

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE PARIS PRINCIPLES  
OF THE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE GHANA**

**-November 2008 -**

## **I. BACKGROUND**

At the April 2006 meeting of the ICC, it was agreed that members currently accredited with status A would have their accreditation renewed as part of a regular process of re-accreditation, commencing in October 2008, according to an agreed schedule. The Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (herein the CHRAJ or the Commission) was scheduled for re-accreditation in October 2008.

The CHRAJ first submitted its application for accreditation as a National Institution to the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions (ICC) in 2001 and was granted A accreditation status.

The following sections provide background information on the CHRAJ based on supporting documentation submitted by the Commission to the Secretariat of the ICC, in accordance with Article 3 of the ICC Rules of Procedure.

## **II. DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION**

The following documentation has been submitted by the CHRAJ in support of its application:

- ❖ Copy of the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice Act 456 (in hard copy and soft copy appended to the statement of compliance)
- ❖ Copy of the Constitutional Instrument 7 Complaints Procedure (in hard copy only)
- ❖ Outline of the organizational structure and staff as of April 2008 (in hard copy only)
- ❖ Annual estimates for 2006, 2007 and 2008 (in hard copy only)
- ❖ 2005 Annual report (in hard copy only)
- ❖ Statement of Compliance (in hard and soft copy)
- ❖ 2002-2003 Prison Inspection report (in hard copy only)
- ❖ 1994-2000 Decision of the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (hard copy only)
- ❖ Human Rights Manual for Teachers (hard copy only)
- ❖ Guidelines on Conflict of Interest (2 versions in hard copy only)

## **III. CHARACTER OF THE NHRI**

### **1. Establishment**

The CHRAJ is entrenched in the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana which provides at Article 216 that "there shall be established by Act of Parliament within 6 months after Parliament first meets, after the coming into force of this Constitution, a Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice.." The Constitution prescribes the functions and powers of the Commission and restrictions. The Commission shall not investigate matters involving the relations or dealings between the Government and the Government of any foreign State or international organization.

Article 220 of the Constitution indicates that "an Act of Parliament enacted under article 216 of the Constitution shall provide for the creation of regional and district branches of the Commission. Sections 10 and 11 of the *Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Act, 1993* (herein Act 456 or the CHRAJ Act) provide for the establishment of regional offices and functions of regional and District representatives of Commission.

## Independence

Guarantees for the independence of the Commission are listed in the following articles:

Article 225 of the Constitution stipulates that the Commission and the commissioners "shall in the performance of their functions not be subject to direction or control of any person or authority." Section 6 of Act 456 reiterates the same provision.

Section 7 (h) and Section 19 of the CHRAJ Act require the Commission to report annually to Parliament and publish periodic reports on the exercise of its functions and the out come of its investigations and findings. The Commission is also accountable to Parliament, and the Parliament may debate its report. According to Section 19 (3) "a resolution of Parliament shall not alter a decision made by court on matter instituted before the court by the Commissioner."

Conflicts of interest are avoided on the basis of section 3 (2) of Act 456, which provides that "[t]he Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners shall not while holding office as commissioners hold any other public office."

Section 6 of Act 456 further provides for the independence of the commission and deputy commissioners:

"Except as provided by the Constitution or by any other law not inconsistent with the Constitution the Commission and the commissioners shall in the performance of their functions not be subject to the direction and control of any person or authority."

Section 22 of Act 456 stipulates that no proceedings shall lie against the Commission or against any person holding an office or appointment under the Commission for anything done, reported or said by him in the course of the exercise of his functions under the Act, unless it is shown he acted in bad faith.

The administrative expenses of the Commission - including all the salaries, allowances, and pensions' payable in respect of persons serving with the CHRAJ - are charged to the country's consolidated fund (Section 21 of Act 456).

The Commission's budget is for the year 2008 was estimated to be 4,120,000 Ghanaian New Cedi = 3,601,525 US dollars.

## 2. Appointments processes and organisational infrastructure

### 2.1. Composition of the NHRI's membership and appointment processes

The appointment of the members of the CHRAJ is provided for at Article 70 of the Constitution:

*(1) The President shall, acting in consultation with the Council of State, appoint-*

*(a) The Commissioner for Human Rights and Administrative Justice and his Deputies;*

Section 2 of the CHRAJ Act reiterates the same provisions. And further indicates the Commission shall consist of a commissioner for Human Rights and two deputy commissioners.

The Council of State is a body that the President consults with when appointing members of the commission and other positions.

Article 89 of the Constitution stipulates the composition of the Council of State that the President consults with when appointing members as below:

*(a) The following persons are appointed by the President in consultation with Parliament - (i) one person who has previously held the office of Chief Justice; (ii) one person who has previously held the Office of Chief of Defence Staff of the Armed Forces of Ghana; (iii) one person who has previously Held the office of Inspector-General of Police;(b) The President of the National House of Chiefs; (c) One representative from each region of Ghana elected, in accordance with regulations made by the Electoral Commission under article 51 of this Constitution, by an Electoral College comprising two representatives from each of the districts in the region nominated by the District Assemblies in the region; and (d) eleven other members appointed by the President.*

According to Article 216 of the Constitution the Commission is composed of one commissioner for Human Rights and Administrative Justice and two deputy Commissioners. Section 2 of the CHRAJ Act reiterates the same provision. Therefore there are 3 members in total.

Further Article 221 of the Constitution states that:

*A person shall not be qualified for appointment as a Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner for Human Rights and Administrative Justice, unless he is -*

- (a) In the case of Commissioner, qualified for appointment as a Justice of the Court of Appeal; and*
- (b) In the case of a Deputy Commissioner, qualified for appointment as a Justice of the High Court.*

According to the CHRAJ Act the commissioner and deputy commissioners shall enjoy the terms and conditions of service of a Justice of the Court of Appeal and High Court respectively (section 4 (1)).

The commissioner and deputy commissioner shall cease to hold office on attaining the age of seventy and sixty five years. This implies that the commissioners have unlimited terms of office until retirement age except for the conditions stipulated in Section 4 (3) i.e. death, or the commissioner is unable to perform his functions, resigns or is removed from office.

Under Section 5 of the CHRAJ Act the procedure for the removal of the commissioner and deputy commissioners shall be the same as that provided for the removal of a Justice of Court of Appeal and High court respectively under article 146 of the Constitution.

The relevant provisions under Article 146 indicate:

*(3) If the President receives a petition for the removal of Justice of a Superior Court other than the Chief Justice or for the removal of the Chairman of a Regional Tribunal, he shall refer the petition to the Chief Justice, who shall determine whether there is a prima facie case.*

*(4) Where the Chief Justice decides that there is a prima facie case, he shall set up a committee Consisting of three Justices of the Superior Courts or Chairmen of the Regional Tribunals or both, Appointed by the judicial council and two other persons who are not members of the Council of State, nor members of Parliament, nor lawyers, and who shall be appointed by the Chief Justice on the advice of the Council of State.*

*(5) The committee appointed under clause (4) of this article shall investigate the complaint and shall make its recommendations to the Chief Justice who shall forward it to the President.*

## **2.2. Pluralism**

The CHRAJ Act provides in Section 2 that the President may appoint a commissioner and two deputy commissioners in consultation with the Council of State. The total number of commissioners is 3. The composition of the Council of State (the body that the President consults with) is indicated in the constitution under Article 89 of the Constitution (please refer to section 2.1 of this summary for further details). There is no explicit mention in the legislation of civil society actors being part of the Council of State or representatives from other social groups including disabilities, minorities etc.

The Commission however indicates in its statement of compliance, the following:

The Commissioners must be lawyers as per the Constitution and the Act. The Directors and staff, have varying gender and ethnic backgrounds and representative of different segments of the Ghanaian society. The Directors are drawn, from civil society, academia, public administration and social sciences. Regional Directors however must be lawyers.

The Commissioner who is currently the chair of the CHRAJ is a lawyer in private practice and a judge *ad litem* in the ICTR. One of the two deputy commissioners (female) who is currently the Acting Chair was from the private sector (Energy, Oil and Gas) and was a member of a women's rights and advocacy NGO. The third Commissioner rose through the ranks as an employee of the Commission and was formerly a lawyer in the office of the Ombudsman.

The principle of pluralism is further emphasised by means of effective cooperation with diverse societal groups at the national and regional levels. The members of the Commission, management and staff of the Commission meet regularly and routinely to discuss relevant issues.

## **2.3. Organisational infrastructure**

### **2.3.1. Organisational Structure**

Article 2 of Act 456 stipulates that the Commission is composed of a commissioner and two deputy commissioners. The Constitution reiterates the same provision.

The organizational chart is comprised of:

A commissioner and two deputy commissioners; 4 directorates with specific functions including public education, anti corruption, legal investigation, director of administration and finance. The organisational chart in the statement of compliance will show that each directorate has sub units under it. Additionally there is a section of an internal auditor. There are also regional and district branches of the Commission (Article 10). Article 11 states the functions of the Commission. In its statement of compliance the Commission indicates it has offices in all the 10 regional capitals and in 98 out of the 138 district capitals of the country. Lawyers head the regional offices as Regional Directors whilst university graduates trained to handle minor complaints head the District offices. Even though the Commission has overstretched itself to the districts in the country, the essence is to bring human rights closer to the people, especially the excluded and vulnerable. The Commission also realizes that if distances between its offices and target communities were too far apart, people would not report human rights abuses.

Under Article 226 of the Constitution, the appointment of officers and other employees of the Commission shall be made by the Commission acting in consultation with the public services commission. Section 20 of the CHRAJ Act reiterates the same provision.

The Commission's total staff strength at the beginning of 2008 was 764 persons, including staff in regional and district offices.

Section 22 of the CHRAJ Act indicates that the administrative expenses of the Commission including all salaries, allowances and pensions payable to or in respect of persons serving with the commission are charged on a consolidated fund. The CHRAJ indicates in its statement of compliance that it received additional funding from donors and partners it also indicates that. "In spite of its constitutional guarantees of autonomy, it has since its establishment had to contend with effects of budget ceilings which are usually set by the Ministry of Finance without reference to the activities the Commission planned for a given period.

The Commission's budget for the year 2008 was estimated to be 4,120,000 Ghanaian New Cedi = 3,601,525 US dollars.

### **2.3.2. Staffing**

Article 226 of the Constitution indicates that the appointment of officers and other employees of the Commission shall be made by the Commission acting in consultation with the Public Services Commission. Section 10 of the CHRAJ Act empowers the Commission to appoint an officer to head the regional or district branches of the Commission.

### **2.3.3. Regular meetings**

The CHRAJ indicates in its statement of compliance that it holds weekly management meetings between heads of departments and commissioners. At the beginning of the year the Commission holds an annual management retreat where the annual work plan of activities is adopted. Regional Directors also hold monthly and quarterly meetings.

## **3. Relations with Civil Society and human rights institutions**

### **3.1. Formal Relationships with Civil Society**

In the statement of compliance the CHRAJ reports that it hosts a forum which is made up of 40 human rights NGOs and meets quarterly to educate members, share information and complement the efforts to monitoring human rights abuses, networking and coalition building, education training and advocacy.

The CHRAJ is also the founding member of the Ghana Anti Corruption Coalition, which was established to create a platform for interaction between government and civil society donors, and to establish governance for sustainable development and anti-corruption.

The CHRAJ also maintains a close network of relationships with other human rights institutions and government departments. The CHRAJ also collaborates with Ghana's education service in the promotion of human rights education in schools.

As part of the Commission's structured system for monitoring human rights, regional and district offices of the Commission identify and collaborate with relevant institutions, especially NGOs focused on human rights and development programs, to acquire authentic information on the human rights situation in their areas.

### **3.2. Regular Consultations**

See above.

### **3.3. Cooperation with the United Nations, regional and national institutions**

The CHRAJ indicates in its statement of compliance that it launched a Good Governance and Human rights Programme with the objective of protecting and promoting human rights and enhancing participation, equity, transparency and accountability to support improved delivery of services for sustainable poverty reduction. This is a joint partnership program with international agencies including UNDP, USAID and DANIDA.

The CHRAJ also indicates in its statement of compliance that it maintains regular consultations with other NHRIs and is a member of the African Ombudsman Association the Network of African NHRIs ; the Network of the West African NHRIs and the Commonwealth forum of NHRIs. The CHRAJ further indicates that it participates in discussions leading to the submission state reports to the UN treaty bodies and recently submitted a report for the UPR of the human rights council, in May 2008.

The CHRAJ indicated in its report to the UPR, that in spite of the fact that Ghana has not yet ratified certain international treaties, it has signaled its commitment to do so. The CHRAJ noted that Ghana was the first country to be reviewed by the African Peer Review Mechanism. It recommended that the Government ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and the Optional Protocol to the CAT, and that the Government take steps to ratify human rights instruments recommended by the African Union and significant global instruments on governance and human rights referred to by the African Peer Review Mechanism-Country Review Report and Program of Action of the Republic of Ghana published in June 2005.<sup>1</sup>

The CHRAJ also held an advocacy workshop to encourage the ratification of the OPCAT in April 2008 (statement of compliance).

The CERD <sup>2</sup>in 2003 indicated that:

*16. ... out of a total of 9,265 complaints heard by the Commission in 2000, the CHRAJ only dealt with fewer than five complaints directly relating to alleged racial discrimination. According to the State party, the majority of the complaints received by the Commission were cases of religious discrimination which, because religion in Ghana is often related to ethnicity, could be classified, in some cases, as indirect racial discrimination. The Committee would like to receive more detailed information on this matter, as well as statistical information relating to the number of complaints having a bearing on racial discrimination, and the action taken by the Commission.*

## **4. Accessibility**

### **4.1. Procedures and mechanisms to ensure accessibility**

The Commission has offices in the districts in order to have a broad out reach, section 10 of the CHRAJ Act provides for this. The Commission indicates in its statement of compliance that its services are free

---

<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/2/GHA/3

<sup>2</sup> CERD/C/62/CO/4, 2 June 2003

and its offices are easily located on well known streets, it however does not have ramps and other infrastructure to cater for persons with disabilities. It also indicates that case workers use the local languages to listen to and record complaints. Last year the CHRAJ commissioned the translation of its enabling Act 456 into Braille and started training its employees in sign language.

#### **4.2. Procedures and mechanisms for addressing public opinion**

The CHRAJ reports in its statement of compliance that it assumes a leading role in promotion and protection of human rights in Ghana by raising the level and knowledge of human rights, and also asserts that it extensively employs the electronic and print media for the dissemination of human rights information and also uses activates such as workshops, debates conferences to educate the public

#### **4.3. Working Groups**

Please refer to section 3 of this summary.

### **IV. COMPETENCE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **5. General Jurisdiction and Functions**

##### **5.1. Mandate to promote and protect human rights.**

The Commission was given a broad mandate to achieve its mission by the 1992 Constitution of Ghana and by its enabling Act 456 in 1993. Its mandate as a national institution is threefold: it is simultaneously an ombudsman; an agency that ensures administrative justice (Article 218 (a) to (b) of the Constitution 1992 and section 7 (1) of the Act 456); and an anti corruption agency (Article 218 (a) to (e) of the 1992 Constitution and section 7 of the Act of 456).

The mandate of the CHRAJ, according to Article 218 of the Constitution, is:

- (a) *To investigate complaints of violations of fundamental rights and freedoms, injustice, corruption, abuse of power and unfair treatment of any person by a public officer in the exercise of his official duties;*
- (b) *to investigate complaints concerning the functioning of the Public Services Commission, the administrative organs of the State, the Armed Forces, the Police Service and the Prisons Service in so far as the complaints relate to the failure to achieve a balanced structuring of those services or equal access by all to the recruitment of those services or fair administration in relation to those services;*
- (c) *To investigate complaints concerning practices and actions by persons, private enterprises and other institutions where those complaints allege violations of fundamental rights and freedoms under this Constitution;*
- (d) *To take appropriate action to call for the remedying, correction and reversal of instances specified in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this clause through such means as are fair, proper and effective, including -*
  - (i) *Negotiation and compromise between the parties concerned;*
  - (ii) *Causing the complaint and its finding on it to be reported to the superior of an offending person;*
  - (iii) *Bringing proceedings in a competent Court for a remedy to secure the termination of the offending action or conduct, or the abandonment or alteration of the offending procedures; and*
  - (iv) *Bringing proceedings to restrain the enforcement of such legislation or regulation by challenging its validity if the offending action or conduct is sought to be justified by subordinate legislation or regulation, which is unreasonable or otherwise ultra vires;*
- (e) *To investigate all instances of alleged or suspected corruption and the misappropriation of public moneys by officials and to take appropriate steps, including reports to the Attorney-General and the Auditor-General, resulting from such investigations;*
- (f) *To educate the public as to human rights and freedoms by such means as the Commissioner may decide, including publications, lectures and symposia; and*

(g) *To report annually to Parliament on the performance of its functions.*  
The same functions are reiterated in section 7 of Act 456.

## **5.2. The mandate in practice**

In the Commission's statement of compliance the following is indicated:

In order to protect and enforce fundamental rights and freedoms, the Commission investigates individual complaints of human rights violations by persons and institutions. The Commission is mandated to resolve these complaints through various methods, including mediation, negotiation, and formal hearings. Under the CHRAJ Act, the Commission has the power to issue subpoenas and to go to Court to ensure compliance with its recommendations.

The Commission also carries out special investigations into human rights abuses that are systematic, cultural or in areas of public interest. The Commission conducts research, field investigations, and public hearings in the course of these investigations. The Commission also conducts research into the human rights consequences of bills and policies and proposes laws that will strengthen the human rights situation of the country.

To promote human rights awareness, the Commission is mandated by Article 218 (f) of the Constitution to sponsor public education programs. The Commission has the discretion to use a wide variety of methods to achieve this goal, including use of mass media, publications, lectures and symposia.

In order to prevent human rights abuses, the Commission monitors the human rights situation across the country. The Commission organizes monitoring visits to detention facilities, hospitals, schools, and communities etc, to ensure that human rights are being respected. These monitoring visits ensure that the Commission can detect early warning signs of human rights abuses to prevent violations from taking place.

The Commission must report to Parliament annually on the performance of its functions.

**Administrative Justice:** The Commission is mandated to investigate complaints concerning injustice and unfair treatment of any person by a public officer.

**Anticorruption:** The Commission both investigates and works to prevent corruption. The Commission also conducts training and public education to sensitize public officials and the general public on corruption.

The Commission is not a judicial body and cannot review decisions that have previously been decided by a competent court as the courts have their own systems of review and appeal.

The CHRAJ educates the public on conflict of interest issues and has developed a set of Guidelines on Conflict of Interest for Public Officials in 2006. Between January and December 2007, it distributed over 10,000 copies of the Guidelines to public officers as well as the general public throughout the country. The CHRAJ introduced the Guidelines through public fora, workshops and multimedia avenues to the entire nation and on numerous platforms, and also educated a significant portion of the population on the *Whistleblower Act, 2006 (Act 720)*.

The Commission has established a monitoring system, with mechanisms at the national, regional and district levels to monitor select facilities such as health and educational institutions, psychiatric institutions, refugee camps, slums and witch camps and document the human rights status of vulnerable persons in these facilities, in the form 'a state of human rights report' which it presents annually on International Human Rights Day which falls on December 10.

The Commission prepares and disseminates a Prisons Report annually. The Commission has since 1995 monitored and researched into conditions of 45 prisons and over 500 police cells. This is in accordance with the Constitution of Ghana, which provides a framework for protecting the rights of prisoners and persons deprived of their liberty.

The Commission annually prepares a Report on the State of Human Rights in Ghana, an executive summary of which is delivered during International Human Rights Day on 10 December. The main objective of this report is to draw the attention of the Government to situations in any part of the country where human rights are violated and making proposals to it for initiatives to put an end to such situations

and, where necessary, expressing an opinion on the positions and reactions of the Government. An Annual Report is submitted to Parliament and to the public.

### **5.3. Functions regarding national legislation**

There is no specific legislative provision on this. The Commission indicates in its statement of compliance that it conducts research in the course of investigations into the human rights consequences of bills and policies and proposes laws that strengthen the human rights situation in the country.

### **5.4. Encouraging ratification and implementation on international standards**

The law does not specifically provide for this particular function, but the CHRAJ indicates in its statement of compliance that it organises consultative meetings to encourage ratification of international human rights conventions and recently held one in April 2008 to encourage Ghana to ratify the OPCAT. The CHRAJ also indicates it participates in submitting reports to treaty bodies and national processes including national discussions on the UPR. The CHRAJ submitted an NHRI report in 2008 under the UPR mechanism.

### **5.5. Programmes for teaching and research**

Article 218 (f) of the Constitution of 1992 empowers the Commission to educate the public on human rights and freedoms by such means that the Commissioner may decide including publications lectures and synopsis. This is reiterated in Act 456 under Section 2 (g). The Commission further indicates in its statement of compliance that it conducts research in the course of investigations and that it conducts research into the human rights consequences of bills and policies and proposes laws that strengthen the human rights situation in the country.

### **5.6. General powers**

*Under Article 219(1) of the Constitution of 1992 the powers of the Commission shall be defined by Act of Parliament and shall include the power -*

- (a) To issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of any person before the Commission and the production of any document or record relevant to any investigation by the Commission;*
  - (b) To cause any person contemptuous of any such subpoena to be prosecuted before a competent Court;*
  - (c) To question any person in respect of any subject matter under investigation before the Commission;*
  - (d) To require any person to disclose truthfully and frankly any information within his knowledge relevant to any investigation by the Commissioner.*
- (2) The Commissioner shall not investigate -*
- (a) A matter which is pending before a court or judicial tribunal; or*
  - (b) A matter involving the relations or dealings between the Government and any other Government or an international organization; or*
  - (c) A matter relating to the exercise of the prerogative*

These powers are reiterated in section 8 of the Act 456.

### **5.7. Power to gather information**

According to the Constitution of 1992 Article 219 (d) the Commission has the power to cause any person to disclose truthfully and frankly any information within his knowledge relevant to any investigation by the commissioner this is reiterated under Act 456. Under Article 15 of Act 456, the Commission may require any person to “give information relating to a matter being investigated or produce any document that is related to the investigation.” Section 8 (1) (d) of Act 456 gives the Commission vast powers of investigation which explicitly relate to the power to gather information. Please refer to section 6 of this summary, which deals with the CHRAJ's quasi-judicial function below.

## **6. Quasi-jurisdictional competence**

There are several articles in the Constitution and in the Act 456 that empower the Commission to conduct investigations and handle complaints. In particular, Article 218 of the Constitution indicates that the functions of the Commission shall include investigation of complaints of violations of fundamental rights and freedoms, abuse of power and unfair treatment of a public officer; and also complaints from the Public Services Commission; administrative organs of the state; the armed forces; complaints regarding the functioning of the Police Services Commission; and the prisons service.

The Commission can also investigate complaints concerning the practices and actions of private enterprises. This article also indicates the methods used by the Commission to settle disputes or handle complaints, including negotiation, and bringing the proceedings in a competent court for remedy. Act 456 reiterates the same powers in Section 7, Part II. This part elaborates on the provisions and procedures relating to complaints and investigations. Section 16 relates to the production of official documents before the Commission. Section 17 deals with confidentiality in handling complaints received by the Commission. Part IV of the Act 456 stipulates the procedure after investigation by the Commission. Notably, the Commission has the power to summon any person to give information (Section 15 (2)), produce documents, and answer questions (Section 15 (3) (a) - (b)). The Commission may also bring an action before any court and seek an appropriate remedy for the enforcement of its recommendations if no action is taken within 3 months of a decision on a complaint having been issued (Section 18 (2)). Under Section 19, the Commission shall submit a report to Parliament regarding matters investigated and action taken by them it may also publish its reports.

## **V. SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT**

The Commission's annual report of 2005 begins with the Commissioner's message, which indicates that it's the CHRAJ's anti-corruption department was strengthened by increased training of staff. Several conferences were also held on this theme. The Commission also handled several complaints. The annual report also highlights as challenges confronting the CHRAJ inadequate budget and poor conditions of service for staff, and further indicates that since the Commission's offices and staff have increased its budgetary allocations should increase. The Commission managed to monitor health facilities and visit hospitals. Part one of the report gives an introduction of CHRAJ, its mandate, vision and structure. Part 2 gives a review of the Commission performance in 2005. Part 3 reports on the state of human rights and gives an analysis of different thematic areas, including the types of complaints handled (allegations of corruption, family related complaints, dehumanising cultural practices, rights of the vulnerable, rights of women, refugees, minorities, the right to health and education, and the conditions in the prisons of Ghana). Part 4 relates to land mark cases, while Part 5 reports on the Commission's finances. No annual reports for 2006 or 2007 have been provided.