



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/HRC/WG.6/7/IRN/2
25 November 2009

Original: ENGLISH

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Seventh session
Geneva, 8-19 February 2010

**COMPILATION PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 15(B) OF THE ANNEX
TO HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION 5/1**

Islamic Republic of Iran

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absence of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have been taken into consideration, unless outdated.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

I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

A. Scope of international obligations¹

<i>Core universal human rights treaties²</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>	<i>Declarations /reservations</i>	<i>Recognition of specific competences of treaty bodies</i>
ICERD	29 Aug. 1968	None	Individual complaints (art. 14): No
ICESCR	24 June 1975	None	-
ICCPR	24 June 1975	None	Inter-State complaints (art. 41): No
CRC	13 July 1994	Yes, general	-
OP-CRC-SC	26 Sep. 2007	None	-
CRPD	23 Oct. 2009	None	-

Core treaties to which Iran is not a party: OP-ICESCR, ICCPR-OP1, ICCPR-OP2, CEDAW, OP-CEDAW, CAT, OP-CAT, OP-CRC-AC, ICRMW, CRPD-OP, and CED.

<i>Other main relevant international instruments</i>	<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	Yes
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	Signature only 2000
Palermo Protocol ³	No
Refugees and stateless persons ⁴	Yes, except 1954 and 1961 Conventions
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols thereto ⁵	Yes, except the Protocols
ILO fundamental conventions ⁶	Yes, except No. 87, 98, 138
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	Yes

1. In 2008, the Secretary-General noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran had a practice of entering general reservations upon signature or ratification, repeatedly cited by treaty bodies as impeding enjoyment of some human rights.⁷ In 2005, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) cited the broad and imprecise nature of Iran's reservation, raising concern about compatibility with the object and purpose of CRC.⁸

2. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences recommended ratifying the Palermo Protocol and CEDAW without reservations and bringing relevant national laws into conformity.⁹

3. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants recommended ratifying ICRMW and harmonizing legislation and policies with it.¹⁰

4. CRC recommended ratifying OP-CRC-AC,¹¹ the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in respect of Intercountry Adoption of 1993¹² and International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 138.¹³

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

5. The Secretary-General indicated that the 1979 Constitution guarantees a wide range of human rights and fundamental freedoms, but in practice there are serious impediments to their full protection and to the independent functioning of State institutions.¹⁴ In 2009, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) noted the challenges for the judicial system in reconciling post-revolutionary Islamic principles with pre-existing laws.¹⁵ In 1993, the Human Rights Committee (HR Committee) noted the lack of transparency and predictability in the application

of Iranian domestic law, and that numerous limitations associated with the protection of religious values, as interpreted by the Iranian authorities, impeded enjoyment of some human rights.¹⁶

6. The Secretary-General noted that to facilitate judicial enforcement of fundamental constitutional rights, the Government has developed complementary legislation on “citizens’ rights”, given legal effect in 2008.¹⁷

7. According to the Secretary-General, the Penal Code and the Code of Penal Procedure provide procedural guarantees aimed at ensuring due process and fair trial rights. Some provisions fall short of international standards.¹⁸ He noted reports that a revised penal code drafted in January 2008 contained provisions that would be incompatible with international standards, including an article on apostasy, making the death penalty mandatory for conversion from Islam.¹⁹ It also contained provisions for other forms of capital punishment, flogging and amputation.²⁰

8. In 2009, UNICEF reported that a bill on the establishment of juvenile courts, submitted to parliament in 2005, was under review, and referred to related amendments to the penal code bill and Penal Procedure Code. A new child protection bill, considering child victims and witnesses of crime needing protection, was also before parliament.²¹

9. In November 2007, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women sent a communication regarding the family protection draft bill, allegedly reversing rights currently enjoyed by women, and reinforcing the unequal legal power of men within the family.²²

10. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) noted the enactment of legislation against incitement to, or acts of, racial discrimination,²³ but invited Iran to consider reviewing the definition of racial discrimination to bring it into conformity with article 1 of ICERD.²⁴

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

11. The Secretary-General noted that the Islamic Human Rights Commission, established in 1996, is not recognized by the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions as complying with the Paris Principles. Iran has also established a human rights headquarters to facilitate international cooperation and coordinate Government bodies.²⁵

12. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression noted, as a major impediment to reform, the various institutional locks on governmental, parliamentary and judicial processes resulting from the control exercised by unelected institutions and bodies that are not accountable to the people.²⁶

13. CRC recommended establishing a statutory, independent institution to determine priorities and monitor and evaluate progress in implementing CRC.²⁷

D. Policy measures

14. CRC recommended that Iran develop a comprehensive policy on children.²⁸ UNICEF reported that the first National Plan of Action on Violence against Children was developed in a broad consultation process. In 2008, the Ministry of Welfare took steps to include violence against children in the draft five-year National Development Plan.²⁹

II. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

1. Cooperation with treaty bodies

<i>Treaty body³⁰</i>	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CERD	2002	Dec. 2003	-	Combined 18th and 19th report due on 2006, received in 2008
CESCR	-	June 1993	-	Second report received November 2009
HR Committee	-	Aug. 1993	-	Third report received October 2009
CRC	2002	March 2005	-	Third and fourth combined reports due 2010.
OP-CRC-SC	n/a	n/a	-	Initial report due October 2009

2. Cooperation with special procedures

<i>Standing invitation issued</i>	Yes
<i>Latest visits or mission reports</i>	Special Rapporteur on the right to freedom of opinion and expression (2003); ³¹ Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Afghanistan (2002); ³² Working Group on arbitrary detention (2003); ³³ Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (2004); ³⁴ Special Rapporteur on violence against women (2005); ³⁵ 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 (2005) ³⁶
<i>Visits agreed upon in principle</i>	Working Group on enforced and involuntary disappearances (postponed, reminder in 2008); Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial summary or arbitrary executions (follow-up request sent in 2006); Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (latest reminder in 2008)
<i>Visits requested and not yet agreed upon</i>	Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (requested in 2005 and 2007); Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (requested in 2006); independent expert on minority issues (requested in 2008)
<i>Facilitation/cooperation during missions</i>	The Special Rapporteur on violence against women thanked the Government for facilitating her visit. ³⁷
<i>Follow-up to visits</i>	-
<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	During the period under review, 214 communications were sent concerning, inter alia, particular groups, including 192 women. The Government replied to 94, representing replies to 44 per cent of communications sent.
<i>Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues³⁸</i>	Iran responded to one of the 16 questionnaires sent by special procedures mandate holders, ³⁹ within the deadlines. ⁴⁰

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

15. The Secretary-General noted the visit of the High Commissioner to Iran in 2007 for a conference on human rights and cultural diversity, where she met senior Government representatives and discussed a range of concerns, including the death penalty (especially for juveniles) and women's rights. The authorities expressed interest in cooperation between the judiciary and OHCHR.⁴¹ The 2007 Resident Coordinator report noted that the High Commissioner also met civil society representatives.⁴²

16. In May 2008, an OHCHR technical assessment mission visited Tehran to explore areas of cooperation. OHCHR suggested accepting a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers before the end of 2009,⁴³ and has been discussing possible activities with the judiciary, including conducting a judicial colloquium on fair trial issues.⁴⁴ Iran contributed financially to OHCHR in 2009.

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non-discrimination

17. In 2008, the Secretary-General highlighted gender equality challenges in Iran, and penal and civil laws containing discriminatory provisions requiring urgent reform.⁴⁵ The HR Committee⁴⁶ and CESCR⁴⁷ observed that the persistence and extent of discrimination was incompatible with ICCPR and ICESCR. The HR Committee cited *inter alia*, punishment and harassment of women who do not conform to a strict dress code.⁴⁸ UNICEF highlighted the fact that landownership remained very low for women.⁴⁹

18. Under Iranian law, provisions for compensation (*diyah* or blood money) for accidents and deaths put a double value on men's lives (and limbs) to those of women.⁵⁰ This was reviewed by parliament, and legislation proposed to recognize the equal value of women.⁵¹ UNICEF noted that in 2008 a law passed parliament recognising women's entitlement to full coverage from insurance companies for accidents leading to injury or death and another law recognizing women's right to inherit land from deceased husbands.⁵²

19. CRC expressed concern that children whose mother is Iranian and who marries a non-Iranian, without official Government consent, will not be recognized as Iranian nationals. The situation affects a large number of children who consequently have neither birth certificate nor nationality.⁵³ The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants noted particularly that marriage between an Afghan man and an Iranian woman is not officially recognized and their children have no legal status because the Afghan man's presence is irregular.⁵⁴

20. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women recommended, *inter alia*, special programmes for minority women who suffer multiple discrimination; and ensuring women's equal rights in entering marriage, during marriage and its dissolution.⁵⁵

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

21. The Secretary-General noted that the death penalty continued to be widely applied, including for juveniles.⁵⁶ The HR Committee recommended curtailing the number of offences punishable by death, avoiding public executions and providing the accused with all necessary guarantees, including a fair trial.⁵⁷

22. The Secretary-General noted that in January 2008, the head of the judiciary issued a circular banning public executions and the publishing of related pictures. However, public executions were still reported.⁵⁸ He noted that public executions "have a dehumanizing effect on the victim and a brutalizing effect on witnesses."⁵⁹

23. The High Commissioner in 2007, 2008 and 2009 expressed her grave concern over executions of juveniles.⁶⁰ The Secretary-General noted in 2008 that the head of the judiciary reportedly established a non-binding moratorium on juvenile executions,⁶¹ but UNICEF cited

trends of prolonging cases involving juvenile offenders until they reached 18 years when the risk of execution became higher.⁶² The Secretary-General noted that reportedly, between 1990 and 2006, 107 offenders under 18 were sentenced to death. The Iranian authorities disputed those figures.⁶³

24. The High Commissioner stressed that it was the state's responsibility to stop juvenile executions, not a family's prerogative.⁶⁴ The Secretary-General in 2008 observed that it was understood that the bill on the establishment of juvenile courts would not abolish the death penalty for those under 18 nor formally raise the age of criminal responsibility.⁶⁵ The High Commissioner highlighted the fact that the bill provided a valuable opportunity to end juvenile executions.⁶⁶

25. In 2006, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women cited with concern numerous reports of women on death row, noting there were 397 women in Evin Prison, 200 of whom were sentenced for "moral crimes".⁶⁷ In 2008, three Special Rapporteurs sent a communication regarding eight women and a man sentenced to death by stoning for adultery. In its response, the Government stated that Islam attributed great importance to safeguarding the security and morality of society.⁶⁸ In 2009, a communication was sent regarding several other such cases.⁶⁹

26. The Secretary-General in 2008 noted reports of amputation, flogging, suspicious deaths and suicides of prisoners,⁷⁰ justified by the authorities as Islamic punishments.⁷¹ It was also reported that those accused of homosexual acts were routinely flogged and threatened with execution.⁷² CRC expressed similar concerns regarding offenders under the age of 18.⁷³

27. Since its establishment in 1980, the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances has transmitted 532 cases to the Government, of which 515 remained outstanding.⁷⁴ It called for measures to prevent further cases, investigate all outstanding cases and bring perpetrators to justice.⁷⁵

28. In protests after the 2009 presidential elections, six special procedures mandate holders noted that at least 20 people were killed and hundreds seriously injured in clashes with security forces who allegedly used live ammunition and rubber bullets. Independent investigations had yet to be carried out.⁷⁶ The High Commissioner also expressed concern about reports of increasing arrests, which may not conform with the law, and the possible illegal use of excessive force, particularly by the Basij militia.⁷⁷

29. The six mandate holders noted reports that the majority of those arrested were detained at Evin and held incommunicado without charge or access to legal representation, raising concerns about the risk of enforced disappearances.⁷⁸ They reiterated grave concerns about reports of killings, ongoing arrests, use of excessive police force and ill-treatment of detainees.⁷⁹ In October 2009, the High Commissioner raised concerns about three people sentenced to death following the elections.⁸⁰

30. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women indicated that the Constitution forbids torture. The Secretary-General noted however that the Penal Code did not clearly define it as a criminal offence, and that CAT was approved by Parliament in 2002, but rejected by the Guardian Council, reportedly because of perceived conflicts with Islamic principles.⁸¹ Three mandate holders expressed serious concern over reports of detainees subjected to torture and harsh interrogations to obtain confessions used in trials at the Revolutionary Court. Reports of

deaths in custody continue.⁸² The HR Committee recommended improving conditions of detention.⁸³

31. During the period under review, 211 communications were sent, some jointly by a number of special procedures mandate holders. Issues raised included cases of men and women, intellectuals, students, artists, human rights defenders and activists, lawyers, religious or ethnic minorities, unionists, journalists, detained and arrested, in most cases, by the Ministry of Intelligence. Communications indicated that the great majority were taken to undisclosed locations, some for interrogation, and later transferred to places of detention where they were held incommunicado for long periods, facilitating perpetration of torture. Detainees were denied medical treatment, and sentenced on grounds like “endangering national security”, “acting to disturb internal state security by establishing links with hostile opposition groups and foreign countries”, and “publication of lies”. Sentences included, inter alia, several years of detention, physical punishment, financial sanctions and capital punishment.⁸⁴

32. The Secretary-General noted that gender-based violence was widespread.⁸⁵ The Special Rapporteur on violence against women highlighted that it was rarely acknowledged as a serious problem by authorities and rarely reported by victims. She noted some self-immolation cases linked to lack of legal protection for women victims of violence, lack of shelters, difficulty in obtaining divorce, child custody laws favouring the father and pervasive gender discrimination.⁸⁶ Some incidents were said to relate to honour crimes.⁸⁷

33. The Special Rapporteur recommended that the Government enhance women’s access to justice; prioritize the elimination of violence against women as a public policy issue to prevent, investigate and punish all such acts; and promote and support the empowerment of women.⁸⁸

34. CRC reiterated its serious concern at the Penal Code provision that fathers who kill their child, or their son’s child, are only required to pay one-third of the blood money to the mother, and are subjected to discretionary punishment, if the mother makes a formal complaint.⁸⁹ It was also concerned about legislation providing for corporal punishment within the family, and that certain forms of sexual abuse of children or grandchildren were not explicitly prohibited.⁹⁰

35. CRC was concerned about the large number of children living in prisons with their mothers, their living conditions and the regulation of their care if they are separated from their mothers.⁹¹

36. The Working Group on arbitrary detention raised concerns over the widespread use of solitary confinement for its own sake and not for disciplinary purposes.⁹²

37. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women cited reports indicating a worrying increase in trafficking of girls and women, mostly in the eastern provinces where women are kidnapped, bought or entered into temporary marriage to be sold into sexual slavery.⁹³ CRC echoed concerns over trafficking facilitated by temporary marriages or *siqeh* - which last from 1 hour to 99 years.⁹⁴ In 2009, the ILO Committee of Experts requested Iran to ensure that children under 18, particularly young girls, are prevented from engaging in trafficking for commercial sexual and labour exploitation.⁹⁵ It requested immediate measures to ensure that the use, procuring or offering of children for prostitution or the production of pornography or pornographic performances are urgently prohibited.⁹⁶

38. CRC continued to be concerned about the large number of children living and/or working on the streets.⁹⁷ The ILO Committee of Experts noted that the prospect of forced early marriages was reportedly one of the underlying causes of the recent phenomenon of runaway girls.⁹⁸ It remarked that street children were particularly exposed to the worst forms of child labour.⁹⁹

3. Administration of justice and the rule of law

39. The HR Committee recommended that legislation and practice be brought into line with the right to a fair trial, including the assistance of counsel, the right to be brought promptly before a judge and tried in public. Urgent consideration should be given to abolition of revolutionary¹⁰⁰ and religious courts, also recommended by the Working Group on arbitrary detention.¹⁰¹

40. Three Special Rapporteurs called attention to the case of ten men sentenced to death after a secret trial in Khuzestan, reporting irregularities in the legal process and treatment of their lawyers. Convictions were reportedly based on confessions extorted under torture.¹⁰² The Working Group on arbitrary detention also noted that the immunity of counsel pleading cases and access to legal aid must be reaffirmed in law.¹⁰³ The Secretary-General noted the concern of the Iranian Bar Association over new legislation establishing a parallel system for the issuance of attorney licences.¹⁰⁴

41. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women recommended, inter alia, ensuring that punishments do not discriminate against women and are proportionate to the offence; instituting proper investigation procedures for rape cases; ensuring victims are not subject to prosecution for adultery where unable to prove rape; and abolishing requirements that women present eyewitnesses to prove violence.¹⁰⁵

42. The Secretary-General, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women,¹⁰⁶ CRC¹⁰⁷ and UNICEF¹⁰⁸ noted that the age for criminal responsibility was set at 14 years and 7 months (15 lunar years) for boys and 8 years and 9 months (9 lunar years) for girls. Children who commit serious crimes could be processed as adults under the Penal Code.¹⁰⁹

43. CRC remained concerned at the poor quality of the juvenile justice system.¹¹⁰ The Secretary-General in 2008 noted that the bill on the establishment of juvenile courts, welcomed by CRC,¹¹¹ promotes restorative justice, community-based solutions and alternatives to criminal sentences.¹¹²

4. Right to marriage and family life

44. CRC regretted that in all actions or decision-making relating to children, the principle of the best interests of the child was not a primary consideration.¹¹³ The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that because child custody laws favour men, women frequently feel no choice but to remain in a relationship with a violent partner.¹¹⁴ CRC was concerned at insufficient information on discrimination against and stigmatization of children born out of wedlock.¹¹⁵

45. CRC noted the increase in the age of marriage for girls from 9 to 13 years (15 for boys) and was seriously concerned at the very low minimum ages.¹¹⁶ CRC urged Iran to set the age of majority at 18 years.¹¹⁷

5. Freedom of movement

46. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that, as the exclusive head of the family, the husband has the right to control his wife's freedom of movement and behaviour in many situations. She must show his notarized approval to obtain a passport and travel abroad.¹¹⁸

6. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

47. The HR Committee emphasized that recognition of a State religion should not result in impairment of rights nor in discrimination against adherents of other religions or non-believers.¹¹⁹ CRC noted that members of unrecognized religions continued to be discriminated against. It was concerned at reports that they, particularly the Bahá'ís, are subjected to harassment, intimidation and imprisonment.¹²⁰ The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing expressed similar concerns.¹²¹

48. The HR Committee expressed concern at the extent of the limitations on freedom of religion, noting that conversion from Islam is punishable.¹²²

49. In 2006, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief expressed concern at the deteriorating situation for religious minorities.¹²³ In 2006, six mandate holders¹²⁴ raised concerns that 173 Nematollah Sufi Muslims were allegedly arrested, interrogated and tortured to force them to sign false confessions stating that their protest was linked to anti-Government groups.¹²⁵

50. The Secretary-General noted reports about Bahá'ís subjected to arbitrary detention, false imprisonment, confiscation and destruction of property, citing a significant increase in violence targeting Bahá'ís, including torture or ill-treatment in custody.¹²⁶ In 2009, two mandate holders noted that application forms for technical and vocational institutes contained a required declaration of religion limited to the four recognized faiths. University officials stated that "according to new guidelines", Bahá'ís were not allowed to pursue higher education.¹²⁷

51. The Special Rapporteur on the right to freedom of opinion and expression noted that as a result of repressive legislation and perception of a repressive culture within the judiciary, there is in practice, systematic repression of any expression in the press criticizing the establishment, particularly religious authorities, or calling for reform.¹²⁸ The Special Rapporteur urged repeal of all criminal provisions dealing with peaceful expression, that these offences be excluded from the competence of the revolutionary courts and that clauses limiting the exercise of this right be clearly defined in law.¹²⁹ He was also concerned at the situation of writers and artists subjected to censorship, as all works of art must obtain prior authorization from the Ministry of Islamic Guidance and Culture.¹³⁰

52. The Secretary-General noted in 2008 that some women's rights activists were indicted on national security grounds owing to their weblogs.¹³¹ He remarked that after the 2009 elections, independent media experienced tightened restrictions, with publications suspended and websites blocked. Authorities imposed restrictions on mobile phone messaging and social networking websites.¹³²

53. The HR Committee was concerned that members of political parties in disagreement with what the authorities believe to be Islamic thinking, or expressing opinions in opposition to official positions, have been discriminated against.¹³³

54. In 2007, the Special Rapporteurs on violence against women, on the right to freedom of opinion and expression and on human rights defenders noted that Iranian women and men who peacefully demonstrated or stood up for gender equality and women's rights had been arrested or attacked on several occasions.¹³⁴ The mandate holders cited people active in the “One Million Signatures Demanding Changes to Discriminatory Laws” campaign, a grass-roots movement promoting gender equality, as particularly targeted.¹³⁵

55. In January 2009, the Secretary-General expressed concern about reports that Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shirin Ebadi was threatened,¹³⁶ citing an increase in human rights violations targeting women, university students, teachers, workers and other activist groups, particularly after the elections.¹³⁷

56. In 2009, the High Commissioner stated that the elections and subsequent protests were a reminder of the vitality of Iran's civil society, but also of the towering constraints peaceful activism faced.¹³⁸ CRC and CERD urged the Government to continue strengthening cooperation with NGOs.¹³⁹

57. UNICEF noted that during the March 2008 parliamentary elections, the percentage of women in parliament dropped from 4.1 in the previous term to 2.8.¹⁴⁰ The Secretary-General¹⁴¹ and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women¹⁴² noted women's limited participation in governance and decision-making.¹⁴³ The HR Committee and CESCR noted that women were not permitted to become magistrates.¹⁴⁴

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

58. CRC remained concerned at the number of children below 15, particularly in rural areas, involved in child labour, especially in the informal sector. It noted that the Labour Code sets the minimum employment age at 15, but the Agricultural Code at 12.¹⁴⁵

59. According to the Secretary-General, unemployment among women was especially acute, noting¹⁴⁶ their limited participation in wage labour outside the agricultural sector. In 2009, the ILO Committee of Experts urged repeal or amendment of laws and regulations restricting women's employment, and the discriminatory application of social security legislation.¹⁴⁷

60. The Secretary-General noted that the Labour Law is vaguely worded regarding the formation of free trade unions. Reportedly, attempts to create workers' associations and strike action over wages were met by arbitrary arrests and violence by security forces.¹⁴⁸ In 2007, two Special Rapporteurs sent a communication regarding the alleged harassment of teachers in connection with protests related to their working conditions.¹⁴⁹

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

61. The UNDP action plan noted that poverty in Iran is characterized by significant regional, rural-urban and gender differences.¹⁵⁰

62. A 2006 World Health Organization (WHO) report noted remarkable developments in the health sector.¹⁵¹ UNICEF and the Secretary-General observed a significant improvement in life

expectancy¹⁵² and health care, including the reduction of child mortality and reproductive health care.¹⁵³ However, the 2006 WHO report indicated that over 10 per cent of the population was not covered by any insurance scheme and cited restricted access and low service availability in less developed provinces.¹⁵⁴

63. CRC recommended measures addressing adolescent health issues and a comprehensive policy on reproductive health counselling and services.¹⁵⁵ UNICEF cited drug use as the highest cause of HIV infection. Approaches aimed at HIV prevention for young people remained a sensitive issue.¹⁵⁶

64. The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing raised concerns about obstacles to the realization of this right, including costs. He expressed concern at discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities and nomadic groups; alleged cases of land confiscation and forced evictions; discrimination against women and the poor; and limited services for informal settlements and poor neighborhoods.¹⁵⁷ He received testimonies on obstacles faced by single and divorced women wishing to buy and rent houses¹⁵⁸ and expressed particular concern on the insufficiency of safe houses for runaway girls and street women.¹⁵⁹

65. In Khuzestan, the Special Rapporteur visited lands traditionally cultivated by Iranian Arabs, expropriated by the Government for remarkably low prices for development projects and plantations. Those affected had no access to legal remedies.¹⁶⁰

66. According to information received, property confiscation in rural areas was often accompanied by threats and violence, affecting particularly religious minorities.¹⁶¹

67. The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing noted that housing, water, sanitation, electricity and protection from evictions must be addressed together, ensuring priority for women and vulnerable communities.¹⁶²

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

68. The Secretary-General noted great improvements in the education sector, while challenges included a significant rise in the school-age population and inadequate rural facilities.¹⁶³ The Special Rapporteur on violence against women cited the ratio of girls to boys in primary school as almost equal. In higher education, 62 per cent of students were women.¹⁶⁴

69. CRC remained concerned that working children, children living on the streets and without complete personal documents, particularly refugees with binational parents, had reduced access to schools,¹⁶⁵ citing also the lack of mobile schools for nomadic children.¹⁶⁶

70. CERD requested information on opportunities for minorities to learn their mother tongue and its use as a medium of instruction.¹⁶⁷ Two mandate holders sent a communication regarding the demand by Azeri Turks for better recognition of cultural and linguistic rights.¹⁶⁸

71. CRC was concerned at the low number of disabled children attending school and lack of information on attempts at integration.¹⁶⁹

10. Minorities and indigenous peoples

72. In 2008 and 2009, the Secretary-General noted a pattern of concerns with respect to protection of minorities, including Bahá'ís, Arabs in Khuzestan, Nematollahi Sufi Muslims, Kurds, Sunnis, Baluchis, Azeri-Turks and Christians.¹⁷⁰

73. In 2007, three mandate holders urged the Government to stop the imminent execution of seven Ahwazi Arab men and grant them a fair and public hearing.¹⁷¹ In 2008, three Special Rapporteurs sent a communication regarding death sentences reportedly imposed on three ethnic Kurds found guilty of "*mohareb*". Reportedly this charge is directed mainly against political dissidents, critics of the Government and persons accused of espionage. The query to provide the definition of *mohareb* has remained without reply.¹⁷²

74. In 2009, the ILO Committee of Experts sought information on the employment of ethnic minority groups, including in the public sector; on efforts to ensure equal opportunities; and on positions from which they are excluded on grounds of national security.¹⁷³

11. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

75. CRC was concerned at reports of the deportation of unaccompanied children, mostly Afghans, and the lack of access by humanitarian organizations to them; unaccompanied children arriving from neighbouring countries, particularly Afghanistan, allegedly for exploitation; and about the fate of children and families not in a position to return to Afghanistan for reasons including strong links with Iran or Iranian mothers.¹⁷⁴

76. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants noted that there were no clear policy, legislative and administrative measures governing legal migration from Afghanistan to Iran, contributing greatly to irregular and extralegal cross-border movements and encouraging use of smugglers and traffickers.¹⁷⁵

77. She noted a tendency to equate the situation of irregular migrants with that of refugees, adding that many irregular migrants were exploited in the black market,¹⁷⁶ and recommended ensuring the application of international human rights standards concerning their apprehension, deportation, family reunion and conditions of detention.¹⁷⁷ Irregular migrants detained pending deportation should be given access to courts and lawyers, and steps taken to ensure that victims of trafficking are not criminalized.¹⁷⁸

III. ACHIEVEMENTS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

78. UNICEF noted that economic growth and implementation of extensive welfare programmes have improved the living standards of a large proportion of the population.¹⁷⁹ The Secretary-General observed gains in economic, social and cultural rights, although significant disparities remain between urban and less-developed regions, and along gender lines.¹⁸⁰

79. According to the Secretary-General, Iran has been a long-standing and generous host to a substantial refugee population, particularly from Afghanistan. CERD and CCPR have also noted this.¹⁸¹ Two inclusive refugee registration exercises were conducted between 2005 and 2007, and a third in 2008. Commendably, issuance of work permits was also foreseen.¹⁸²

IV. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES AND COMMITMENTS

Pledges by the State

80. In 2006, Iran declared it was considering accession to CEDAW and CAT, and reconsidering its reservation to CRC. It pledged to continue extending full cooperation with the Human Rights Council, including special procedures and the UPR. It committed to upholding the highest standards of all human rights, doubling its continuous and target-oriented efforts, and protecting against and preventing discrimination in law and practice.¹⁸³

V. CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

81. The Resident Coordinator in Iran in his 2008 annual report cited the importance of continuing to engage in capacity-building for human rights.¹⁸⁴ The 2005-2009 United Nations Development Assistance Framework focused on five areas of cooperation, including strengthening capacities for achieving the MDGs.¹⁸⁵

82. CRC recommended the Government collaborate with NGOs working with street children and seek technical assistance from relevant international organizations.¹⁸⁶ On young people and the fight against HIV/AIDS, CRC encouraged Iran to seek technical assistance from WHO, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, UNICEF, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Population Fund.¹⁸⁷

Notes

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

² The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

³ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

⁴ 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

⁵ Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.

⁶ International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour, Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organize and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

⁷ A/63/459, para. 73.

⁸ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 6. See also UNICEF, submission to the UPR on Iran, p. 1, para. 5.

⁹ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 72 (b) and (d).

¹⁰ E/CN.4/2005/85/Add.2, para. 68.

¹¹ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 75.

¹² *Ibid.*, para. 50.

¹³ *Ibid.*, para. 69.

¹⁴ A/63/459, para. 3. See also A/64/357, para. 3.

¹⁵ UNICEF submission, p.2, para. 7.

¹⁶ Comments of the Human Rights Committee, CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 6. See also concluding observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, E/C.12/1993/7, para. 4, E/CN.4/2004/62/Add.2, para. 102 and CRC/C/15/Add.254, paras. 39-40.

¹⁷ A/63/459, para 5.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 6.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 7.

²⁰ A/64/357, para. 4.

²¹ UNICEF submission, p. 3, para. 17.

²² A/HRC/7/6/Add.1, paras.214-226.

²³ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, CERD/C/63/CO/6, para. 8.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 11.

²⁵ A/63/459, para. 13 and A/64/357, para. 5.

²⁶ E/CN.4/2004/62/Add.2, page 2.

²⁷ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 13.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 11.

²⁹ UNICEF submission, p. 2, para. 8. See also A/62/209, para. 9.

³⁰ The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
HR Committee	Human Rights Committee
CRC	Committee on the Rights of the Child

³¹ E/CN.4/2004/62/Add.2.

³² A/55/346.

³³ E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.2 and Corr.1.

³⁴ E/CN.4/2005/85/Add.2.

³⁵ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3.

³⁶ E/CN.4/2006/41/Add.2.

³⁷ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 5.

³⁸ The questionnaires included in this section are those which have been reflected in an official report by a special procedure mandate-holder.

³⁹ See (a) report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children (E/CN.4/2006/62) and the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2006/67), joint questionnaire on the relationship between trafficking and the demand for commercial sexual exploitation sent in July 2005; (b) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/4/31), questionnaire on the sale of children's organs sent in July 2006; (c) report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (A/HRC/4/23), questionnaire on issues related to forced marriages and trafficking in persons sent in 2006; (d) report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (A/HRC/4/24), questionnaire on the impact of certain laws and administrative measures on migrants sent in 2006; (e) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (A/HRC/4/29), questionnaire on the right to education of persons with disabilities sent in 2006; (f) report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (A/HRC/4/35/Add.3), questionnaire on human rights policies and management practices; (g) report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (A/HRC/6/15), questionnaire on the human rights of indigenous people sent in August 2007; (h) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/7/8), questionnaire on assistance and rehabilitation programmes for child victims of sexual exploitation sent in July 2007; (i) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (A/HRC/8/10), questionnaire on the right to education in emergency situations sent in 2007; (j) report on the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (A/HRC/10/16 and Corr.1), questionnaire on trafficking in persons, especially women and children; (k) report of the independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty to the eleventh session of the Council (June 2009) (A/HRC/11/9), questionnaire on Cash Transfer Programmes, sent in October 2008; (l) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (June 2009) (A/HRC/11/8), questionnaire on the right to education for persons in detention; (m) report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, (June 2009) (A/HRC/11/6), questionnaire on violence against women and political economy; (n) report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences (A/HRC/12/21), questionnaire on national legislation and initiatives addressing the issue of bonded labour; (o) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food to the twelfth session of the Council (A/HRC/12/31), questionnaire on world food and nutrition security; (p) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/12/23), questionnaire on measures to prevent and combat online child pornography.

⁴⁰ Questionnaire on the right to education of persons with disabilities.

⁴¹ A/64/357, para. 62.

⁴² UNDG, Resident Coordinator Annual Report – Iran, 2007, available at <http://www.undg.org/rcar07.cfm?fuseaction=RCAR&ctyIDC=IRA&P=589> (accessed on 29 September 2009).

⁴³ A/63/459, para. 76.

⁴⁴ A/64/357, para. 62.

⁴⁵ A/63/459, para. 49.

⁴⁶ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 13.

⁴⁷ E/C.12/1993/7, paragraph 6.

⁴⁸ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 13.

⁴⁹ UNICEF submission, p. 4, para. 23.

⁵⁰ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 13.

⁵¹ A/63/459, para. 50.

⁵² UNICEF submission, p. 4, para. 23.

⁵³ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 35.

⁵⁴ E/CN.4/2005/85/Add.2, para. 27.

⁵⁵ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 75.

⁵⁶ A/63/459, para. 23.

⁵⁷ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 18. See also General Assembly resolutions 63/191 and 62/168.

⁵⁸ A/63/459, para. 33, and A/64/357, para. 36.

⁵⁹ A/64/357, para. 36.

⁶⁰ See public statements of the High Commissioner of 6 December 2007 and 10 June 2008 available at <http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/FramePage/country+Iran?OpenDocument> for specific cases. See also A/63/459, para. 44.

⁶¹ A/63/459, paras. 37 – 38.

⁶² UNICEF submission, p.3, para. 16.

⁶³ A/63/459, para. 39.

-
- ⁶⁴ Public statement of the High Commissioner of 13 October 2009 available at <http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/FramePage/country+Iran?OpenDocument>.
- ⁶⁵ A/63/459, paras. 37 - 38.
- ⁶⁶ Public statement of the High Commissioner of 13 October 2009 available at <http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/FramePage/country+Iran?OpenDocument>. See also CRC/C/15/Add.254, paras. 29-30.
- ⁶⁷ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 41.
- ⁶⁸ A/HRC/11/6/Add.1, paras. 292-303.
- ⁶⁹ Ibid., paras.327-335. See also Public statement of the High Commissioner of 10 July 2007..
- ⁷⁰ A/63/459, para. 23. See also CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 11.
- ⁷¹ Ibid., para. 26.
- ⁷² Ibid., para. 27.
- ⁷³ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 45. –
- ⁷⁴ A/HRC/10/9, para. 197-202.
- ⁷⁵ E/CN.4/2006/56 and Corr.1, para. 292.
- ⁷⁶ United Nations experts gravely concerned by mass arrests in Iran, 7 July 2009, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2009.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009. See also A/64/357, para. 21.
- ⁷⁷ Public statement of the High Commissioner on 19 June 2009 available at <http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/FramePage/country+Iran?OpenDocument>. See also A/64/357, para. 19 and UN experts gravely concerned by mass arrests in Iran, 7 July 2009, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2009.htm>.
- ⁷⁸ UN experts gravely concerned by mass arrests in Iran, 7 July 2009, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2009.htm>.
- ⁷⁹ Ibid..
- ⁸⁰ Public statement of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of 13 October 2009 available at <http://www.unhchr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/FramePage/country+Iran?OpenDocument>.
- ⁸¹ A/63/459, para. 24 and A/64/357, para. 29.
- ⁸² Iran: detainees subjected to torture and ill-treatment to extract confessions, warn United Nations experts, 13 August 2009, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2009.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009.
- ⁸³ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 19.
- ⁸⁴ E/CN.4/2005/51/Add.1 paras. 38-46, E/CN.4/2005/61/Add.1 paras. 135-143, E/CN.4/2006/5/Add.1 paras. 170-210, E/CN.4/2006/6/Add.1 paras. 96-115, E/CN.4/2006/16/Add.1 paras. 41-42, E/CN.4/2006/48/Add.1 paras. 26-29, E/CN.4/2006/52/Add.1 paras. 106-122, E/CN.4/2006/53/Add.1 pp. 87-111, E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1 paras. 419-455, E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.1, E/CN.4/2006/67/Add.1 paras. 65-68, E/CN.4/2006/95/Add.1 paras. 256-269, A/HRC/4/19/Add.1 paras. 103-119, A/HRC/4/20/Add.1 pp. 10, 151-172, A/HRC/4/21/Add.1 paras. 177-206, A/HRC/4/25/Add.1 paras. 179-200, A/HRC/4/27/Add.1 paras. 278-312, A/HRC/4/31/Add.1 para. 96, A/HRC/4/33/Add.1 paras. 86-114, A/HRC/4/34/Add.1 paras. 298-331, A/HRC/4/37/Add.1 paras. 327-354, A/HRC/4/40/Add.1 pp. 70-74, A/HRC/7/6/Add.1 paras. 192-233, A/HRC/7/10/Add.1 paras. 116-129, A/HRC/7/19/Add.1 paras. 85-91, A/HRC/7/23/Add.1 paras. 20-23, A/HRC/7/28/Add.1 paras. 1136-1220, A/HRC/8/4/Add.1 paras. 153-166, A/HRC/8/10/Add.1 paras. 39-43, A/HRC/10/3/Add.1 paras. 97-106, A/HRC/10/8/Add.1 paras. 81-112, A/HRC/11/6/Add.1 paras. 247-337, A/HRC/11/7/Add.1 paras. 141-149, A/HRC/11/36/Add.1 paras. 42-45, A/HRC/11/841/Add.1 paras. 137-161. See also UN experts gravely concerned by mass arrests in Iran, 7 July 2009, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2009.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009.
- ⁸⁵ A/63/459, para. 52.
- ⁸⁶ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 34.
- ⁸⁷ Ibid., para. 35.
- ⁸⁸ Ibid., page 2.
- ⁸⁹ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 31.
- ⁹⁰ Ibid., para. 47.
- ⁹¹ Ibid., para. 51.
- ⁹² E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.2, para. 54
- ⁹³ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 36.
- ⁹⁴ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 70.
- ⁹⁵ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Direct Request concerning Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), 2009, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092009IRN182, para. 10. See also CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 71.

- ⁹⁶ ILO Committee of Experts, Individual Direct Request concerning Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), 2009, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092009IRN182, paras. 3-4.
- ⁹⁷ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 64.
- ⁹⁸ ILO Committee of Experts, Individual Direct Request concerning Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), 2009, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092009IRN182, para. 12.
- ⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 13.
- ¹⁰⁰ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 20.
- ¹⁰¹ E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.2, para. 65 (1).
- ¹⁰² Iran must stop executions of Ahwazi Arabs sentenced to death following a secret, grossly unfair trial, rapporteurs say, 10 January 2007, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2007.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009.
- ¹⁰³ E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.2, para. 65 (4).
- ¹⁰⁴ A/63/459, para. 69.
- ¹⁰⁵ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 73.
- ¹⁰⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 50.
- ¹⁰⁷ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 72.
- ¹⁰⁸ UNICEF submission, p. 3, para. 17.
- ¹⁰⁹ A/63/459, para. 41.
- ¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 72.
- ¹¹¹ A/63/459, paras. 37 – 38.
- ¹¹² CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 8.
- ¹¹³ *Ibid.*, para. 27.
- ¹¹⁴ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 47.
- ¹¹⁵ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 24.
- ¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 22.
- ¹¹⁷ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 23.
- ¹¹⁸ See also E/C.12/1993/7, para. 6 and CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 24.
- ¹¹⁹ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 22.
- ¹²⁰ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 41. See also CCPR/C/79/Add.25.
- ¹²¹ E/CN.4/2006/41/Add.2, para. 81.
- ¹²² CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 16.
- ¹²³ Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief concerned about treatment of followers of Baha'í faith in Iran, 20 March 2006, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2006.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009.
- ¹²⁴ The independent expert on minority issues, 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 independence of judges and lawyers, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- ¹²⁵ A/HRC/7/23/Add.1, para. 20; A/HRC/4/19/Add.1, paras. 103-106; A/HRC/4/25/Add.1, para. 179
- ¹²⁶ A/63/459, paras. 55 and 57. See also CERD/C/63/CO/6, para. 14, E/CN.4/2004/62/Add.2, para. 84, A/64/357, para. 48 and A/HRC/10/8/Add.1, paras. 86-89.
- ¹²⁷ A/HRC/10/8/Add.1, paras.107-108. See also CERD/C/63/CO/6, para. 14, CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 59 and E/C.12/1993/7, para. 5.
- ¹²⁸ E/CN.4/2004/62/Add.2, para. 45. See also A/63/459, para. 22.
- ¹²⁹ E/CN.4/2004/62/Add.2, page 2.
- ¹³⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 81.
- ¹³¹ A/63/459, para. 65. See also CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 15.
- ¹³² A/64/357, para. 14.
- ¹³³ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 15.
- ¹³⁴ UN Experts deeply concerned about arrests of women's rights defenders in Iran, 5 April 2007, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2007.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009. See also Public statement of the High Commissioner of 6 March 2007, and A/63/495, para. 53.
- ¹³⁵ UN Experts warn on the ongoing crackdown of women's rights defenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran, 27 November 2008, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2008.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009. See also A/63/459, para. 65.
- ¹³⁶ Public statement of the Secretary-General of 3 January 2009 available at <http://www.unhcr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/FramePage/country+Iran?OpenDocument>.
- ¹³⁷ A/64/357, para. 14.

-
- ¹³⁸ High Commissioner's oral statement to the twelfth session of the Human Rights Council of 14 September 2009 available at <http://www.unhcr.ch/hurricane/hurricane.nsf/view01/2DD5A4BD46C13CEFC1257631002D5B6B?opendocument>.
- ¹³⁹ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 19 and CERD/C/63/CO/6, para. 17.
- ¹⁴⁰ UNICEF submission, p. 4, para. 23.
- ¹⁴¹ A/63/459, para. 51.
- ¹⁴² E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 29.
- ¹⁴³ See also UN Experts warn on the ongoing crackdown of women's rights defenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran, 27 November 2008, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2008.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009.
- ¹⁴⁴ CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 13 and E/C.12/1993/7, 9 June 1993, para. 6.
- ¹⁴⁵ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 68. See also ILO Committee of Experts, Individual Direct Request concerning Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), 2009, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092009IRN182, para. 6.
- ¹⁴⁶ A/63/459, para. 18 and A/64/357, para. 11. See also UNICEF submission, p. 4, para. 23.
- ¹⁴⁷ ILO Committee of Experts, Individual Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), 2009, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 062009IRN111, para. 13. See also E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 75.
- ¹⁴⁸ A/63/459, para. 66.
- ¹⁴⁹ A/HRC/8/10/Add.1, para. 39.
- ¹⁵⁰ UNDP, Country Programme Action Plan 2005-2009, p. 2, para. 2.4, available at http://www.un.org.ir/Pub_Gallery/Publications/General%20Documents/UNDP-CPAP.pdf (accessed on 29 September 2009).
- ¹⁵¹ WHO, Country Cooperation Strategy at a Glance, Geneva, 2006, available at http://www.who.int/countryfocus/cooperation_strategy/ccsbrief_irn_en.pdf (accessed 9 September 2009).
- ¹⁵² A/63/459, para. 19 and A/64/357, para. 12.
- ¹⁵³ UNICEF submission, p. 2, paras. 14-15.
- ¹⁵⁴ WHO, Country Cooperation Strategy at a Glance, Geneva, 2006, available at http://www.who.int/countryfocus/cooperation_strategy/ccsbrief_irn_en.pdf (accessed 9 September 2009).
- ¹⁵⁵ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 58.
- ¹⁵⁶ UNICEF submission, p. 4, para. 21.
- ¹⁵⁷ E/CN.4/2006/41/Add.2, page 2
- ¹⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 95
- ¹⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, paras.101 and 105.
- ¹⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 79
- ¹⁶¹ *Ibid.*, para. 83
- ¹⁶² *Ibid.*, para. 32
- ¹⁶³ A/63/459, para. 17 and A/64/357, para. 10.
- ¹⁶⁴ E/CN.4/2006/61/Add.3, para. 26.
- ¹⁶⁵ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 59. See also UNICEF submission, para. 19.
- ¹⁶⁶ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 60.
- ¹⁶⁷ CERD/C/63/CO/6, para. 13.
- ¹⁶⁸ A/HRC/4/19/Add.1, paras 109-110.
- ¹⁶⁹ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 53.
- ¹⁷⁰ A/63/459, para. 59 and A/64/357, para. 47.
- ¹⁷¹ Iran must stop executions of Ahwazi Arabs sentenced to death following a secret, grossly unfair trial, rapporteurs say, 10 January 2007, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/press2007.htm>, accessed on 14 September 2009.
- ¹⁷² A/HRC/10/3/Add.1, paras. 97-105.
- ¹⁷³ ILO Committee of Experts, Individual Observation concerning Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), 2009, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 062009IRN111, para. 15.
- ¹⁷⁴ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 62.
- ¹⁷⁵ E/CN.4/2005/85/Add.2, para. 60.
- ¹⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, paras. 57 and 59.
- ¹⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, para. 71.
- ¹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 72.
- ¹⁷⁹ UNICEF submission, p. 1, para. 2.
- ¹⁸⁰ A/63/459, paras. 14 and 20.
- ¹⁸¹ A/63/459, para. 61, CERD/C/63/CO/6, para. 5 and CCPR/C/79/Add.25, para. 5.

¹⁸² A/63/459, para. 61.

¹⁸³ Pledges and commitments undertaken by Iran before the Human Rights Council, as contained in the letter dated 8 May 2006 sent by the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat of the United Nations, available at <http://www.un.org/ga/60/elect/hrc/>, (accessed on 9 September 2009).

¹⁸⁴ UNDG, Resident Coordinator Annual Report – Iran, 2008, available at <http://www.undg.org/rcar08.cfm?fuseaction=RCAR&ctyIDC=IRA&P=1095> (accessed on 29 September 2009).

¹⁸⁵ Iran UNDAF 2005-2009, 2004, p. 3, available at: http://www.undg.org/archive_docs/5291-Iran_UNDAF.pdf (accessed on 29 October 2009).

¹⁸⁶ CRC/C/15/Add.254, para. 65.

¹⁸⁷ Ibid., para. 58.
