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HUMAN RIGHTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 15 (B) OF  
RESOLUTION 5/1 OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Morocco

This report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies, special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and other relevant official United Nations documents. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. Information included therein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The periodicity of the review for the first cycle being of four years, most documents are dated after 1 January 2004. In the absence of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have also been taken into consideration, unless outdated. Since this report only compiles official United Nations documents, lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to non ratification of a treaty, and / or to a low level of interaction or cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

## I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

### A. Scope of international obligations<sup>1</sup>

<i>Core universal human rights treaties</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>	<i>Declarations /Reservations</i>	<i>Recognition of specific competences of Treaty Bodies</i>
ICERD <sup>2</sup>	18/12/1970	Yes (article 22)	Individual complaints (art. 14): Yes
ICESCR <sup>3</sup>	03/05/1979	No	-
ICCPR <sup>4</sup>	03/05/1979	No	Inter-state complaints (art. 41): No
CEDAW <sup>5</sup>	21/06/1993	Yes (articles 2, 9(2), 15(4), 16, 29)	-
CAT <sup>6</sup>	21/06/1993	Yes (article 30 (1))	Inter-state complaints (art. 21): No Individual complaints (art. 22): Yes Inquiry procedure (art. 20): Yes
CRC <sup>7</sup>	21/06/1993	No	-
CRC OP-AC <sup>8</sup>	22/05/2002	No	-
CRC OP-SC <sup>9</sup>	02/10/2001	No	-
ICRMW <sup>10</sup>	21/06/1993	Yes (article 92 (1))	Inter-state complaints (art. 76): No Individual complaints (art. 77): No
<i>Core treaties to which Morocco is not a party: ICCPR-OP1,<sup>11</sup> ICCPR-OP2,<sup>12</sup> OP-CAT,<sup>13</sup> OP-CEDAW,<sup>14</sup> CPD<sup>15</sup> (signature only, 2007), CPD-OP<sup>16</sup> and CED<sup>17</sup> (signature only, 2007).</i>			
<i>Other relevant main instruments</i>		<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>	
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide		Yes	
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court		No	
Palermo Protocol <sup>18</sup>		No	
Refugees and Stateless Persons <sup>19</sup>		Yes, except 1954 and 1961 Conventions	
Geneva Conventions and their Protocols <sup>20</sup>		Yes, except the three Protocols	
ILO Fundamental Conventions Nos. 29, 105, 87, 98, 100, 111, 138 and 182. <sup>21</sup>		Yes, except Convention No. 87	
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education		Yes	

1. In 2004, Morocco expressed its intention to accede to the ICCPR OP1,<sup>22</sup> and in 2006 it pledged to ensure the ratification or adherence to the international instruments to which it has not yet become a party, including the CPD and the CED.<sup>23</sup> It participated actively in the drafting and adoption of the ICRMW,<sup>24</sup> and was encouraged to ratify the CPD and the CED.<sup>25</sup> Morocco was also encouraged to recognize the competence of the CAT to receive inter-state and individual complaints and to accept inquiry procedures.<sup>26</sup> Some of these recommendations were adopted by Morocco. In 2008, CEDAW expressed concern that the withdrawal of reservations to article 9, paragraph 2, article 16, subparagraph 1 (e) and article 16, paragraph 2, as well as of its declaration on article 15, paragraph 4, as announced by the State, has not been formally communicated to the depositary of the Convention. The Committee called the State to notify the withdrawal of those reservations and declarations as soon as possible. It also encouraged the State to continue to take the necessary steps for the withdrawal of all its remaining declarations and reservations to articles 2 and 16 to the Convention which, in the opinion of the Committee, go against the object and purpose of the Convention.<sup>27</sup>

## B. Constitutional and legislative framework

2. CEDAW welcomed the fact that Morocco acknowledged the precedence of international instruments over national legislation but remained concerned that the status of international instruments with respect to the Constitution and national law had not been clarified.<sup>28</sup> CEDAW was also concerned that although the Constitution guarantees equality before the law, it does not contain an explicit definition of the principle of equality between women and men or of discrimination on the basis of sex.<sup>29</sup> CRC welcomed the incorporation of CRC OP-SC into domestic law in March 2004.<sup>30</sup>

## C. Institutional and human rights structure

3. The Moroccan CCDH (Conseil Consultatif des Droits de l'Homme) was granted "A" accreditation status as a National Human Rights Institution by the ICC in 2001, which was confirmed in 2007.<sup>31</sup> CESCR, CAT and CEDAW welcomed the restructuring and the broadening of the mandate of CCDH.<sup>32</sup> CERD noted with interest that the efficiency and independence of this institution were enhanced.<sup>33</sup> CESCR observed, however, that the institution was connected to the Ministry of Justice, which could impede its independence.<sup>34</sup>

4. CESCR, CAT and CEDAW welcomed the establishment of the office of Ombudsman (Diwan Al Madhalim) responsible for considering cases of human rights violations.<sup>35</sup> Both CAT and CERD welcomed the establishment with the support of OHCHR of the Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre.<sup>36</sup>

## D. Policy measures

5. To implement the World Programme for Human Rights Education (2005-ongoing), Morocco established on 11 November 2004 a "Commission Centrale des Droits Humains et de la Citoyenneté", which coordinated a national strategy and plan of action on human rights education for the first phase of 2005-2007.<sup>37</sup> CAT, CRC, CERD, and CESCR all expressed appreciation for Morocco's efforts to develop training and education in the area of human rights and to raise awareness among the public.<sup>38</sup>

6. Regarding efforts taken to combat the sexual exploitation of children, CRC welcomed a number of policy measures taken by Morocco, namely the launching of a campaign between 2003 and 2004 and the elaboration of a National Plan of Action for Children (PANE) for 2005 to 2015. PANE also aims at poverty reduction initiated in cooperation with the UNDP Morocco and the civil society.<sup>39</sup> CESCR encouraged Morocco to ensure that the PANE emphasized the reintegration of street children in society and tougher action against child abandonment.<sup>40</sup>

7. To respond to the situation of over five millions Moroccans suffering from extreme poverty, mainly those living in rural communities and urban and semi urban sites, UNICEF and UN-Habitat informed that Morocco launched in May 2005 the National Initiative for Human Development (INDH).<sup>41</sup> UN-HABITAT also referred to the programme "Villes sans bidonvilles" (cities without shantytowns) which covers 2004-2010 and concerns 70 cities and 218,000 families.<sup>42</sup>

8. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants welcomed the establishment, within the Ministry of the Interior, of a migration observatory with responsibility for formulating a national migration strategy and centralizing all information on migration. The

Special Rapporteur also learned about the establishment of the Department of Migration and Border Surveillance mainly responsible for border surveillance and the combat against migrant trafficking networks<sup>43</sup>.

## II. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

### A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

#### 1. Cooperation with Treaty Bodies

<i>Treaty Body</i>	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CERD <sup>44</sup>	2002	March 2003	-	17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> periodic reports overdue since 2006
CESCR <sup>45</sup>	2004	May 2006	-	4 <sup>th</sup> periodic report due in 2009
HR Committee <sup>46</sup>	2004	November 2004	February 2005 and January 2006	6 <sup>th</sup> periodic report due in 2008
CEDAW <sup>47</sup>	2006	January 2008	-	5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> periodic reports due in 2014
CAT <sup>48</sup>	2003	November 2003	November 2004, July and October 2006	4 <sup>th</sup> periodic report overdue since 2006
CRC <sup>49</sup>	2000	June 2003	-	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> periodic reports due in 2009
CRC-OP-AC	-	-	-	Initial report overdue since 2004
CRC-OP-SC	2004	January 2006	-	2 <sup>nd</sup> periodic report due in 2009
CMW <sup>50</sup>	-	-	-	Initial report overdue since 2004

9. CAT, CESCR, CERD, CRC and CEDAW welcomed the frank, open and constructive dialogue with the delegation of Morocco during the consideration of its reports.<sup>51</sup> CESCR and CRC also noted with appreciation the written replies to their list of issues. However, CAT noted that the report was not completely consistent with the general guidelines, notably because it did not devote a part to measures taken to comply with the conclusions and recommendations previously addressed.<sup>52</sup> Morocco committed to act on the recommendations and concerns addressed in the previous CAT concluding observations.<sup>53</sup>

#### 2. Cooperation with Special Procedures

<i>Standing invitation</i>	No
<i>Latest visits accomplished</i>	- Visit of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (28 February to 3 March 2000). <sup>54</sup> - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants in 2004. <sup>55</sup> - Visit of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (27 November to 5 December 2006).
<i>Visits agreed upon in principle</i>	Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living (date to be fixed).
<i>Visits requested and not yet agreed upon</i>	No
<i>Facilitation / Cooperation during missions</i>	The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants thanked the Moroccan Government for its help and assistance before and during the visit. <sup>56</sup>

<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	Between 01 January 2004 and 31 December 2007, a total of 42 communications (letters of allegations and urgent appeals) were sent to Morocco. In addition to communications sent for particular groups (migrants and minorities) a total of 86 individuals were covered by these communications, including 10 women. Between 01 January 2004 and 31 December 2007 Morocco replied to 27 communications which represents 65 per cent of communications sent.
<i>Follow-up to visits</i>	No
<i>Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues<sup>57</sup></i>	Out of 12 questionnaires sent by Special Procedures mandate holders <sup>58</sup> between 01 January 2004 and 31 December 2007, Morocco has responded to the four questionnaires within the deadlines. <sup>59</sup>

### 3. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

10. During recent years, Morocco has regularly provided financial contributions to OHCHR, as well as to the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. In partnership with OHCHR, Morocco established in 2000 a Human Rights Training, Information and Documentation Centre, which develops related materials and organizes training sessions for prison officials, judges, NGO leaders, etc. OHCHR provided support until 2004.<sup>60</sup>

#### B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

##### 1. Equality and non discrimination

11. In 2008, CEDAW noted with concern that traditional discriminatory practices and strong stereotypical attitudes persisted about roles and responsibilities of women and men in family and society, negatively affecting women's enjoyment of their rights and impeding full implementation of CEDAW.<sup>61</sup> The Committee recommended that Morocco increase its efforts to design and implement programmes with a view to changing stereotypical attitudes and negative cultural norms about responsibilities and roles of women and men in family and society. Morocco was also asked to prohibit polygamy, to eliminate any other discrimination against women remaining in the *Family Code*, and to encourage members of the judiciary to apply the *Family Code* in all regions of the State.<sup>62</sup>

##### 2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

12. The Special Rapporteur on human rights of migrants expressed deep concern<sup>63</sup> over the situation of migrants in Morocco. The Special Rapporteur referred to the deaths of migrants of sub-Saharan origin between the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla and Morocco for which security forces policing the border were reportedly responsible. In addition, he noted that many migrants of sub-Saharan origin who had attempted to cross the border with Spain in Ceuta and Melilla were being deported and left on the southern border in the Sahara desert without water or food.

13. While HR Committee in 2004 welcomed the State practice since 1994 of commuting many death sentences, it expressed concern that the number of offences punishable by the death penalty had risen since the previous periodic report. The Committee recommended the reduction to a minimum of the number of offences punishable by the death penalty, with a view to abolishing capital punishment and to commuting the sentences of all persons sentenced to death.<sup>64</sup>

14. In relation to disappeared persons, the HR Committee remained concerned that those responsible for disappearances had still not been identified, tried and punished. The Committee recommended that Morocco conduct the necessary investigations to identify, try and punish those responsible for such crimes.<sup>65</sup>

15. The Special Representative of the Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders together with the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,<sup>66</sup> stressed the vulnerability of human rights defenders through widespread repression, arrest and detention. Most of those arrested were reportedly held by the security forces, and the judicial authorities refuse to grant medical examinations in some cases despite the defendants alleging torture or ill-treatment during questioning.<sup>67</sup>

16. In another instance<sup>68</sup>, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants made inquiries with regard to the death of a migrant. Morocco reported that the Criminal Investigation Department had carried out an investigation into that death. The investigation found dubious the allegations that another migrant was convicted on the basis of statements that had been extracted from him using the threat of violence, without giving him the opportunity to read the record of the interview, which had been written in a language he did not understand, and without the assistance of an interpreter.

17. Both CAT in 2003 and the HR Committee in 2004 expressed their concern at the increase in the number of allegations of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, allegations implicating the National Surveillance Directorate (DST).<sup>69</sup> HR Committee noted with concern that the officials who were guilty of such acts were generally liable to disciplinary action only.<sup>70</sup> CAT requested Morocco to take all necessary measures to eliminate impunity and to ensure that appropriate penalties were imposed.<sup>71</sup> In its reply, Morocco stated that the Courts have heard numerous cases against public officials for acts of violence against, or arbitrary detention of, persons; the officials in question were convicted and the victims compensated.<sup>72</sup>

18. CEDAW expressed concern about the lack of specific legislation to eliminate violence against women and girls.<sup>73</sup> The Committee urged Morocco to enact legislation in this regard, including on domestic violence and violence against domestic workers.<sup>74</sup>

19. While welcoming the release of political prisoners, including a group of 56 prisoners in November 2002, and the compensation of victims, CAT expressed in 2003 concerns at the increase, according to some information, in the number of arrests for political reasons and of detainees and prisoners in general.<sup>75</sup>

20. Concerns were also expressed by CAT about prison overcrowding, and the allegations of beating and violence between prisoners.<sup>76</sup> In this context, HR Committee expressed in 2004 concern about reports of poor conditions in prisons, particularly the shortage of medical care, the lack of rehabilitation programmes and the lack of visiting areas.<sup>77</sup>

21. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants expressed concerns over the prolonged and indefinite periods of detention of migrants<sup>78</sup>. The Special Rapporteur recommended to provide training for authorities in detention centres to ensure their compliance with international standards providing minimum guarantees for persons in custody.<sup>79</sup>

22. The Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography jointly with the Special Rapporteur on Violence against women, its causes and consequences and the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children, expressed concerns about abuse perpetrated against children working as domestic workers: the conditions of employment of these children fall far short of the minimum requirements; authorities rarely punish employers who abuse child domestics, and labour inspectors are not authorized to enter private homes.<sup>80</sup>

23. CRC expressed concerns about the difficult situation of certain groups of children, such as street children, working children, domestic maids, migrant and trafficked children, who are particularly vulnerable to all forms of exploitation.<sup>81</sup> CRC urged Morocco to continue strengthening integrated strategy to fight all forms of economic exploitation of children and to bring existing laws into full compliance with ILO Conventions N°138 and 182.<sup>82</sup> The HR Committee noted that child labour was still widespread, even though the new *Labour Code* prohibited work by children under the age of 15.<sup>83</sup>

### 3. Administration of justice and the rule of law

24. In January 2006, Morocco sent to the HR Committee<sup>84</sup> and the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers the final report of the Equity and Reconciliation Commission (IER) which had investigated allegations of human rights violations from independence in 1956 until 1999. The Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers thanked Morocco for the information granted particularly in light of resolution 2005/66 of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to the truth and requested to be updated on any follow up and recommendations to the report.<sup>85</sup> A 2006 UNDP report also noted the IER final report and its recommendations.<sup>86</sup>

### 4. Freedom of movement

25. The Special Representative of the Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders expressed concerns about the confiscation of passports from fourteen activists who were blocked from travelling to Geneva to attend international conferences. Morocco replied that the travel ban and confiscation of their passports were due to the fact that these persons were going to Geneva to participate to hostile activities against the territorial integrity of Morocco (advocating independence for the Western Sahara).<sup>87</sup>

### 5. Freedoms of religion and belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

26. The Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression and the HR Committee expressed concerns over the continued repression of freedom of expression in Morocco.<sup>88</sup> The Special Rapporteur cited cases of prosecution of independent weeklies and court convictions resulting in heavy fines and prison sentences against journalists. Journalists faced criminal charges of libel, publishing “false news,” “insulting” authorities and for “undermining” the institution of the country. The Special Rapporteur’s concern related to the following matters, inter alia: the control of the Government over print and broadcast media; judicial harassment of a privately owned weekly; the kidnapping of media professionals by unidentified men; the use of force against participants in, and journalists covering, political and/or protest demonstrations; reports of incommunicado detention, torture and ill-treatment of journalists, charged with, among other things, “dishonouring national symbols”; and the arrest of journalists following publication of an article on abuse of power by public official.<sup>89</sup>

27. In its replies, Morocco denied allegations of harassment and assault on journalists on charges alleged by the Special Rapporteur. The State referred to criminal activities not related to their professional activities.<sup>90</sup>

28. In 2008, CEDAW welcomed the legislative changes and the voluntary quota system established by political parties to increase women's representation in the House of Representatives.<sup>91</sup> Also a 2006 UNDP report noted regarding the quota system, that the percentage of women in parliament increased from 1 per cent in 1995 to 11 per cent in 2003 and that number of women parliamentarians rose from 2 to 35 in the 2002 elections.<sup>92</sup> It also noted that the number of women in the judiciary reached 50 per cent.<sup>93</sup> However, CEDAW remained concerned about the low rate of women in decision-making positions in all spheres, and about the persistence wage gap between women and men.<sup>94</sup> The Committee requested Morocco to take effective and sustained measures to increase the political representation of women at all levels, to increase women's representation in decision-making positions in all spheres, as well as to narrow and close the wage gap between women and men.<sup>95</sup>

#### 7. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

29. With regard to the right to work and while acknowledging the measures taken to promote employment, CESCR expressed concerns at the alarmingly and persistently high level of unemployment in Morocco, particularly among the young.<sup>96</sup> The Committee also expressed concern about domestic and agricultural workers not protected by the 2003 *Labour Code*<sup>97</sup> and the lack of effective remedies for them.<sup>98</sup>

30. A 2006 ILO brief referred to studies that women in Morocco faced wage discrimination, reduced access to training and poor working conditions.<sup>99</sup>

#### 8. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

31. In relation to the right to an adequate standard of living, in 2006, CESCR reiterated the fact that, despite Morocco's efforts to reduce poverty, 17 per cent of the population was still living in poverty and 70 per cent of the poor lived in rural areas.<sup>100</sup> The Committee also expressed concern about the privatization of public services such as water and electricity in urban centres, the effect of which is to impose an additional economic burden on families living in shantytowns and thus aggravate their poverty.<sup>101</sup>

32. Concerning the right to health, CEDAW noted with concern the difficulties of rural women in accessing Government services.<sup>102</sup> A 2006 WHO report mentioned that public health expenditures largely favours urban areas.<sup>103</sup> CESCR expressed concerns about the rate of maternal mortality which remained persistently high, despite Morocco's efforts.<sup>104</sup>

#### 9. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community

33. With regard to the right to education, CESCR noted with concern that Morocco had a two-speed education system with a striking difference in level between public and private education which denied equal opportunities to low-income sectors of society. The Committee was also concerned about the disparities in school enrolment rates between girls and boys and between rural and urban areas.<sup>105</sup> UNICEF informed that the goal of achieving universal preschool education by 2004 was not met, only 50.1 per cent was achieved and with important geographical and gender disparities.<sup>106</sup> A 2006 UNIFEM report informed that in

rural areas illiteracy is more widespread, affecting three out four women.<sup>107</sup> CESCR also noted that primary and secondary education was provided in Arabic, whereas higher education in scientific subjects was available only in French. The Committee encouraged the State to take the necessary steps to ensure that higher education in scientific subjects was also available in Arabic.<sup>108</sup>

#### 10. Minorities and indigenous peoples

34. CESCR took note of steps taken by Morocco to promote Amazigh culture. It was nevertheless concerned that Amazigh names were not accepted by municipal registry offices. The Committee also observed that, since Arabic is the only official language in the State, the Amazir population, which makes up a large part of the Moroccan population, was denied the right to use its mother tongue in official business, and that the right of the Amazigh to their cultural identity was not fully respected. CESCR and CERD invited Morocco to review the situation of the Amazigh in keeping with international human rights agreements so as to ensure that members of the Amazigh community could preserve and develop their cultural identity.<sup>109</sup> CERD was also concerned about reports that members of Amazigh associations had suffered violations of the right to freedom of assembly and association.<sup>110</sup>

#### 11. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

35. CEDAW was concerned at the situation of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in Morocco, as this phenomenon has increased with the State becoming also a country of destination and not only of origin and transit of migrants. The Committee notably requested the State to continue to strengthen its cooperation with UNHCR, adopt a national refugee legislation, allow refugees and asylum-seekers to access public services, and ensure their right to security, especially for women and children.<sup>111</sup>

36. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants brought attention, as highlighted also by UNHCR,<sup>112</sup> to the situation of irregular sub-Saharan migrants and stressed that the detention of migrants should under no circumstances be punitive in nature.<sup>113</sup>

37. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants invited Morocco to ensure that the law does not allow the detention of unaccompanied migrant minors and that the detention of migrant children be authorized only as a last resort and only in the best interests of the child.<sup>114</sup> CESCR noted with concern the situation of unaccompanied migrant children who were repatriated, and recommended that repatriated children be adequately assisted, rehabilitated and protected.<sup>115</sup>

38. In an official response to the concerns raised by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants,<sup>116</sup> Morocco stated that it was aware of the existence of the difficulties to be faced with the influx of clandestine migrants. In this context, it worked on specific legislative and administrative instructions to provide clandestine migrants with all legal guarantees, including deportation to their countries of origin.<sup>117</sup> Morocco added that investigations carried out on this issue revealed that processes were undertaken in a normal manner.

#### 12. Human rights and counter-terrorism

39. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism wrote to Morocco<sup>118</sup> with regard to the law on counter-terrorism of 29 May 2003. The Special Rapporteur requested information regarding its legislative

modifications, including the definition of terrorist acts and procedural guarantees such as length of detention, presentation before the judge and access to a lawyer or a doctor. Morocco informed<sup>119</sup> the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism that the Counter-Terrorism Act issued on 28 May 2003 is in fact an extension of the Criminal Code, in so far as some particular provisions on terrorist crimes are concerned. The definition of a terrorist crime is taken from the Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism and from some comparable laws of democratic States.

### 13. Situation in or in relation to specific regions or territories

40. The Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances noted that the majority of the cases that it had transmitted to the State concerned persons who reportedly disappeared because they or their relatives were known or suspected supporters of the Polisario Front.<sup>120</sup> The disappeared persons were reportedly confined in secret detention centres. Cells in some police stations or military barracks and secret villas in the Rabat suburbs were also allegedly used to hide the disappeared persons.<sup>121</sup>

41. Serious concerns were also raised by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders regarding the situation of human rights defenders operating in the context of Western Sahara, most notably with regard to the restriction of their freedom of movement as well as their freedom of assembly and association. Police repression of public protests is allegedly fiercer in the Western Sahara than elsewhere and involves a pattern of excessive force against demonstrators.<sup>122</sup>

42. The question of Western Sahara is regularly examined by the General Assembly and the Security Council. In his latest report to the Security Council for example,<sup>123</sup> the Secretary-General recommended the parties to remain engaged in continuous and constructive dialogue with the OHCHR with a view to ensuring respect for the human rights of the people of Western Sahara.

43. The HR Committee and CESCR remain concerned about the lack of progress on the question of the realization of the right to self-determination for the people of Western Sahara. The HR Committee recommended that Morocco make every effort to permit the population groups concerned to enjoy fully the rights recognized by the Covenant in its article 1.<sup>124</sup> CESCR expressed concerns, as highlighted also by UNHCR,<sup>125</sup> about reports of the straitened circumstances endured by people displaced by the conflict in Western Sahara, and encouraged Morocco to protect the rights of these persons and to ensure their safety.<sup>126</sup>

### III. ACHIEVEMENTS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

44. CAT welcomed the release of political prisoners, including the group of 56 in November 2002, as well as the compensation of victims.<sup>127</sup> The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances noted that out of 248 cases transmitted by the Working Group, 105 have been clarified on the basis of information provided by the Government. It further expressed its appreciation to Morocco for the information it provided and for its efforts to investigate the fate and whereabouts of persons reported to have disappeared in the past.<sup>128</sup>

#### IV. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES AND COMMITMENTS

##### A. Pledges by the State

45. In a recent session of the Human Rights Council, Morocco acknowledged the importance of the human rights of migrants and stated that it is preparing a flexible framework which deals with migration and development in the spirit of partnership with international bodies.<sup>129</sup>

##### B. Specific recommendations for follow-up

46. In 2003, CAT requested Morocco to provide within one year information on the action it has taken on the Committee's recommendations related to period of police custody, allegations of torture's investigation and impartial enquiry into all deaths in detention centres,<sup>130</sup> which Morocco did in detail in November 2004, providing also additional information and data on investigation of complaints and prosecution.<sup>131</sup> In May 2006, CAT Rapporteur for Follow-up requested additional information which was provided by the State in July and October 2006.<sup>132</sup> Morocco also cooperated with the follow-up procedure of HR Committee: it provided in February 2005 and January 2006 additional information on the legislative framework and the administrative procedures protecting the relevant rights;<sup>133</sup> the Committee examined this information and decided that no further action was required.<sup>134</sup>

47. The Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers requested to be updated on any follow up and recommendations to the report of Morocco's Equity and Reconciliation Commission (IER).<sup>135</sup>

#### V. CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

48. In 2005 and 2006, the United Nations Country Team supported a range of human rights activities, for example gender mainstreaming,<sup>136</sup> assistance to Family Courts and combat gender based violence,<sup>137</sup> right to health, anti-poverty initiatives and sustainable development,<sup>138</sup> good governance,<sup>139</sup> implementation of ILO Conventions on discrimination,<sup>140</sup> access to basic services for people in vulnerable situations, education and training activities, and supports to the Human Rights Documentation, Information and Training Centre.<sup>141</sup>

49. In 2006, CRC encouraged Morocco to establish "Child Protection Units" and to continue its cooperation with United Nations specialized agencies such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and international non-governmental organizations in order to reform the relevant legislation and bring it into compliance with the CRC OP-SC.<sup>142</sup>

#### *Endnotes*

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<sup>1</sup> Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed below may be found in Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2006, ST/LEG/SER.E.25.; complemented by the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs, <http://untreaty.un.org/>.

<sup>2</sup> International Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Racial Discrimination.

<sup>3</sup> International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

<sup>4</sup> International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

<sup>5</sup> Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women.

<sup>6</sup> Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

<sup>7</sup> Convention on the Rights of the Child.

<sup>8</sup> Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

<sup>9</sup> Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

<sup>10</sup> International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants Workers and Members of their Families.

<sup>11</sup> First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

<sup>12</sup> Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on the Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

<sup>13</sup> Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

<sup>14</sup> Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women.

<sup>15</sup> Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

<sup>16</sup> Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Right of Persons with Disabilities.

<sup>17</sup> Convention on Enforced Disappearance.

<sup>18</sup> Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

<sup>19</sup> Include 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

<sup>20</sup> These Conventions and Protocols are: Convention (I) for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field; Convention (II) for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea; Convention (III) relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War; Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War; Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). Source: Switzerland, Federal department of foreign affairs, <http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html>.

<sup>21</sup> International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour and Convention; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour; Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

- <sup>22</sup> HR Committee, Concluding observations, CCPR/CO/82/MAR, adopted on 1 December 2004, para. 4.
- <sup>23</sup> Note verbale dated on 17 April 2006 from the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations, presenting Morocco candidature to the 2006 Human Rights Council's elections.
- <sup>24</sup> E/CN.4/2004/76/Add.3,para.8. (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants on the visit to Morocco from 19 to 31 October 2003).
- <sup>25</sup> CEDAW, Concluding observations, CEDAW/C/MAR/CO/4, advance unedited version, adopted on 31 January 2008, para. 51.
- <sup>26</sup> CAT, Concluding observations, CAT/C/CR/31/2, adopted in November 2003, para. 6.
- <sup>27</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, paras. 14 and 15.
- <sup>28</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, paras. 12 and 13.
- <sup>29</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, paras. 10 and 11.
- <sup>30</sup> CRC, Concluding observations, CRC/C/OPSC/MAR/CO/1, adopted on 27 January 2006, para. 4.
- <sup>31</sup> A list of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) with accreditation status granted by the International Coordination Committee of NHRIs (ICC), is included as an annex in the forthcoming report of the Secretary general on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/HRC/7/69) and the report of the Secretary general on the process currently utilized by the ICC to accredit NHRIs in compliance with the Paris Principles and ensure that the process is strengthened with appropriate periodic review and on ways and means of enhancing participation of NHRIs in the work of the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/7/70).
- <sup>32</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, para. 5; CAT 2003, *op. cit.*, para. 4 and CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, para. 6.
- <sup>33</sup> CERD, Concluding observations, CERD/C/62/CO/5, adopted on 21 March 2003, para. 5.
- <sup>34</sup> CESCR 2006, *op.cit.*, para. 12.
- <sup>35</sup> CESCR 2006, *op.cit.*, para. 5; CAT 2003, *op.cit.*, para. 4 and CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, para. 6.
- <sup>36</sup> CAT 2003, *op.cit.*, para. 4 and CERD 2003, *op.cit.*, para. 4.
- <sup>37</sup> Letter from the Government of Morocco dated on 23 March 2006, and letters from the High Commissioner for Human Rights dated on 9 January 2006 and 10 December 2007.
- <sup>38</sup> CAT 2003, *op.cit.*, para. 4; CRC 2006, *op.cit.*, para. 9; CERD 2003, *op.cit.*, para. 3; CESCR 2006, *op.cit.*, para. 9.
- <sup>39</sup> CRC 2006, *op.cit.*, paras. 4, 7 and 34.
- <sup>40</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, para. 47.
- <sup>41</sup> UNICEF submission to the UPR, p. 1.
- <sup>42</sup> UN-HABITAT submission to the UPR, p. 2.
- <sup>43</sup> E/CN. 4/2004/76/Add. 3, para.12 and 13 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants).
- <sup>44</sup> Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
- <sup>45</sup> Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- <sup>46</sup> Human Rights Committee.
- <sup>47</sup> Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

<sup>48</sup> Committee against Torture.

<sup>49</sup> Committee on the Rights of the Child.

<sup>50</sup> Committee on Migrant Workers.

<sup>51</sup> CAT 2003, *op. cit.*, para. 2; CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, para. 3; CERD 2003, *op. cit.*, para. 2; CRC 2006, *op. cit.*, para. 2 and CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, para. 3.

<sup>52</sup> CAT 2003, *op. cit.*, para. 3.

<sup>53</sup> CAT 2003, *op. cit.*, para. 4.

<sup>54</sup> E/CN. 4/2001/78/Add. 1 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography).

<sup>55</sup> E/CN. 4/2004/76/Add. 3, *op. cit.* (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human Rights of migrants).

<sup>56</sup> E/CN. 4/2004/76/Add. 3, *op. cit.*, para. 3.

<sup>57</sup> The questionnaires included in this section are those which have been reflected in a report by a Special Procedure mandate holder.

<sup>58</sup>- Special Rapporteur on the right to education (A/HRC/4/29): Questionnaire on the right to education of persons with disabilities sent in 2006;

- Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (A/HRC/4/24): Questionnaire on the human rights of migrants on border control and measures to reduce/address irregular migration; expulsion; conditions for admission/stay; rights of migrants; and the protection of migrants sent on 8 and 9 September 2006;

- Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children (A/HRC/4/23): Questionnaire on Forced marriages in the context of trafficking in persons, especially women and children Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights aspects of the victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children sent on 26 July 2006;

- Special Representative on human rights defenders (E/CN.4/2006/95/Add.5): Questionnaire aimed at identifying the main areas of progress and the remaining challenges that need to be addressed in relation to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognised Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms sent in June 2005;

- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (A/HRC/6/15): Questionnaire on the human rights of indigenous peoples sent in August 2007;

- Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children (E/CN.4/2006/62) and the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2006/67) : Joint questionnaire on demand for commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking and demand for sexual services deriving from exploitation sent on 25 and 26 July 2005;

- Special Rapporteur on the right to education (E/CN.4/2006/45): Questionnaire on girl's right to education sent in 2005;

- Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights(A/61/341): Questionnaire on Mercenaries sent in mid-November 2005;

-Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/4/31): Questionnaire on the Sale of Children's organs sent on July 2006;

- Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2005/78): Questionnaire on Child pornography on the Internet sent on 30 July 2004;

- Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2004/9): Questionnaire on the Prevention of child sexual exploitation sent on 29 July 2003;

-Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprise (A/HRC/4/35/Add.3): Questionnaire to identify policies and practices by which states regulate, adjudicate and otherwise influence corporate actions.

<sup>59</sup> Special Rapporteur on the right to education in 2006: Questionnaire on the right to education of persons with disabilities A/HRC/4/29, para. 47; Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, 8 and 9 September 2006: Questionnaire on the human rights of migrants on border control and measures to reduce/address irregular migration; expulsion; conditions for admission/stay; rights of migrants; and the protection of migrants, A/HRC/4/24, para. 9; Special Representative on human rights defenders in June 2005 aimed at identifying the main areas of progress and the remaining challenges that need to be addressed in relation to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognised Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, E/CN.4/2006/95/Add.5; Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights, November 2005: Questionnaire on Mercenaries A/61/341, para. 47.

<sup>60</sup> OHCHR Annual Report 2005, p. 166.

<sup>61</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, para. 18.

<sup>62</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, paras. 16, 17, 19 and 37.

<sup>63</sup> Press Statement of 12 October 2005, HR05117E.

<sup>64</sup> HR Committee 2004, *op.cit.*, paras. 5 and 11.

<sup>65</sup> HR Committee 2004, *op. cit.*, para. 12.

<sup>66</sup> E/CN.4/2006/95/Add.1, para. 346 (Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders).

<sup>67</sup> E/CN. 4/2006/95/Add. 1, para. 346.

<sup>68</sup> E/CN.4/2005/85/Add.3, paras 165-168 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants).

<sup>69</sup> CAT 2003, *op.cit.*, para. 5(d) and HR Committee 2004, *op.cit.*, para 14.

<sup>70</sup> HR Committee 2004, *op. cit.*, para. 12. See also in this respect Comments by the Government on CAT's concluding observations, *op.cit.*, paras. 10-20.

<sup>71</sup> CAT 2003, *op. cit.*, paras. 6 (d), (e), (f), (g).

<sup>72</sup> Comments by the Government of Morocco, CAT/C/CR/31/0002/Add.1, para. 12.

<sup>73</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, para. 20.

<sup>74</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, paras. 20 and 21.

<sup>75</sup> CAT 2003, *op.cit.*, paras. 4, 5 and 6.

<sup>76</sup> CAT 2003, *op.cit.*, para. 5(i).

<sup>77</sup> HR Committee 2004, *op.cit.*, para. 17.

<sup>78</sup> E/CN.4/2004/76/Add.3, para. 82. (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants on her visit to Morocco from 19 to 31 October 2003).

<sup>79</sup> E/CN.4/2004/76/Add.3, para 83.

<sup>80</sup> See A/HRC/4/31/Add.1, paras. 158-165 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography).

<sup>81</sup> CRC, Concluding observations, CRC/C/15/ADD.21, para. 33.

<sup>82</sup> CRC, Concluding observations, CRC/C/15/ADD.211, para. 61.

<sup>83</sup> HR Committee 2004, *op. cit.*, para. 31.

<sup>84</sup> See CCPR/CO/82/MAR/Add.2.

<sup>85</sup> See A/HRC/4/25/Add.1, *op. cit.*, para. 263 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers).

<sup>86</sup> UNDP Arab Human Development Report 2005, New York, 2006, pp. 49-50.

<sup>87</sup> E/CN.4/2004/94/Add.3, para 343 and 346 (Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders).

<sup>88</sup> E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, pp. 584-599 (Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression).

<sup>89</sup> E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, pp. 584-599.

<sup>90</sup> E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, para. 587.

<sup>91</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, para. 24.

<sup>92</sup> UNDP Arab Human Development Report 2005, New York, 2006, *op. cit.*, p. 93.

<sup>93</sup> UNDP Arab Human Development Report 2005, New York, 2006, *op. cit.*, p. 97.

<sup>94</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, paras. 24 and 28.

<sup>95</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, paras. 25 and 29.

<sup>96</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, para. 18.

<sup>97</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 17 and 40.

<sup>98</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 19 and 42.

<sup>99</sup> See ILO Decent Work Pilot Programme Brief on Morocco (2006), pp. 4-5, available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/dwpp/download/morocco/countrybriefmo.pdf> (accessed on 12 February 2008).

<sup>100</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 28 and 55.

<sup>101</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 26 and 53. The Committee also recommended to take due account of its general comments No. 3, No. 7, and No. 15.

<sup>102</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, para. 32.

<sup>103</sup> WHO, Country Cooperation Strategy for WHO and Morocco, Cairo, 2006, p. 12, available at [http://www.who.int/country/focus/cooperation\\_strategy/ccs\\_mar\\_en.pdf](http://www.who.int/country/focus/cooperation_strategy/ccs_mar_en.pdf) (accessed on 12 February 2008).

<sup>104</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 13(f) and 54.

<sup>105</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 30 and 57.

- <sup>106</sup> UNICEF submission to the UPR on Morocco, *op. cit.*, Annex, p. 2.
- <sup>107</sup> UNIFEM Annual Report 2005-2006, New York, 2006, p. 12.
- <sup>108</sup> CESCR, 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 30 and 57.
- <sup>109</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 32 and 59, CERD 2003, *op. cit.*, paras. 14 and 17.
- <sup>110</sup> CERD 2003, *op. cit.*, para. 16
- <sup>111</sup> CEDAW 2008, *op. cit.*, paras. 44 and 45.
- <sup>112</sup> UNHCR submission to the UPR on Morocco, pp. 2-3, citing E/CN.4/2004/76/Add.3, paras. 39, 61 and 76.
- <sup>113</sup> E/CN.4/2004/76/Add.3, paras. 39, 61 and 76 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants).
- <sup>114</sup> See E/CN.4/2004/76/Add.3, para. 81 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants).
- <sup>115</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 25 and 48.
- <sup>116</sup> E/CN.4/2006/73/Add.1, paras. 214-215 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants).
- <sup>117</sup> See also this compilation, below, para. 46.
- <sup>118</sup> A/HRC/4/26/Add.1, para. 46 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism).
- <sup>119</sup> A/HRC/4/26/Add.1, para. 47.
- <sup>120</sup> A/HRC/4/41, para. 275 (Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances).
- <sup>121</sup> A/HRC/4/41, para. 275 (Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances).
- <sup>122</sup> A/HRC/4/37/Add.1, para. 467 (Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders).
- <sup>123</sup> S/2007/619 (Report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara).
- <sup>124</sup> HR Committee 2004, *op. cit.*, para. 8.
- <sup>125</sup> UNHCR submission, *op. cit.*, p. 1, citing CESCR/12/MAR/CO/2, para. 13 b.
- <sup>126</sup> CESCR 2006, *op. cit.*, paras. 13 and 35.
- <sup>127</sup> CAT 2003, *op. cit.*, paras. 4 a). On this matter, see also this compilation para. 19 above.
- <sup>128</sup> A/HRC/4/41, Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, para. 276 and 277.
- <sup>129</sup> Human Rights Council, 4th session, oral statement of Morocco, 20 March 2007; see [http://portal.ohchr.org/portal/page/portal/HRCExtranet/4th session/oral statements/200307/Morocco](http://portal.ohchr.org/portal/page/portal/HRCExtranet/4th%20session/oral%20statements/200307/Morocco).
- <sup>130</sup> CAT 2003, *op. cit.*, para. 8.
- <sup>131</sup> Comments by the Government of Morocco to the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee against Torture, CAT/C/CR/31/0002/Add.1, 21 September 2005, and letter sent by the Rapporteur for Follow-up, Conclusions and Recommendations for the Committee against Torture, 10 May 2006.
- <sup>132</sup> Letters of the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco dated on 31 July 2006 and 26 October 2006.

<sup>133</sup> Comments by Morocco to the Concluding Observations of the HR Committee, CCPR/CO/82/MAR/Add. 1 and CCPR/CO/82/MAR/Add. 2.

<sup>134</sup> Letter from Rafael Rivas Posada, Special Rapporteur on Follow-up on Concluding Observations, to the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco, dated on 12 October 2005.

<sup>135</sup> See A/HRC/4/25/Add. 1, *op. cit.*, para. 263 (Report of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers).

<sup>136</sup> UNIFEM Annual Report 2006-2007, New York, 2006, p. 24.

<sup>137</sup> UNIFEM Annual Report 2006-2007, New York, 2006, p. 24.

<sup>138</sup> UNDP Annual Report 2006.

<sup>139</sup> See UNDP Morocco Activity Report 2006-2007, available at <http://www.pnud.org.ma/pdf/Rapport2006.pdf> (accessed on 12 February 2008).

<sup>140</sup> See ILO Decent Work Pilot Program Brief on Morocco (May 2006), p. 5, available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/dwpp/download/morocco/countrybriefmo.pdf> (accessed on 12 February 2008). See also *Decent Work Pilot Programme to Promote Decent Work in Morocco's Textile and Garment Sector Information Bulletin No. 1*, ILO, July 2004. For more information on the ILO Decent Work Pilot Programme, see [www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/dwpp/countries/morocco/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/dwpp/countries/morocco/index.htm).

<sup>141</sup> OHCHR Annual Report 2005 (Implementation of Activities and Use of Funds), UNDP Annual Report 2006.

<sup>142</sup> CRC 2006, *op. cit.*, para. 37.