



A NEW CHAPTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

A handbook on issues of transition
from the Commission on Human Rights
to the Human Rights Council



Annex 3.1

Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Current mandate holder: Philip Alston
Mandate started: 1982

Term of mandate holder: 2004-2007
Mandate up for renewal: 2007

Areas of focus

- Examine cases of extra-judicial, summary or arbitrary executions and respond effectively to information transmitted on such cases;
- Monitor the implementation of existing international standards on safeguards and restrictions relating to the imposition of capital punishment, bearing in mind the Human Rights Committee's interpretation of Article 6 of the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (ICCPR);
- Issues of special concern to the Special Rapporteur are capital punishment and impunity;
- The mandate applies to all countries, irrespective of whether a State has ratified relevant international conventions, notably the ICCPR;
- The legal framework of the mandate includes the *Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions*, the *Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement*, and the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court*.

Country visits

Afghanistan (2002)	Nepal (2000)
Albania (1999)	Nigeria (2005)
Brazil (2003)	Papua New Guinea (1995)
Burundi (1995)	Peru (1993)
Colombia (1994)	Rwanda (1993)
DRC (2002)	Serbia and Montenegro (1999)
Honduras (2001)	Sri Lanka (1997 and 2005)
Indonesia (1994 and 1999)	Turkey (2001)
Jamaica (2003)	USA (1998)
Macedonia (1999)	Yugoslavia (1992)
Mexico (1999)	Zaire (1991)

Outstanding requests

Algeria
China (2005)
India (2000 and 2005)
Indonesia (2004)
Liberia
Nepal (2004)

Outstanding requests

Pakistan (2000 and 2005)
Saudi Arabia (2005)
Thailand (2005)
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan (2005)

Visits agreed upon in principle

Iran
Peru
Russian Federation
Sierra Leone
Timor-Leste (August 2006)
Togo

Pending reports: Annual report, Summary of communications, Follow-up to country recommendations, Report on transparency on the death penalty, Mission to Nigeria and Mission to Sri-Lanka (E/CN.4/2006/53, Add.1-5).

Thematic research

- Transparency in the imposition of the death penalty (2006).

Communications (2005)

- 117 communications to 55 countries and 3 other actors concerning more than 800 individuals;
- 57 urgent appeals and 60 letters of allegation;
- Average of 46 percent of replies;
- There is a model questionnaire for submitting information to the Special Rapporteur¹.

¹ <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/executions/model.htm>.