

OHCHR

**Human Rights Induction Seminar
for Parliamentarians of the
Mediterranean Region**

Rapid Deployment Missions

Geneva, 18 June 2015



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Types of missions



Commission of Inquiry

**Fact – Finding
Mission**

Human Rights Assessment

Other missions



Mandating bodies

Human Rights Council

Other UN legislative bodies such as:

- **Security Council**
- **General Assembly**
- **Secretary-General**

High Commissioner for Human Rights

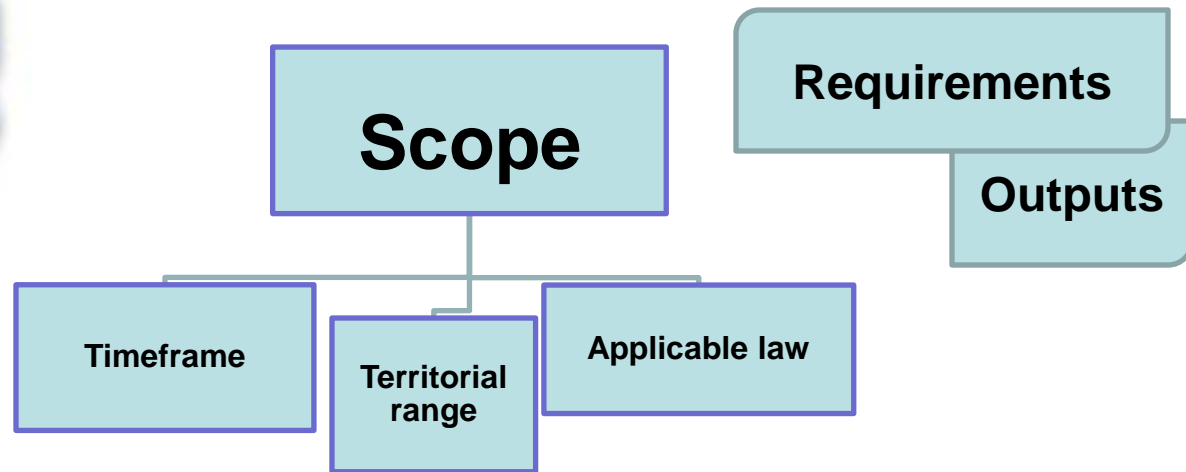


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OHCHR's Rapid Deployments

- Since January 2010, OHCHR, through the Emergency Response Section (ERS), supported 51 rapid response missions and operations.
- 16 commissions of inquiry/fact finding missions.
- 35 Deployments missions to respond to deteriorating human rights and humanitarian emergencies

Definition of mandates



- Mandates may be worded in more specific or broader terms, in any case they require interpretation: **Terms of Reference**

Terms of Reference

- **Legislative authority**: The authority that established the commission of inquiry or fact-finding mission.
- **Mandate**: The exact language from the mandating authority should be repeated in the TORs.
- **State Obligations**: Freedom of movement throughout its territory; freedom of access to all sources of information; appropriate security arrangements; protection of those who cooperate with the mission; privileges, immunities & facilities.

Terms of Reference (cont.)

- **Reporting obligations:** To whom and by when the mission shall submit its report and other outputs.
- **Cooperation with others:** The mission shall enjoy the full cooperation of all Member States of the United Nations and UN entities, and request other international institutions and relevant actors to cooperate.
- **Secretariat:** The SG and the HC to provide all administrative, technical and logistical assistance required .

Mission Outputs

- **Reports, including recommendations:** Preliminary report; Final report; Written update
- **Briefings:** Presentation of the report/oral updates to the Human Rights Council, etc.
- **Lists of perpetrators and victims as well as other confidential information:** All written materials and records of the Mission shall be archived according to established UN procedures.

A few examples

- **Commissions of Inquiry:** *Timor-Leste (2006), Guinea (2009), Gaza (2009), Cote d'Ivoire (2011), Libya (2011), Syria (2011)*
- **Fact-Finding missions:** *Kenya (2008), Beit Hanoun, OPT (2008), OHCHR FFM on Syria (2011)*
- **Assessments:** *Tunisia (2011), Egypt (2011), Yemen (2011)*
- **Other missions:** *High-Level Mission on Darfur (2007), Togo (2007); DRC Mapping Exercise (2010), Abyei/Sudan (2011)*

ROSTERS

- Stand-by internal roster of experienced human rights personnel including both human rights officers, legal advisers and administrative staff
- Emergency Response Roster to be used for all emergency deployments exceeding three months.
- Roster of potential high level personalities for independent COIs/FFMs

Rosters Management Challenges

- Need to ensure a varied profile of rosters.
- Availability of roster members.
- Importance of having a roster management.
- Importance of protection of team members, victims and witnesses



Questions?