

# National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI)

(August 2011)

## Introduction

In May 2011, the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) issued its strategy on [Human Rights in German Development Cooperation](#). The new strategy replaces the Development Policy Action Plans for Human Rights issued in 2004 and 2008 respectively. In order to improve the realization of human rights through development cooperation the new strategy pursues a dual-track approach: While the human rights-based approach will be mainstreamed into all aspects of development cooperation, the fulfilment of human rights will also be advanced through increased support to specific human rights projects. One of those efforts is the targeted support to National Human Rights Institutions ([NHRI](#)) in its partner countries as well as the support to regional courts of human rights. German development cooperation has been supporting the work of the [African Court on Human and People's Rights](#) for a couple of years and assists the work of National Human rights institutions in several of its partner countries.

The aims of this e-info tool are

- to introduce NHRIs as strategic partners for German development cooperation;
- to highlight possible areas and methods of cooperation within German development cooperation;
- to give examples of successful cooperation with NHRIs.

This tool was elaborated by the GTZ-project [„Realizing Human Rights in Development Cooperation“](#) which supports the BMZ in implementing a human rights-based approach to development. The [German Institute of Human Rights](#), the German NHRI, assists in fulfilling this task.

This e-info tool has five parts:

1. What are National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs)?
2. How do NHRIs work?
3. How do NHRIs differ from other institutions that work on human rights?
4. Options for cooperation and examples of good practice
5. Resources

## 1. What are National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs)?

Human rights are usually associated with international treaties and institutions at the global level such as the United Nations. This often diverts attention from the fact that promotion and protection of human rights is first and foremost each individual state's obligation. Any state that ratifies a human rights treaty is obliged

- to take the necessary steps for implementing the treaty;
- to continuously monitor whether its actions are geared towards the realization of human rights, and if not
- to adapt its laws, policies and measures to conform to its human rights obligations.

Whether and how human rights guarantees are implemented, is of the utmost relevance for individuals. This is evident, for example, with respect to an individual's access to justice, to basic health services and education as well as regarding the ability to participate in public assemblies or to establish a non-governmental association.

Judicial enforceability is a key aspect of all human rights obligations. However, it is becoming increasingly recognized that preventive measures – such as human rights education, policy advice and systematic monitoring – are also of key importance. These tasks surely surpass the capacities of international treaty bodies (on those, see our [ABC of Human Rights](#)). Therefore, in 1993 the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights called for establishing human rights institutions on the national level. In the same year, the UN General Assembly adopted the [Paris Principles](#) on National Human Rights Institutions.

According to the Paris Principles, the core mandate of NHRIs is to advise policy makers and monitor national policies with

regard to human rights compliance. NHRIs are thus an important link between the national and international level of human rights protection and promotion.

NHRIs use a number of means to be effective, such as research, policy advice to governments, and human rights education. It is part of their *raison d'être* that they set their own priorities and cover the whole range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights as guaranteed in the International Covenants on [Civil and Political](#) and [Economic, Social and Cultural](#) Rights.

### Monitoring Implementation of the Right to Health in Uganda

The [Ugandan Human Rights Commission](#) established a [Right to Health Unit](#) following the [recommendation](#) of the UN-Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health after a visit to the country in March 2005. This unit advises the Ministry of Health on implementing a human rights-based policy in the health sector. It has elaborated training materials and carried out workshops for health personnel in order to support them in further orienting their work towards human rights. In addition, it conducts research on the epidemiology of neglected diseases, state policies and jurisprudence on the right to health.

As key national players, NHRIs can introduce international human rights debates into the domestic realm, and thus render them more tangible for the population and government alike. In addition, their geographical proximity enables NHRIs to monitor the national implementation of human rights obligations more closely. National Human Rights Institutions are thus positioned between civil society and the state, between national and international level, as well as between academia and practice. Consequently, they function as

an important interface and a forum for dialogue among different stakeholders.

### **Accreditation**

National Human Rights Institutions are accredited by the [International Coordinating Committee \(ICC\)](#), the international association of National Human Rights Institutions located in Geneva. The ICC accredits NHRIs based on the level of compliance with the Paris Principles. This accreditation status is reviewed at least once every five years. Status “A” requires full compliance with the Paris Principles; A-accredited institutions make up the ICC. Institutions with status “B” have not yet fully complied with the Paris Principles or have not presented the corresponding documentation. They only receive observer status within the ICC. Status “C” implies that the institution is not yet in compliance with the Paris Principles. By refining its accreditation procedures, the ICC responds to the worldwide growth of NHRIs and the concomitant expectations regarding their independence, transparency and performance. A-accreditation of a NHRI increases its national and international legitimacy. It also entails the use of participation rights in diverse UN forums. Worldwide, there are around [67 NHRIs](#) accredited with A-status, forty of these are in countries involved with German development cooperation. Ten partner countries have NHRIs currently accredited with B- or C-status.

### **2. How do NHRIs work?**

Although NHRIs are a specific type of institution, they may have different names. In some countries they are called “Institute”, in others “Commission”. Mandates may also be quite different. This is due to the fact that NHRIs are situated within a particular national context and

evolve – in type and mandate – with respect to the specific national landscape. As a consequence, human rights institutions such as those in Senegal and the Philippines, which have been founded long before the Paris Principles were issued, are now recognized as NHRIs.

The following section introduces the requirements regarding the mandate of NHRIs and the different types of NHRIs.

### **Mandate of NHRIs**

The [United Nations’ Paris Principles of 1993](#) formulate minimum requirements for the organisation and functions of NHRIs: Mandates should be as broad as possible, i.e. covering all human rights, but at the same time specific and clear in purpose. NHRIs need to be publicly funded but yet independent of the state.

While the Paris Principles leave sufficient room for the different forms a NHRI might eventually take, they emphasize that NHRIs’ independence – in terms of finance and work – needs to be guaranteed. NHRIs’ by-laws, for example, can be designed in such a way that they grant only consultative rights to state entities represented on the board. Moreover, a NHRI must have a basis in law to prevent successive governments from dissolving it at will.

### **Types of NHRIs**

NHRIs can be conveniently classified in four different types. The official name of the NHRI does not necessarily correspond to the type it actually represents.

- Committees: focus on policy advice, particularly to the government.
- Institute: focus on human rights education and research.
- Ombudspersons: focus on individual legal protection, for example, receiving and processing of complaints. However,

not all ombudspersons are necessarily NHRIs.

- Commissions: typically perform a broad range of activities, including the examination of alleged human rights violations, human rights education and public campaigning. Some may also initiate or participate in judicial proceedings.

Consequently, what a particular NHRI does and how it works varies according to its type. At the same time, promoting the implementation of international human rights obligations, policy advice, education and information will always constitute key activities.

#### **Key tasks of NHRIs**

- Promote the transformation of international human rights norms in domestic law
- Promote the ratification of international treaties
- Human rights research
- Advise government and legislature on human rights policy issues
- Human rights education and information
- Cooperation with other human rights actors on the national, regional and international level

In addition, a majority of NHRIs have the mandate to receive and examine individual complaints on alleged human rights violations.

#### **NHRIs on the international level**

NHRIs are recognized as independent actors by the international human rights protection system. Through their expertise on the national human rights situation, they also contribute to the international human rights protection system. For example, NHRIs may present the assessment of their country's human rights situation in different international settings.

Central bodies for this purpose are the Universal Periodic Review at the Human Rights Council, the UN treaty bodies and the UN special procedures. In doing so, they are supported by their International Committee's Office, the ICC, as well as by the [National Institutions Unit](#) in the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights. (see [Guidelines on the Participation of NHRIs in the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism](#), [Information Note on NHRIs interaction with the UN Treaty Body System](#), and [Guidelines on NHRIs and Special Procedures](#))

In June 2011, the UN General Assembly adopted a [resolution](#) which underlines the importance of NHRIs for the protection of human rights on the national level as well as for the work of the Human Rights Council. The resolution extends the possibilities for NHRIs to contribute in the Human Rights Council. From now on A-status NHRIs can take the floor after their state during the plenary session in which the UPR report on their country is discussed and adopted. They can also enter the debate immediately after their state when a Special Rapporteur presents his or her mission report on the respective country. Furthermore, A-status NHRIs can nominate candidates for appointment as UN Special Procedures mandate-holder.

#### **3. How do NHRIs differ from other institutions that work on human rights?**

NHRIs are a relatively new actor in human rights protection and promotion. Although they share some features with state actors working on human rights, they differ significantly in other areas.

Overall, effective human rights protection needs a broad range of institutions and organisations. NHRIs depend particularly on an [independent judiciary](#) and an active civil society.

### **State institutions charged with the implementation of human rights**

Most countries have a variety of state offices to deal with human rights. Besides constitutional courts, there may be human rights ministries (for example in Iraq and Yemen), inter-ministerial human rights committees, or anti-discrimination units. In addition, a country may have commissioners for specific human rights topics such as for persons with disabilities, migrants, gender equality etc.

This type of institution or office is funded by the state, just like NHRIs. The difference lies in the state's scope of influence: With the exception of the courts, the majority of these institutions or offices are either part of the state or bound by state directives.

### **Ombudspersons**

A number of ombudspersons comply with the Paris Principles and are recognized as NHRIs. Usually, however, ombudspersons have a mandate restricted by a specific theme, such as the Health Ombudsman in Great Britain. In addition, ombudspersons are often subordinate to the executive or legislative state power.

Ombudspersons mainly handle individual complaints and attempt to solve those by mediation or arbitration – a competence they share with a large number of NHRIs. The ICC may accredit them as a NHRI when the ombudsperson complies with the Paris Principles. The [International Ombudsman Institute](#) fosters the cooperation and exchange between more than 150 ombudsman institutions worldwide.

### **Human rights NGOs**

Human rights NGOs are private, non-profit organisations without a public mandate or authority. Unlike NHRIs, they usually deal with a limited range of thematic issues or

groups, such as the protection of women or children. They do not receive permanent public funding; however, individual projects may be sponsored by public funds. Whereas NHRIs stand between the state and civil society due to their mandate, NGOs take on roles in civil society, such as lobbying, advocacy and legal representation for victims.

### **Truth Commissions**

Truth Commissions are non-judicial organs that investigate past human rights violations. They have a restricted thematic mandate and, unlike NHRIs, they are not permanent. NHRIs can support truth commissions by demanding their establishment and independence and by collecting and providing relevant information for the investigation of large-scale human rights violations.

## **4. Options for cooperation and good practice**

There are numerous possibilities to cooperate with NHRIs:

- development agencies can strengthen NHRIs;
- NHRIs can be partners in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of development programmes;
- development agencies can gain valuable information for programming and policy dialogue from NHRIs;
- development agencies can support NHRIs in establishing sector-specific knowledge and monitoring competencies.

However, NHRIs are independent and autonomous actors that need to be respected as such. Development agencies should therefore observe some principles when cooperating with them.

### Principles for cooperation with NHRIs

- Respect NHRIs' independence
- Don't divert NHRIs from their own priorities through cooperation
- Don't overstretch NHRIs' capacities through cooperation
- Financial contributions by development partners must not prompt the partner country to step back from its obligations towards funding its NHRI

Whereas [UNDP](#) regularly cooperates with NHRIs, most bilateral development agencies do not as of yet. But there are notable exceptions. The [Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative](#) and the Swedish development agency [SIDA](#) support human rights commissions. Cooperation also exists between NHRIs themselves, in an exchange between NHRIs in North and South as well as among NHRIs in the South. For example, the [Danish Institute of Human Rights](#) and the [German Institute for Human Rights](#) regularly provide advice to non-European NHRIs, for example, in Azerbaijan, Uganda, Zambia, and South Africa. Additionally, the regional networks of NHRIs in [Asia](#), [Africa](#) and increasingly the [Arab world](#) are crucial for the exchange among Southern NHRIs themselves.

### Strengthening NHRIs through development cooperation

During the accreditation or re-accreditation process, the ICC undertakes a thorough examination of all NHRIs and issues recommendations on how the NHRI could improve its status or work. Additionally, a 2009 [study on NHRIs](#) by the UN-High Commissioner for Human Rights gives numerous recommendations for NHRIs' work; the study is based on a worldwide survey among NHRIs. Both sets of recommendations are useful starting points for development agencies when considering support to NHRIs.

Cooperation with NHRIs with B- or C-status

Development agencies can also support NHRIs if they have not yet been accredited with A-status.

There are a number of reasons as to why a NHRI may not be accredited with A-status. Inadequate framework conditions, such as a missing legal basis, insufficient funding, a poorly designed mandate, or the lack of political independence, are often at fault. In such situations support is necessary. Given that institutional weakness and insufficient independence of a NHRI are usually intended by the respective government, development partners can raise this topic in their consultations with the government in order to request more institutional and financial independence for the NHRI.

However, before engaging in cooperation with such a NHRI, other players should be consulted in order to avoid supporting biased, government-dominated NHRIs. A first source of information can be the [National Institutions Unit](#) at the Office of the UN-High Commissioner for Human Rights. Institutions such as [UNDP](#) already cooperate with NHRIs and can also be consulted. Regional networks, for example, the [Asia Pacific Forum](#) are likewise important sources of information on specific NHRIs. On the national level, representatives of civil society are often able to provide valuable information.

German development cooperation experiences

The [German Development Service](#) (DED) has had regular programmes with NHRIs, particularly in the context of peace and reconciliation processes. DED supported the Rwandan Human Rights Commission in their human rights education work and the Afghan Human Rights Commission in its capacity for conflict management and

peace building. The Procuraduría de los Derechos Humanos of Guatemala was supported in human rights education and peace building. In addition, GIZ staff supports the ombudsperson in Peru and the National Human Rights Commission in Nepal. Among other means to advance the work of NHRIs are integrated experts (CIM) who work, for example, at the Ombudsman Office of the [Egyptian Human Rights Council](#).

#### Promotion through international organisations

The OHCHR plays a key role in the advancement of NHRIs. It advises governments particularly with regard to the establishment of new NHRIs in compliance with the Paris Principles. It focuses on the design of the mandate and legal training, and conducts overall needs assessments. As for already existing NHRIs, their needs are often related to the expansion of their activities, strategic planning and staff qualification in other areas, e.g. gender equality or children rights. The OHCHR cooperates closely with UNDP. Their experiences are reflected in a 2008 online [discussion on the experiences of different UN-organisations when supporting NHRIs](#).

#### **NHRIs as strategic partners in programme implementation**

The specific status of NHRIs makes them an independent interface and mediator between state and civil society. This position is ideal for generating discussion forums, which can be used by development agencies to strengthen good governance. NHRIs can also be important partners in programme implementation.

In Guatemala, a programme on good local governance implemented by GIZ developed a training course for municipal officers together with the Guatemalan NHRI (an ombudsperson). The course

aimed at increasing their awareness of human rights and improving human rights realization within local public administration. In Kenya, as a result of cooperation between the health programme of German development cooperation and the Kenya National Human Rights Commission, the latter is invited to a Ministry of Health working group on health financing. In addition, the Commission has taken on the right to health proactively. It conducts a large-scale study on maternal mortality, offers trainings on the right to health and is planning to discuss upcoming recommendations of UN-treaty bodies on the right to health with the Ministry.

#### **Monitoring Mechanisms in NHRIs**

The Ombudsman Office of the [Egyptian National Council for Human Rights](#) (currently supported by CIM) has introduced so-called mobile units in order to inform citizens about the possibility to submit complaints. Two vans are staffed with dedicated teams of lawyers who tour the country, including remote areas. Their main role is to raise citizens' awareness about human rights and to assist them in formulating their complaints and reaching solutions. Since the introduction of these mobile offices the amount of received complaints has multiplied. Today, they represent the main channel for complainants with more than 40% of all complaints received through the mobile units.

#### **NHRIs have relevant information**

NHRIs work on diverse human rights topics relevant to their country and mostly deliver targeted, policy-oriented research. If established successfully, their independence in terms of finance and priorities facilitates advocating for objectives which may be unpopular with some. Hence, NHRIs may offer a realistic

and comprehensive perspective with regards to the human rights situation in their countries. NHRI information and reports can be used as an orientation for strategic collaboration with civil society. This concerns the preparation and planning of development cooperation programmes, but also political dialogue and advisory services.

### **NHRIs as critical observers**

NHRIs play an important role in monitoring the implementation of a state's human rights obligations, for example with regard to the realization of the right to education, health or water. Development agencies can support NHRIs in establishing corresponding monitoring capacities. Additionally, they can promote further mechanisms for complaints as did the former German Technical Cooperation when working on sustainable promotion of the economy in Ghana. As mentioned above, development agencies should, however, be careful not to distract NHRIs from their own priorities. If development cooperation supports NHRIs in broadening their functions and working areas, the funding of these additional mechanisms must be secured in the long term.

Not only can NHRIs be supported in exercising their rights in the framework of [international state reporting systems](#), but they are also in a good position to monitor the [compatibility of development cooperation activities](#) with the state's human rights obligations.

### **NHRIs in donor countries**

NHRIs in donor countries may also contribute to the realization of human rights in development cooperation. It is part of their mandate to advise national policies, including development policy. Thus, the [German Institute for Human Rights](#) (DIMR) advises the executing

organizations and the BMZ through its cooperation with the cross-sectoral project "Implementing Human Rights in Development Cooperation". Its objective is to orient development cooperation more closely towards human rights standards and to foster implementation of human rights principles such as participation, non-discrimination and transparency. Besides publishing information tools on human rights for development practitioners, the DIMR carries out human rights training and provides advice for development cooperation programmes. The [Danish Institute for Human Rights](#) as well as other Scandinavian NHRIs work in a similar fashion.

## **5. Resources**

### **General resources**

- Manual of the OHCHR on NHRIs (2010): [NHRI-History, Principles, Roles and Responsibilities](#).
- German Institute for Human Rights, Aichele (2010): [National Human Rights Institutions - An Introduction](#).
- [OHCHR: National Institutions Unit](#).
- [International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights](#) (ICC). Decisions on accreditation and recommendations to NHRIs can be found under "SCA Reports" at <http://nhri.ohchr.org/EN/ICC/BureauMeeting/Pages/default.aspx>

### **NHRIs and the national implementation of international human rights treaties**

- German Institute for Human Rights, Müller/Seidensticker (2007): The Role of National Human Rights Institutions in the United Nations Treaty Body Process.

- German Institute for Human Rights, Seidensticker (2004): Examination of State Reporting by Human Rights Treaty Bodies: An Example for Follow-Up at the National Level by National Human Rights Institutions.
- EQUITAS/UNDP/et al. (2008): Equality for Women: A Handbook for NHRIs on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- General Comment N°2 (2002) on the UN-Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- General Comment N°10 (1998) on the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

### **Institution-building**

- UNDP/OHCHR (2010): [Toolkit for Collaboration with National Human Rights Institutions](#).
- OHCHR (1995): [National Human Rights Institutions: A Handbook for the Establishment and Strengthening of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights](#).
- The International Council on Human Rights Policy has published two reports which include recommendations on the establishment and work of NHRIs: [National Human Rights Institutions: effectiveness and legitimacy](#) (2004) and [National Human Rights Institutions: measuring effectiveness](#) (2005).
- ICHRP/Michelle Parlevliet (2006): [NHRIs and Peace Agreements: establishing national institutions in divided societies](#).

### **Diverse**

- UNDP (2009): [Dignity & Justice for All of Us: Stories from NHRI in Europe and CIS](#) includes reports on experiences of NHRIs from Eastern Europe and the CIS.

- A report by Human Rights Watch (2008): [Mexico's National Human Rights Commission: A critical assessment](#) demonstrates why and how NHRI should tap the full potential of their competencies.
- Another HRW report (2001): [Protectors or Pretenders? Government Human Rights Commissions in Africa](#) shows what the international donor community should respect when promoting NHRIs.
- OHCHR (2008): [Guidance Note on National Human Rights Institutions and Transitional Justice](#).
- The South African [Centre for Conflict Resolution](#) has initiated a [research project on NHRIs and conflict resolution in Africa](#).
- ICHRP/Maina Kiai (2007): [The role of NHRIs in combating corruption](#).
- [Human Rights Education Associates](#) have offered a [distance learning course on National Human Rights Institutions](#) (2010) and might do so again on a regular basis. ([List of Courses](#))

The table in the annex gives an overview of NHRIs in countries involved with German development cooperation. The table provides links to institutional websites where available, or to the corresponding [regional association](#) in [Africa](#) or [Asia and the Pacific](#). The table categorises the respective NHRIs according to the four types and its accreditation status and provides the dates of the most recent and upcoming accreditation.

**Annex:**  
**National Human Rights Institutes in Partner Countries of German Development Cooperation**

Name	Status	Type and founding year	Last and next (re-)accreditation
<a href="#">Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission</a>	A	Commission, 2002	2008 / 2013
<a href="#">The People's Advocate of Albania</a>	A	Ombudsman, 1999	2008 / 2013
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of Algeria</a>	B	Commission, 2001	2010 / 2015
<a href="#">Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia</a>	A	Ombudsman, 2003	2006 / 2011
<a href="#">The Commissioner of Human Rights of the Republic of Azerbaijan</a>	B	Ombudsman, 2001	2006 / 2011
Bangladesh National Human Rights Commission	B	Commission, 2008	2011 / 2016
<a href="#">Benin Human Rights Commission</a>	C	Commission, 1989	2002
<a href="#">Defensor del Pueblo de Bolivia</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1997	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">The Institution of Human Rights Ombudsmen of Bosnia and Herzegovina</a>	A	Ombudsman, 1995	2010 / 2015
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of Burkina Faso</a>	B	Commission	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms of Cameroon</a>	A	Commission, 1990	2010 / 2015
<a href="#">Defensor del Pueblo de la República de Colombia</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1992	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">La Defensoría de los Habitantes de Costa Rica</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1993	2006 / 2011
<a href="#">Defensor del Pueblo de la República de Ecuador</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1997	2009 / 2014
<a href="#">National Council for Human Rights of Egypt</a>	A	Commission, 2003	2006 / 2011
<a href="#">Procuraduría de Defensa de los Derechos Humanos de El Salvador</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1991	2011 / 2015
Ethiopian Human Rights Commission		Commission, 2004	2011
<a href="#">Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice of Ghana</a>	A	Commission, 1993	2008 / 2013

<a href="#">Public Defender of Georgia</a>	A	Ombudsman, 1997	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">Procurador de los Derechos Humanos de Guatemala</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1985	2008 / 2013
<a href="#">Comisionado Nacional de los Derechos Humanos de Honduras</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1995	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of India</a>	A	Commission, 1993	2011 / 2013
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia</a> (Bahasa Indonesia)	A	Commission, 1993	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">National Center for Human Rights of Jordan</a>	A	Institute, 2002	2010 / 2015
<a href="#">Kenya National Commission on Human Rights</a>	A	Commission, 2002	2008 / 2013
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of Madagascar</a>	C	Commission, 1996	2006
<a href="#">Malawi Human Rights Commission</a>	A	Commission, 1995	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">Advisory Council on Human Rights of Morocco</a>	A	Committee, 1990	2010 / 2012
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of Mauritania</a> (French)	A	Commission, 2003	2011 / 2016
<a href="#">Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos Mexiko</a> (Spanish)	A	Commission, 1999	2006 / 2011
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia</a>	A	Commission, 2001	2008 / 2013
<a href="#">The Office of the Ombudsman of Namibia</a>	A	Ombudsman, 1990	2010 / 2012
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of Nepal</a>	A	Commission, 2000	2011 / 2013
<a href="#">Procuraduría para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos de Nicaragua</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1995	2011 / 2016
<a href="#">Nigerian Human Rights Commission</a>	B	Commission, 1995	2011 / 2016
<a href="#">Defensoría del Pueblo de la República del Paraguay</a>	A	Ombudsman, 2001	2008 / 2013
<a href="#">Defensoría del Pueblo de Peru</a> (Spanish)	A	Ombudsman, 1993	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines</a>	A	Commission, 1987	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">National Human Rights Commission of Ruanda</a>	A	Commission, 1999	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">Senegalese Committee for Human Rights</a> (French)	A	Committee, 1970	2007 / 2011
Human Rights Commission, Sierra Leone	A	Commission, 2004	2011 / 2016

<a href="#">South African Human Rights Commission</a>	A	Commission, 1995	2007 / 2012
<a href="#">The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka</a>	B	Commission, 1997	2009 / 2014
<a href="#">Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance of Tanzania</a>	A	Commission, 2000	2006 / 2011
<a href="#">Timor Leste Provedoria of Human Rights and Justice</a>	A	Ombudsman, 2004	2008 / 2013
<a href="#">Higher Committee on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, Tunisia</a>	B	Committee, 1991	2009
<a href="#">Uganda Human Rights Commission</a>	A	Commission, 1995	2008 / 2013
<a href="#">Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights</a>	A	Ombudsman, 1998	2009 / 2014
<a href="#">Permanent Human Rights Commission of Zambia</a>	A	Commission, 1997	2006 / 2011

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