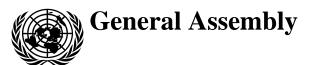
United Nations A_{/HRC/45/3}



Distr.: General 11 September 2020

English only

Human Rights Council

Forty-fifth session

14 September – 2 October 2020 Agenda items 3, 4, 7, 9 and 10 Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Technical assistance and capacity building

Communications report of Special Procedures*

Communications sent, 1 March to 31 May 2020; Replies received, 1 May to 31 July 2020

Joint report by the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context; the Working Group of Experts on people of African descent; the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism; the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus; the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia; the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Central African Republic; the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights; the Special Rapporteur on right to development; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; the Special Rapporteur on the right to education; the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea; the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Special Rapporteur on the right to food; the Independent expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of

^{*} The present report is being issued without formal editing.





association; the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers; the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons; the Independent expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order; the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members; the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali; the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar; the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967; the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights; the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy; the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief; the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material; the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery; the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan; the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation & guarantees of non-recurrence; the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights; the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation; and the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice.

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Abbreviations

Working Group of Experts on people of African descent African Descent

Albinism Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism

Arbitrary detention Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Belarus Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus Burundi Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi

Business enterprises Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other

business enterprises

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia Cambodia

Central Africa Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic

Côte d'Ivoire Independent Expert on capacity-building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire in the

field of human rights

Cultural Rights Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights Development Special Rapporteur on the right to development

Disability Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances Disappearances

Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice/ Discrimination against

women/ women and girls1 Working Group on discrimination against women and girls

DPR Korea Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of

Korea

Education Special Rapporteur on the right to education

Environment Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a

safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment

Eritrea Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea Extreme poverty Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights

Food Special Rapporteur on the right to food

Foreign debt Independent expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial

obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social

and cultural rights

Freedom of expression Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and

expression

Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

Freedom of religion Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

Haiti Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti

Hazardous substances and Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound

management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

Health Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable

standard of physical and mental health

Human rights defenders Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard Housing

of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context

Independence of judges

and lawyers

wastes

Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers

Indigenous peoples Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples

Name of the mandate that was "Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice" changed to "Working Group on discrimination against women and girls" following HRC resolution 41/6 OP11.

Internally displaced

persons

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons

International order Independent expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

International Solidarity Independent Expert on Human Rights and International solidarity

Iran Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Leprosy Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy

and their family members

Mali Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali

Mercenaries Working Group on the use of mercenaries

Migrants Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

Minority issues Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues

Myanmar Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

OPT Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied

since 1967

Older persons Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

Privacy Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy

Racism Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and

related intolerance

Sale of children Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child

prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material

Sexual orientation and

gender identity

Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual

orientation and gender identity

Slavery Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery

Somalia Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia
Sudan Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan
Summary executions Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Terrorism Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental

freedoms while countering terrorism

Torture Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or

punishment

Trafficking Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children

Truth justice, reparation & Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation & guarantees of non-

guarantees on non-

recurrence

measures

recurrence

Unilateral coercive

Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment

of human rights

Violence against women Special Ray Water and Sanitation Special Ray

Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation

Other abbreviations

AL Letter of allegation

JAL Joint letter of allegation

JUA Joint urgent appeal

UA Urgent appeal

OL Other letter

JOL Joint other letter

I. Introduction

- 1. Special procedures are mandated by the Human Rights Council to report to it on their activities (see Appendix).
- 2. In 2009, the sixteenth annual meeting of special procedures mandate holders decided that a joint communications report would be prepared (cf. A/HRC/12/47, paras 24-26), with this decision being reconfirmed by the seventeenth annual meeting of special procedures in 2010 in order to avoid duplication, rationalize documentation, allow examination of cross cutting issues and ensure that the content of communications and any follow-up would feed into the universal periodic review mechanism more effectively. Mandate holders decided that the report should contain summaries of communications and statistical information (A/HRC/15/44, para. 26-27).
- 3. The Outcome of the review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council calls on the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to maintain information on special procedures in a comprehensive and easily accessible manner, and encourages the use of modern information technology to reduce the circulation of paper (A/HRC/RES/16/21, Annex, paras. 29 and 60).
- 4. Short summaries of all allegations communicated to the respective State or other entity are made available on the Special Procedures communications website, link to which is included in paragraph 13 of the present report. The communications sent and responses received are also accessible electronically through hyperlinks. Communications are reproduced in the language in which they were sent. Replies received in Arabic, Chinese or Russian are included with translations into English, where available.
- 5. This website reports all urgent appeals, and letters of allegations sent by special procedures mandate holders between 1 March and 31 May 2020 and replies received until 31 July 2020. Communications sent before 1 March 2020 are reported in previous communications reports submitted to the Council and also made available on the dedicated website

https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/CommunicationsreportsSP.aspx

- 6. As part of this report, the special procedures communications website also includes replies received between 1 May and 31 July 2020 relating to communications sent by special procedures mandate holders before 1 March 2020. Some of these replies supplement information communicated earlier by the respective State.
- 7. The present report contains urgent appeals sent by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and joint urgent appeals sent by them together with other mandates. It does not contain other types of communications issued by these mandates, which are processed according to their own distinctive procedures, and are reported in the annual reports of these two working groups.
- 8. The names of some alleged victims have been obscured in order to protect their privacy and prevent further victimization. Names of victims are mentioned only when the individual concerned or their direct family has expressly consented or requested to have his, her or their name in the public report. In the original communications, the full names of the alleged victims were provided to the Government concerned after obtaining their appropriate consent to share. Names of alleged perpetrators have systematically been darkened in State replies to preserve the presumption of innocence.
- 9. In total 173 communications were sent during this reporting period to 74 countries and other non-State actors to which 84 replies were received from 44 countries and other actors as listed below:

Name of countires	Number of communications sent during this period	Number of communications that received a reply during this period *	Number of substantive replies received during the period**	Number of acknowledgement replies received during this period
Albania	1	0	0	0
Algeria	3	2	3	0
Bahrain	1	1	1	0
Bangladesh	1	0	0	0
Belarus	4	3	3	0
Belgium	1	0	0	0
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	1	1	1	0
Bulgaria	2	2	2	0
Cambodia	3	3	4	0
Cameroon	1	0	0	0
Canada	2	1	1	2
Chile	2	1	1	0
China	7	6	6	0
Colombia	3	3	3	0
Costa Rica	1	1	1	0
Cuba	1	1	1	0
Egypt	1	0	0	1
El Salvador	1	0	0	0
Ethiopia	1	1	1	0
Fiji	1	1	1	0
France	1	1	1	0
Germany	1	0	0	0
Greece	2	2	2	0
Guatemala	1	1	1	0
Haiti	2	0	0	0
Hungary	2	1	1	0
India	5	2	2	0
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	9	1	1	0
Iraq	1	0	0	0
Ireland	1	1	1	0
Israel	1	1	1	0
Italy	1	1	1	0
Japan	1	1	1	0
Jordan	1	1	1	0
Kazakhstan	2	2	2	0
Kenya	1	0	0	0
Kyrgyzstan	3	2	2	0

Name of countires	Number of communications sent during this period	Number of communications that received a reply during this period *	Number of substantive replies received during the period**	Number of acknowledgement replies received during this period
Lao People's Democratic Republic	1	1	1	1
Madagascar	1	0	0	0
Malawi	3	0	0	0
Malaysia	2	2	2	0
Maldives	1	0	0	0
Mauritania	1	1	1	0
Mexico	5	2	2	0
Montenegro	1	0	0	0
Myanmar	5	0	0	0
Nepal	1	1	1	0
Nicaragua	1	0	0	0
Niger	1	0	0	0
Nigeria	1	0	0	0
Other actors	27	8	12	0
Pakistan	4	2	2	0
Peru	1	0	0	0
Philippines	1	0	0	1
Qatar	1	0	0	0
Republic of Korea	1	1	1	0
Romania	1	1	1	1
Samoa	1	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	3	3	3	0
Serbia	1	0	0	0
Singapore	1	1	1	0
Spain	1	0	0	0
Sri Lanka	2	0	0	0
Switzerland	1	1	1	0
Thailand	3	0	0	0
Tunisia	1	1	1	0
Turkey	5	5	5	1
Uganda	2	0	0	0
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2	2	2	0
United States of America	7	0	0	0
Uruguay	1	1	1	0
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	5	0	0	0
Viet Nam	2	1	1	0

Name of countires	Number of communications sent during this period	Number of communications that received a reply during this period *	Number of substantive replies received during the period**	Number of acknowledgement replies received during this period
Zambia	2	0	0	0

^{*} Only substantive replies to communications issued during this period are counted here.

- 10. During the period, 27 communincations were also sent to 'Other actors', for e.g businesses, international bodies, agencies and non-State actors to which 8 replies were received.
- 11. These communications concerned 309 alleged identified victims of which 242 are male, 65 are female and 2 others.
- 12. In preparing the statistics included in this report, uniform reporting periods have been used, reflecting all communications sent between 1 March and 31 May 2020, and responses received in relation to these communications up to 31 July 2020.

^{**} Substantive replies received during this period to any communication ever issued are counted here.

II. Statistics on communications and replies by mandate

	Reporting period: 1 March to 31 May 2020			Reporting period: 1 June 2006 to 31 May 2020		
Mandate	Communications sent	replied to by 3. July 2020	l response rate#	Communicat	replied to by 31 July 2020	response rate#
African Descent	5	3	60%	89	47	53%
Albinism	1	0	0%	16	5	31%
Arbitrary Detention (+)	49	24	49%	1910	1081	57%
Belarus*	4	3	75%	23	19	83%
Burundi **	0	0	0%	6	0	0%
Business	31	11	36%	387	174	45%
Cambodia	3	3	100%	58	17	29%
Central African Republic	0	0	0%	2	0	0%
Cultural rights	1	0	0%	137	94	69%
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0	0	0%	26	15	58%
Development	1	0	0%	94	10	11%
Disability	9	3	33%	141	74	53%
Disappearances (+)	29	15	52%	550	269	49%
Education	1	0	0%	119	77	65%
Environment	26	9	35%	298	122	41%
Eritrea	0	0	0%	8	4	50%
Executions	40	16	40%	1722	858	50%
Food	40	3	75%	287	133	46%
	0	0	0%	94	29	31%
Foreign debt	66	34	52%	3632	1954	54%
Freedom of opinion and expression	36	24	67%	1475	848	58%
Freedom of peaceful assembly and of	30	24	07%	14/3	040	38%
association	0	0	0%	13	3	23%
Haiti **	5	3				
Hazardous substances***			60%	226	116	51%
Health	39	19	49%	901	530	59%
Housing	29	10	35%	432	231	54%
Human rights defenders	61	33	54%	3805	2160	57%
Independence of judges and lawyers	15	4	27%	1310	726	55.4%
Indigenous peoples	21	9	43%	605	323	53%
Internally displaced persons	13	4	31%	100	36	36%
International order	3	1	33%	143	46	32%
International solidarity	3	1	33%	59	24	41%
Islamic Republic of Iran	9	1	11%	201	109	54%
Leprosy	0	0	0%	3	1	33%
Liberia **	0	0	0%	2	0	0%
Mercenaries	2	0	0%	94	41	44%
Migrants	16	8	50%	391	251	64%
Minority issues	21	11	52%	409	244	60%
Myanmar	6	0	0%	149	74	49.7%
Older persons	1	1	100%	43	11	26%
Palestinian territories occupied since 1967	1	1	100%	70	17	24%
Poverty	24	11	46%	140	90	64%
Privacy	5	0	0%	80	53	66%
Racism	6	4	67%	262	152	58%
Religion or belief	19	11	58%	583	345	59%
Sale of children	2	1	50%	74	31	42%
Sexual orientation and gender identity	5	1	20%	59	33	56%
Slavery	5	3	60%	120	70	58%
Somalia	0	0	0%	24	6	25%
Sudan	0	0	0%	48	13	27%

	Reporting period: 1 March to 31 May 2020			Reporting period: 1 June 2006 to 31 May 2020		
Mandate	Communications sent	replied to by . July 2020	31 response rate#	Communicat ions sent	replied to by 31 July 2020	response rate#
Terrorism	23	13	57%	445	235	53%
Torture	40	18	45%	2563	1432	56%
Trafficking in persons	3	2	67%	117	70	60%
Truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence	6	2	33%	89	51	57%
Unilateral coercive measures	1	0	0%	10	6	60%
Violence against women	11	5	46%	678	380	56%
Water and sanitation	28	8	29%	276	114	41%
Women in law and in practice/ women and girls****	15	7	47%	393	188	48%

- (*) mandate re-established in June 2012, (**) mandate terminated, (***) mandate name changed from 'toxic waste' (****) mandate name changed in June 2019 and therefore for this report both the past and new short names are reflected including all communications issued under the old and new name has been put together.
- (+) These figures do not include communications on standard cases sent to Governments by the Working Group on arbitrary detention and the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances.
- (#) fractions in percentage are rounded to the nearest whole number.
 Please note: Totals are higher than the actual number of communications sent or replies received in the given period, as many communications are sent jointly by two or more mandate holders.

III. Communications sent and replies received

Communications sent between 1 March and 31 May 2020 and their replies received until 31 July 2020. Also all replies received during this period to communications sent before 1 March 2020

13. All communications and their replies are available through Special Procedures communications website at the link:

https://spcommreports.ohchr.org

14. In mid-October 2019, United Nations was forced to take extraordinary measures to curtail expenditures in order to address the liquidity crisis faced by the Organisation. This caused delays in translation of 24 government replies received in languages other than English. Consequently, these replies will be made public at a later stage to ensure the required protection measures related to victims or potential victims, as well as to any alleged perpetrators mentioned in these replies.

Appendix

Mandates of special procedures (until 31 August 2020)

Mandate title	Human Rights Council resolution
Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context	43/14
Working Group of Experts on people of African descent	36/23
Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism	37/5
Working Group on Arbitrary Detention	42/22
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus	44/9
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia	42/37
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Central African Republic	42/36
Independent Expert on capacity-building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire (Mandate formally closed by HRC President Statement PRST 35/1)	26/32
Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights	37/12
Independent expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	36/4
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	43/25
Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities	44/10
Special Rapporteur on right to development	42/23
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea	44/1
Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances	36/6
Independent expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights	43/10
Special Rapporteur on the right to education	44/3
Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment	37/8
Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights	44/13
Special Rapporteur on the right to food	40/7
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression	43/4
Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association	41/12
Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief	40/10
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti (Mandate formally closed by HRC President Statement : PRST 34/1)	PRST 25/1

Mandate title	Human Rights Council resolution
Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health	42/16
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders	43/16
Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers	44/8
Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples	42/20
Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons	41/15
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran	43/24
Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members	44/6
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali	43/38
Working Group on the use of mercenaries	42/9
Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants	43/6
Special Rapporteur on minority issues	43/8
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar	43/26
Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons	42/12
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967	5/1
Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy	37/2
Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation & guarantees of non-recurrence	36/7
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	43/36
Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material	43/22
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery	42/10
Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity	41/18
Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity	44/11
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan	42/35
Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia	42/33
Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions	44/5
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic	S-18/1

Mandate title	Human Rights Council resolution
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism	40/16
Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	43/20
Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes	36/15
Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children	44/4
Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises	44/15
Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights	36/10
Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences	41/17
Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice	41/6
Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation	42/5