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Fifty-seventh session Item 111 (b) of the preliminary list\* Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

#### Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the General Assembly the interim report on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions submitted by Asma Jahangir, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights, in accordance with paragraph 23 of General Assembly resolution 55/111 of 4 December 2000.

## Interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Summary

The present report covers activities undertaken in the period from 1 August 2000 to 1 June 2002, focusing on a number of issues that are of particular concern and that in the Special Rapporteur's view require special and urgent attention.

During the period under review, the Special Rapporteur transmitted communications to Governments or tool other forms of action in relation to the following situations involving violations of the right to life: (a) non-implementation of existing international standards on safeguards and restrictions relating to the imposition of capital punishment; (b) death threats; (c) deaths in custody; (d) deaths due to excessive use of force by law enforcement officials; (e) deaths due to attacks or killings by security forces; (f) extrajudicial killings attributed to paramilitary groups or private forces cooperating with or tolerated by the State; (g) violations of the right to life during armed conflicts; (h) expulsion, refoulement or return of persons to a country or place where their lives are in danger; (i) genocide; and (j) issues relating to the rights of victims.

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# A. Violations of the right to life during armed conflict, especially of the civilian population and other non-combatants, contrary to international humanitarian law

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13. The violence in the territories occupied by Israel is a disturbing cause for gravest concern, as reports indicate that one fourth of the victims of human rights abuses there, including violations of the right to life, are children and youths. During the reporting period, the Special Rapporteur urged the Government of Israel to ensure that Government security forces were immediately ordered to act with restraint and to respect international human rights standards when carrying out their duties. She also demanded that the Government investigate all incidents of alleged killings by Government forces without delay and ensure that persons responsible for such crimes are brought to justice.

\* A/57/50/Rev.1