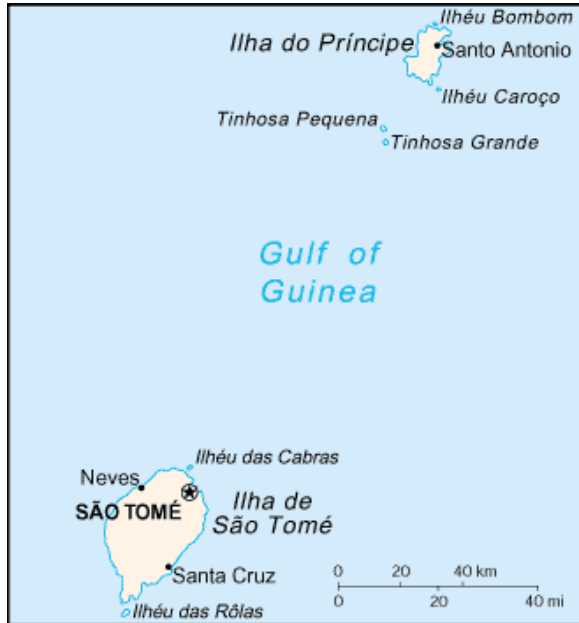


Sao Tome and Principe

Sao Tome and Principe is a Member State of the African Union (AU) and of the United Nations (UN), and has human rights obligations at both the regional and universal levels.

Regional: African System



Sao Tome and Principe has ratified the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Charter), and its human rights policies and practices are monitored by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), which reviews the State's reports concerning its human rights situation and decides complaints of alleged violations. Sao Tome and Principe has not accepted the jurisdiction of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Individuals and groups may submit complaints of human rights violations committed by Sao Tome and Principe to the [African human rights system](#). The Commission has not yet decided any complaint concerning the State.

Sao Tome and Principe has not submitted any [periodic reports](#) to the ACHPR on human rights conditions in the country. The ACHPR has not conducted any missions to Sao Tome and Principe.

Sao Tome and Principe has ratified the following **regional human rights treaties**:

- African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights

United Nations System

As a UN Member State, Sao Tome and Principe is subject to the oversight of various [UN human rights bodies](#), including the [Human Rights Council](#) and its [Universal Periodic Review](#) and thematic [special procedures](#). As a party to specific universal human rights treaties, Sao Tome and Principe's policies and practices are monitored by [UN treaty bodies](#). It has accepted the complaints procedure of two treaty bodies.

Sao Tome and Principe has ratified the following **UN human rights treaties**:

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW)
- Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD)

Sao Tome and Principe has also ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aimed at abolishing the death penalty. Sao Tome and Principe has a duty to submit **State Reports** to each UN treaty body that is associated with the relevant treaty it has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis, and describe the steps Sao Tome and Principe has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

Sao Tome and Principe has ratified the [optional protocols](#) allowing individuals to submit **complaints** against the State for violations of the ICCPR and CEDAW. Additionally, certain UN treaties include **inquiry procedures**, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations. Sao Tome and Principe has accepted the inquiry procedure of CEDAW.

On February 2, 2011, Sao Tome and Principe extended a **standing invitation** to UN special procedures, which means that any special rapporteurs or working groups are welcome to conduct visits in Sao Tome and Principe.

For more information on Sao Tome and Principe's engagement with [UN human rights bodies](#), visit <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/countries/AfricaRegion/Pages/STIndex.aspx>.

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