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

Chad

The present report is a summary of seven stakeholders' submissions¹ to the universal periodic review. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. 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), nor any judgement or determination in relation to specific claims. The information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes and, to the extent possible, the original texts have not been altered. Lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to the absence of submissions by stakeholders regarding these particular issues. The full texts of all submissions received are available on the OHCHR website. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review.

* The present document was not edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

A. Scope of international obligations

1. The Joint Submission (*La Contribution Conjointe*) stresses that Chad is party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.² The Association AZUR Développement/Sexual Rights Initiative (AAD/SRI) add that Chad has ratified the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973) and No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999).³

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

2. According to Institute on Religion and Public Policy (IRPP), after years of dictatorship and single party rule, Chad adopted its present Constitution in April 1996, which required the Chadian Government to respect ethnic, religious, regional and cultural diversity and uphold the values and protections provided in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on religious freedoms. The most comprehensive statement on the freedom of religion is found in articles 14 and 27 of its Constitution.⁴

3. The Joint Submission points out that Chad is ruled by a presidential regime that constitutionally accords substantial powers to the President of the Republic who, in addition, holds unlimited discretionary powers to do anything, including promoting and appointing magistrates. The President is responsible for appointing and dismissing all State officials. In the view of the Joint Submission, the National Assembly is composed in its majority of members of the ruling party and its allies who are elected during polls that are often rigged against candidates of opposition parties. The justice system suffers daily from inappropriate interventions by the executive power, and even the legislative power.⁵

C. Policy measures

4. AAD/SRI note that, as regards international and regional mobilization against all forms of violence against children, a favourable political context for the protection of children has been created in Chad with the following: the drafting of the National Programme of Action for Chadian Children (1999); the drafting of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper in which strategies for reducing poverty in all social sectors are described, with special emphasis on protecting children in general and vulnerable groups in particular; the fact that the Government has taken into account the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child; and institution-building.⁶

II. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

A. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

5. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues/Ligue tchadienne des droits de l'homme (Chadian Human Rights League)/Association tchadienne pour la promotion et la défense des droits de l'homme (Chadian Association for the Promotion and Defence of Human Rights) (FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH) state that, although Chad is party to the seven main international human

rights instruments, actual respect for these rights remains at a standstill, owing largely to the national and regional situation which is marked by strategies for military forces to accede to and maintain power, for controlling territories and for mutual support among armed groups.⁷

6. In the view of FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, the absence of democracy and freedom of expression and problems linked to good governance and to respect for human rights as a whole have led to recurring political and military crises as well as inter-ethnic conflicts, the most visible and symptomatic manifestation of which is the increasing number of armed rebellions. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH state that the latest offensive was led by a coalition of three rebel groups on 2 and 3 February 2008 in an assault on the capital; resistance by loyalist forces, while enabling them to regain effective control of the capital, was accompanied and followed by serious violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law with respect to the civilian population of the capital and the surrounding area.⁸

1. Equality and non-discrimination

7. The Joint Submission points out that women are suffering discrimination, particularly with regard to issues of succession, leadership and decision-making. The Joint Submission adds that women are subjected to this ordeal because of prejudices, failure to apply laws and the judicial vacuum left by the failure to promulgate the Persons and Family Code for over 10 years.⁹

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

8. The Joint Submission states that the right to life is suffering serious, widespread, systematic and daily violations, mainly at the hands of the armed forces and the security forces, armed groups operating on the national territory and certain individuals claiming to be close to the ruling power who are illegally in possession of weapons of war with the connivance of the public authorities.¹⁰

9. According to FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, 11 Chadian rebel chiefs and the former President, Hissein Habré, were sentenced to death in absentia in August 2008 for endangering the constitutional order and the territory's integrity and security during a summary trial in which the right to defence was not respected. On 6 and 9 November 2003, nine persons who had been convicted of murder or manslaughter and sentenced to death by a criminal court were executed. These executions brought an end to a de facto moratorium on the death penalty that had been in place for over 10 years.¹¹ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH call upon the Chadian authorities to adopt a moratorium on the death penalty, preliminary to the definitive abolition of this penalty, and to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.¹²

10. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH state that summary executions are a common practice in Chad, particularly during the many and regular clashes between the Chadian National Army (ANT) and the various rebel groups. It is estimated that, during the attempted coups d'état in 2006 and 2008, there were several hundred extrajudicial summary executions.¹³

11. The Joint Submission points out that many cases of abduction followed by forced disappearance are recorded daily and are carried out by the military, secret-service agents and sometimes ordinary individuals. The Joint Submission notes that abduction is generally motivated by personal and/or political settling of scores, that in most cases those who are or who may be identified as responsible are in no way held to account and that the victims are generally tortured to death using various methods.¹⁴

12. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH stress that arbitrary detention is common in Chad and is aggravated by the widespread existence of illegal private detention centres, and that since 3 February 2008 several

members of the political opposition have been arrested arbitrarily and taken to unknown and illegal places of detention. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH add that the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the events at N'Djamena highlights the existence of secret detention centres in which detainees are outside judicial supervision. Similarly, official detention centres do not hold a guarantee against disappearance. According to FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, it would seem that to date over 200 prisoners of war captured during the events of February 2008 remain missing and official detention centres are full to overflowing with detainees.¹⁵

13. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH report that Mr. Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh, former Chadian President, was arrested by the security forces or the Chadian army on 3 February 2008 at his home in N'Djamena and taken to an unknown place of detention. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH take the view that he was the victim of forced disappearance.¹⁶ This case is also mentioned by the Joint Submission,¹⁷ Human Rights Watch (HRW)¹⁸ and the International Federation of ACAT (Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture)/ACAT-Tchad/Droits de l'homme sans frontières (Human Rights Without Frontiers) (FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF).¹⁹

14. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH call upon the Chadian authorities to incorporate the provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment into domestic legislation,²⁰ and FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF recommend that a definition of torture in keeping with article 1 of the Convention, along with appropriate penalties, should be incorporated into the Criminal Code and that the Code should stipulate that any statement shown to have been obtained through torture is invalid and cannot be used directly or indirectly as evidence in proceedings.²¹ According to the Joint Submission, there are daily violations of physical integrity in gendarmeries, police stations, National Security Agency premises and private homes. Some traditional military authorities run private prisons and use the same methods as the political police under the regime of former dictator Hissein Habré.²² Similar information is provided by FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF.²³

15. According to FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH²⁴ and FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF,²⁵ during the clashes of February 2008, some members of the Government forces allegedly committed acts of torture, particularly against the main political opponents in Chad. As members of the joint committee responsible for searches - including members of the presidential guard - combed the area, they committed abuses and violated human rights, used violence against civilians and reportedly carried out acts of pillage.²⁶ Similar information is provided by the Joint Submission.²⁷

16. According to HRW, between October 2005 and April 2008, there were 140 attacks on humanitarian workers in eastern Chad, including 84 vehicle hijackings and violence and insecurity have only increased with time: in the first five months of 2008, five fatal attacks were carried out against humanitarian workers. Attacks against humanitarian workers have been met by impunity.²⁸ It recommended to the Government to make it its priority to do everything possible to support and protect humanitarian aid workers, including the immediate replacement of abusive local government officials and the prosecution of those responsible for crimes against humanitarian aid workers.²⁹

17. The Joint Submission states that Chadian women are suffering various forms of violence, particularly rape, sexual harassment and domestic violence; rape is a taboo subject and victims do not speak about it for fear of humiliation or rejection by society.³⁰ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH report that, during the events of February 2008, many cases of rape were recorded, particularly in the N'Djamena districts which were under the control of armed Sudanese members of the Justice and

Equality Movement (JEM), and that the rapes in these districts seemed to be punitive measures against the civilian population of the Gorane and Ouaddai ethnic groups, of which most of the rebels were members.³¹ HRW reported similar information.³²

18. HRW mentioned that in displaced persons sites, tasks that are traditionally allocated to women and girls put them at risk for rape and that it has documented rapes in the refugee camp environment, with several victims subsequently committing suicide due to social ostracism. It has also documented numerous instances of gender-based violence within camps for refugees and displaced persons, with women complaining of physical abuse by male residents of the camps, including male family members.³³ Similar information was provided by AAD/SRI.³⁴

19. The Joint Submission states that female circumcision is not being combated either through legislation or by the authorities, which allow this practice to continue even at the risk of victims' lives under the pretext that it is a traditional value. The Joint Submission considers the Promotion of Reproductive Health Act to be limited because it does not provide penalties for those guilty of female circumcision and their accomplices.³⁵

20. The Joint Submission stresses that Chadian children are subjected to abuses such as enlistment in armed forces or groups, commercial sexual exploitation, abduction, trafficking, early marriage, low school enrolment among girls, torture and ill-treatment. Children are considered by their parents as a source of wealth to be exploited in order to resolve their problems, which leads to the worst forms of child labour.³⁶ AAD/SRI point out that all provisions proscribing violence against children impose imprisonment and fines on the perpetrators of such acts and that, should the perpetrator be related to the child, or have authority over the child, this constitutes an aggravating circumstance.³⁷

21. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH point out that child soldiers under the age of 18 remain a reality in the Chadian army and that the Chadian Government, far from demobilizing children, is actually continuing to recruit them.³⁸ The Joint Submission notes that, following the agreement between the Government and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in May 2007 on the withdrawal of 7,000 children associated with armed forces and groups, only 15.52 per cent of such children were withdrawn from the Chadian National Army (ANT) and that, through a lack of support and follow-up measures, these rescued children often rejoin the army or constitute a public danger (*coupeurs de routes* or highwaymen).³⁹ Similar information was reported by HRW.⁴⁰

22. HRW noted that the recruitment of children into the ANT is routine in IDP sites and that children in Sudanese refugee camps in eastern Chad are also subject to recruitment, primarily by the Justice and Equality Movement, a Sudanese rebel group that receives backing from the Chadian Government. HRW added that it is also apparent that forced recruitment has taken place in displaced persons camps⁴¹ and recommended to the Government to: undertake an information campaign to ensure that field commanders within its armed forces are aware of the Government's obligations under international law to prevent the use and recruitment of child soldiers; take action to ensure the demobilization of all child soldiers and end the recruitment of children under the age of 18 by all armed groups operating on Chadian territory; investigate and prosecute those responsible for the use and recruitment of child soldiers and senior officials implicated, regardless of rank, including as a matter of command responsibility; develop a time-bound action plan to prevent illegal recruitment and demobilize child soldiers; establish a national institution to coordinate the release and reintegration of children associated with armed forces and groups; criminalize the unlawful use and recruitment of children under domestic laws; and agree to designate demilitarized zones as sanctuaries in conflict areas and pre-position humanitarian relief in known places of refuge.⁴²

23. Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (GIEACPC) indicated that corporal punishment of children is lawful in the home, that laws against violence and abuse, including the prohibition of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in Act No. 06/PR/2002, are not interpreted as prohibiting corporal punishment of children and that in August 2007, a child protection law was being drafted, but it has no further information in this regard. It noted that there is no explicit prohibition of corporal punishment in schools, that in the penal system, corporal punishment is unlawful as a sentence for crime but is not explicitly prohibited as a disciplinary measure in penal institutions and that corporal punishment is lawful in alternative care settings.⁴³

3. Administration of justice, including impunity and the rule of law

24. The Joint Submission mentions that the judiciary continues to be paralysed by factors such as corruption, the slowness of the judicial process, poor working conditions, lack of judges' independence, lack of political will in the application of legislation, failure to adapt legislative texts to reality, lack of resources, the population's resignation, poverty, intimidation, influence peddling, interference of the administrative and military authorities at all levels of procedure, and impunity. These practices, according to the Joint Submission, encourage abuses, violations and criminal acts of all kinds. Those who embezzle public funds, corrupters and corrupt, criminals, torturers and many other offenders are never held to account and are sometimes promoted to positions of responsibility.⁴⁴

25. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH point out that the serious malfunctioning of the Chadian judicial system constitutes a violation of the right to a fair trial and that the system's lack of independence remains the main obstacle to observance of the rights guaranteed by the international instruments ratified by Chad.⁴⁵ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH⁴⁶ and FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF⁴⁷ state that, although the Chadian Code of Criminal Procedure guarantees the right of disadvantaged persons to benefit from legal assistance, insufficient human and material resources mean that adequate legal aid cannot be provided to detainees.

26. According to FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, the lack of independence of the justice system leads to impunity for perpetrators of serious and massive international crimes. For example, the judicial inquiry that began in October 2000 into the alleged accomplices of Hissein Habré has still not led to any procedural action, even less to any judicial decisions, while some of the alleged perpetrators under investigation, including those in the former Documentation and Security Directorate, still hold posts within the current security apparatus in Chad.⁴⁸

27. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH stress that the current widespread practices of arbitrary arrest and detention and prolonged and improper pretrial detention, along with endemic corruption, make the principle of being tried within a reasonable time totally inoperative in Chad.⁴⁹ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF point out that, although article 243 of the Code of Criminal Procedure stipulates that "pretrial detention must be in a prison, in accommodation separate from that of convicted persons", in practice the executive power cites budgetary difficulties that prevent separate detention facilities from being built.⁵⁰ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF report that, with the exception of the premises of the National Security Agency, to which access is almost impossible, detainees can generally be visited by their families and that in the provinces these visits are negotiated in return for a small amount of money.⁵¹

28. In the view of FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, this serious malfunctioning of the judicial apparatus was accentuated by the events of February 2008, and the few complaints submitted to the courts and the criminal investigation service have not been acted upon, except for a few acquittals or convictions handed down by the competent courts concerning the destruction of property, theft or

receiving of stolen goods during acts of pillage. According to FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, the National Commission of Inquiry, established under pressure from international opinion in order to establish the nature and extent of the human rights violations committed in February 2008 and those responsible, found in its final report that the great majority of the abuses had been committed by the loyalist Chadian armed forces and armed personnel of JEM, following the fighting against the civilian population and political opponents. Since the State's liability has been clearly established, the fact that the State officials responsible for the offences have not been seriously investigated, prosecuted or punished constitutes a patent violation of the right to justice and encouragement of impunity.⁵²

29. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH call upon the Chadian authorities to implement the recommendations of the National Commission of Inquiry, including the following:⁵³ to pursue investigations and shed light on the arbitrary arrests of political opponents and human rights defenders and on the forced disappearance of Mr. Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh; to modify the mandate and composition of the committee responsible for monitoring implementation of the Commission's recommendations in order to guarantee its independence and effectiveness, including by ensuring the involvement of civil society and international observers; and to identify and order the closure of all illegal detention centres.⁵⁴ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH further call upon the Chadian authorities to take all measures necessary to guarantee the principle of the independence of judges; to allocate the human and material resources needed to ensure that the administration of justice is independent, impartial and effective;⁵⁵ and to take all further measures necessary to identify those responsible for the crimes committed during the events of February 2008 and to try them in accordance with international rules on the conduct of fair and equitable trials.⁵⁶

30. HRW recommended to the Government to: investigate and prosecute those responsible for war crimes, including members of the Government and the armed forces; promptly and impartially investigate all allegations of involvement on the part of government officials and members of government security forces in violence, torture, rape and other abuses, and bring those responsible to justice; seek international assistance to investigate war crimes; ensure fundamental due process guarantees to persons in detention; allow access to persons in detention by independent humanitarian organizations; adopt measures to improve the criminal justice system, such as by creating sufficient federal and regional courts and providing appropriate training in human rights to judicial staff and police; and ensure that records are maintained for all persons detained by security forces, including the reason for detention and the unit or agency responsible.⁵⁷

31. FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF refer to overcrowding in detention areas in jails and in gendarmeries and police stations, where detainees are obliged to remain standing throughout their imprisonment because it is impossible to find room to lie down. According to FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, in N'Djamena jail the prisoners are provided with food, albeit inadequate, while in the provinces and in police stations and gendarmeries families are often responsible for detainees' food and levels of hygiene are deplorable.⁵⁸ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF recommend that the Chadian State should bring conditions in places of detention into line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and allocate all necessary material, human and budgetary resources to that end.⁵⁹

32. FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF state that ACAT-Tchad and DHSF have a standing authorization to visit N'Djamena jail but that they are forbidden to bring in cameras or recorders with which to collect testimony. FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF add that other human rights associations are also permitted to visit detainees, generally entailing an escorted visit during which the visiting team does not have the right to communicate with detainees, and that prior notice must be given of all visits, which limits the reliability of the information collected.⁶⁰

33. FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF state that there is no national mechanism for visiting and monitoring detention centres and that the National Human Rights Commission, responsible for such monitoring, is facing huge technical difficulties in fulfilling this task.⁶¹ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF call upon the Chadian State to grant human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs) permanent access to so-called “secure prisons” on premises of the National Security Agency or the Office of the President.⁶²

34. HRW said that access to justice for women in camps for refugees and displaced persons is inadequate⁶³ and recommended to the Government to: establish a special judicial mechanism within the Chadian justice system to investigate serious violations of international humanitarian law, particularly allegations of sexual violence, by members of all armed groups including the Chadian army; prosecute those officers who held command responsibility and were complicit in the crimes; create a vetting mechanism to screen out candidates for official positions in the army, police or other security services who have a past record of human rights abuses, including rape; end financial or military assistance to armed groups in eastern Chad whose members have committed human rights abuses and crimes of sexual violence; and provide victims of sexual violence with free and appropriate health services, which should include appropriate counselling, voluntary testing, and treatment for those affected with HIV/AIDS.⁶⁴

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

35. IRPP said that the Government of Chad has on occasion used the second clause in Articles 27 and 5 of its Constitution to restrict or prohibit activities of religious groups who it perceives as threatening the national unity of its citizens⁶⁵ and that there have been few reports of societal abuses or discrimination based on religious affiliation, belief, or practice, although there was occasional tension between Christians and Muslims, as well as between some fundamentalist and moderate Muslim leaders.⁶⁶

36. For IRPP, overall, the Government of Chad has to be commended for largely ensuring that religious groups receive their empowered rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution. The various committees on religious affairs including the unique arrangement of managing the country's oil revenues are examples of the country's determination to manage its communal groups. However, IRPP considered that there are several areas in which Chad must improve to be in compliance with its own Constitution and the protections provided for in the UDHR. It also considered that the ban on street corner evangelism in N'Djamena must be lifted and that the discriminatory practice and legal obstacles the Sufi group Al Faid al-Djaria currently faces must be repealed.⁶⁷

37. According to the Joint Submission, the solemn declaration made by the President of the Republic during his first address to the nation - “I will not bring you gold or silver, but freedom” - at the time gave hope to the people and prompted the establishment of political movements, civil society organizations and institutions and structures enabling citizens to make their voices heard and enjoy their rights.⁶⁸ However, the Joint Submission notes that this hope was very quickly shattered, plunging the people back into despair and also encouraging the emergence of conflicts between State institutions and civil society organizations on the one hand and between citizens and leaders on the other. These conflicts resulted in the press being gagged through journalists' arrests, the closure and sacking of newspaper offices and the repeated closure of private radio stations.⁶⁹

38. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH note that, although the formal structures for freedom of expression and of information are in place, they are not contributing to any practical improvement and that the

existence of the High Council for Communication has enabled the authorities to claim that freedom of the press is a reality in Chad. However, according to FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, national legislation provides for prison sentences for press offences. The Government rejects any criticism that might call its authority into question and the Chadian authorities are pursuing a policy of harassment and intimidation against journalists who publish articles on violations of human rights and of international law in the region.⁷⁰

39. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH report that these infringements of freedom of expression and in particular the freedom of the press were exacerbated by the events of February 2008 and that Decree No. 194/PR/2008, issued 10 days after the end of the fighting in the capital, plunged Chad into a state of emergency. The suppression of certain individual liberties, in particular the freedom of the press, and the introduction of State censorship encouraged a sense of impunity among those responsible for violations. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH add that the adoption of Ordinance No. 05 of 20 February 2008 on the press regime extended the emergency measures, thereby increasing the penalties provided for journalists for press offences.⁷¹ Similar information is provided by the Joint Submission.⁷²

40. The Joint Submission stresses that lawful demonstrations are systematically prohibited or repressed by the armed and security forces.⁷³ According to FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, human rights defenders were targeted by the authorities immediately following the rebels' retreat from the capital. Some members of human rights associations were the victims of attempted arrests and attacks by the security forces and seem to have been actively sought out, forcing some of them to leave the country for security reasons. Human rights defenders have long been considered to be political opponents by the Chadian authorities⁷⁴ and are continuously being tracked down, abducted, intimidated and even threatened with death, according to the Joint Submission.⁷⁵

41. FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH call upon the Chadian authorities to respect the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders; invite the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders to visit the country as she has requested;⁷⁶ guarantee the physical and moral integrity of human rights defenders and journalists; and repeal Ordinance No. 05 of 20 February 2008, which violates the provisions of the Constitution and limits freedom of expression, dissemination and information, as guaranteed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.⁷⁷ Similar recommendations are made by the Joint Submission.⁷⁸

42. The Joint Submission states that freedom of opinion and expression has also been flouted through elections that are not free and are characterized by irregularities in the voting procedure and the counting of the votes, including ballot box stuffing.⁷⁹

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

43. The Joint Submission points out that Chad ranked 170th out of the 177 poorest countries in the world according to the human development index (HDI) in 2007/2008, despite having been a producer and exporter of petroleum since 2000.⁸⁰

44. The Joint Submission mentions that enjoyment of the right to own property poses serious problems and that application of this right, which is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the Constitution, depends on the respective strength of the parties involved: on more than one occasion, citizens have been arbitrarily deprived of their property rights, with men dressed in civilian or military clothing and generally well armed dispossessing many Chadians of their property at night or during the day.⁸¹

45. According to the Joint Submission, after the disturbances of February 2008, the Government declared a state of emergency, which the municipality used to evict and dispossess thousands of people in N'Djamena, in violation of the property legislation in force. None of the victims has been kept sufficiently informed or received compensation, and widows, children and elderly people have been cast out into the street with no support measures, except for members of the President's ethnic group who have reportedly received compensation. This ill-considered, unlawful and inappropriate operation has cost the lives of many heads of household and has forced many Chadians to leave for the villages or to go into exile, according to the Joint Submission.⁸²

III. ACHIEVEMENTS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

N/A.

IV. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES AND COMMITMENTS

N/A.

V. CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

N/A.

Notes

¹ The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org. (One asterisk denotes a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.)

Civil society

AAD/SRI	Association AZUR Développement, Brazzaville, République du Congo, Sexual Rights Initiative.
FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF	Fédération Internationale de l'Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture*, Paris, France. Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture - Tchad, N'Djamena, Tchad, Droits de l'Homme sans Frontières, Tchad.
La Contribution Conjointe	Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture - Tchad (ACAT-Tchad), Association Jeunesse Anti-Clivage (AJAC), Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad (APLFT), Association Tchadienne pour la Non Violence (ATNV), Association Tchadienne pour la Promotion et la Défense des Droits de l'Homme (ATPDH), Droit de l'Homme sans Frontières (DHSF), Ligue Tchadienne des Droits de l'Homme (LTDH), N'Djamena, Tchad.
FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH	Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme*, Paris, France; Ligue Tchadienne des Droits de l'Homme, N'Djamena, Tchad; Association Tchadienne pour la Promotion et la Défense des Droits de l'Homme, N'Djamena, Tchad.
GIEACPC	Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, London, United Kingdom.
HRW	Human Rights Watch*, Geneva, Switzerland.
IRPP	Institute on Religion and Public Policy, Washington, D.C., United States of America.

² La Contribution Conjointe, p. 2.

³ AAD/SRI, p. 1, para. 2.

⁴ IRPP, p. 1, para. 3.

⁵ La Contribution Conjointe, pp. 8, 9.

⁶ AAD/SRI, p. 1, para. 3.

- ⁷ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 1.
- ⁸ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 1.
- ⁹ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 7.
- ¹⁰ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 2.
- ¹¹ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, pp. 1, 2.
- ¹² FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 3.
- ¹³ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 2.
- ¹⁴ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 3.
- ¹⁵ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 4.
- ¹⁶ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 2.
- ¹⁷ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 3.
- ¹⁸ HRW, p. 3.
- ¹⁹ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 2.
- ²⁰ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 3.
- ²¹ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 5.
- ²² La Contribution Conjointe, p. 4.
- ²³ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 2.
- ²⁴ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 2.
- ²⁵ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 2.
- ²⁶ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 2.
- ²⁷ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 4.
- ²⁸ HRW, p. 4.
- ²⁹ HRW, p. 6.
- ³⁰ La Contribution Conjointe, pp. 6, 7.
- ³¹ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 3.
- ³² HRW, p. 3.
- ³³ HRW, p. 3.
- ³⁴ AAD/SRI, p. 3, 4, paras. 8, 9, 10.
- ³⁵ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 7.
- ³⁶ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 7.
- ³⁷ AAD/SRI, p. 2, para. 5.
- ³⁸ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 5.
- ³⁹ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 7.
- ⁴⁰ HRW, p. 2.
- ⁴¹ HRW, p. 2.
- ⁴² HRW, pp. 4, 5.
- ⁴³ GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 1.
- ⁴⁴ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 8.

- ⁴⁵ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 3.
- ⁴⁶ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 3.
- ⁴⁷ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 3.
- ⁴⁸ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 3.
- ⁴⁹ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 3.
- ⁵⁰ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 3.
- ⁵¹ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 3.
- ⁵² FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 4.
- ⁵³ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 4.
- ⁵⁴ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 5.
- ⁵⁵ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 4.
- ⁵⁶ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 3.
- ⁵⁷ HRW, p. 5.
- ⁵⁸ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, pp. 3, 4.
- ⁵⁹ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 5.
- ⁶⁰ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 4.
- ⁶¹ FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 4.
- ⁶² FIACAT/ACAT-TCHAD/DHSF, p. 5.
- ⁶³ HRW, p. 3.
- ⁶⁴ HRW, p. 5.
- ⁶⁵ IRPP, p. 2, para. 9.
- ⁶⁶ IRPP, p. 3, para. 13.
- ⁶⁷ IRPP, pp. 3, 4, para. 15.
- ⁶⁸ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 5.
- ⁶⁹ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 6.
- ⁷⁰ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 5.
- ⁷¹ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, pp. 5, 6.
- ⁷² La Contribution Conjointe, p. 6.
- ⁷³ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 6.
- ⁷⁴ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 4.
- ⁷⁵ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 5.
- ⁷⁶ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 5.
- ⁷⁷ FIDH/LTDH/ATPDH, p. 6.
- ⁷⁸ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 10.
- ⁷⁹ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 6.
- ⁸⁰ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 2.
- ⁸¹ La Contribution Conjointe, p. 2.
- ⁸² La Contribution Conjointe, p. 2.