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TORTURE VICTIMS RELIEF REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

OCTOBER 9, 2007.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. BIDEN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 1678]

The Committee on Foreign Relations, having had under consideration H.R. 1678, a bill to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998, to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

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I. PURPOSE

This legislation would authorize appropriations for domestic and foreign programs and centers to provide treatment and assistance to victims of torture.

II. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 1678 was introduced by Representative Smith of New Jersey on March 26, 2007. It was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. On

March 27, the Committee on Foreign Affairs ordered it to be reported favorably by voice vote, without amendment. On April 20, H.R. 1678 was reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs and discharged from the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The House approved the legislation on April 25, by a vote of 418–7 on a motion to suspend the rules.

H.R. 1678 was subsequently referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. The committee ordered it to be reported favorably, by voice vote and without amendment, on September 11, 2007.

III. DISCUSSION

According to Amnesty International, over 150 countries worldwide engage in torture. Estimates indicate that there may be up to 100 million torture victims worldwide, with approximately 400,000–500,000 foreign victims residing in the United States. In 1998, Congress passed the Torture Victims Relief Act (P.L. 105–320) to authorize appropriations for domestic and foreign programs and centers to provide treatment and assistance to victims of torture. H.R. 1678 is a re-authorization of the 1998 legislation, providing a total of $49 million for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009 to support such programs through the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the Department of Health and Human Services ($25 million), the Victims' Torture Fund of the U.S. Agency for International Development ($12 million), and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture ($12 million).

Under the Torture Victims Relief Act, services funded include treating physical and psychological effects of torture, providing social and legal services, and training health care providers. In 2006, the Victims' Torture Fund of the U.S. Agency for International Development supported programs in 28 countries, and the Fund has assisted 63,200 since 1998. Also in 2006, the United Nations Fund for Victims of Torture assisted 32,000 victims of torture through 175 projects in 64 countries. Within the United States, programs administered by the Office of Refugee Resettlement provided direct services to 3,220 victims of torture through 22 programs during the first six months of its current grant period. Additional details about the programs funded under this Act may be found in letters from executive branch agencies, set forth in the appendix to this report.

With the 1998 authorization of the Torture Victims Relief Act, Congress demonstrated its commitment to assist torture victims—many of whom are vital voices in their communities: journalists, human rights defenders, democracy advocates and religious leaders. The committee believes that providing social and legal services to victims of torture is a priority, and that reauthorization of these programs at the levels contained in H.R. 1678 is appropriate.

IV. COST ESTIMATE

In accordance with Rule XXVI, paragraph 11(a) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the committee provides this estimate of the costs of this legislation prepared by the Congressional Budget Office.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 19, 2007.

Hon. JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 1678, the Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 2007.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Sunita D'Monte.

Sincerely,

PETER R. ORSZAG.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 19, 2007.

H.R. 1678 would authorize the appropriation of $49 million in both 2008 and 2009 for foreign and domestic programs to assist victims of torture. CBO estimates that implementing the act would cost $22 million in 2008 and $97 million over the 2008–12 period, assuming that the authorized amounts are appropriated and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for those programs.

Enacting H.R. 1678 would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 1678 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 1678 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 150 (international affairs) and 550 (health).

Section 2 would authorize the appropriation of $25 million a year in 2008 and 2009 for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for domestic treatment of victims of torture. Under current law, HHS makes grants to programs in the United States that provide psychological and physical rehabilitation, social services, and legal services to victims of torture. Section 3 would authorize the appropriation of $12 million in 2008 and $12 million in 2009 for foreign treatment centers for victims of torture. Finally, section 4 would authorize the appropriation of $12 million in 2008 and $12 million in 2009 for grants to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture.

On April 2, 2007, CBO transmitted an estimate for H.R. 1678 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on March 27, 2007. The two versions of the legislation are similar and their estimated costs are identical.The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Sunita D'Monte. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

ESTIMATED BUDGETARY IMPACT OF H.R. 1678
By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Domestic Treatment Centers					
Authorization Level	25	25	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	8	18	15	7	2
Foreign Treatment Centers					
Authorization Level	12	12	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	2	8	8	3	2
Contribution to United Nations' Fund					
Authorization Level	12	12	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	12	12	0	0	0
Total Changes					
Authorization Level	49	49	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	22	38	23	10	4

V. EVALUATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 11(b) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the committee has determined that there is no regulatory impact as a result of this legislation.

VI. CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with Rule XXVI, paragraph 12 of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman).

Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998

* * * * * * *

SEC. 4. FOREIGN TREATMENT CENTERS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.—Part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end of chapter 1 the following new section: * * *

(b) FUNDING.—(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—**[**Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 pursuant to chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, there are authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry out section 130 of such Act $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2006 and $13,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.**]** *Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 pursuant to chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, there are authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry out section 130 of such Act $12,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 and 2009.*

(2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to this subsection shall remain available until expended.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect October 1, 1998.

SEC. 5. DOMESTIC TREATMENT CENTERS.

(a) ASSISTANCE FOR TREATMENT OF TORTURE VICTIMS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may provide grants to pro-

grams in the United States to cover the cost of the following services:

(1) Services for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, including treatment of the physical and psychological effects of torture.

(2) Social and legal services for victims of torture.

(3) Research and training for health care providers outside of treatment centers, or programs for the purpose of enabling such providers to provide the services described in paragraph (1).

(b) FUNDING.—

[(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Health and Human Services for fiscal years 2006 and 2007, there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (a) $25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2006 and 2007.]

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Health and Human Services for fiscal years 2008 and 2009, there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (a) $25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

APPENDIX

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, July 19, 2007.

Hon. JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter of June 22 regarding U.S. support to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture.

Enclosed are the responses to the questions raised in your letter. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights is working with us to provide further clarification on some of the decision-making processes, as well as statistical information, which we will provide to you when we receive them.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance on this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY T. BERGNER,
Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs.

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE (UNVF)

Question. How many projects are currently supported globally by the UNVF? What proportion of funding is provided to entities that offer direct services to torture victims versus those that support research and provide training to health care providers?

Answer.

- The UNVF is supporting 165 projects globally for calendar year 2007.
- The UNVF classifies its projects as medical, psychological, psychiatric, social, legal, financial, training, and other. Grants are not provided for research.
- For 2007, the Board approved funding for 165 projects. The majority of organizations received more than one form of assistance. The UNVF focuses on one or more of the following forms of assistance: medical (111 projects), psychological (137), psychiatric (2), social (99), legal (89), financial (31), training (0), and other (10).

Question. Does the UNVF currently support any projects within the United States? If so, where are the projects located and how many individuals do they serve?

Answer. Yes, the UNVF supports 27 projects in the United States.

The following information was obtained from the websites of the organizations supported by the UNVF.

[NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, numbers of individuals treated were not publicly available.]

- Center for Multicultural Human Services: Falls Church, VA.—The program serves over 200 survivors of torture per year.
- Doctors of the World: New York, NY.—The organization has provided evaluative services to 367 survivors of torture and other human rights violations seeking asylum in the United States.
- TASSC—Helping Hands: Washington, DC.
- TASSC International Communities: Washington, DC.
- Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services (Access): Dearborn, MI.
- El Rescate Legal Services: Los Angeles, CA.
- Gulf Coast Community Care: Clearwater, FL.
- Human Rights Initiative of North Texas: Dallas, Texas International Institute of Boston: Boston, MA.

- Greater Boston Legal Services: Boston, MA.
- Khmer Health Advocates: West Hartford, CT.—Khmer Health Advocates began a torture treatment program in 1984 that has treated more than 1,500 survivors and their families.
- Legal Aid Foundation: Los Angeles, CA.
- Lowell Community Health Center: Lowell, MA.
- Lutheran Children and Family Services: Philadelphia, PA.—Offered services to 400 torture victims from 45 countries in 2006.
- Center for Victims of Torture: Minneapolis, MN.
- Center for Survivors of Torture: Dallas, TX.
- Survivors of Torture, International: San Diego, CA.—Survivors of Torture has helped 650 torture victims from 55 countries since 1997.
- Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights: Minneapolis, MN.
- Physicians for Human Rights: Cambridge, MA.
- Program for Torture Victims: Los Angeles, CA.
- Provident Counseling: St. Louis, MO.
- Advocates for Survivors of Trauma and Torture: Baltimore, MD.
- Bellevue Association: Bellevue, WA.
- Utah Health and Human Rights Project: Salt Lake City, UT.
- Center for Justice and Accountability: San Francisco, CA.
- Rocky Mountain Survivors Center: Denver, CO.
- Torture Treatment Center: Portland, OR.—Torture Treatment Center aided 900 torture victims in 2005.

Question. Approximately how many individuals are served globally through current UNVF programs, in total, and disaggregated regionally?

Answer. Exact figures are not available at this time, however, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights estimates the total number of individuals assisted by the UNVF to be 32,000 in the calendar year 2006. There will be a better estimate available when the United Nations General Assembly report is prepared at the end of July.

Question. What is the process for deciding to fund a project through the UNVF, or deciding to continue funding for a project? Are funding decisions made by the Secretary General, or by the UNVF's Board of Trustees?

Answer. During its annual session, the Board of Trustees reviews the narrative and, if applicable, financial reports on the use of previous grants, adopts recommendations on applications for new grants, considers presentations made by project leaders; meets with donors, consults with the Special Rapporteur on Torture and the Committee against Torture, and then adopts other relevant recommendations for the Secretary-General on the activities of the UNVF. The High Commissioner for Human Rights, on behalf of the Secretary-General, approves the recommendations of the Board each spring.

Question. Is funding for projects awarded based on a competitive process? If not, what process is used to select the recipients?

Answer. Yes, grants are awarded in a competitive fashion to organizations that provide rehabilitation services to victims of torture. After vetting, the UNVF is generally able to accommodate most funding requests. However, given budget constraints, the UNVF often funds only 10–20 percent of the funding request. Additionally, grant recipients are required to secure at least two-thirds of their funding from other sources.

Question. Of the 2006 and 2007 recipients of funding, how many entities received funding from UNVF in prior years? Which were they?

Answer. Of the 165 grant recipients for 2007, 142 (about 86 percent) had received funding from the UNVF in 2006.

Please refer to enclosed list of 2007 recipients. Those who have also received grants in 2006 are noted with an asterisk.

Question. What oversight mechanisms exist in the U.N. Secretariat to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs supported by the UNVF? What is the U.N. Secretariat's process for conducting such oversight?

Answer. Grantees are required to submit financial and programmatic reports each year (by April 1) in order to report on the use of the funds and the results obtained.

In accordance with the arrangements adopted by the United Nations General Assembly when the UNVF was established, the Secretary-General reports annually to the United Nations General Assembly and to the Human Rights Council on the activities of the UNVF and its Board of Trustees.

Besides reviewing financial and programmatic reports, Board members, Secretariat staff, and other staff members of various. U.N.-affiliated agencies make onsite visits to grantee organizations to verify implementation and monitor the programs' effectiveness.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING GRANTS, BY REGION (25TH AND 26TH SESSIONS)

19 March 2007 version

[NOTE. The OHCHR has not compiled a complete list of the organizations funded by the 25th and 26th sessions. There will be a better assessment when the annual report is prepared for the General Assembly at the end of July 2007.]

AFRICA

[18 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
1	Trauma Centre Cameroun	Cameroon	Medical, psychological, social and financial.
2	Center for Rehabilitaion and Abolition of Torture (CART).	Cameroon	Medical, psychological, social and financial.
3	The Center for Victims of Torture CVT-DRC.	D.R. Congo	Medical and psychological.
4	Africa Middle East Refugee Assistance (AMERA).	Egypt	Psychological, social and legal.
5	El Nadim Center for the management and rehabilitation of victims of violence.	Egypt	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
6	HIAS Refugee Trust of Kenya	Kenya	Psychological, social and other.
7	IMLU Independent Medico-Legal Unit (IMLU)/Nairobi, Kenya.	Kenya	Medical and psychological.
8	Prisoners Assistance Program, Inc.	Liberia	Medical, psychological and other.
9	Center for Victims of Torture/West Africa (Liberia).	Liberia/Sierra Leone	Psychological, social and other.
10	Association Medicale de Rehabilitation de Victimes de la Torture (AMRVT).	Morocco	Medical and psychological.
11	W.A.C.O.L.—Women Aid Collective	Nigeria	Psychological, social, legal and financial.
12	Kanyarwanda A.S.B.L.	Rwanda	Medical, psychological and social.
13	Vivre/Caprec	Senegal	Medical, social and legal.
14	Community Association for Psychosocial Services (CAPS).	Sierra Leone	Psychological.
15	C.S.V.R.—Centre for the Study of Violence Reconciliation.	South Africa	Psychological.
16	The Trauma Centre for the Survivors of Violence and Torture.	South Africa	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
17	A.C.T.V.—African Center for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims.	Uganda	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
18	Refugee Law Project	Uganda	Psychological, social and legal.

ASIA

[20 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
1	Naogaon Human Rights Association	Bangladesh	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
2	Bangladesh Rehabilitation Centre for Trauma Victims.	Bangladesh	Medical, psychological, legal and financial.
3	Top India Trust	India	Medical, psychological and social.
4	People's Watch Tamil Nadu	India	Medical and legal.
5	Centre for Care of Victims of Torture	India	Medical, psychological, social and legal.

ASIA—Continued

[20 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
6	Society for Social Research, Art and Culture.	India	Medical, psychological and social.
7	International Catholic Migration Commission.	Indonesia	Medical, psychological and social.
8	Physicians for Human Rights	Israel	Medical, psychological and legal.
9	Public Committee Against Torture in Israel.	Israel	Legal assistance.
10	The Korean Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims and Families.	Korea (Republic of)	Medical, psychological, legal and financial.
11	Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture.	Lebanon	Medical, psychological and social.
12	Forum for the Protection of People's Rights (PPR).	Nepal	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
13	Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture.	Occupied Palestinian Territories	Medical, psychological and social.
14	Sach-Struggle for Change (SACH)	Pakistan	Medical, psychological, social, legal, financial and other.
15	Medical Action Group, Inc. (MAG)	Philippines	Medical, psychological, social, financial and other.
16	Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances.	Philippines	Psychological.
17	Task Force Detainees of the Philippines.	Philippines	Legal.
18	BALAY Rehabilitation Center, Inc.	Philippines	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
19	League of Women Lawyers	Tajikistan	Medical, psychological and legal.
20	Avesto	Tajikistan	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN

[22 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
1	E.A.T.I.P.—Equipo Argentino de Trabajo e Investigacion Psicosocial.	Argentina	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
2	Asociacion Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo.	Argentina	Psychological.
3	Grupo Tortura Nunca Mais/Rio de Janeiro (Group Torture Never More/RJ).	Brazil	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
4	A.C.A.T.—Acao dos Cristaos para a abolicao da tortura.	Brazil	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
5	I.T.E.I.—Instituto de Terapia e Investigacion sobre las Secuelas de la Tortura y la Violencia Estatal.	Bolivia	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
6	Corporacion de Promocion y Defensa de los Derechos del Pueblo (CODEPU).	Chile	Medical, psychological and legal.
7	F.A.S.I.C.—Fundacion de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas.	Chile	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
8	C.I.N.T.R.A.S.—Centro de Salud Mental y Derechos Humanos.	Chile	Medical, psychological and social.
9	Fondazione Terre des hommes-Italia	Colombia	Medical, psychological and social
10	HIAS	Ecuador/USA	Psychological and social.
11	Asociacion para la Salud y el Desarrollo Integral de Momostenaugo.	Guatemala	Medical, psychological, social, financial.

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN—Continued

[22 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
12	U.F.A.D.E.S.C.H.—Union des Formateurs—Animateurs du Sud en Education Civique et le respect des Droits Humains.	Haiti	Medical and legal.
13	Centro de Estudios Fronterizos y de Promocion de los Derechos Humanos.	Mexico	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
14	L.I.M.E.D.D.H.—Liga Mexicana Para la Defensa de los Derech.	Mexico	Legal, medical, psychological and financial.
15	C.C.T.I.—Colectivo contra la Tortura la Impunidad, A.C..	Mexico	Medical and psychological.
16	COMISEDH—Comision de Derechos Humanos.	Peru	Medical, psychological, social, legal, and financial.
17	F.E.D.E.P.A.Z.—Fundacion Ecumenica para el Desarrollo y la Paz.	Peru	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
18	Fundacion Richmond Fellowship del Peru.	Peru	Training.
19	C.A.P.S.—Centro de Atencion Psicosocial.	Peru	Social and psychological.
20	C.D.H.E.S.—Comision de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador.	El Salvador	Medical and psychological.
21	S.E.R.S.O.C.—Servicio de Rehabilitacion Social.	Uruguay	Medical, psychological and social.
22	Red de Apoyo por la Justicia y la Paz.	Venezuuela	Medical, psychological, social and legal.

EASTERN EUROPE

[22 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
1	Fund Against Violation of Law	Armenia	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
2	Centre for Torture Victims	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Medical, psychological and social.
3	Centre for Torture Victims—International Aid Network—Medica Zenica.	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro.	Medical, psychological and social.
4	Association Vive Zene	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Medical, psychological and social.
5	Assistance Centre for Torture Survivors.	Bulgaria	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
6	International Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims.	Croatia	Medical, legal and financial.
7	Society of Citizens Assisting Migrants (SOZE).	Czech Republic	Psychological and legal.
8	Georgian Centre for Psychosocial and Medical Rehabilitation of Torture Victims.	Georgia	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
9	Empathy	Georgia	Medical, psychological and social.
10	Cordelia Foundation	Hungary	Medical and pyschological.
11	ERRC—European Roma Rights Centre.	Hungary	Legal.
12	Helsinki Committee for Human Rights Macedonia.	Macedonia (Former Yugoslavian Republic of).	Legal.
13	Medical Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims ''Memoria''.	Moldova (Republic of)	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
14	Centre for Victims of Political Persecutions.	Poland	Medical, psychological and legal.
15	ICAR Foundation	Romania	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
16	Romanian Independent Society of Human Rights (SIRDO).	Romania	Legal.

EASTERN EUROPE—Continued

[22 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
17	Stichting Russian Justice Initiative	Russian Federation	Legal.
18	Nizhniy Novgorod Non-Governmental Organization Committee Against Torture.	Russian Federation	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
19	Public Verdict Foundation	Russian Federation	Psychological, social, legal and other.
20	Human Rights Public Organization (NISO).	Russian Federation/Chechen Republic.	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
21	International Aid Network (IAN)/Belgrade.	Serbia and Montenegro	Medical, psychological, social, legal, financial and other.
22	Committee for Human Rights, Leskovac.	Serbia	Psychological and legal.

WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP

[83 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
1	Association for Services to Torture and Trauma Survivors.	Australia	Psychological and social.
2	The Treatment and Rehabilitation Unit for Survivors of Torture and Trauma.	Australia	Medical, psychological, social and financial.
3	Centre for Advocacy Support and Education for Refugees (CASE for Refugees).	Australia	Legal.
4	Verein ZEBRA	Austria	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
5	OMEGA Health Care Centre	Austria	Medical, psychological and social.
6	HEMAYAT	Austria	Medical and psychological.
7	Centre medico-psycho-social pour refugies et victimes de torture (EXIL).	Belgium	Medical, psychological, social, legal, financial and other.
8	Medecins sans Frontieres—Les projets belges. (MPORE).	Belgium	Psychological and social.
9	O.C.I.S.O.—Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization.	Canada	Psychological.
10	Calgary Catholic Immigration Society.	Canada	Medical and psychological.
11	Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture.	Canada	Psychological.
12	Edmonton Centre for Survivors of Torture and Trauma.	Canada	Psychological.
13	Reseau d'intervention aupres des personnes ayant subi la violence organisee.	Canada	Medical, psychological and social.
14	Vancouver Association for Survivors of Torture.	Canada	Psychological and social.
15	Service d'aide psychologique specialisee aux immigrants et refugies.	Canada	Psychological.
16	Federation internationale des ligues des droits de l'homme.	France	Legal.
17	Centre d'accueil et de soins Primo Levi.	France	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
18	Comite medical pour les exiles	France	Medical, psychological and social.
19	OSIRIS	France	Medical and psychological.
20	Parcours de jeunes	France	Medical and psychological.
21	Exilio Hilfe fur Fluchtlinge und Folteruberlebende e.V.	Germany	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
22	Caritas-Koln	Germany	Psychological.

WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP—Continued

[83 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
23	Centre for the Treatment of Torture Victims (Behandlungszentrum fur Folteropfer Berlin).	Germany	Medical, psychological and social.
24	Xenion Psychosoziale Hilfen fur politisch Verfolgte e.V..	Germany	Medical and psychological.
25	P.S.Z.—Psychosoziales Zentrum fuer Fluechtlinge Duesseldor.	Germany	Psychological and social.
26	Refugio, Bremen	Germany	Psychological.
27	Refugio, Munich	Germany	Medical, psychological, social and financial.
28	Medical Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims.	Greece	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
29	SPIRASI Centre for the Care of Survivors of Torture.	Ireland	Medical, psychological, social, legal and training.
30	Associazione Volontaria di Assistenza Socio-Sanitaria e per i Diritti di Stranieri e Nomadi.	Italy	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
31	Casa del Diritti Sociali—Focus, Rome.	Italy	Psychological, social and legal.
32	JRC—Assoc Centro Astalli	Italy	Social, legal and financial.
33	Medici contro la tortura	Italy	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
34	Italian Refugee Council	Italy	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
35	Exil Espana	Spain	Medical, psychological and social.
36	Red Cross Rehabilitation Centre for Torture and War Victims in Goteborg.	Sweden	Medical, psychological and social.
37	Red Cross Rehabilitation Centre in Uppsala.	Sweden	Psychological and social.
38	Croix-Rouge Suisse	Switzerland	Medical, psychological and social.
39	Appartenances	Switzerland	Psychological.
40	Unite de medecine des voyages et des migrations.	Switzerland	Medical and psychological.
41	Organisation mondiale contre la torture.	Switzerland	Medical, social and legal.
42	Human Rights Foundation of Turkey	Turkey	Medical, psychological and social.
43	Legal Aid for Women Raped or Sexually Assaulted by State Security Forces, Istanbul, Turkey (Toplum ve Hukuk Arastirmalari Vakfi—TOHAV.	Turkey	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
44	TOHAV	Turkey	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
45	Helsinki Citizen's Assembly	Turkey	Psychological and legal.
46	Prisoners of Conscience Appeal Fund.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Financial.
47	The Death Penalty Project	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Legal.
48	Women Against Rape	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Psychological, social, financial and legal.
49	Kurdish Human Rights Project	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Legal.
50	Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Medical, psychological, social, legal and financial.
51	Redress Trust	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Legal.
52	Ctre MULTICULT H. Serv.	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social, legal, financial (emergency fund) and other.
53	Doctors of the WORLD	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.

WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP—Continued

[83 projects]

No.	Name of organization	Country	Type of assistance provided
54	TASSC—Helping Hand Hands	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social, legal, financial.
55	TASSC- Internat. Communities	United States of America	Psychological, social and financial
56	Acces ArabCom.Ctr	United States of America	Medical, psychological, psychiatric, social and other.
57	Asian Americans	United States of America	Medical, psychological, psychiatric, social and legal assistance.
58	El Rescate Legal Services	United States of America	Legal.
59	Gulf Coast Community Care	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
60	Human Rights Initiative of North Texas.	United States of America	Medical and psychological.
61	International Institute of Boston	United States of America	Psychological and social.
62	Greater Boston Legal Services	United States of America	Psychological and legal.
63	Khmer Health Advocates	United States of America	Psychological.
64	Legal Aid Foundation	United States of America	Legal.
65	Lowell Community Health Center	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and financial.
66	Lutheran Children	United States of America	Medical, psychological and social.
67	KHA—Khmer Health Advocates	United States of America	Medical, psychological and social.
68	Centre for Victims of Torture	United States of America	Medical, psychological and social.
69	Centre for Multicultural Human Services.	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
70	Centre for Survivors of Torture	United States of America	Medical, psychological and legal.
71	SOTI—Surv. San Diego	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
72	Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights.	United States of America	Legal.
73	Physicians for Human Rights	United States of America	Medical, psychological and legal.
74	Programme for Torture Victims	United States of America	Medical and psychological.
75	Provident Counselling	United States of America	Medical.
76	Advocates for Survivors of Trauma and Torture, Baltimore.	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
77	Bellevue Association	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
78	Boston Medical Centre	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
79	Utah Health	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.
80	Survivors of Torture, International	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social, legal and other.
81	The Centre for Justice and Accountability.	United States of America	Legal.
82	Rocky Mountain Survivors Centre	United States of America	Medical, psychological and legal.
83	Torture Treatment Centre (Oregon)	United States of America	Medical, psychological, social and legal.

In total, 165 projects.

USAID,
Washington, DC, July 27, 2007.

Hon. JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter of June 22, 2007, requesting detailed information about the U.S. Agency for International Development's support for international treatment centers, their programs, and recent grant assistance. Responses to your detailed questions are enclosed.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

JAMES R. KUNDER,
Acting Deputy Administrator.

Question. How many programs globally are currently supported through the Victims of Torture Fund (VTF)? What proportion of funding is provided to entities which offer direct services to torture victims versus those which support research and provide training to health care providers?

Answer. The Fund supports activities in 23 countries and regions:

- Africa: Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Zimbabwe (9).
- Asia and Near Fast (ANE): Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, West Bank Gaza, Sri Lanka, Tibet (through mission in India), and Timor Leste (9).
- Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC): Guatemala, Haiti, Peru, and a regional program based in Costa Rica (4).
- Europe and Eurasia (E&E): Kosovo (1).

Approximately 60 percent of our funds are for direct services to torture victims, 35 percent for training health care providers, and 5 percent for research.

Question. Approximately how many individuals currently are served, in total and disaggregated regionally, through programs funded by VTF?

Answer. The fund supports 191 local organizations through our main partners in the form of sub-grants. The approximate number of individuals who have received direct services and been trained through our main partners and local organizations is broken down by region.

Region	Direct services	Training
Africa	42,200	430
Latin America and Caribbean	12,900	300
Asia, Near East	7,600	670
Europe and Eurasia	500	70
Total	63,200	1,470

Question. What is the process for awarding a grant through the VTF? In fiscal years 2006 and 2007, how many entities received grants through the VTS, who were the recipients, and what was the funding level awarded to each?

Answer. The Victims of Torture Fund awards grants through competition or unsolicited proposals with most grants competed and awarded by USAID Missions in specific countries. Each year the Fund sends a statement to USAID Missions which provides solicitation guidelines and a description of programs and desired outcomes. The Fund works with USAID's regional bureaus in Washington to identify Missions and programs that are most suitable for meeting the Victim of Torture Fund mandate. Often Victims of Torture programs are included in broader mission solicitations or ongoing efforts. (Burundi, Uganda are examples). All solicitations are awarded in consultation with the USAID Mission.

Those countries where awards were not competed must provide justification to USAID/Washington. Most often the justification for the exception to competition is the unique capability of a single organization to provide in-country support to victims of torture. Sometimes the cover of a grant's broader range of activities provides a measure of security for local NGOs that seek to support this cause but may be operating in an environment that is more restrictive with regard to this issue.

Solicitation for competitive awards by country may be found at www.grants.gov. Organizations interested in submitting unsolicited proposals should first submit a concept paper to the appropriate USAID Mission and to the USAID program manager, Mr. Lloyd Feinberg, Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, Office of Democracy and Governance (email: LFeinberg@usaid.gov).

In keeping with its legislative mandate, the Fund gives priority to programs that treat and rehabilitate torture-affected individuals. Proposals for training and research are also considered. Program activities eligible for funding should aim to:

- Increase access to services that improve the status and function of torture-affected individuals, their families, and communities and that promote healing.
- Improve the quality of interventions for torture-affected individuals and communities through the study of the impact of interventions.
- Increase the capacity of organizations and individuals involved in delivering services to torture-affected individuals, their families and communities.
- Increase knowledge and dissemination of findings related to long-term improvements in function and healing.

In 2006, VTF provided the following amounts to entities listed below:

Country	Entity	Amount (in dollars)
DemocraticRepublic of the Congo (DRC).	International RescueCommittee: includes sub-grants to 17 local organizations.	1,218,000.
DemocraticRepublic of the Congo (DRC).	Cooperazione Internationale	335,000.
Zimbabwe	Pact, Inc.: includes sub-grants to 4 local organizations	1,225,000.
LAC Regional	Inter-American Institute forHuman Rights: includes sub-grants to 23 local organizations.	600,000.
Global	Center for Victims of Torture: includes sub-grants to 23 local organizations.	1,200,000.
U.S.	Boston University	457,782.
Guatemala	United Nations Development Program: includes sub-grants to 16 local organizations.	540,000.
Indonesia	International Catholic Migration Commission:includes sub-grants to 7 local organizations.	896,218.
Peru	Center for Psychosocial Attention: includes sub-grants to 6 local organizations.	477,000.
Peru	Institute for Legal Defense	123,000.
Tibet (through mission in India)	Tibetan Voluntary Health	250,000.

Final funding figures for 2007 are not yet available.

Question. Are grants awarded based on a competitive process? If not, what process was used to select grantees?

Answer. Grants are awarded based on the process described in response to question three. In 2006, for example, the Minnesota-based Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) submitted an unsolicited proposal requesting an extension of an ongoing grant. In Haiti, a Request for Application (RFA) was issued for a competitive award.

Of the 14 agreements within the existing portfolio, it is estimated that 10 of them (71 percent) were originally competitively awarded (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Timor Leste, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Latin America Regional, and Haiti).

Question. Of the 2006 and 2007 grantees, how many entities had received funding in prior years? Which were they?

Answer. For 2006, all grantees listed in the table under question three received prior awards. A new activity was planned in Haiti. A new award was made to the International Catholic Migration Commission in Indonesia, although they had received funding previously. Most awards are for 2–3 years and are incrementally funded each year. Decisions on awards in 2007 are pending receipt of final budget figures.

Question. What oversight mechanisms exist to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs? What is USAID's process for conducting such oversight?

Answer. VTF is working with staff from the Center for International Health and Development at the Boston University School of Public Health and the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) in Minnesota, to evaluate promising interventions in order

to strengthen the quality of services for survivors of torture. By understanding their impact, we are bitter able to identify best practices and lessons learned .and sustain ongoing efforts.

With Boston University staff, the Fund has conducted qualitative studies with our partners in Indonesia, Mexico, Haiti, and the DRC. These assessments were conducted as the first phase of a larger program of technical assistance supporting VTF grantees. They included workshops on the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of programs in Guatemala, Uganda, Indonesia, DRC, Kenya, Cambodia, Pakistan, Peru, Sri Lanka, and Sierra Leone. The purpose is to help grantees design psychosocial programs to treat survivors of torture and to develop more rigorous systems of monitoring and evaluation of programs. As a follow-up to initial qualitative studies and workshops, Boston University and CVT will be working closely with partners in DRC, Indonesia, Peru, Sierra Leone and Cambodia to design and implement impact studies in the coming year.

USAID is conducting oversight through a program manager, who is assisted by contractor staff to review progress reports, maintain contact with the field, and conduct monitoring visits.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES,
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES,
Washington, DC, July 20, 2007.

Hon. JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.,
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR BIDEN: Secretary Leavitt has asked me to thank you for your letter requesting information about the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) support for domestic centers and programs specializing in the treatment of victims of torture and to respond to you directly. I am pleased to provide you with the following information in response to the questions included in your letter.

Question. How many domestic programs are currently supported by the appropriated funding? What proportion of funding is provided to entities which offer direct services to torture victims versus those which support research and provide training to health care providers?

Answer. A total of 22 programs are currently supported by the appropriated funding administered by the Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). Of these 22 programs, 20 are funded as Assistance to Torture Survivors Through Direct Services. Two programs are funded as Technical Assistance to Organizations and Institutions Providing Direct Services to Torture Survivors.

The 20 programs that provide direct services to torture victims receive 91.5 percent of the total grant funding. The two grantees providing technical assistance receive the remaining 8.5 percent of grant funding.

Question. Approximately how many individuals are currently served through the domestic programs, and what are the primary countries of origin of the individuals who are served?

Answer. During the first six months of the current grant period (9/30/06–3/31/07), the 20 grantees providing direct services to torture survivors reported serving 3,220 individuals.

The primary countries of origin as reported by program grantees are: Cameroon, Ethiopia, Iran, Congo, Iraq, Sudan, and Togo.

Question. What is the process for awarding a grant under this program? In fiscal years 2006 and 2007, how many entities received grants, who were the recipients, and what was the funding level awarded to each entity?

Answer. ORR issues a Funding Opportunity Announcement inviting applications for Services for Survivors of Torture. The most recent Funding Opportunity Announcement was issued in the Spring of 2006 for project periods of up to 3 years. In accordance with HHS grants policy, applications are evaluated and rated by an independent review panel on the basis of specific evaluation review criteria, as stated in the published announcement.

The attached chart (see below) provides a listing of the 22 entities funded under the fiscal year (FY) 2006 appropriation for 3-year project periods, beginning September 30, 2006. At this time, continuation applications are being reviewed for award with FY 2007 appropriated funding, subject to satisfactory progress by the grantee in the first year of the project period. It is expected that the continuation funding will be commensurate with FY 2006 funding levels.

Question. Are grants awarded based on a competitive process? If not, what process was used to select grants?

Answer. Grants are awarded for the Services for Survivors of Torture Program based on a competitive process, as described above.

Question. Of the 2006 and 2007 grantees, how many entities had received funding in prior years? Which were they?

Answer. All of the 22 programs that were funded in FY 2006 and are being funded in FY 2007 for the 3-year project period that began September 30, 2006, had received funding in prior years.

Question. What oversight mechanisms exist to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs? What is O's process for conducting such oversight?

Answer. ORR has implemented the following oversight mechanisms to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs:

- On-site Monitoring: ORR has dedicated staff who administer and oversee the Services for Survivors of Torture Program. Staff regularly conduct on-site moni-

toring visits to review performance, client outcome evaluation and reporting, data collection processes and instruments, and financial management.

- Progress Reporting: All grantees are required to submit semi-annual Program Progress Reports and Financial Status Reports to ORR. In their applications for funding, programs identify specific client-based outcomes that show how persons who have been tortured will benefit from their services. Grantees report their success in achieving their projected outcomes in their semi-annual progress reports. These reports are reviewed against the original applications for funding to determine progress and accomplishments. ORR staff conduct follow-up with grantees on an ongoing basis to discuss their performance, challenges, and promising practices.

I hope this information is helpful to you. Please call me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

DANIEL C. SCHNEIDER,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Children and Families.

Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)—Funded Torture Treatment Programs, FY 2006

ORR funded program	Grant amount (in dollars)
National Technical Assistance	
Center for Victims of Torture—National Capacity Building Project	470,000
Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services—National Partnership for Community Training	335,000
California	
Survivors of Torture, International	475,000
Asian Americans for Community Involvement	380,000
Program for Torture Victims	475,000
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles	265,000
Colorado	
Rocky Mountain Survivors Center	535,000
Florida	
Florida Center for Survivors of Torture, Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services475,000.	
Georgia	
Center for Torture and Trauma Survivors, DeKalb County Board of Health	385,000
Illinois	
The Marjorie Kovler Center for the Treatment of Survivors of Torture, Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights	535,000
Maryland	
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service	380,000
Advocates for Survivors of Torture and Trauma	395,000
Massachusetts	
Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights, Boston Medical Center Corporation	475,000
Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma/Massachusetts General Hospital	375,000
Michigan	
Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services	475,000
Minnesota	
Center for Victims of Torture	535,000
Missouri	
Comprehensive Services for Torture Survivors Program, City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees	475,000
New York	
Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture, NYC-Health & Hospitals Corporation	535,000
Oregon	
Torture Treatment Center of Oregon, Oregon Health & Science University	400,000
Texas	
Center for Survivors of Torture	415,000
Utah	
Utah Health and Human Rights Project, TIDES Center	285,000
Virginia	
Center for Multicultural Human Services	415,000

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