



Human Rights in the Commonwealth at a Glance

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	1 Aug 1989	25 Oct 1988
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	21 Sep 1994	3 Mar 2006
RESERVATIONS	–	–	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	5 Oct 1993	19 Jul 1993	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	4 Feb 2003	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Ombudsman, established 1995. No specific human rights mandate

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

12th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

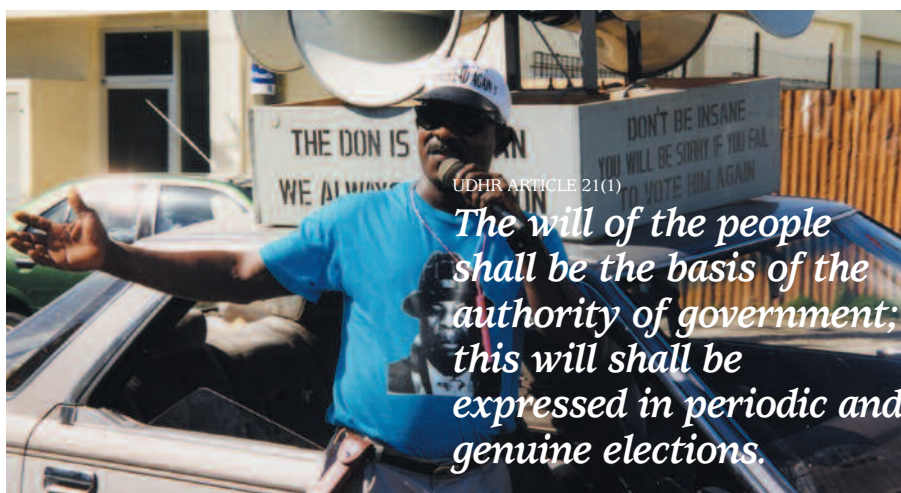
Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth.

Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Training Manual for Police Training Institutions*



UDHR ARTICLE 21(1)

The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections.

Election campaigning in Antigua and Barbuda.



AUSTRALIA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	13 Aug 1980	10 Dec 1975	28 Jul 1983	30 Sep 1975
DATE LAST REPORT	7 Aug 2007	7 Aug 2007	29 Jan 2004	28 Nov 2003
RESERVATIONS	3	0	3	0

	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	17 Dec 1990	8 Aug 1989	-	17 July 2008
DATE LAST REPORT	30 Sep 2003	7 Apr 2005	-	-
RESERVATIONS	1	0	-	0

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Australian Human Rights Commission, established 1986

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

10th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Australia apologises to Aboriginal population

In February 2008, Australia made a formal apology for the past wrongs caused by successive governments on the indigenous Aboriginal population. Australian MPs unanimously passed a motion stating:

'We apologise for the laws and policies of successive parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.'



THE BAHAMAS

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	6 Oct 1993	5 Aug 1975
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	29 Aug 2003
RESERVATIONS	0	0	1	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	20 Feb 1991	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	5 Jun 2003	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	1	–	–	–
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION				
None				
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE				
3rd session (2008)				
DEATH PENALTY STATUS				
Retentionist				
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT				
Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados				
Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council Training; March 2008; London, UK				



Members of the Bahamas National Youth Choir.

UDHR ARTICLE 27(1)

Everyone has the right to freely participate in the cultural life of the community [and] to enjoy the arts...



THE BAHAMAS

BANGLADESH

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	6 Sep 2000	6 Sep 2000	6 Nov 1984	11 Jun 1979
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	27 Dec 2002	1 Mar 2000
RESERVATIONS	1	0	1	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	3 Aug 1990	5 Oct 1998	–	30 Nov 2007
DATE LAST REPORT	4 Sep 2007	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	2	0	0	0

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Enabling Ordinance passed in 2008.

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

4th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police Officers in Bangladesh; February 2008; Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladesh establishes human rights commission

In September 2008, Bangladesh's caretaker government initiated the establishment of a human rights commission. According to the President of Bangladesh, Dr Iajuddin Ahmed, the Commission will 'play a significant role in establishing a culture of respect for human rights with the co-operation of all concerned, including civil society and public and private organisations'.



BARBADOS

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	5 Jan 1973	5 Jan 1973	16 Oct 1980	8 Nov 1972
DATE LAST REPORT	18 Jul 2006	16 Feb 1983	21 Nov 2000	29 Jun 2004
RESERVATIONS	1	3	0	0
CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	9 Oct 1990	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	12 Sep 1996	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Ombudsman, established 1981. No specific human rights mandate.

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

3rd session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados

Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Training Manual for Police Training Institutions*

Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council Training; March 2008; London, UK

Barbados consults on Freedom of Information bill

In October 2008, Barbados drafted a Freedom of Information bill which is being circulated widely both online and in post offices in order to secure opinions and feedback from interest groups and a wide cross-section of society. The importance of freedom of information was articulated by the UN General Assembly at its first session in 1946: ‘Freedom of information is a fundamental human right and is the touchstone of all of the freedoms to which the United Nations is consecrated’.



BELIZE

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	10 Jun 1996	–	16 May 1990	14 Nov 2001
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	5 Aug 2005	–
RESERVATIONS	3	–	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	2 May 1990	17 Mar 1986	14 Nov 2001	–
DATE LAST REPORT	28 Feb 2003	18 April 1991	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Ombudsmen, established 1999. No specific human rights mandate.

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

5th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados

Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Training Manual for Police Training Institutions*

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs in advancing human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Belize elections commended

In March 2008, a Commonwealth Expert Group commended the government and people of Belize for the conduct of the general elections that took place the month before. The team noted that 'Belize enjoys a mature democracy and a well-functioning electoral process'. Credible elections are in line with Article 21(3) of the UDHR which states: 'The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be held in secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures'.



BOTSWANA



CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	8 Sep 2000	–	13 Aug 1996	20 Feb 1974
DATE LAST REPORT	13 Oct 2006	–	20 Oct 2008	23 Mar 2005
RESERVATIONS	2	–	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	14 Mar 1995	8 Sep 2000	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	10 Jan 2003	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	1	1	–	–
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION				
None				
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE				
3rd session (2008)				
DEATH PENALTY STATUS				
Retentionist				
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT				
Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council Training; March 2008; London, UK				

More women parliamentarians and public servants in Botswana

Botswana has seen an increase in the participation of women in Parliament, at the cabinet level, and in public service – a development that was welcomed by the UN Human Rights Committee in April 2008.

DHR ARTICLE 21(1)

Everyone has the right to take part in the government of [their] country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	24 May 2006	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	–	–	3	–
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	27 Dec 1995	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	20 Dec 2001	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	4	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

6th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

None

Free schooling and healthcare in Brunei Darussalem welcomed by UN committee

Through providing free schooling and free, extensive healthcare to all of its citizens, Brunei Darussalem goes towards fulfilling the aims of Articles 25 (right to health) and 26 (right to education) of the UDHR. This has resulted in very high school enrolment rates and good health indicators for the country, and as such the measures have been welcomed by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in their last report on the country.



CAMEROON

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	27 Jun 1984	27 Jun 1984	23 Aug 1994	24 Jun 1971
DATE LAST REPORT	6 Mar 1997	27 May 1997	29 Mar 2007	12 Aug 1997
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	11 Jan 1993	19 Dec 1986	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	3 Apr 2008	19 Dec 2002	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms, established 2006

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

4th session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007, Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs in advancing human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms Workshop; June 2007; Yaoundé, Cameroon; A three-day workshop that trained newly appointed members and senior staff of the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Cameroon brings human rights into the classroom

Cameroon's National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms has worked to develop human rights content for the curriculum of primary and secondary schools. A pilot initiative involved the training of teachers in 80 schools – 50 primary and 30 secondary. A manual has been developed and is being used in the 2008 academic year. This initiative is in line with Article 26 (2) of the UDHR which states: 'Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights...'



CANADA



CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	19 May 1976	19 May 1976	10 Dec 1981	14 Oct 1970
DATE LAST REPORT	27 Oct 2004	17 Aug 2005	17 Aug 2007	3 Feb 2006
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	13 Dec 1991	24 Jun 1987	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	3 May 2001	11 Oct 2004	–	–
RESERVATIONS	2	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Canadian Human Rights Commission, established 1978

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

4th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007, Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Apology and Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Aboriginal Canadians

June 2008 saw the first formal apology by a Canadian prime minister to the indigenous Aboriginal peoples of Canada for the government's federally funded policy of assimilation through residential schools. The Canadian government also set up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to encourage reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians through restorative justice.

CYPRUS

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	2 Apr 1969	2 Apr 1969	23 Jul 1985	21 Apr 1967
DATE LAST REPORT	28 Dec 1994	20 July 2007	4 Mar 2004	7 Nov 2000
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	7 Feb 1991	18 Jul 1991	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	15 Sep 2000	29 Jun 2001	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION				
National Institute for the Protection of Human Rights within the Office of the Law Commissioner				
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE				
6th session (2009)				
DEATH PENALTY STATUS				
Abolitionist for all crimes				
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT				
None				

Cyprus agrees to criminalise human trafficking

In February 2008 Cyprus became party to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, committing itself to ensuring greater respect for and protection of the rights of trafficked people. In ratifying this treaty Cyprus has agreed to take action to criminalise trafficking and to offer victims assistance, protection and access to redress. The trafficking of human beings has repeatedly been called a modern-day form of slavery.

UDHR ARTICLE 4

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.



DOMINICA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	17 Jun 1993	17 Jun 1993	15 Sep 1980	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	–
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	13 Mar 1991	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	21 Jan 2003	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

6th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

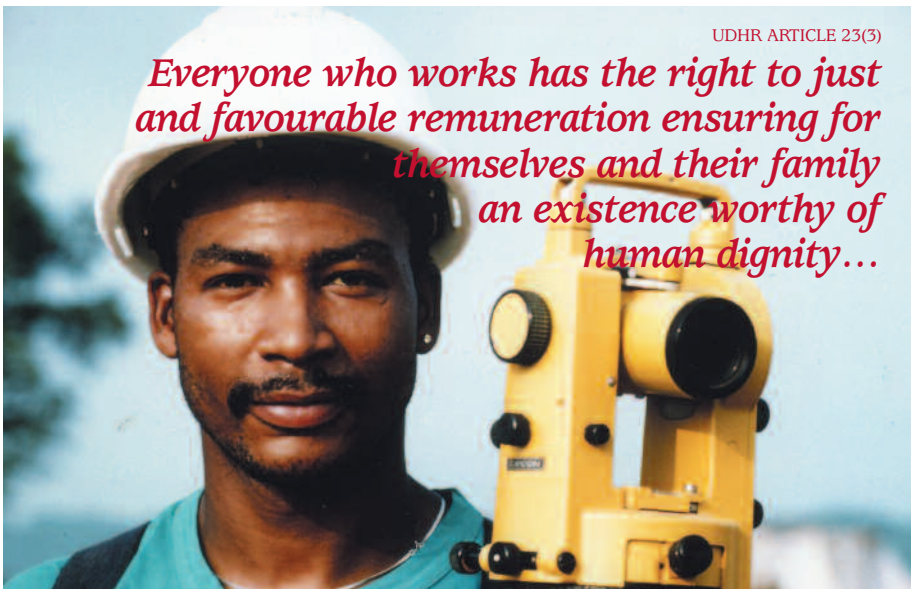
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados

Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Manual on Human Rights Training for Police*

UDHR ARTICLE 23(3)

Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for themselves and their family an existence worthy of human dignity...



A Dominican engineer prepares to survey.

FIJI ISLANDS⁴

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	28 Aug 1995	11 Jan 1973
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	29 Feb 2000	20 Jun 2006
RESERVATIONS	–	–	0	1
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	13 Aug 1993	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	12 June 1996	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION				
Fiji Human Rights Commission, established 1997				
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE				
7th session (2010)				
DEATH PENALTY STATUS				
Abolitionist for ordinary crimes				
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT				
None				



Police officers ready for duty in Fiji.

UDHR ARTICLE 7

All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.

⁴ In December 2006, following a military takeover of the democratically elected government, Fiji was suspended from the Commonwealth pending the restoration of democracy and the rule of law in the country. At the time of writing this suspension continues.





THE GAMBIA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	22 Mar 1979	29 Dec 1978	16 Apr 1993	29 Dec 1978
DATE LAST REPORT	25 Apr 1983	–	4 Apr 2003	30 Oct 1980
RESERVATIONS	1	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	8 Aug 1990	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	20 Nov 1999	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

7th session (2010)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Human Rights Sensitisation and Training for the Media in The Gambia; March 2008; Banjul, The Gambia

UDHR ARTICLE 26(1)

*Everyone
has the
right to
education...*



Two mature students from Banjul proudly display their text books.

GHANA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	2 Jan 1986	8 Sep 1966
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	23 Feb 2005	5 Jun 2002
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	5 Feb 1990	7 Sep 2000	7 Sep 2000	–
DATE LAST REPORT	19 Mar 2004	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice, established 1993

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

2nd session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Training on Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council; March 2008; London, UK

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007, Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Ghana proposes Right to Information Bill

A Right to Information Bill has been proposed in Ghana to allow for increased transparency in public policy and to reduce the potential for government corruption. This is in line with Article 19 of the UDHR which states that the right to freedom of opinion and expression includes the right to seek, receive and impart information. A Commonwealth Expert Group confirmed in 1999 that 'Freedom of information should be guaranteed as a legal and enforceable right permitting every individual to obtain information held by the executive, the legislative and the judicial arms of the state, as well as any government-owned corporation and any other body carrying out public functions'.



GRENADA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	6 Sep 1991	6 Sep 1991	30 Aug 1990	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	26 May 2008	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	–
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	5 Nov 1990	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	24 Sep 1997	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

8th session (2010)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados

Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Training Manual for Police Training Institutions*



UDHR ARTICLE 26(1)

...Technical and professional education shall be made generally available...

Learning new skills in Grenada.

GUYANA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	15 Feb 1977	15 Feb 1977	17 Jul 1980	15 Feb 1977
DATE LAST REPORT	1 Dec 1999	28 June 1995	27 Jun 2003	20 Dec 2004
RESERVATIONS	2	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	14 Jan 1991	19 May 1988	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	29 July 2002	16 Jun 2006	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION
None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE
8th session (2010)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS
Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT
Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados
Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Training Manual for Police Training Institutions*



Primary and secondary students enjoy free education in Guyana.





INDIA



CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	10 Apr 1979	10 Apr 1979	9 Jul 1993	3 Dec 1968
DATE LAST REPORT	29 Nov 1995	23 Oct 2006	18 Oct 2005	26 Jan 2006
RESERVATIONS	0	0	1	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	11 Dec 1992	–	–	1 Oct 2007
DATE LAST REPORT	10 Dec 2001	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	1	–	–	0

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

National Human Rights Commission, established 1993

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

1st session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

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India commended for progressive interpretation of Constitution

In May 2008, India was commended by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for the important contribution made by the Indian Supreme Court to the development of international law with regards to the legal effect of economic, social and cultural rights, through the Court's progressive interpretation of the Constitution.

JAMAICA



CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	3 Oct 1975	3 Oct 1975	19 Oct 1984	4 Jun 1971
DATE LAST REPORT	6 Jan 1997	16 Aug 2000	13 Feb 2004	13 Apr 2001
RESERVATIONS	0	0	1	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	14 May 1991	–	25 Sep 2008	30 Mar 2007
DATE LAST REPORT	16 May 2000	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	0

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Public Defender. No specific human rights mandate.

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

9th session (2010)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

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Jamaica hosts human rights training for police

In June 2008, Jamaica hosted the Commonwealth Regional Training Workshop for Police Trainers in the Caribbean, facilitating the training of ten Caribbean police forces on the use of the Commonwealth 'Human Rights Training Manual'.

KENYA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	1 May 1972	1 May 1972	9 Mar 1984	13 Sep 2001
DATE LAST REPORT	27 Sep 2004	7 Sep 2006	16 Oct 2006	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	30 Jul 1990	21 Feb 1997	–	19 May 2008
DATE LAST REPORT	20 Sep 2005	6 Jun 2007	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	0

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, established 2002

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

8th session (2010)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and to prepare for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007, Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Kenya Commission investigates post-election violence

After post-election violence in 2007–08, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights conducted an investigation of the inter-ethnic attacks, human rights violations and displacement of Kenyans. Following their investigations the Commission was able to contribute substantial evidence and information to the Waki Commission of Inquiry, a body tasked with investigating the actions of state authorities during the violence.

KIRIBATI

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	17 Mar 2004	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	–	–	0	–
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	11 Dec 1995	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	15 Aug 2005	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	3	–	–	–
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION				
None				
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE				
8th session (2010)				
DEATH PENALTY STATUS				
Abolitionist for all crimes				
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT				
Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police and for the Pacific Region; March 2007; Port Vila, Vanuatu				
Pacific Regional Workshop on the Ratification of International Human Rights Instruments under the Pacific Plan; March 2007; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea				

UDHR ARTICLE 1

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.



Children in Kiribati – free and equal.





LESOTHO

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	9 Sep 1992	9 Sep 1992	22 Aug 1995	4 Nov 1971
DATE LAST REPORT	8 Apr 1998	–	–	15 Jun 1998
RESERVATIONS	0	0	1	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	10 Mar 1992	12 Nov 2001	16 Sep 2005	–
DATE LAST REPORT	27 Apr 1998	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Ombudsman, established 1993. The Office has a specific reference to human rights within its mandate.

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

8th session (2010)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

None



UDHR ARTICLE 13 (1)

Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.

Rural road-building in Lesotho.

MALAWI

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	22 Dec 1993	22 Dec 1993	12 Mar 1987	11 Jun 1996
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	20 Oct 2008	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	2 Jan 1991	11 Jun 1996	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	17 Oct 2007	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Malawi Human Rights Commission, established 1998

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

9th session (2010)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Malawi Magistrates' Training; February 2008; Mangochi, Malawi

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Malawi's magistrates trained in human rights standards

In February 2008, one-third of Malawi's magistrates took part in training organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat on the application of international human rights standards in their work. The training stressed the relevance of the human rights framework to their work and encouraged magistrates to use international comparative case law in courts.





MALAYSIA



CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	5 Jul 1995	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	22 Mar 2004	–
RESERVATIONS	–	–	6	–
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	17 Feb 1995	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	21 Dec 2006	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	8	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM), established 2000

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

4th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs in advancing human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth



Malaysian boy watches his grandmother sew flag.

UDHR ARTICLE 24

Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

MALDIVES

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	19 Sep 2006	19 Sep 2006	1 Jul 1993	24 Apr 1984
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	8 Jun 2005	14 Jan 1989
RESERVATIONS	1	0	2	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	11 Feb 1991	20 Apr 2004	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	1 Mar 2006	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	2	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Human Rights Commission of the Maldives, established 2006

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

9th session (2010)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and to prepare for the 2009 CHOGM

Human Rights Training for Civil Servants in the Maldives; March 2008; Male, the Maldives; Training that covered the importance of human rights and the human rights duties and responsibilities of civil servants in their work

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Maldives initiative connects human rights and climate change at the UN

In March 2008 the UN Human Rights Council adopted a resolution initiated by the Maldives on the subject of human rights and climate change. The resolution requests that the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights conduct a detailed study in this field and report back in 2009.





MALTA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	13 Sep 1990	13 Sep 1990	8 Mar 1991	27 May 1971
DATE LAST REPORT	18 May 1993	7 Feb 2003	1 Aug 2002	19 Jan 1999
RESERVATIONS	6	0	5	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	30 Sep 1990	13 Sep 1990	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	26 Dec 1997	29 Sep 1998	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Ombudsman, established 1995. No specific human rights mandate

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

5th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

None

Malta ratifies new Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings

In February 2008 Malta was one of the first countries to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. This is a major step towards protecting trafficked people in the fight against this modern form of slavery. Malta now has formal measures to prevent and prosecute traffickers but also measures to safeguard the human rights of those who have been trafficked. Article 4 of the UDHR provides that ‘No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms’.



MAURITIUS

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	12 Dec 1973	12 Dec 1973	9 Jul 1984	30 May 1972
DATE LAST REPORT	27 May 2004	3 Mar 2008	17 Nov 2004	22 Mar 1999
RESERVATIONS	0	0	1	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	26 Jul 1990	9 Dec 1992	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	7 May 2004	8 Jun 1998	–	–
RESERVATIONS	1	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

National Human Rights Commission of Mauritius, established 2001

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

4th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institution; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Mauritius prepares a National Action Plan on human rights

In 2008 Mauritius prepared a National Action Plan (NAP) on human rights. The NAP seeks to develop a strong culture of human rights in Mauritius by providing better protection for individuals and promoting a greater awareness of human rights. The Mauritian NAP provides specific timeframes for the short-, medium- and long-term achievement of its objectives and will thus provide a yardstick to monitor implementation.





MOZAMBIQUE

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	21 Jul 1993	–	21 Apr 1997	18 Apr 1983
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	25 Jun 1999	30 Jun 2006
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	1
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	26 Apr 1994	14 Sep 1999	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	26 Feb 2008	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

10th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

None

UDHR ARTICLE 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.



Celebrating in Mozambique.

NAMIBIA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	28 Nov 1994	28 Nov 1994	23 Nov 1992	11 Nov 1982
DATE LAST REPORT	15 Oct 2003	–	24 Mar 2005	17 Jul 2007
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	30 Sep 1990	28 Nov 1994	–	4 Dec 2007
DATE LAST REPORT	21 Dec 1992	23 Aug 1996	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Ombudsman, established 1990. The Office has a specific human rights brief within its mandate.

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

10th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Namibia commended for innovative policies to increase access to education for minorities

Namibia was commended by the UN Committee against Racial Discrimination this year for its efforts to combat racial discrimination and segregation, particularly as regards access to education. These efforts have included domestic policies on increasing access to education for marginalised communities and mobile school units to accommodate the nomadic life of the Ovahimba persons.





NAURU⁵

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	-	-	-	-
DATE LAST REPORT	-	-	-	-
RESERVATIONS	-	-	-	-
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	27 Jul 1994	-	-	-
DATE LAST REPORT	-	-	-	-
RESERVATIONS	0	-	-	-

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

10th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police and for the Pacific Region; March 2007; Port Vila, Vanuatu

UDHR ARTICLE 23(1)

Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.



The production line at a paper-making business in Nauru.

⁵ Nauru is a Commonwealth member in arrears.

NEW ZEALAND

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	28 Dec 1978	28 Dec 1978	10 Jan 1985	22 Nov 1972
DATE LAST REPORT	26 Dec 2007	30 Aug 2001	8 May 2006	16 May 2006
RESERVATIONS	4	1	2	0
CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	6 Apr 1993	10 Dec 1989	–	25 Sep 2008
DATE LAST REPORT	19 Feb 2001	8 Jan 2007	–	–
RESERVATIONS	3	1	–	0

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Human Rights Commission, established 1978

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

5th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Community-based human rights training provided in Canada

The Human Rights Commission has been running a community development project offering a formal qualification in human rights training. Participants in the training draw on human rights issues from within their communities to learn about the domestic legislation and the human rights framework. The training has two aims: (1) that participants will provide human rights expertise and information within their communities in order to advocate for and resolve their own human rights issues and (2) that participants will nurture the use of rights-based approaches in local decision-making.





NIGERIA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	29 Jul 1993	29 Jul 1993	13 Jun 1985	16 Oct 1967
DATE LAST REPORT	7 Feb 1996	7 Feb 1996	5 Oct 2006	23 Mar 2004
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	19 Apr 1991	28 Jun 2001	-	-
DATE LAST REPORT	19 May 2008	-	-	-
RESERVATIONS	0	0	-	-

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

National Human Rights Commission of Nigeria, established 1995

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

4th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

UN Secretary-General praises Nigeria's peaceful land handover

In August 2008 Nigeria were praised by the UN Secretary-General for the peaceful handover of the Bakassi land peninsula to Cameroon. The determination of both Nigeria and Cameroon to respect the rule of law following the 2002 International Court of Justice ruling on the disputed land and to address their border dispute in a way that secured lasting peace was held up as an example to the international community. Following the transfer of land the UN Secretary-General said he was confident 'that both governments will show the same resolve and dedication to making sure that the human rights of the local populations affected by this historic event continue to be protected'.



NIGERIA

PAKISTAN



CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	17 Apr 2008	12 Mar 1996	21 Sep 1966
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	3 Aug 2005	4 Jan 2008
RESERVATIONS	–	0	1	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	12 Nov 1990	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	4 Jan 2008	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

2nd session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Human Rights Training Workshop for Police Trainers; June 2007; Islamabad, Pakistan; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Manual on Human Rights Training for Police*

Pakistan makes new commitments to human rights promotion and protection

In April 2008 Pakistan sent a positive signal to the international community by ratifying the ICESCR and adding its signature to the ICCPR and CAT. The ratification and signing of these three core human rights treaties is encouraging and reflects Pakistan's commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights in line with international standards.



PAKISTAN

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	21 Jul 2008	21 Jul 2008	12 Jan 1995	27 Jan 1982
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	16 Aug 1983
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	1
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	2 Mar 1993	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	23 Apr 2003	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Ombudsman Commission of Papua New Guinea. The Ombudsman has a specific Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights Unit

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

11th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting to discuss how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Pacific Regional Workshop on the Ratification of International Human Rights Instruments under the Pacific Plan; March 2007; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police and for the Pacific Region; March 2007; Port Vila, Vanuatu

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Progress on treaty ratification in Papua New Guinea

This year Papua New Guinea became party to the ICCPR and ICESCR. This is particularly important for the promotion and protection of human rights because these covenants are the two most important human rights treaties that make up the International Bill of Rights, together with the UDHR.



ST KITTS AND NEVIS

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	25 Apr 1985	13 Oct 2006
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	18 Jan 2002	–
RESERVATIONS	–	–	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	24 Jul 1990	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	22 Jan 1997	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION
None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE
10th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS
Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT
Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados
Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Training Manual for Police Training Institutions*



UDHR ARTICLE 28

Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration can be fully realised.

Musicians perform in St Kitts and Nevis.





ST LUCIA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	8 Oct 1982	14 Feb 1990
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	12 Sep 2005	–
RESERVATIONS	–	–	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	16 Jun 1993	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	2 Jun 2004	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner. No specific human rights mandate

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

10th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados

Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Training Manual for Police Training Institutions*



Harvesting bananas in St Lucia.

UDHR ARTICLE 25(1)

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of themselves and of their family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care...

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	9 Nov 1981	9 Nov 1981	4 Aug 1981	9 Nov 1981
DATE LAST REPORT	5 Sep 1989	28 Nov 1997	27 Sep 1991	14 Mar 2002
RESERVATIONS	–	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	26 Oct 1993	1 Aug 2001	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	5 Dec 2000	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION
None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE
11th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS
Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT
Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados
Commonwealth Regional Training for Police Trainers in the Caribbean; June 2008; Kingston, Jamaica; Training that covered the use and application of the *Commonwealth Human Rights Training Manual for Police Training Institutions*

Initiatives for fair trials without undue delay in St Vincent and the Grenadines

This year the UN Human Rights Committee commended the initiatives taken by St Vincent and the Grenadines to improve judicial administration in order to deal with the backlog of criminal cases. These successful initiatives help to ensure that Vincentians can exercise their right to fair trial as provided for in Article 10 of the UDHR. Article 14 of the ICCPR elaborates that this right includes trial without undue delay.



ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

SAMOA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	15 Feb 2008	–	25 Sep 1992	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	2 May 2003	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	29 Nov 1994	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	1 Nov 2005	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	1	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

11th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Protecting Rights in the Pacific Conference; April 2008; Apia, Samoa; Samoa hosted the Pacific regional meeting to consider a regional human rights mechanism for the Pacific, co-sponsored by the HRU and Interights

Pacific Regional Workshop on the Ratification of International Human Rights Instruments under the Pacific Plan; March 2007; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police and for the Pacific Region; March 2007; Port Vila, Vanuatu



Samoa shows intent to promote, protect and realise human rights

In a strong statement affirming the country's dedication to human rights, Samoa ratified the ICCPR in February 2008. This signalled intent by the government to ensure that human rights are promoted, protected and realised for all people in Samoa, in line with international standards.

SEYCHELLES

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	5 May 1992	5 May 1992	5 May 1992	7 Mar 1978
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	24 Jul 1986
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	7 Sep 1990	5 May 1992	15 Dec 1994	–
DATE LAST REPORT	7 Feb 2001	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Ombudsman, established 1993. The Office has a specific human rights brief within its mandate.

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

11th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

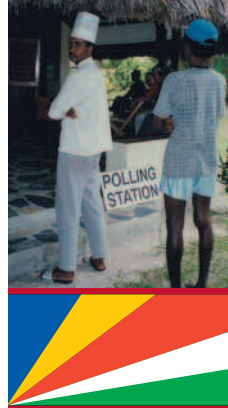
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting to discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Seychelles submits national Bill to establish Human Rights Commission

In October 2008 the Seychelles submitted a Bill to its National Assembly to establish a National Human Rights Commission. The new Bill aims to set up the necessary machinery to ensure the human rights of the Seychellois are respected and to allow for investigation in any accusation of human rights violations.





SIERRA LEONE

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	23 Aug 1996	23 Aug 1996	11 Nov 1988	2 Aug 1967
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	11 Dec 2005	9 Jul 1973
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0

	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	18 Jun 1990	25 Apr 2001	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	18 Jul 2006	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Human Rights Commission, established 2006

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

11th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and to prepare for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Sierra Leone's Human Rights commission goes beyond Paris Principles

The Sierra Leone Human Rights Commission became fully operational in 2008. It has been commended for having provisions that go beyond the threshold set by the Paris Principles. In addition to this the Commission has shared its experiences in conflict management and peacebuilding initiatives in post-conflict countries with other Commonwealth NHRIs in the region.

SINGAPORE

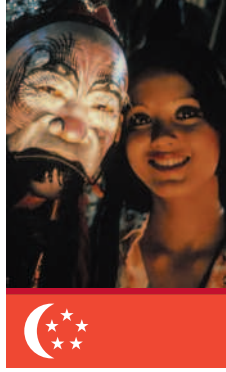
CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	5 Oct 1995	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	1 Nov 2004	–
RESERVATIONS	–	–	4	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	5 Oct 1995	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	29 Apr 2002	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	5	–	–	–
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION				
None				
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE				
11th session (2011)				
DEATH PENALTY STATUS				
Retentionist				
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT				
None				



Waterways are important transport routes in Singapore.

UDHR ARTICLE 13(2)

Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and return to his country.



SINGAPORE



SOLOMON ISLANDS

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	17 Mar 1982	6 May 2002	17 Mar 1982
DATE LAST REPORT	–	2 Jul 2001	–	2 Feb 1983
RESERVATIONS	–	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	10 Apr 1995	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	27 Feb 2001	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

11 th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Pacific Regional Workshop on the Ratification of International Human Rights Instruments under the Pacific Plan; March 2007; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
 Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police and for the Pacific Region; March 2007; Port Vila, Vanuatu



Solomon Islands puts prisoner rehabilitation on the agenda

In October 2008, the Solomon Islands addressed a Pacific Island conference on their work towards enhancing the rehabilitation role of prisons. The Solomon Islands presented to their Pacific neighbours their experience of giving a safe and sustainable service that focuses on the rehabilitation of prisoners.

SOUTH AFRICA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	10 Dec 1998	–	15 Dec 1995	10 Dec 1998
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	5 Feb 1998	2 Dec 2004
RESERVATIONS	0	–	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	16 Jun 1995	10 Dec 1998	–	30 Nov 2007
DATE LAST REPORT	4 Dec 1997	28 Jun 2005	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	0

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

South African Human Rights Commission, established 1995

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

1st session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Training on Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council; March 2008; London, UK

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

South African Human Rights Commission reports on social and economic rights

Together with the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the former Archbishop of the Anglican church, the South African Human Rights Commission has conducted poverty hearings throughout the country. The hearings covered all the provinces and heard of many people's experiences of poverty. In 2009, the Commission will release a report on social and economic rights, which are judicially enforceable under the South African constitution.



SOUTH AFRICA

SRI LANKA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	11 Jun 1980	11 Jun 1980	5 Oct 1981	18 Feb 1982
DATE LAST REPORT	18 Sep 2002	9 Jun 2008	7 Oct 1999	4 Sep 2000
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	12 Jul 1991	3 Jan 1994	11 Mar 1996	–
DATE LAST REPORT	21 Sep 2000	29 Mar 2004	21 Apr 2008	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, established 1996

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

2nd session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Training on Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council; March 2008; London, UK

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Sri Lanka moves to reinstate confidence in internally displaced people

In May 2008, Sri Lanka's move to recruit local Tamil-speaking police officers in the East was welcomed by the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). It is hoped that this initiative will help to improve security and reinstate confidence in the 300,000 Tamil IDPs that state agencies will protect them.



SWAZILAND

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	26 Mar 2004	26 Mar 2004	26 Mar 2004	7 Apr 1969
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	1 Mar 1996
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	7 Sep 1995	26 Mar 2004	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	29 Nov 2005	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	–	–
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION				
None				
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE				
12th session (2011)				
DEATH PENALTY STATUS				
Abolitionist in practice				
PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT				
None				

Swaziland developing human rights commission through wide consultation

Swaziland is in the process of setting up a NHRI to monitor and investigate human rights violations. The Commission is being developed through a consultative approach between the government, the judiciary and the people of Swaziland. The Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs has stated that the Commission will ‘ensure that people who cannot afford legal representation within or beyond Swaziland will have their cases heard by the commission’.



TONGA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	–	16 Feb 1972
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	17 Mar 1999
RESERVATIONS	–	–	0	1
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	6 Nov 1995	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

2nd session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist in practice

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Training on Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council; March 2008; London, UK

Pacific Regional Workshop on the Ratification of International Human Rights Instruments under the Pacific Plan; March 2007; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police and for the Pacific Region; March 2007; Port Vila, Vanuatu

Tonga was first small island state to undergo Universal Periodic Review

In May 2008 Tonga was the first Commonwealth small island state to undergo Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in Geneva, and as a result it was the focus of international attention. While the human rights issues in Tonga were noted and changes were recommended, the international community commended the efforts taken by Tonga to participate in the UPR and interact positively with the Human Rights Council. Tonga's fulsome participation in the review and willingness thereafter to share their experiences will serve as a positive example to other small states, both within and beyond the Commonwealth.



TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	21 Dec 1978	8 Dec 1978	12 Jan 1990	4 Oct 1973
DATE LAST REPORT	15 Sep 1999	28 Sep 2000	23 Jan 2001	6 Oct 2000
RESERVATIONS	8	1	1	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	5 Dec 1991	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	29 Jul 2003	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

No. Office of the Ombudsman of Trinidad and Tobago, established 1977. No specific human rights mandate

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

12th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council; October 2008; Christchurch, Barbados



UDHR ARTICLE 20(1)

Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

A rally in Trinidad and Tobago.





TUVALU

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	–	–	12 Jan 1990	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	2 Jul 2008	–
RESERVATIONS	–	–	0	–
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	22 Sep 1995	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	–	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

3rd session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Pacific Regional Workshop on the Ratification of International Human Rights Instruments under the Pacific Plan; March 2007; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police and for the Pacific Region; March 2007; Port Vila, Vanuatu

Tuvalu's gender training aims to change attitudes

The Tuvalu Department for Women's Affairs has been conducting gender training for civil servants to change attitudes on the roles of men and women. The aim of this training is to mainstream and incorporate women's and gender considerations into policies, plans, programmes and public services.

UDHR ARTICLE 21(2)

Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in [their] country.

UGANDA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	21 Jun 1995	21 Jan 1987	22 Jul 1985	21 Nov 1980
DATE LAST REPORT	14 Feb 2003	–	22 May 2000	20 June 2001
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	17 Aug 1990	3 Nov 1986	14 Nov 1995	25 Sep 2008
DATE LAST REPORT	2 Aug 2003	19 May 2004	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	0	1	0

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Uganda Human Rights Commission, established 1996

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

12th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Uganda is first chair of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

The Ugandan Human Right Commission (UHRC) was elected as the first chair of the Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (CFNHRI). In this role the UHRC has taken a lead in supporting and co-hosting events over the year to strengthen the network.



UNITED KINGDOM

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	20 May 1976	20 May 1976	7 Apr 1986	7 Mar 1969
DATE LAST REPORT	3 Nov 2006	7 Aug 2007	14 Jun 2007	28 Nov 2002
RESERVATIONS	16	9	5	1
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	16 Dec 1991	8 Dec 1988	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	16 Jul 2007	6 Nov 2003	–	–
RESERVATIONS	2	0	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

Equality and Human Rights Commission, established 2007

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

1st session (2008)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM

Training on Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council; March 2008; London, UK

Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs

Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

UK removes its two reservations to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

In September 2008, the UK announced that it would remove its two reservations to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Withdrawing the reservations means that (1) children seeking asylum in the UK will now be entitled to the same range of human rights set out in the CRC as British children and (2) the UK is no longer permitted to detain children with adults in custody centres.



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	11 Jun 1976	11 Jun 1976	20 Aug 1985	27 Oct 1972
DATE LAST REPORT	8 Oct 2007	–	16 Apr 2007	27 Oct 2004
RESERVATIONS	0	0	0	0
CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED				
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	10 Jun 1991	–	–	–
DATE LAST REPORT	20 Oct 2004	–	–	–
RESERVATIONS	0	–	–	–

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION
Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance, established 2001

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE
12th session (2011)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS
Retentionist

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT
Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; October 2008; Nairobi, Kenya; Meeting that discussed the role of NHRIs in the UN Universal Periodic Review process and prepared for the 2009 CHOGM
Meeting of Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); November 2007; Kampala, Uganda; Meeting that discussed how to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs to advance human rights at the national level and explored ways to enhance collaboration amongst Commonwealth NHRIs
Conference of National Human Rights Institutions; February 2007; London, UK; Meeting at which it was agreed to establish the CFNHRI to strengthen co-operation and share best practices with NHRIs in the Commonwealth

Women in Tanzania gain right to acquire, own and use land equally with men
In July 2008 the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women credited Tanzania for introducing legal reforms aimed at the elimination of discrimination against women. The laws allow women to get a mortgage on land without the consent of their spouse and give women the right to acquire, own and use land equally with men.

UDHR ARTICLE 17

Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others.



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



VANUATU

CORE CONVENTIONS RATIFIED

	ICCPR	ICESCR	CEDAW	CERD
DATE	-	-	8 Sep 1995	-
DATE LAST REPORT	-	-	2 Mar 2005	-
RESERVATIONS	-	-	0	-
	CRC	CAT	MWC	CPRD
DATE	7 Jul 1993	-	-	-
DATE LAST REPORT	27 Jan 1997	-	-	-
RESERVATIONS	0	-	-	-

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION

None

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW DATE

5th session (2009)

DEATH PENALTY STATUS

Abolitionist for all crimes

PARTICIPATION IN RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Pacific Regional Workshop on the Ratification of International Human Rights Instruments under the Pacific Plan; March 2007; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Commonwealth Human Rights Training Workshop for Police and for the Pacific Region; March 2007; Port Vila, Vanuatu

Vanuatu eliminates gender disparity in primary education

In 2007 the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women commended Vanuatu for eliminating gender disparity in primary education.



