Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea is a Member State of the United Nations (UN), and has international human rights obligations. Papua New Guinea is not a participant in any regional human rights system.

United Nations System

As a UN Member State, Papua New Guinea 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, Papua New Guinea’s policies and practices are monitored by UN treaty bodies. It has not accepted the complaints procedure of any treaty bodies.

Papua New Guinea has ratified the following UN human rights treaties:

- International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)
- International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)

Papua New Guinea has submitted a declaration that modifies its obligations under the CERD. Papua New Guinea has a duty to submit State reports to each UN treaty body associated with the relevant treaty Papua New Guinea has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis, and describe the steps Papua New Guinea has taken to implement the treaty provisions.

Papua New Guinea has not authorized individuals to submit complaints to UN human rights treaty bodies, nor has it accepted any inquiry procedures for grave or systematic human rights violations.

On March 11, 2011, Papua New Guinea extended a standing invitation to UN special procedures, which means they are welcome to conduct visits in Papua New Guinea. For example, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women visited Papua New Guinea in 2012 and published a report in 2013.

For more information on Papua New Guinea’s engagement with UN human rights bodies, visit http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/AsiaRegion/Pages/PGIndex.aspx.

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