, Chungju-eup Chungcheongbuk-do, Republic of Korea, where he was staying at the time.

55. The sixth and seventh cases concerned Messrs. **Kim Yong-cheol** and **Park Du-nam**, who were allegedly abducted on 28 December 1972 by forces of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, when the fishing boat on which they were working, the “Odaeyang 61-ho”, was reportedly captured.

56. The eighth, ninth and tenth cases concerned Messrs. **Park Du-hyeon**, **Seo Young-gu** and **Yoo Kyeong-chun**, who were allegedly abducted on 28 December 1972 by forces of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, when the fishing boat on which they were working, the “Odaeyang 62”, was reportedly captured.

**Information from the Government**

57. On 18 December 2013, the Government transmitted information in relation to 13 outstanding cases. The information provided was considered not sufficient to lead to clarification of the cases.

**9. Ecuador****Standard procedure**

58. The Working Group transmitted one case to the Government of Ecuador concerning Mr. **José del Carmen Molano Ríos**, a national of Colombia, who was allegedly abducted on 4 May 2013 by members of the Jungle Battalion No 55 “Putumayo”, Operating Element 1.1.3.4 “COBRA”, of the Ecuadorian Army Intelligence, at Puerto del Carmen, Cantón Putumayo. In accordance with the methods of work of the Working Group, the Government of Colombia was provided with a copy of this case.

**10. Egypt****Urgent appeals**

59. The Working Group transmitted, jointly with three other special procedures mechanisms, one urgent appeal on 27 December 2013 to the Government of Egypt. The urgent appeal concerned the alleged enforced disappearances of Messrs. Khaled al-Qazzaz, Ayman al-Serafy and Abdelmeguid Mashali, and the alleged incommunicado detention of Messrs. Essam al-Haddad and Ayman Ali.

**11. El Salvador****Prompt intervention letter**

60. On 25 November 2013, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with two other special procedures mechanisms, a prompt intervention letter concerning the closure of the Legal Protection Office of the Archbishop of San Salvador (Oficina de Tutela Legal del Arzobispado de San Salvador).

61. On 28 November 2013, the Working Group transmitted, jointly with two other special procedures mechanisms, another prompt intervention letter concerning the violent attack on the Association for the Search of Disappeared Children (Asociación Pro-Búsqueda de Niñas y Niños Desaparecidos) and the destruction of information essential to the process of truth, justice and reparation in the country.

**Observations**

62. With regard to the issues addressed in the prompt intervention letters, the Working Group recalls article 13 of the Declaration, which states that “steps shall be taken to ensure that all involved in the investigation, including the complainant, counsel, witnesses and those conducting the investigation, are protected against ill-treatment, intimidation or reprisal”, and that “steps shall be taken to ensure that any ill-treatment, intimidation or reprisal or any other form of interference on the occasion of the lodging of a complaint or during the investigation procedure is appropriately punished”. The Working Group also recalls Human Rights Council resolution 21/4, in which the Council urged States to take steps to provide adequate protection to, among others, human rights defenders acting against enforced disappearances and families of disappeared persons against any