

KENYA ASSESSMENT

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Country Information and Policy Unit

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I. SCOPE OF DOCUMENT

1.1 This assessment has been produced by the Country Information & Policy Unit, Immigration & Nationality Directorate, Home Office, from information obtained from a variety of sources.

1.2 The assessment has been prepared for background purposes for those involved in the asylum determination process. The information it contains is not exhaustive, nor is it intended to catalogue all human rights violations. It concentrates on the issues most commonly raised in asylum claims made in the United Kingdom.

1.3 The assessment is sourced throughout. It is intended to be used by caseworkers as a signpost to the source material, which has been made available to them. The vast majority of the source material is readily available in the public domain.

1.4 It is intended to revise the assessment on a 6-monthly basis while the country remains within the top 35 asylum producing countries in the United Kingdom.

1.5 The assessment will be placed on the Internet, <http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/>. An electronic copy of the assessment has been made available to the following organisations:

Amnesty International UK
Immigration Advisory Service
Immigration Appellate Authority
Immigration Law Practitioners' Association
Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
JUSTICE
Medical Foundation for the care of Victims of Torture
Refugee Council
Refugee Legal Centre
UN High Commissioner for Refugees

II. GEOGRAPHY.

2.1 The Republic of Kenya straddles the equator on the East Coast of Africa and has a total area of 580,367 sq km (224,081 sq miles). Kenya is bordered by the Indian Ocean to the east, Somalia to the northeast, Ethiopia and Sudan to the north, Uganda to the west and Tanzania to the south. The climate varies with altitude from hot and humid in the coastal region, to much cooler inland where the highlands have their base at about, 1,500m above sea level. Rainfall is greatest at the coast and in the west of the country, near Lake Victoria and in the highlands. Most of the north of the country remains very dry. [1]

2.2 Kenya is made up of over forty different ethnic groups ranging in size from a few hundred to more than a million members. At mid-1996 the population was officially estimated at 31,806,000 however, provisional results of the 1999 population census put the population at 28.7 million. On a linguistic and cultural basis, the people have been divided into four broad groups; Bantu, Nilotic, Nilo-Hamitic (Paranilotic) and Cushitic. Persian and Arab influence in the coastal area is reflected in the Islamic culture. About 15% of the population live in urban areas, mostly in Nairobi and Mombasa. The towns also contain the majority of the non-African minorities which, according to figures from the 1989 census, were made up of approximately 89,185 Asians, 34,560 Europeans, and 41,595 Arabs. Both Kiswahili and English are used on a daily basis and Kikuyu and Luo are widely understood. The Luo and Luhya were the traditional inhabitants of the Lake Victoria basin. The Luhya consists of sixteen groups, and like the Kalenjin, which consists of a number of distinct Nilotic ethnic groups that share the same linguistic and cultural traditions, the term Luhya is a creation of the colonial period. Most Kalenjin are semi-nomadic pastoralists and traditionally did not practice agriculture. The Kikuyu, of the Bantu-language group, are Kenya's largest ethnic group. Most of the population hold traditional African beliefs, although there are significant numbers of African Christians ([see paragraphs 5.62 – 5.64](#)). [1][21][32d]

The Economy

2.3 Agriculture is the main occupation and source of income of the majority of the people. In 1997 the agricultural sector (including forestry and fishing) contributed 25% of the gross domestic product. The large agricultural sector provides food for local consumption, substantial exports of tea, coffee, cut flowers, and vegetables and approximately 70% of total employment. The tourism was second to tea as the largest single source of foreign exchange. In 2000, major international financial institutions renewed non-project assistance which had been suspended in 1997 due to widespread government corruption, however, by the end of 2000 the disbursement of some assistance was suspended due to the Government's inability to meet the agreed conditions. [1][2]

2.4 At the end of March 2000, Kenya's domestic debt stood at 163,400 million Kenyan shillings. The money that was borrowed is needed to pay public servants. Some progress has been made in solving some of Kenya's economic problems. Tight monetary policies have helped control inflation, productivity levels have improved and government expenditure has been restrained. The privatisation of unprofitable state owned companies have taken place with more

planned. Challenges to the country's economic improvement remain, such as corruption, the need for strict monetary control of government expenditure and the country's neglected infrastructure. Pressure on the land, over population, unemployment and the lack of alternative employment for the growing number of landless remain serious long-term difficulties. In July 2000, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) ended a three year aid boycott by announcing it would give Kenya \$198m loan, making \$18m available immediately. Other donors followed suit. The World Bank agreed to a \$150m loan and bilateral donors increased their assistance programs. Concerns over corruption and mismanagement had in 1997 led the IMF to freeze funding to Kenya. According to Transparency International, a private anti-corruption organisation, corruption cost Kenya \$6 billion from 1991-1997. Civic unrest in mid-1997 and rains outside the usual seasonal patterns attributed to El Nino threatened both the tourism industry and foreign investment. The tourism authorities promised urgent action and the EU is to provide financial support to help promote the industry. Both bank workers and teachers came out on strike during 1998 over worsening conditions, but the government remained firm on their position. In May 1999 the Kenyan government waived the visa requirement for tourists from some European and American countries to boost the tourism industry, which the Kenya Tourist Board announced was paying dividends. [1][24j][30i][31][32q][37][39a][39d]

2.5 In November 1998, a report was released by the Kenyan Minister of Planning and National Development which stated that thirteen million Kenyans were living in abject poverty and cannot afford the basic necessities of life. In June 1999, the Kenya Times stated that threats of political violence, hostile media campaigns and growing opposition hostility against the government all contributed to the worsening economic situation in the country. On 22 June 1999 eight MPs from northern Kenya asked the government to declare a state of emergency in the area due to the prolonged drought and magnitude of human suffering. The group called for the immediate airlifting of medical, relief food and other emergency supplies. In July 1999 the IMF spelt out its main condition for a multi-billion shilling loan to Kenya. The conditions were to clean up on corruption, improvements in economic management and speeding up the privatisation of key parastatals. The then Finance Minister, Francis Masakhalia announced the conditions to parliament on 15 July 1999. [32bh][32bm][39c][44a]

2.6 In January 2000 an IMF mission made a two-week visit to Kenya. Talks centred on Kenya's balance of payments position, monetary policy and governance. Student leaders addressing a rally on 29 January 2000 warned the IMF to resume aid at its peril (see paragraph 4.26). On 3 February 2000, representatives of the Stakeholders Support Group which is opposed to the resumption of aid to Kenya met the IMF team. In a press statement the group said that the government did not deserve aid because it has made "political survival rather than economic recovery and poverty reduction its priority". In March 2000 eight World Bank executives made a two-day visit to assess progress made by the government over the Bretton Woods Institutions conditions for resumption of aid. On 28 March 2000 it was announced that a team of World Bank officials were expected to return in early April 2000 with a view to finalising a programme on aid resumption. The bank's country director, Harold Wackman, said that aid resumption would resume by mid year if all parties maintained the progress achieved during the previous eight months. On 27 July 2000, under a deal approved by the IMF funding board, in Washington USA, Kenya is to receive a three-year loan amounting to 198 million dollars. The first tranche of 40 million dollars will be released during fiscal 2000/2001. [32x][32z][32cq][33f][34i][56]

Famine

2.7 In February 2000 Kenya sent out an international appeal for 5.56bn shillings to combat famine. The request, made by the Head of the Public Service, is contained in a report to donor organisations and foreign governments outlining the emergency facing most parts of the country. The worst hit provinces include Eastern, North Eastern, Coast, Rift Valley, and parts of Central. Insecurity in the border area between Turkana and Somalia is partly blamed for the famine as this has rendered good grazing areas inaccessible. [32cc]

2.8 A report on 19 September 2000 stated that aid agencies in Kenya have been forced to ration emergency food deliveries because of a lack of money. The head of the World Food Programme, Catherine Bertini, has urged international donors to come to Kenya's assistance. Speaking during a visit to one of the drought-stricken areas of Kenya, Mrs Bertini said that the United Nations had so far succeeded in averting a major famine in Kenya but warned international donors that the battle was far from over. An article in December 2000, stated that four million Kenyans are receiving food aid and the World Food Programme plans to expand its emergency-feeding programme. [47a][63]

III. HISTORY.

3.1 Kenya was formerly a British colony (inland) and protectorate (coastal area). Subsequently, white settlement met with significant armed resistance by 1914 and by the early 1920s some African political activity had begun to be organised. By the 1940s the white settler farmers achieved considerable prosperity. However, their African counterparts were subjected to increasing government controls and soaring price inflation, causing a mood of simmering discontent amongst the African population. [1]

3.2 The first significant African nationalist organisation was the Kenya African Union (KAU) formed in 1944, and supported mainly by the Kikuyu. In 1947 Jomo Kenyatta, a Kikuyu, became KAU's President. During 1952 a campaign of terrorism against white settlers was launched by the Mau Mau, a predominantly Kikuyu militant secret society, and a state of emergency was declared by the British authorities in October 1952. KAU was banned in 1953, and Kenyatta was imprisoned for his alleged involvement in Mau Mau activities. All political activity was proscribed until 1955; nevertheless, during this period, two Luo political activists, Tom Mboya and Oginga Odinga came to prominence. The state of emergency was rescinded in January 1960, after which Kenyatta was released during 1961. General elections were held in May 1963 and Kenya was granted internal self-government in June, before becoming independent within the Commonwealth on 12 December 1963. It became a republic exactly one year later. Kenyatta, then leader of the Kenya African National Union (KANU), was appointed Prime Minister in June 1963 and became the country's first President in December 1964. [1][21]

3.3 By 1965 a clear division had emerged between the conservative wing of KANU under Tom Mboya and the more radical group around Oginga Odinga, leading to Kenyatta removing Odinga from his party post in March 1966. Odinga left KANU to form a new opposition party, the Kenya People's Union (KPU). In December 1966 Kenya's two parliamentary chambers were merged to form a unicameral National Assembly. By 1969 there were growing factional divisions within all levels of KANU and signs of dissatisfaction amongst politicians of the trend

towards an economically and tribally divided country. In July 1969, Tom Mboya, a cabinet minister and Secretary General of KANU was assassinated, sparking civil unrest and leading to the banning of the KPU. Political discontent was heightened in March 1975 when the outspoken and popular politician J.M. Kariuki was also assassinated. [1][20]

3.4 On the death of Kenyatta in August 1978 the presidency passed to Daniel Arap Moi, who began a programme to purge Kenya's corrupt bureaucracy and in December 1978 all political prisoners were released. In June 1982, the National Assembly officially declared Kenya a one-party state. A series of political detentions and increasing press censorship were followed by an attempted coup in August 1982, the aftermath of which resulted in a great number of deaths. The official death toll was given as 159, but unofficial sources asserted that the true total was much higher. During 1986, an unofficial group known as "Mwakenya" emerged in opposition to Moi's presidency ([see also paragraph 5.54](#)). In August 1986 KANU approved an open 'queue-voting' system. This was to replace the secret ballot in the preliminary stages of a general election, but it faced strong opposition from church leaders on the grounds that it would discourage voting by church ministers, civil servants and others whose political impartiality was necessary for their work. Constitutional amendments adopted in December 1986 increased the power of the President and reduced the independence of the judiciary. [1][20]

3.5 International criticism of Moi's government was intensified during 1987 amid further allegations of human rights abuses in Kenya. In October and November 1987, civil unrest flourished but in spite of this, President Moi was returned unopposed in March 1988 for a third term of office. Potential candidates who were unpopular with Moi's government such as Oginga Odinga, were excluded from seeking election. In July 1988, the President increased his power over the judiciary, allowing him to dismiss judges at will and increase certain periods of detention. In June 1989, in the face of growing international criticism over human rights abuses, President Moi released all political prisoners who were being detained without trial and granted an amnesty to dissidents in exile. [1]

3.6 During February 1990 the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, Dr Robert Ouko, died in suspicious circumstances, which led to anti-government riots amid allegations that the Government had been involved in his death. As a consequence all demonstrations were banned, and the British police were invited to investigate Ouko's death. The result of the investigation prompted a judicial enquiry into the affair. May 1990 saw the formation of a broad alliance of intellectuals, lawyers and church leaders under the leadership of the former cabinet minister Kenneth Matiba, which sought to pressurise the Government into legalising political opposition. This prompted Moi to order the arrest of Matiba and several other prominent members in July 1990. Serious rioting ensued in Nairobi and its environs, which resulted in the deaths of more than 20 people and the arrest of more than 1,000 others. In November 1990, Amnesty International made allegations of human rights abuses on prisoners detained since July 1990. By the end of December 1990, despite the abolition of the "queue voting" system, Moi still rejected popular demands for the introduction of multi-party politics. [1][20][21][30a]

3.7 In August 1991 six opposition leaders, including Oginga Odinga, formed a new political movement, the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy (FORD), which was outlawed by the Government, but continued to operate. In September 1991, the judicial enquiry into the death of Dr Ouko ([see paragraph 3.6](#)) concluded that he had been murdered. As a consequence, the

Minister of Industry, Nicholas Biwott, was dismissed in November 1991, amid strong suspicions that he had been implicated in the assassination. A suspect was eventually charged with murder but acquitted in 1994. November 1991 also saw several members of FORD arrested prior to the start of a pro-democracy rally in Nairobi (banned by the government), which prompted international condemnation of the Kenyan authorities. Aid to Kenya, by international donors, was suspended indefinitely, pending the acceleration of economic and political reforms, and the improvement in Kenya's human rights record. In the face of international pressure, a KANU conference, chaired by Moi, resolved to permit the introduction of a multi-party political system, in December 1991. Several new political parties registered from the beginning of 1992. [1][14][20][21][30a]

3.8 The first part of 1992 saw an outbreak of tribal clashes in the western part of Kenya, on the borders of Rift Valley, Nyanza and Western Provinces ([see paragraph 5.28](#)). In March 1992 the Government banned all political rallies, purportedly in order to suppress the unrest, and restrictions were placed on the press. The Government lifted the ban after a two-day general strike in April 1992 organised by FORD. Following a split in the organisation of FORD in August 1992 the opposing factions registered as separate parties in October 1992. FORD-Asili, led by Matiba, and FORD-Kenya, led by Odinga. The first multi-party presidential and legislative elections took place in December 1992. Moi was elected to a fourth term of office as President winning 36.35% of the votes. Votes were cast predominately in accordance with ethnic affiliations. The opposition alleged gross electoral irregularities. However, in January 1993 a Commonwealth monitoring group, whilst accusing the Government of corruption, intimidation and incompetence, stated the outcome of the elections had "reflected the will of the people". [1][21]

3.9 During 1993 several opponents of the Government were arrested for participating in an illegal demonstration. During May 1993 and June 1993 the spiritual leader of the banned radical-fundamentalist Islamic Party of Kenya (IPK) Sheikh Balala, was detained on three separate occasions and charged with sedition, which led to serious rioting by IPK members in September 1993 ([see paragraphs 5.50 - 5.53](#)). Two people were killed during the violence. Tribal clashes continued, which were most acute in the Rift Valley, prompting allegations that the Government was covertly inciting ethnic violence to discredit political pluralism. The provision of international aid was resumed in November 1993 in response to the Government's progress in implementing reforms. [1][14]

3.10 During 1994, disagreement and disunity was commonplace throughout the opposition parties. Factionalism within the groups continued to undermine efforts to present a cohesive challenge to Moi and KANU. During the year, the Government refused to recognise several trade unions. Many of the workers involved in the protest strikes that subsequently took place were dismissed. However, in May 1995, leading opposition activists formed a new political party, Safina, under the chairmanship of Mutari Kigano, a lawyer specialising in human rights. Dr Richard Leakey, a prominent white Kenyan, was appointed Safina's Secretary-General. The Moi administration, however, rejected Safina's application for official registration in October 1997, having left its registration in limbo since 1995 ([see paragraphs 5.47 - 5.49](#)). Further condemnation of Kenya's human rights record continued. In response a human rights committee was inaugurated in July 1996 to investigate alleged abuses by the authorities. During July and September 1996 President Moi announced and subsequently reiterated that constitutional reforms, advocated by foreign donors and opposition groups, would not be considered prior to

the next legislative and presidential elections in late 1997. During 1996/1997, a large number of opposition MPs formally associated themselves with the National Convention Executive Council (NCEC), a group of NGOs, church leaders and politicians campaigning for constitutional reform. [1][2][15][34a]

3.11 In April 1997, the NCEC held a conference after which a list of demands for constitutional and legislative reforms were published, with threats of mass civil action if the demands were not met in time for the elections. Countrywide protests concerning the reforms were organised by the NCEC on 7 July 1997, resulting in excessive force being used by the police to disperse the crowds. Approximately 16 people were killed and many more injured which resulted in international condemnation of the authorities. As a conciliatory move in August 1997, two draft Bills were published in an attempt to reform repressive pieces of legislation. [1][9][17]

3.12 Further violence erupted in the coastal region of Mombasa during August 1997, which resulted in the deaths of approximately 67 people, widespread destruction of property and the arrest of some 450 people. Many thousands of people were also displaced. Several opposition party politicians and prominent KANU members were amongst those arrested. Allegations were made that the violence was initiated in order to gain a political advantage in the run up to the elections ([see paragraphs 5.35 - 5.37](#)). [17][30c]

3.13 On 7 November 1997, Parliament and President Moi approved important Reform Bills, one of which removed the principal legislation used to harass the opposition. The Public Order Act was reformed to allow political meetings without requiring a licence, provisions for detention without trial were repealed and sedition laws were replaced. The Constitution was changed to allow for a coalition government and a law passed to establish a Constitutional Review Commission. Violent outbursts continued, however, in the run-up to the elections. Following passage of the 1997 reforms, the Government acted on pending and long overdue political party registration applications, increasing the number of registered political parties from 12 to 27 by the time of the elections in December 1997. [2][17][33a][34k][36a][53c]

The December 1997 Presidential and Parliamentary Elections.

3.14 Presidential and Legislative elections, which took place concurrently on 29 December 1997 were undermined by poor organisation and logistical difficulties, but less violence, intimidation and fraud than the 1992 elections. Opposition candidates won almost 60% of the vote, but these votes were split among four main and several smaller parties. Daniel Arap Moi was therefore returned for a fifth and final term. KANU also won a majority of 4 National Assembly seats over the combined opposition. KANU victories in the 1998 and 1999 by-elections (four of which were caused by the deaths of sitting opposition MP's and one by defection to KANU) have since increased the ruling party's majority in the National Assembly to 118 of 222 seats. [1][2]

3.15

PRESIDENTIAL RESULTS		
Daniel Arap Moi	2,445,801	40.64%
Mwai Kibaki	1,895,527	31.49%
Raila Odinga	665,725	11.06%
Michael Wamalwa	505,542	8.40%
Charity Ngilu	469,807	7.81%
Martin J. Shikuku	36,302	0.60%

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMPOSITION	
KANU	107
Democratic Party (DP)	39
National Development Party (NDP)	.21
FORD-Kenya	17
Social Democratic Party (SDP)	15
Safina	5
FORD-People	3
FORD-Asili	1
Kenya Social Congress	1
Shirikisho	1

The above table refers to the composition of the National Assembly immediately following the 1997 elections and includes the 12 nominated members appointed by the [president \(see paragraph 4.2\)](#). [1][24f]

3.16 In January 1998, Democratic Party leader Mwai Kibaki lodged a petition in the High Court challenging the validity of the December 1997 elections and the election of President Moi. In July 1999, the High Court dismissed Mr Kibaki's petition on the grounds that he had failed to comply with a legal requirement to serve a copy of the petition on the President personally, despite acknowledging the factual accuracy of Mr Kibaki's claim that presidential security had consistently denied him access to President Moi. In December 1999 the Court of Appeal upheld the High Court's decision on the same grounds. The 1997 elections were overseen by a group of local organisations and international observers. The observers concluded that whilst the elections were imperfect, the vote broadly reflected the popular will. Three NGOs, the Institute for Education in Democracy, the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission and the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK) launched a 260 page report on the 1997 elections. They blamed maladministration for the low turnout in certain parts of the country. Supporters of the ruling party (KANU) fought opposition party agents on 1 January 1998 after results of the 1997 presidential elections were declared. KANU supporters of Westlands former MP Fred Gumo invaded the Westlands constituency counting hall attacking and pushing Democratic Party agents from the building. The fighting started moments after Westlands election officials announced DP presidential candidate Mwai Kibaki the winner with President Daniel arap Moi coming second. Westlands is Kenya's third largest constituency. [2][17][30aa][32b]

3.17 Under the current Constitution President Moi may not stand for a further term of office. With elections due to take place at the end of the year on 29 December 2002, the issue of succession has fuelled power struggles within the leading opposition parties. However, nowhere is the battle for power greater than within KANU itself. The position of party chairman is held by Moi himself and, in violation of party rules no elections for this post have been held for 6 years. As well as the party chairmanship, KANU members are also jostling for the Nation's vice presidency. Politics in Kenya have traditionally been tribally based. There are 221 parties set to contest the election and there is, at the moment, no single candidate for opposition who could gain support to mount an effective single challenge to the president. With failing health, should President Moi be unable to continue in office, it is the vice President who assumes the presidency for 90 days pending fresh elections. The existing incumbent George Saitoti is a Kikuyu. With Kenyan politics largely an ethnic affair, he is unlikely to attract support from anyone other than his fellow tribe members. [27][68][70]

3.18 Observers have suggested that President Moi may seek to amend the constitution, which is currently under review - [see section 4.20 – 4.29](#) - to extend his office by at least a further term. The announcement by one of President Moi's cabinet ministers, on 10 July 2000, that KANU had launched a campaign for the head of state to amend the constitution in Moi's favour may be on the cards. [68]

IV INSTRUMENTS OF THE STATE.

A. Political system

4.1 Kenya was a one-party state between 1969 and December 1991, when the Constitution was amended to legalise a multi-party political system. Political parties, organisations and associations are required to register under the Societies Act or be exempted from registering by the Registrar of Societies. Thirty political parties are currently registered; the Government has however, denied registration to a number of parties since 1992. Two political parties are currently awaiting registration, The United Democratic Movement and Saba Saba Asili; the latter has been waiting since 1997. Two organisations are currently banned, the February Eighteenth Resistance Army (FERA) ([see paragraph 5.55](#)) and the Islamic Party of Kenya (IPK) ([see paragraphs 5.50 - 5.53](#)). While parties remain unregistered they are prohibited from participating in the political process. [1][2][32b1][53c]

4.2 The central legislative authority is the unicameral National Assembly in which there are 210 directly elected Representatives, 12 members appointed by the President, from nominees of political parties in proportion to party strength, and two ex-officio members, the Attorney General and the Speaker. The maximum term of the National Assembly is five years from its first meeting (except in wartime). Executive power is vested in the President, the Vice-President and the Cabinet. The President appoints both the Vice-President and the Cabinet. Election of the President for a five-year term is by direct popular vote. Rules for nominated MPs was an important Inter-Party Parliamentary Group (IPPG) reform. [1]

Current political situation.

4.3 In February 1999 President Moi reiterated his commitment to fight against corruption and stressed that those involved in corruption or condoning it would be prosecuted. In 1998, the National Development Party (NDP) began co-operating with KANU as a way of opening channels of constructive dialogue and to assist in finding solutions to national problems. Divisions emerged within the NDP over its new found co-operation with KANU leading to the resignation of the NDP's deputy leader Professor Geoffrey Ole Maloiy. Calls for NDP MPs to abandon their co-operation were rejected. In April 1999 the NDP leader, Raila Odinga stated that the NDP had no plans to merge with KANU and reiterated that the NDP's co-operation with KANU was for the sake of constitutional reforms. An article dated 18 October 2000, stated that pressure is mounting within KANU to shift the parliamentary constitutional review process from Odinga to a different politician. But it also states that the NDP leader is understood to still enjoy support among some of the ruling party's top organ. In December 2000 Raila Odinga said he wanted to build a broad-based alliance with the ruling KANU party to achieve the goals common to both, but he did not want a merger. President Moi welcomed the NDP's decision to have deeper working relations with KANU. He was asked whether he was positioning himself to succeed President Moi in 2002 but denied this saying he had never been an opportunist. [32t][32v][32ai][34c][34g][49b]

4.4 During 1998 the arrest of top Treasury officials by the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority (KACA) sparked a dispute between the then Director of the KACA, John Harun Mwau and Finance Minister, Simeon Nyachae. Charges against the officials were dropped pending an investigation and Mwau was suspended. Following an enquiry into his performance he was dismissed from office. It was reported on 1 June 2000, that the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority had questioned Cabinet Minister Kipng'eno arap Ng'eny over a 250 million Shilling loss incurred by the now defunct Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Cooperation. The Parastatal lost the money in a single deal during Mr Ng'eny's 14-year tenure a managing director. Mr Ng'eny could become the first high-ranking Government official to be taken to court by KACA. In January 2000 KACA was declared an "illegal" organisation by Kenya's Constitutional Court. They rendered KACA's existence as baseless by constitutional irregularities. The Court upheld that the activities of the organisation were not only illegal and unconstitutional but that it undermined the prosecution powers and authority of both the attorney general and the police commissioner. [24h][24i][30j][32h][36b][43g][73]

4.5 In January 1999 a by-election took place in Makueni constituency (Eastern Province) following the death of the SDP MP who previously held the seat. The counting of votes was interrupted when the SDP disputed ballot boxes from 10 polling stations. The vote counting was marked by incidents of violence leaving two MPs beaten and in need of hospital treatment. KANU eventually won the seat. One of the MPs battered by the police said he would institute legal proceedings to seek redress. [30k][32bx][34i]

4.6 In January 1999, NDP leader, Raila Odinga, said that the party's planned leadership code of conduct bill, to be introduced in Parliament during 1999, is meant to bar corrupt people from being elected to public positions. Odinga said he did not expect any opposition against the bill. The beginning of 1999 also saw the defection of a number of politicians to KANU. SDP MP Samuel Kiminza and two SDP councillors defected to the ruling party on 5 February 1999, together with a FORD-K councillor. Following a Cabinet reshuffle on 18 February 1999,

Simeon Nyachae the former Finance Minister resigned after being appointed to the post of Minister of Industrial Development. [32s][33j][35c]

4.7 In April 1999, President Moi re-appointed George Saitoti as the country's Vice-President. Saitoti had previously served as Vice-President under Moi for nine years until the 1997 elections. The post of Vice-President had been vacant since the December 1997 elections. Professor Saitoti retains his post as Minister for Planning and National Development. On 6 April 1999, the High court suspended the entire Anti-Corruption Authority Board (KACA) including the appointed Director, Justice Aaron Ringera following an application by the suspended KACA board director, John Harun Mwau. Later in April 1999, the Vice-President faced a Motion of no confidence in Parliament brought by Mbita MP, Otieno Kajwang. One of the main reasons behind the motion is Mr Kajwang's belief that Professor Saitoti cannot hold the office because he has not been cleared of his alleged involvement in the Goldenberg scandal ([see Annex D](#)). The no-confidence motion failed in June 1999. On 19 July 1999 businessman Nassir Ibrahim Ali linked President Moi, Vice-President George Saitoti and Mr Joshua Kulei with the Goldenberg scandal. He claimed to be in possession of a letter signed by the President, which implicated him in the affair. The Attorney General directed the Commissioner of Police to investigate the letter, meanwhile Mr Ali was deported to Dubai. On 28 July 1999 several MPs filed a motion of no confidence in the government. [30n][32ao][32bp][32bs][33k][34s][36c][39e]

4.8 On 24 April 1999, Kenyan police fired in the air as running battles broke out between youths loyal to rival opposition leaders at a rally. Gangs supporting James Orengo (FORD-Kenya) and Raila Odinga (National Development Party) clashed at the start of a fundraising rally. The fighting started as Orengo supporters attempted to stop the fundraising rally by Odinga in Ugunja in western Kenya. On 26 April 1999, KANU increased its narrow majority in Parliament by winning two by-elections in seats previously held by opposition parties. KANU scored uncomfortable victories in the Tigania and Mumtomo constituencies in rural eastern Kenya, although polling was marred by opposition parties claims of vote buying and violence in which one opposition leader, Charity Ngilu of the Social Democratic Party, was injured. [30o][30p]

4.9 In June 1999, the Registrar of Societies decided not to register the United Democratic Movement (UDM) led by KANU MP's, Cyrus Jirongo and Kipruto Arap Kirwa. This prompted the party to appeal to the High Court to order its immediate registration. On 9 June 1999, former Ford-Kenya officials launched a new party called the People's Power Movement. Its interim chairman is Mr Audi Ogada. It has not yet been registered. [32be][32bk][32bl]

4.10 In June 1999, police raided the Attorney General's Chambers and the Immigration Department in a crackdown on corrupt civil servants. They arrested 30 government officials and seized an unknown amount of money and volumes of documents. The move came four days after President Moi announced his Recovery Strategy. On 23 July 1999, President Moi appointed Dr Richard Leakey as head of the Civil Service. This was part of a big shake up at the top of the Civil Service, which also saw several top jobs going to the private sector. Dr Leakey and his team were given a mandate by the President to change the culture of corruption and inefficiency in the public service. The appointments were welcomed by Kenya's business and opposition leaders, as well as by international donors. The new head of the Civil Service said he had the full backing of the President. On 26 March 2001 the Kenyan Government announced that Dr Richard Leakey resigned from the post of Head of the Civil Service after completing his

task of launching efficiency reforms. Dr Leakey's appointment was seen as a signal to the IMF and other donors who had suspended aid because of the high level of corruption. President Moi wanted to show he was serious about cleaning Kenya up. Dr Leakey has been replaced by former ambassador to Britain and permanent secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sally Kosgei. A news article published on 28 March 2001, states that a permanent secretary retired by Dr Leakey had returned to government the previous day. Mr Kaguthi left Government abruptly just 2 days before Christmas in 1999, a year before reaching the mandatory retirement age of 55. Following Dr Leakey's resignation, two senior officials who were closely linked with him have been sacked. [30u][30v][30x][32ah][39b][49k][57b]

4.11 In July 1999, six councillors and two other people appeared in court charged with the murder of Githurai Councillor Charles Maina Njuguna in Ruiru in June 1999. The suspects included the Mayor and his deputy. The accused were remanded at the Kamiti Maximum Security Prison. In July 1999, Safina MP Paul Muite was arrested and charged with the theft of Sh31 million from a land-buying company in 1992. He was quick to claim that the charges were fabricated and was freed on a bond of Sh4 million. Muite linked the court case to his role in trying to unravel the Goldenberg case ([see Annex D](#)). On 12 July 1999, thirteen opposition MP's from the NDP said that they would oppose a planned no-confidence motion against President Moi, stating it was tribally motivated. On 17 July 1999, MP James Orengo (Ford-K) and two of his aides were arrested when they visited Kisumu Police station and demanded the release of more than 300 touts arrested in an earlier swoop. Mr Orengo and his team were detained when they stormed the police station. Amongst those held with the MP was the chairman of the unregistered People's Power Movement ([see paragraph 4.9](#)). Mr Orengo was later moved to another police station to defuse tension. [30t][32bj][32cd][32ce][44b]

4.12 On 5 September 1999 the ruling party won both the Nithi and Saikago by-elections, in the latter KANU achieved a majority of just over 2,000 over the Democratic Party. The following day President Moi reshuffled his cabinet, and reduced the number of government ministries from 27 to 15. However, the size of the cabinet was not reduced and not one minister lost his place. The reorganisation saw several ministries merged including Education with Science and Technology. The regional and East African Co-operation Ministry was scrapped. The head of the Civil Service welcomed the reductions. However the reshuffle, which had been expected to result in far greater changes, was widely criticised in other quarters. Opposition MP's claimed that the pairing of ministers would lead to confusion and effect the economy. Even the Government's partners in the NDP were lukewarm about the changes with General Secretary Charles Maranga saying that the president had his priorities upside down. The cabinet reshuffle was quickly followed by an announcement of government plans to retrench some 60,000 state employees as part of its Civil Service cut back programme. It was announced that trimming of the government's 225,916 workforce would commence in October 1999. [52b][55]

4.13 At a press conference on 28 October 1999, NDP MP Peter Oloo Aringo claimed that President Moi's support for party leader, Raila Odinga, was abetting intimidation within the party ranks. Mr Aringo, who was accompanied by fellow MP Dr Shem Ochuodho, alleged that the president had ruined the party by lending Mr Odinga police and provincial administration support which the NDP boss used to intimidate party members, thus promoting a culture of violence. The NDP leadership responded angrily to the two MP's criticism and threatened them both with expulsion. On 31 October 1999, Safina secretary-general Mwandawiro Mgangha

resigned. Although party officials linked his departure to financial difficulties, observers believe it was inevitable following the departure of Richard Leakey and allegations that implicated party leader, Paul Muite, in the Goldenberg case [\(see paragraph 4.11\)](#). [32y][32aa][32ab]

4.14 On 11 November 1999, the Kenyan Parliament voted to cut presidential powers for the first time when members supported a historical constitutional amendment by 185-0. The amendment carried gave parliament the power to appoint its own Clerk of the House. The President previously appointed the powerful Clerk, a post that involves managing everything from the assembly's agenda to its budget. This had effectively given the President control over parliament. The result represented a humiliating set back for Moi who had been vocal in his opposition of the Bill. [52a]

4.15 On 25 December 1999, Ford Kenya MP George Kapten died at his home in Kitale. Mr Kapten, MP for Kwanza, had been charged in September 1999 with defamation of a public official, and in November 1999 with subversion following comments regarding the Goldenberg scandal (see Annex D). Some opposition MP's expressed suspicion of foul play in the death of Mr Kapten and following a post-mortem examination his family commissioned three independent tests to establish the cause of death. On 10 March 2000, 11 opposition MP's called for a select committee to investigate the death of Mr Kapten. This followed an announcement by the Kapten family that there were contradictions in the independent pathologist's reports. However, the two pathologists who issued the reports denied the family's claims. In October 2000, Mugirango South MP Enoch Magara, a prominent member of a new alliance of opposition and government MPs calling for constitutional reform, died in a road accident in the western town of Kisumu. A police spokesman claimed it was from a tyre burst. Two members of the newly formed Muungano wa Maguezi and a former NDP secretary general Charles Maranga said that Mr Magara's death came when he was deeply involved in pro-democracy activities. [2][32k][34o][32ab][32al][49c]

4.16 On 16 January 2000, President Moi announced that a bill seeking to bar sitting MP's from forming new political parties would soon be tabled for debate in Parliament. On 30 January 2000, Cabinet Minister Kipkalia Kones broke down in tears during a rally claiming his life was in danger after his supporters had fought with those of an assistant minister. He said that there was a plan to kill him and revealed that youths had stoned him three times at Siongiroi and attacked his official car. [32e]

4.17 During February 2000 the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) Chairman Jonathan Mturi came under considerable verbal attack. Following changes of some senior personnel in January 2000, Mturi's critics, among them some 30 MP's, accused him of trying to eliminate managers not from the Coast Province. They accused Mturi of tribalism and called for him to be sacked. The head of the Civil Service defended the KPA Chairman. He said that the changes, which comprised of dismissals, retirement and transfers, were part of reforms to enhance efficiency. Coastal leaders have also pledged their support for Mturi. KANU Chief Whip, Sammy Leshore and his deputy Mohammed Shidiye were shot and left for dead on the evening of 21 February 2000. The attack occurred shortly after the vehicle in which the two MP's were travelling was involved in a collision. The gang stole 17,000 shillings from the pair who were later taken to hospital by a passing motorist. The incident led to renewed calls for a Bill to allow all MP's to carry guns, a similar motion debated in 1998 was lost. Also in February 2000, the Head of the Civil Service reaffirmed that the "Recovery Team" enjoyed the full backing of senior members of the

government. He announced that public service salaries would be raised in the new financial year to attract and retain competent people. [32ar][32ay][32az][33c][34m]

4.18 On 18 March 2000, three top NDP officials, including Secretary-General Charles Maranga, resigned. The three accused the party of having lost its original vision. In a quick response the NDP termed the resignations as "good riddance". The NDP said the three MP's had absconded their duties during the past 5 months and were instead working for rival parties. In November 2000 the Chairman of Olkejuado County Council, Mr Daniel ole Muyaa, gathered the support of 33 of the district's 57 councillors to turn a special council meeting into a forum to remove supporters of vice-president George Saitoti. They were stripped of their posts as powerful council committee chairmen. After the meeting some of the councillors said that Saitoti was not "a true and genuine son of the Massai community". Daniel ole Muyaa is claimed to be an agent of powerful politicians out to see Saitoti smoked out of the second most powerful office in the country. Civic leaders said that Mr Muyaa was fighting the Vice President so as to divert attention from the scandalous sale of a 290-acre farm owned by the council by the members of his family. In January 2001, MPs and lawyers reacted sharply to the Attorney General's, Amos Wako, charge that the IMF pressured his office to rush through the Prevention of Corruption Bill through Parliament. The KANU rebel MP blamed it on what he called the Government's inability to act in time despite the fact that the IMF gives its information on time. [32am][32ap][32aq][32ct]

4.19 On 24 July 2000, the Mombasa Municipal Council sacked 1,090 workers employed irregularly. The Council also dismissed seven junior officials suspected to have been involved in jobs scandal. The sackings brought to an end an embarrassing row over which the Mayor was twice summoned to Nairobi by the Minister for Local Authorities. The sackings also resulted in Town Clerk, Maurice Mumba being sent on forced leave pending investigations into allegations of abuse of office. In January 2001, three people died and more than 20 others were injured when a group of armed youths tried to disrupt a Ford-Kenya campaign rally in South Mugirango. The Electoral Commission of Kenya has threatened to authorise the deployment of a special police unit in South Mugirango if campaign violence continues. [32at][32cv]

The Constitutional Review process

4.20 Since 1996 a broad coalition of NGO's and religious organisations has mobilised public opinion in support of a reform of the constitution to reduce the power of the presidency. In 1997, the National Assembly enacted the Constitution of Kenya Review Act. In August 1998, the terms of reference for a Constitutional Review Body were finally agreed. These provided for a body with two functions; firstly to examine federal and unitary systems of government and recommend the best one; and secondly to make recommendations to improve the electoral system. Within this framework, it was agreed that the body would be charged with examining the systems of government to look at the composition and functions of the organs of state and to look at adequate checks and balances and accountability. Provision was made for Constitutional Review Commission, National and District Fora for consultation. The Constitution of Kenya Review Commission Act 1998 was enacted in December 1998. This provided for the establishment of a 25-member commission within 30 days. Under the terms of the act the commission was to derive its members from political parties, 13 members, religious organisations, 3, the Women's Political Caucus, 5, and the civil society, 4. The Act also

stipulated that a person who has held office as a judge, an appellant judge or a lecturer in law for the past 15 years would chair the commission and that the Attorney General would serve as an ex-officio commissioner. [2][12][33i]

4.21 Early in January 1999, the National Convention Executive Council (NCEC) stated it would set up a "people's constitutional review forum" to parallel the Review Commission. Members of the convention, which included opposition politicians and religious leaders, cast doubt on the Commission's ability to independently spearhead the reform process. Also in January 1999, 26 non-parliamentary political parties demanded more representation in the Constitutional Review Commission. In February 1999, with the review body still not set up, talks reached a sticking point over the nominees for the Constitutional Review Commission. In 1998 when the Constitutional Review Commission was set up, KANU and opposition party leaders had agreed that KANU would have 5 seats and the combined opposition would have 8. However, KANU were now insisting on a majority of seats to reflect its majority in Parliament. Four of the appointing authorities to the Review Commission threatened to sue the Attorney General over the failure to reach agreement of the nominees. On 21 February 1999, the Catholic Archbishop of Nairobi publicly accused President Moi of deliberately derailing the constitutional review process. [2][32u][32aj][34n]

4.22 In May 1999, President Moi proposed that the constitutional reform process be transferred to the KANU dominated National Assembly. Under this plan, Moi stated that at least two credible lawyers should be hired to draw up a new draft constitution to be tabled in Parliament for debate and adoption, arguing that the 4.5 billion Shillings set aside for the review process should instead be used to alleviate poverty. President Moi's statement met with angry reactions from a cross-section of civil leadership and the people. The NCEC stated it was clear that the President and KANU did not favour a democratic process, and a comprehensive reform of the constitution would make it impossible for KANU to rig elections. In June 1999, opposition MP James Orengo called for mass action to block President Moi's plan to refer the stalled constitutional review process back to Parliament. Upon being faced with mass protests President Moi then suggested his plan was not final but was aimed at finding a solution to the stalemate. On Budget Day (10 June 1999) scores of people were injured when riot police, accompanied by hired groups of KANU youth, tried to stop a peaceful demonstration headed for Parliament to protest at the President's plan. Witnesses saw police beat dozens of protesters including Presbyterian clergyman Timothy Njoya. One of the men photographed beating Rev. Njoya was arrested on 15 June 1999. [2][30q][32bq][42b]

4.23 On 7 July 1999, police fired tear gas and rubber bullets at dozens of demonstrators seeking constitutional reform who were trying to block highways leading into Nairobi. The protests coincided with Saba Saba day (seventh of the seventh), a date upon which since 1990, various opposition groups have come together to press the KANU government for greater constitutional reform. The same day about 10,000 Kenyans converged on the Kamukunji Stadium in Nairobi for an opposition rally calling for a new constitution. Addressing the gathering legislators led by James Orengo (Ford-K) called for a national strike. There were no signs of policemen during the rally. Three days before Saba Saba day in 2000, President Moi issued a terse statement warning that the "security of the State was not negotiable and never would be now or in the future." In the statement, the President equated the clamour for a multi-party system to a threat to security and vowed to act ruthlessly. On Saba Saba day the crowds defied the odds and attempted to gather at the Kamukunji Grounds. On the 20 August 2000 it

was reported that ruling party activists disrupted an opposition rally in Nairobi by wielding clubs, stones and bottles. They had blocked the entrance to Parliament to keep government critics from discussing constitutional reform. Members of the youth wings of KANU and the allied NDP stormed the stage where James Orengo, a member of the FORD-Kenya party, was to address a demonstration. Several people were seriously injured. [30s][32bi][32cd][32ce][32cu][62]

4.24 Although demands by religious leaders and NGO's to restart the constitutional review process mounted during the second half of 1999, Moi continued to insist that only the National Assembly was competent to review the Constitution. The constitutional review process therefore remained stalled at the end of the year, however, on 15 December 1999 the National Assembly created a Parliamentary Select Committee to review the existing Act and help form a commission. This development, achieved with the support of the NDP, put KANU in the driving seat for the Constitutional review. The debate, which ultimately led to the establishment of a 27-member committee, was punctuated with drama and confusion. A number of opposition members boycotted the debate and instead attended a meeting called by religious leaders to discuss the review (see paragraph 4.24). As a consequence of most of the opposition's departure, the motion to establish a Parliamentary Select Committee, moved by NDP leader, was carried unanimously by the 112 MP's present. The motion carried specified which MP's would sit on the committee; the list comprised of 14 KANU and 13 opposition MP's and provided for the participation of representatives from all political parties with seats in the National Assembly. The following day a furious row ensued in parliament during which a number of the nominated MP's made it clear that they refused to serve on the contentious committee. MP's from DP, SDP, Safina, Ford People, and a section of Ford Kenya joined a chorus of protests leading to the speaker announcing that no MP would be forced to serve on the committee against their wishes. The House Business Committee was left with the power to fill vacancies without further endorsement of the National Assembly. Raila Odinga was then nominated as chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee. [2][32bb][32cj]

4.25 Also on 15 - 16 December 1999 a meeting organised by religious leaders of all faiths took place at Ufungamano House in Nairobi. Its purpose was to work out how they will review the constitution. Delegates attending including NGO's and opposition MP's, mandated the religious leaders to steer the process of establishing a people driven review, parallel to the Parliamentary one. [2][32ck]

4.26 Between 14 and 16 January 2000 there was violence on the streets of Nairobi as rival gangs in the constitutional debate battled it out. Scores of people were injured and both university and private property was destroyed during daylong battles between students and hired thugs. One group was allied to the Parliamentary Select Committee, the other claimed to support Ford-K MP James Orengo. On 13 January 2000, Mr Orengo and fellow opposition MP Shem Ochuodho were attacked by four youths as they left the Professional Centre in Nairobi. Police at the scene reportedly failed to intervene. The following day the same thugs, who were later identified as NDP activists, beat up an insurance clerk and innocent passer-by outside parliament. On 18 January 2000, Mr Orengo was arrested and charged with inciting public violence, a charge relating that related to a statement he had made on 10 January 2000. The four youths alleged to have attacked him were set free the same day after recording statements. A section of political and religious leaders condemned the arrest and prosecution of Mr Orengo terming the move as "selective application of justice, which amounts to sanctioning violence by

the state". Mr Orengo's arrest had followed a presidential directive to the Commissioner of Police to crack down on those who instigated the violence. A lawyer, Mirugi Kariuki, criticised Moi's directives - he said that under the Constitution and Police Act, the Commissioner of Police was supposed to operate without taking directives from any powers or authority. The lawyer added that it was obvious from Moi's statements that he wanted Mr Orengo arrested and not his assailants. Meanwhile, opposition MP Njeru Kathangu claimed that Moi's directive was targeted at those opposed to the Parliamentary Select Committee. [32cm][32cn][32co][32cp]

4.27 On 29 January 2000, a young people's lobby vowed to disrupt proceedings of the Parliamentary Select Committee that is reviewing the constitution. During a highly charged rally at the Kamukunji Grounds in Nairobi the young people and their leaders said they would go for a people-driven review. Student speakers threatened violence against any member of the committee in the city and revenge attacks against NDP aligned youths. The meeting witnessed the creation of Muungano Wa Vijana Wazalendo (MVUWA), a youth movement which comprising of students, Mungiki members, hawkers, touts and jua kali artisans. The movement called for a revolt "for the youth to free themselves from the hatred spearheaded by our leaders" The following day outspoken Cabinet Minister Shariff Nassir warned that the students would live to regret any attempt to stop the committee from doing its work. Also, in January 2000, the Federation of Women Lawyers announced that they would not submit their views to the Parliamentary Select Committee. Explaining the federation's stand, chairperson Ms Martha Koome said that the committee "was set up unilaterally and illegally". [32bf][32bt][32cq]

4.28 On 26 February 2000, several people were injured when riot police tear-gassed and clubbed a mammoth crowd that had turned up for a meeting organised by MVUWA in Thika. A MVUWA official later claimed that the government was panicking at the prospect of youth forming an alliance to address national issues. He said that the government had been given until 1 May 2000 to accept a people-driven constitutional review process or face non-violent civil action. [32ca]

4.29 A report on 3 June 2000 said that ninety-two KANU and Opposition MPs would vote against the Constitutional Amendment Bill 2000 when it is tabled in Parliament. The Constitutional Amendment Bill 2000 among other things proposes advertising vacancies on the Constitutional Review Commission in the local media. The bill by Attorney General Amos Wako proposes that parliament nominates fifteen members to the Constitution Review Commission. The President would then appoint those nominated as a matter of formality. The new bill proposes a national referendum on the constitutional review process. Kimilili MP Mukhisa Kituyi (FORD-K) said the MPs planned to defeat the motion because it was a ploy by the Government to hijack and manipulate the reform process. He went on to say that for the Bill to be defeated, 77 MPs needed to either vote against it or abstain and for it to go through it needs the support of 145 MPs. He also said that the democratic and multi-party process had failed because of inept political leadership driven by tribal influence. Parliament finally passed the Bill on 25 July 2000 after most Opposition members and some KANU backbenchers walked out. The motion was rushed through the crucial second-reading, committee and third-reading stages and now awaits the President's assent to become law and lead to the formation of a commission to review the Constitution. On 26 November 2000, pro-Raila Odinga youths violently broke up a public hearing run by the faiths-led initiative, Ufungamano. The attack on the meeting came just one day after opposition leader Mwai Kibaki threatened to use opposition and rebel KANU MPs to block any resolutions to Parliament of the Constitution Review Commission. The

commission, chaired by Professor Yash Pal Ghai, was formed out of the parliamentary review team led by Odinga. At the end of March 2001, Ufungamano and the rival parliamentary-led constitutional review initiative agreed to undertake a common process. One of the conditions for the merger hinged on the understanding that constitutional review amendments would take a back seat during the time of the review. Ufungamano, KANU and the National Development Party achieved the merger after 3 months of negotiations brokered by Professor Ghai. [32au][32de][43i][43j][69]

The Judiciary

4.30 The Constitution provides for an independent judiciary; however, in practice the judiciary is often corrupt and subject to executive branch influence. The President has extensive powers over appointments, including those of the Attorney General, the Chief Justice and Appeal and High Court Judges. The President can also dismiss judges and the Attorney General upon the recommendation of a special presidentially appointed tribunal. Although judges have life tenure (except for the very few foreign judges who are hired by contract) the President has extensive authority over transfers. The Kenya Court system consists of a Court of Appeal, a High Court, and two levels of Magistrates' Courts, where most criminal and civil cases originate. The Chief Justice is a member of both the High Court and the Court of Appeals; this undercuts the principle of judicial review. There were some indications of executive interference in the judiciary. On 9 October 2000, a Homa Bay court sentenced MP Shem Ochuodho to over 3 years in prison for violent assault on a political rival during the 1997 election. While violence may have occurred some observers believe the court may have applied the law unfairly because some KANU MPs, despite credible allegations of violence during the campaign, were not charged. As a result of Ochuodho's conviction there were a number of protests and on 19 October 2000 Court Justice Barbara Tanui overturned the conviction and ordered a new trial. Ochuodho was released but immediately rearrested by the police, a statement was taken regarding the case and then he was released on bail. In 2000 the judiciary faced many accusations of corruption. In 1998 the Chief Justice appointed a special judiciary commission chaired by Justice Richard Kwach to report on the problems of the judiciary. The Kwach Commission cited "corruption, incompetence, neglect of duty, theft, drunkenness, lateness, sexual harassment and racketeering" as common problems of the judiciary. There are no customary or traditional courts in Kenya. However, the national courts use the customary law of an ethnic group as a guide in civil matters as long as there is no conflict with statutory law. The law provides for a presumption of innocence, for defendants to have the right to attend their trial, to confront witnesses and to present witnesses and evidence. Defendants do not have the right to government-provided legal counsel, except in capital cases. Judges hear all cases. [2]

4.31 Military personnel are tried by military court-martial and verdicts may be appealed through military court channels. The Chief Justice appoints attorneys for military personnel on a case-by-case basis. [2]

4.32 In December 2000, Kenya launched a family Court specifically to deal with among other issues, wills, adoption and custody for children, divorce and burial disputes. The launch of the family Court Division of the nation's High Court was performed by the Chief Justice, Bernard Chunga. This brings to three the number of judicial Divisions under the government's ongoing reform programme. The other Divisions deal with commercial and criminal law. Lawyer

Gibson Kamau Kuria said the launch is evidence of the judiciary's commitment to reforms. The family Court will be headed by Justice Joyce Aluoch. The Chief Justice explained that the section would not deal with aspects of juvenile law, which he said are purely criminal. Experts claim there are some 6,627 family-related cases pending before Kenyan Courts. These relate to succession, adoption, divorce and married women's property Act. [35a][38]

4.33 Defendants do not have the right to government-provided legal counsel, except in capital cases. For lesser charges, free legal aid is not usually available outside of Nairobi or other major cities. As a result, poor persons may be convicted for a lack of an articulate defence. Although defendants have access to an attorney in advance of trial, defence lawyers do not always have access to government-held evidence, as the Government can plead the State Security Secrets Clause as a basis for withholding evidence. Court fees for filing and hearing cases are high for ordinary citizens; the daily rate of at least 2,000 Shillings (about \$25) is beyond the reach of most Kenyans. Lengthy pre-trial detention is a problem. [2]

4.34 Critics of the Government such as politicians, journalists, lawyers, and students have been harassed through abuse of the legal process. In a 1997 study of the judiciary, the International Bar Association found "a persistent and deliberate misuse of the legal system for the purpose of harassing opponents and critics of the Government." Authorities continued to arrest opposition MPs, journalists and student leaders during 2000 and a number of opposition MPs, student leaders and human rights activists still had one or more court cases pending during 2000, often for months or even years. Three Kenya Human Rights Commission employees and nine members of the Commission and Citizens Coalition for Constitutional Change (4Cs) were detained in prison for several days awaiting sentencing for holding an illegal gathering. Human rights organisation viewed the arrests as a veiled effort by the Government to prevent civic education exercises throughout the country. The Attorney General subsequently dropped the charges. On 15 February 2001, Johan Wandetto, a journalist for the People newspaper, who was arrested in February 1999, was sentenced to 18 months in prison for writing a report that "risked causing harm". In the past, Judges who ruled against the Government sometimes were punished with transfer or non-renewal of contracts. However, during 2000, no retaliatory action against justices was reported. Judges occasionally demonstrated independence. [\(See paragraph 5.56\)](#). [2]

4.35 In April 1999, a seminar on the criminal justice system to place in Nyeri. At its conclusion the seminar recommended the immediate start of legislative reforms to bring Kenyan establishments, practices and procedures in tandem with international standards to which Kenya is a signatory, and to outlaw the inhuman regime of discipline and punishment of suspects. The seminar recommended that strict compliance with the Prisoners Act and Regulations would radically change the outlook of Kenya's prisons. One recommendation was that time spent on remand should also be taken into account when determining the length of sentence for people convicted. The three-day seminar was organised by the judiciary, Public Law Institute and United Nations Development Programme. Participants came from the judiciary, PLI, Attorney General's Chambers, police, prisons, probation and children's department, the provincial administration and the Law Society of Kenya. In July 1999, it was announced that the government would amend the Evidence Act to ensure that only confessions made before a trial magistrate would be admissible in court. Allegations of forced confessions through beating and torture are common in Kenya. In 2000, The Attorney General's constitutional power to discontinue proceedings in private prosecution cases was a problem. He argued that citizens

must first notify his office before initiating private prosecution. He used this authority on a number of occasions to terminate cases against government officials. [2][32ak][43a]

The death penalty

4.36 Kenya still retains the death penalty although no executions have been carried out since 1988. The death penalty is mandatory for murder, treason, robbery with violence or attempted robbery with violence and for administration of an unlawful oath to commit a capital offence. By law the death penalty may not be imposed on anyone under 18 at the time of the offence, a pregnant woman or an insane person. During 1998, 168 people were sentenced to death and more than 900 people were under sentence of death by the end of the year. Many prisoners on death row have died as a result of the appalling prison conditions. Defendants charged with murder or treason are tried in the High Court and if convicted have a right of appeal to the Court of Appeal. Defendants charged with robbery or attempted robbery with violence are tried in the Magistrates Court and if convicted have the right to appeal to the High Court and then the Court of Appeal. The cases of prisoners sentenced to death once the appeals process has been exhausted are automatically passed to the President under section 27 of the Constitution, which provides for the Prerogative of Mercy. The President also has the right to pardon or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence, under the Presidential Prerogative of Mercy. On 29 March 2001, a court in Kenya sentenced two men to death for robbing twenty-nine American tourists. The men, both Tanzanian nationals, were carrying a rifle and a sword when they held up the tourists' vehicles in the Masai Mara game park two years ago. [9][12][49I]

Security forces

4.37 The Kenyan security forces are comprised of the armed forces, a large internal security apparatus that includes the police Criminal Investigation Department (CID), the National Security Intelligence Service (NSIS) Service ([see paragraph 4.43](#)), the National Police, the Administration Police and the paramilitary General Services Unit (GSU), which details members on a rotating basis to staff the 700-person Presidential Escort. The CID investigates criminal activity and the NSIS collects intelligence and monitors persons whom the state considers subversive. In 1999, parliament passed and implemented laws that removed arrest authority from the NSIS and separated the organisation from the CID. [2]

4.38 The Special Branch, formed in the colonial era, deals with matters of intelligence and state security, but has since had its role enhanced to deal with presidential security. The CID primarily investigates non-political crimes but have a mandate to investigate political crimes as well, which are monopolised by the Special Branch. The Police Reserve assists regular police officers in their duties. They are not required to be full time, and most are recruited from the civil service. They are only employed during emergency periods such as riots, demonstrations and national events. Special Police Officers are similar to the Police Reserve and are appointed to deal with specific missions. The Administrative Police are supposed to be distinguishable from the regular police and are involved in land evictions, demonstration and riot control, housing evictions and border patrols. Some officers serve in government institutions as gate keepers or reception watchers and at district level they guard administration figures. The General Service Unit is the paramilitary wing of the police force. They are mobilised whenever the Government feels a situation is volatile. [20]

4.39 There are several other units and branches within the police force such as the Stock Theft Unit and the Anti-Poaching Unit as well as the Prosecutions Branch, the Traffic branch, the Dog Section and the Mounted Branch. The Home Guards are a colonial legacy and are used only in areas that have a nomadic community. City Commission 'Askaris' are employed in Nairobi as council security guards and they enforce the city commission's by-laws. [20]

4.40 In October 2000, a 127-page internal police report titled, "Report of the Committee on the State of Crime in Kenya 1997 to 1998", was leaked to the press. The report, the result of a two-year study conducted by a five-person police team to study problems in the police force, concluded that the police force was unable to address crime due to poor management, corruption, a breakdown in discipline and a disregard for rules. Members of the security forces continued to commit serious human rights abuses. The Police, in particular, continued to commit extrajudicial killings, torture and beat detainees. They have also been found to use excessive force, rape and otherwise abuse persons. The Police have increasingly disrupted public meetings and used force to disperse demonstrators and protesters. On 1 January 2000 police attached to the Ng'araria Chief's Camp in Murang'a allegedly beat 10 year old Joseph Ndung'u Nyoike to death, for suspected theft. Two police officials were arrested after an autopsy report indicated the boy had died from beatings. The case remains under investigation. On 15 January 2000 police from the Mukuruwei-ini police station allegedly beat Philip Machau to death after he was caught stealing a piece of second-hand clothes. An inquest into the case is still ongoing. On 23 March 2000, Philip Kipkoech Kirui, a brother of a nominated local councillor, died after being transferred from prison in Londiani to the local hospital for treatment allegedly he was tortured. The case is still pending. In November 2000, police disrupted a rally by the Muungano wa Mageuzi in Eldoret. Opposition politicians condemned the disruption, which left several people injured. In February 2001, a policeman was charged with the murder of a university student, Allan Mbito who was the son of High Court Judge Gideon Mbito. Kwanzi MP Noah Wekesa had called for the resignation of the Police Commissioner Philemon Abong'o. During 2000 the Government arrested and prosecuted a number of police officers for abuses; however, most police who perpetrated abuses were neither investigated nor punished. [2][32ba][32bg][32bo][71]

4.41 Security forces, especially the members of the police, the GSU and the CID continued to use force and committed a number of extrajudicial killings. According to government figures, police killed 120 suspected criminals and another 39 suspects and detainees died while in police custody by the end of 2000. The KHRC reported that police killed 198 persons during 2000 (compared to 243 in 1999), including 49 by torture. Police often lacked restraint in employing lethal force and the Government generally failed to take appropriate action against members of the security forces accused of extrajudicial killings. On 30 April 2000 there were reports that Sophia Nyaguthii Mbogo, a pregnant 21 year old woman, died in custody at the Kagio Police Post reportedly after she was beaten by a policeman. No arrests were made in the case; however an inquest held before the Principal Magistrate's Court at Kerugoya is still ongoing. On 4 September 2000, prison guards at the King'ong'o Prison in Nyeri killed 6 inmates who were attempting to escape. Officials initially claimed that the guards shot the 6 as they fled; however there were conflicting reports that the 6 died from blows to the head and severe beatings after recapture. In October 2000 the Attorney General, Amos Wako, published Kenya National Human Rights Bill 2000 to formally establish a commission to promote and protect human rights in the country. As reported in the People newspaper, the commission, to be known as Kenya

National Human Rights commission will monitor the government's compliance with its obligations under international treaties and conventions on human rights. The commission is expected to investigate the rampant abuse of human rights in Kenya including extrajudicial killings by the police and deaths caused by politically instigated ethnic clashes among other things. According to the newspaper the bill has been submitted to parliament for approval. Several 1998 cases of extrajudicial killings remained unresolved at the end of 2000. [2][30][39h]

4.42 Some official efforts have been made to investigate and punish police abuses. In August 1999, police killed five Muslim worshippers in the Anas Bin Malik Mosque in Chai village near Mombasa. Within one month of the killing the Government charged two police officers with the killings; they were released on bail and are currently awaiting trial. On 29 June 2000, the High Court sentenced police constable Felix Nthiwa Munyao to life in prison for beating his wife to death in 1998. He had beaten his wife so severely that she went into a coma and died 5 months later. The case was widely publicised because the police refused to charge Munyao with a crime until his wife had died. [2]

4.43 January 1999 saw the creation of the National Security Intelligence Service under the stewardship of retired Brigadier Wilson Boinett. The new service replaced the Directorate of Security Intelligence which was associated with brutality, torture and outright abuse of human rights. It was a dreaded institution, occasionally misused by politicians to settle political scores. A report on Kenyan TV suggested that the civilian National Security Intelligence Service would offer a better-trained and thoroughly professional service. Its remit is confined to gathering intelligence and informing the government of any threats to security. Torture will not be condoned in the service and any officer accused of malpractice will be punished. In August 1999, a special crime prevention police unit was launched to curb the influx and trafficking of illegal arms in the wake of an increasing number of carjackings at gunpoint. [72b][39g]

4.44 The Kenyan authorities have made it clear that mechanisms exist, under the present law, to lodge complaints against members of the police. It is also possible to bring a private civil case against the police, but it is too costly for ordinary citizens. Cases against individual members of the police have succeeded. There are various human rights bodies and lawyers active in Kenya who are willing to support an individual complaint against the police, but Amnesty International report that the current complaints procedure is fraught with difficulties and fails to protect the victims of violations. There were no effective investigations into many cases of killings by members of the security forces. The authorities sometimes attribute the absence of an investigation into an alleged extrajudicial killing to the failure of citizens to file official complaints. However, the form required for filing complaints is available only at police stations, which often lack the forms or are not forthcoming in providing them. There is also widespread scepticism of a process that assigns the investigation of police abuse to the police themselves. [2][9][24d]

4.45 In a 1997 study of the judiciary, the International Bar Association found "a persistent and deliberate misuse of the legal system for the purpose of harassing opponents and critics of the Government". During 2000, authorities continued to arrest opposition MPs, journalists and student leaders. A number of MPs, student leaders and human rights activists still had one or more court cases pending during the year, often for months or even years. [2]

4.46 Early in 2000, the Government instituted the Community Services Order (CSO), a program whereby petty offenders perform community service rather than serve custodial sentence. There are currently 11,000 petty offenders participating in the program. This program may help overcrowding; however, there was no indication of this by the end of 2000. [2]

4.47 The Constitution states that “no one shall be subject of torture or degrading punishment or other treatment”; however, human rights organisations and the press highlighted scores of cases of indiscriminate beating of groups of persons by the police, during the year. On 19 August 2000, violence broke out at Nairobi’s Kamukunji grounds, for which the KANU/NDP youth alliance claimed responsibility on 24 August 2000. The youths vowed to disrupt Mr James Orengo's rally and accused the Ford Kenya MP of deliberately scheduling his meeting to coincide with that of President Moi and National Development party leader which was to be held at Ganjoni on the same day. It was reported that one person died and there were serious injuries to many others. In November 2000, police in anti-riot gear violently dispersed a fund-raising meeting in the western town of Homa Bay. Shem Ochuodho, an opposition MP had convened the meeting. In September 2000, The president ordered the Kenyan Police to clamp down on any rally convened by his critics, especially the Muungano wa Mageuzi, a new non-party organisation spearheaded by James Orengo, opposition legislator. [2][35e][43b]

4.48 On 23 May 2000 members of the Kenyan military, together with members of the police, attacked Kenyan herdsmen of the Gabbra community at the Baresa water point in Marsabit District, Eastern Province. More than 70 herdsmen were stripped, tortured and threatened with execution. After investigation into this incident were done no one was arrested. Judicial proceedings against law enforcement officers accused of torturing or killing prisoners usually occurred only after sustained pressure, and were subject to long delays. On 10 June 2000, scores of demonstrators were hurt by police when participants at a rally organised by pro-democracy advocates and church groups decided to march on the Kenyan Parliament. Demonstrators were prevented from reaching parliament by police officers that violently broke up the march using batons, teargas, stun grenades and water cannon. The Reverend Timothy Njoya, who led to march, was attacked by two men, believed to be members of Jeshi la Mzee (the Old Man’s Army), a pro-government group who used their fists, boots and sticks to beat him to the ground and broke his arm while uniformed police watched. Following a public outcry, one man was later arrested and charged with assault but then he was released on bail. There were several violent incidents between pro-government supporters and opposition supporters during opposition rallies in 2000. Incidents include on 26 November 2000, in Kisumu, pro-government youths forcibly disrupted a meeting of the Ufungamano Commission a church-led constitutional review commission. The youths threw Molotov cocktails, burned vehicles and beat severely several people. Police did not intervene. [2][74]

4.49 In March 2000, it was announced that more police officers were being moved into Nairobi to curb the deteriorating security in the city. During the previous month two KANU MP's were seriously injured in a shooting ([see paragraph 4.17](#)) whilst four police officers were killed in the city. During the same month the Head of the Civil Service announced that a detachment of the Kenya Army would be used to curb insecurity in the country. The new military wing is to be retrained and re-equipped in order that it may oversee patrolling of poorly policed borders. A report on 8 August 2000 stated that two policemen were among six suspects seized in a hunt for the gunmen who grabbed a 12 million Shilling payroll for Kenya Railways workers. The seized officers are a corporal attached to Industrial Area police station and a

sergeant from the railways police. [32bc][41][43h]

V. HUMAN RIGHTS

Introduction

5.1 The Constitution of Kenya states that “no one shall be subject to torture or degrading punishment or other treatment”. Although police authorities periodically issue directives against the use of torture by police, the problem persists. Police torture was systematic, primarily for common criminals. At least seven people died in police custody during 2000. Pro-democracy activists, human rights defenders, politicians, journalists and others continued to be harassed, ill-treated or detained for non-violent activities. Excessive force was used by police against peaceful protesters, and in a number of incidents the police made no attempt to stop vigilante groups from attacking peaceful demonstrators. However, for several years the focus of human rights reporting on Kenya has highlighted the enormity of the country's human rights agenda. Amnesty International have reported the Government's failure to halt the widespread ill treatment of detainees. In their reports "Kenya: Torture, compounded by denial of medical care" (December 1995) and " Kenya: Detention, torture and health professionals " (January 1997) they noted that men and women of all ages could be victims of physical maltreatment for political or common-law offences. Amnesty state that torture compounded by the denial or restriction of access to medical treatment, is routinely used to extract confessions. Well-known political prisoners have been harassed and ill-treated, and defendants can be held beyond the legal time limits, which is then rarely challenged by the courts. [7][8][74]

5.2 In February 1997, Kenya became a signatory to the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which in their above named report of January 1997 Amnesty stated, would go a long way towards proving the Kenyan Government's commitment to abolish torture. [1][8]

5.3 According to the 2000 US Department of State Report (issued February 2001), the Government's human rights record was poor, and although there were improvements in some areas, serious problems remained. The KHRC reported that police killed 198 persons during 2000 (compared to 243 persons in 1999), including at least 49 by torture. During 2000, the number of human rights organisations continued to grow. These include NGOs such as the KHRC, the Kenya Antirape Organisation, the Legal Advice Centre, the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission, the Protestant National Council of Churches of Kenya, the Centre for Governance and Development, People Against Torture, the Independent Medico-Legal Unit (IMLU) and the Release Political Prisoners pressure group. An array of legal organisations, including the International Commission of Jurists-Kenya, FIDA, the Law Society of Kenya and the Public Law Institute, advocate human rights. Several NGOs maintain comprehensive files on human rights abuses. A number of attorneys represent the poor and human rights defendants without compensation, although they can handle only a small percentage of those who need assistance and are concentrated chiefly in Nairobi and other large cities. Government officials including the President continued to intimidate and threaten to disrupt human rights organisations and other NGOs. According to a 1999 KBC news report, President Moi said that

he would reveal a list of names of subversive NGOs and their antisocial activities; however the President did not release such a list by the end of 2000. [2]

B. HUMAN RIGHTS: General Assessment

5.4 In the above cited Amnesty reports ([see paragraph 5.1](#)), Amnesty International detail the following examples of torture reported to them by persons who cite maltreatment by the security forces. Death threats, beatings on different parts of the body, burns, adopting uncomfortable postures for prolonged periods of time, sexual abuse and humiliation of both men and women, electric shocks and forced exercise. Women have been raped. Complaints were also received of being held in a flooded cell filled with two inches of water for lengthy periods. In extreme cases the pulling out of fingernails and toenails and near-asphyxiation were also cited. [7][8]

5.5 The Government does not permit consistent independent monitoring of prison conditions. In general it does not permit domestic NGOs to visit prisons; however, some independent NGOs work with the Government in evaluating torture cases and performing autopsies on deceased prisoners. In July 2000, foreign diplomatic officials visited Kimiti Maximum Security Prison and Langata Women's Prison. In March 2000, the United Nations Special Rapporteur for Torture, Nigel Rodley, released a report on his visits to several prisons in 1999. Rodley noted the problems of limited access by observers, poor sanitation and health care, and overcrowding. Newly-appointed Commissioner of Prisons, Abraham Mariach Kimakil announced on 13 December 2000, changes in the management of prison affairs. He said the prisoners human rights should be a priority to the warden, and warned that any warden found violating their rights would be dealt with firmly. Kimakil said that medical facilities will be available to all prisoners and no prison will be discriminated against. He promised to establish a public relations office to deal with the public on matters pertaining to the running of prisons and that all prisons will soon be open to the public and the media in order to avert any suspicions. [2][32bv][36d]

5.6 In a report issued on 25 August 2000 in the Daily Nation newspaper of Kenya, an American Catholic priest, Father Kaiser, was found dead after having been shot in the head. He was a human rights activist and had served a missionary in Kenya for 36 years. He was an outspoken critic of the government and its human rights record. It was reported on 27 August 2000 that the Priest was carrying, on him at the time of his murder, documents linking two cabinet ministers to tribal clashes in the Rift Valley. Father Kaiser had been a vocal critic of the tribal clashes that rocked the Rift Valley Province prior to the 1992 and 1997 general elections and which mainly targeted the Kikuyu community to evict them. In October 2000, United States Congressmen in the 435-member House of Representatives condemned what they called the assassination of Father Kaiser. They have also called for a private investigation into the deaths of five other clerics. [32bw][43c][57a][60]

5.7 Mystery now surrounds the deaths with their killers still unknown. Madeline Albright has pledged that the US government will be monitoring the investigations into Father Kaiser's death. A news report on 19 December 2000 stated that the United States Department of State was working closely with the Federal Bureau of Investigators to conduct an independent investigation into the death of Father Kaiser. Forensic evidence and final interviews are yet to be analysed. [34j][43k][43l]

5.8 The number of organisations engaged in monitoring human rights in Kenya is growing. These include NGO's such as the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission, the Centre for Governance and Development, the IMLU, the Kenya Antirape Organisation, the Legal Advice Centre (LAC), the Protestant National Council of Churches of Kenya, People Against Torture, Release Political Prisoners and the independent Kenyan Human Rights Commission (KHRC). An array of legal organisations, including the International Commission of Jurists-Kenya, the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)-Kenya, the Law Society of Kenya and the Public Law Institute, are also concerned with human rights. NGO's and some opposition parties maintain comprehensive files on human rights abuses. These organisations remain extremely active, produce regular reports on the human rights situation and also organise activities to publicise their causes. The KHRC produces a "Quarterly Repression Report". A number of attorneys represent the poor and human rights defendants without compensation, although they can meet only a small percentage of the need, and are concentrated largely in urban areas. The Government regularly criticised, intimidated and threatened to disrupt NGO's. In March 1999, President Moi publicly stated that NGO's were trying to destabilise the country by channelling foreign funds to anti-government student and labour organisations and using the money to organise seditious mass protests. In April 1999, the Office of the President instructed all district governments to monitor NGO's within their districts with a view to ensuring that they either advance government policy or cease to operate. However, NGO's did not subsequently report an increase in government monitoring. [2][17]

5.9 In July 1996, the Government established a Standing Committee on Human Rights to investigate alleged humanitarian abuses by the Kenyan authorities. However, the committee is subordinate to the Office of the President, and it has only received sufficient funds to fill 8 of its 27 authorised staff positions. Since its inception, the Committee has maintained a low profile and kept its distance from most major problems. In October 1999, the Committee requested that the National Assembly enact legislation giving the Committee greater autonomy and independence; no such legislation was enacted by the end of 1999. In May 1999, a Trade Union witness to the Standing Committee on Human Rights expressed the view that the government was the leading violator of human rights in Kenya. [1][2][32aw]

5.10 In October 1998, Parliament passed a resolution to create an Ombudsman's office that would be charged with addressing complaints about inefficiency, corruption, nepotism, and abuse of power by public servants. The Government has recognised that certain laws, which violate human rights, are bad and began to review them. Many Kenyans have questioned the Government's commitment to human rights reform. Nevertheless the Government has stated its commitment to upholding its national and international obligations on torture and has confirmed its policy on taking action against those who abuse the law. In February 1999 the KHRC called for the police to go beyond admitting responsibility for violating people's human rights and undertake to compensate the victims, following the shooting Getrude Andi in the leg during a police operation in Mandizini. [2][9][32ag]

5.11 In July 1999, Kenya held its first National Anti-Torture Week. At a meeting it was put to the Attorney General, Amos Wako, that the judiciary join forces with the police to form a powerful and ruthless team of torturers. Wako was asked to set a precedent and put all persons accused of committing torture on trial which would send a powerful message to all would-be torturers. However, the Attorney General defended his office saying that the judiciary was

independent and he could not be seen to interfere. He further stated that in the last year or so 60 police officers had been charged either with murder or assault or involved in inquests into causes of death resulting from police action. Amnesty International lists Kenya as one of five countries where there are persistent, severe and systematic violations of human rights. The most pressing demand from rights groups, who presented the Attorney General with a petition at the meeting, is for the establishment of an independent investigative unit to deal with torture allegations. At present this is done by the police. A non-governmental organisation, recently launched, which offers free legal services to torture victims is People Against Torture (PAT). The police stated they are responding to suggestions to set up an independent unit. A group of senior officers visited the United Kingdom in early 1999 to look at the British Police Complaints Authority and there are recommendations that a similar authority be started in Kenya. The police also stated they were introducing a human rights training programme. [50a]

5.12 In March 2000, it was reported that the first ever criminal and civil proceedings against President Moi of Kenya are likely to be filed in the British and Belgium courts in the summer. KHRC and London based Kenya Movement for Democracy and Justice (KMDJ), Amnesty International, and Redress are working together to seek redress on behalf of Kenyan victims of ethnic clashes and police torture. The responsibility of KHRC in this process is to collect evidence and materials in respect of mass killings, destruction of property, displacement and widespread torture of individuals by the Kenyan police. [40]

Prison conditions

5.13 Prison conditions are extremely harsh and often life threatening, with severe overcrowding, inadequate water, poor diet, substandard bedding and deficiencies in health care. Prisons do not have resident doctors, only one prison has a doctor permanently assigned. There have been incidents where medical treatment of prisoners has been blocked. The country's prisons reportedly hold 2 to 3 times their estimated combined capacity of 15,000 inmates. While the prison population increased steadily over the last several years, prison facilities have not. According to the Government, 658 prisoners died in prison during the first 10 months of 2000, compared with 196 in the first 9 months of 1999. This was due mainly to tuberculosis, dysentery, anaemia, malaria, heart attack, typhoid and HIV/AIDS. Officially men, women and children are segregated, however, there are cases where they have shared the same cells. Young teenagers are frequently kept in cells with adults in overcrowded prisons and detention centres. Rape of both male and female inmates, primarily by fellow prisoners, is a serious problem and increasing incidence of AIDS. In December 2000, the Kenyan Government rejected calls by anti-AIDS and human rights campaigners to make condoms available to prisoners countrywide. Prisons Commissioner Abraham Kamalkil said this would legalise sex in the country's prisons. He went on to say "The Prisons Act precludes sexual activities in prison, so supplying inmates with condoms means condoning the activities". Prisoners report that they are frequently denied the right to contact relatives or lawyers. The Government does not permit independent monitoring of prisons. In 1998, The Community Service Order Act was passed by Parliament. This provides for those convicted and sentenced to less than three years imprisonment to do community service rather than serve a custodial sentence, thus potentially reducing the prison population. By the end of 1999 the Government had failed to implement the act. [2][8][9][12][35h]

5.14 In January 2000, responding to public allegations of unacceptable detention conditions, the Government sent a fact-finding team to Kodiaga Prison, which found that the prison conditions were acceptable. In September 2000, the Attorney General said that some prisons were “unfit for humans”. On 4 September 2000 there was an attempted escape, by eight prisoners, at Kingongo Prison in the Nyeri District. Six of the eight prisoners died and a number of prison officials were badly hurt. The two other men are said to have got away. All eight men were awaiting execution. In October 2000, Amnesty International sent an independent pathologist to perform autopsies on the six prisoners. [2][30w][59]

C. HUMAN RIGHTS: Specific Groups

Women

5.15 According to the Government, 165 cases of rape were reported to the police in Nairobi during 2000, compared to 155 cases throughout 1999. These statistics probably underreport the number of incidents, as many women would be unlikely to go outside their families or ethnic groups to report sexual abuse. A study by Kangemi Women Empowerment Centre, a small group based in one of Nairobi’s largest low income communities, claimed that three out of five women in the community were victims of domestic violence, and that one-third of the women had suffered sexual abuse. The study noted that the abused women rarely reported the violations, because they believed that nothing would change. Although the validity of the study is unproven, the basic figures reflect other published figures and anecdotal evidence. [2]

5.16 The law carries penalties of up to life imprisonment for rape, however sentences usually are no more than 10 years. The rate of prosecution remains low because of cultural inhibitions against publicly discussing sex, fear of retribution, disinclination of police to intervene in domestic disputes and unavailability of doctors who might provide the evidence for conviction. Traditional culture permits a man to discipline his wife by physical means and is ambivalent about the seriousness of spousal rape. Wife beating is prevalent and largely condoned by society. There is no law prohibiting spousal rape. Since 1994, the Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) has collaborated with the police to stop domestic violence. Police generally view violence against women as a family matter, not a crime. FIDA has trained over 800 police officers about gender issues. A Domestic Violence Bill was published in November 2000. Statistics according the Daily Nation newspaper, show that in 2000 the media reported some 50 deaths, most of them women, and another 69 injuries resulting from domestic violence. In 1998, FIDA reported that 60 women had been killed in domestic violence. The Domestic Violence Bill if passed by Parliament will lead to establishment of an Act. [2][32by]

5.17 The Constitution was amended in 1997 to include discrimination based on gender. There are a number of women's rights and welfare organisations present in Kenya. The most well known of these, Maendeleo Ya Wanawake, was established as a non-political NGO during the colonial era, but is now aligned closely with KANU. A growing number of organisations are concerned with women's rights, including the FIDA, the National Council of Women of Kenya, the National Commission on the Status of Women, the Education Centre for Women in Democracy and the Kenyan League of Women Voters. On 5 October 1998, President Moi officially opened the 29th biennial convention of the International Federation of Women

Lawyers in Nairobi. He stated that the government were committed to protecting women and other vulnerable groups. Women are seriously under-represented at decision-making levels in the Government. The National Assembly elected in December 1997 included eight female MPs. In 1997, The Women's Political Caucus was formed and has lobbied the Government over issues of concern to women and to increase the influence of women on Government policy ([see paragraph 4.20](#)). July 2000 saw the demise of the once powerful Kenya Women Political Caucus. A new women's lobby group called Women's Political Network was created in August 2000. It was created by one of the two splinter groups. The chairperson of this new lobby group is Charity Kaluki Ngilu for whom an eleven-member board assists. She said that the split had occurred in the Kenya Women Political Caucus because the chairperson had abandoned it. On 2 June 2000, a woman judge, Lady Justice Kalpana Hasmukhrai Rawal became Africa's first woman judge of Asian origin. She was elevated from a Commissioner of Assize to the position of High Court judge, by President Moi, bringing the total number of women on the bench to six. [2][33g][43d][61]

5.18 In May 1999 the Kenyan Parliament passed a motion that seeks the establishment of a commission for gender equality in the country. The commission is to promote respect for protection, development and attainment of gender equality. The motion was moved by NDP leader Raila Odinga, who called on the government to come up with a policy to deal with the rising cases of violence against women. In May 1999, an Appeal Court Judge, Richard Kwach, stated that the constitutional provision, which stops Kenyan women from automatically bestowing citizenship on a non-Kenyan husband, was not discriminatory. The judge was speaking during a Federation of Kenya Women Lawyers public debate focusing on women's rights to equal citizenship and marital property. [32av][35f]

5.19 In July 1999 it was estimated that 95% of commercial sex workers in the heart of Nairobi's Red Light District were HIV-positive. Desperate women sell their bodies for as little as 20 shillings (the equivalent of about US\$ 0.30 when reported). For 500 shillings some women agree to a client's request not to wear a condom. Most of the women did not learn about safe sex until it was too late. Following intensive education efforts by NGOs the majority of sex workers now claim to practice safe sex but most ordinary Kenyans do not. In August 1999, the new Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health called for the legalisation of abortion in a bid to prevent the rising numbers of abortion related deaths. [50b][51]

Female Genital Mutilation

5.20 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), which is widely condemned by international health experts as damaging to both physical and psychological health, is practised by certain ethnic groups and remains widespread, particularly in rural areas. It is usually performed at an early age and health officials estimate that roughly 50% of females nationwide have undergone the procedure. Maendeleo Ya Wanawake puts the percentage in some districts of the Eastern, Nyanza and Rift Valley provinces, as high as 80% to 90%. President Moi has issued two presidential decrees banning FGM, and the Government prohibits government-controlled hospitals and clinics from practising it; however, no law in Kenya bans FGM. According to statistics compiled by a group of NGOs in Marakwet, only 169 girls suffered FGM in December 1999, compared to 12,000 girls during the same month in the 4 years previous. The authorities in Kenya have designed a national plan of action for the elimination of FGM. The plan is to be

implemented in three phases covering 1999-2019. In December 2000, a magistrate in the Rift Valley ruled in favour of Ednah Chebet Kandie and Beatrice Jepkosgei Kandie, two sisters who sued their father over his traditional right to force them to undergo FGM. The court in the Rift Valley issued a permanent injunction on their father, Puis Kandie, stopping him allowing his 17 year old and 15 year old, respectively, daughters to undergo the process without their consent. The order was welcomed by human rights activists as an important step towards ending the practice. [2][49d][57c]

Children

5.21 The system of free education in place during the early years of Kenya's independence has given way to a "cost-sharing" system in which students pay both tuition fees and other costs. These are a heavy burden to most families. Although the law mandates that schooling be available for all up to grade 12 and that it be compulsory, there is a very high drop out rate due to the high cost of educational expenses. There are an estimated 4 million children between the ages of 6 and 14 who are out of school. A second reason why universal schooling does not occur is the shortage of schools. The health care system for school children, which once provided medical check-ups and free milk, is now defunct. Corporal punishment of students, including caning, by teachers is widespread in schools. A newspaper article in October 2000, published an article about a Kenyan teacher who caned an 11 year old boy to death for failing a mathematics test. The boy, Edwin Mogire Nyakundi, was among five pupils at the school in western Kenya whom the teacher had caned. A post-mortem examination showed that the boy had died of cardio-respiratory arrest following the beating. In November 2000, a new bill to protect the rights of children was put before MPs. The Bill is the outcome of a task force on children's law headed by Lady justice Effie Owuor. The Government has pledged to implement all the provisions of the Children's Bill when it is enacted. Attorney General Amos Wako said when the bill becomes law, the government will use all the available resources to safeguard the rights of children. [2][32bz][32cg][75]

5.22 Economic displacement and the spread of AIDS continue to fuel the problem of homeless street children. In 2000, the number of Nairobi's street children exceeded 60,000 an estimated 20% increase from 1999. These children are often involved in theft, drug trafficking, assault, trespassing and property damage. According to a 1997 Human Rights Watch report, street children face harassment as well as physical and sexual abuse from the police and within the juvenile justice system. Street children are also subject to frequent arrest simply because they are homeless and vagrancy is a criminal offence in Kenya (Vagrancy Act, Chapter 58 of the Laws of Kenya). The police conduct several roundup operations of street children. There are some shelters for street children and NGO's and human rights activists who work with the children. NGO's have assisted street children in filing preliminary complaints with the police about police misconduct. In January 1999 two jurists said that the Kenya Constitution was vague regarding children's rights. They claim it fails to give a standard definition of a child. Whilst addressing a child workshop Mr Muthoga, the Chairman of Africa Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect, Kenya chapter, said children's rights were threatened by lack of food, water, shelter and medical care. He called on child rights activists to ensure that the constitutional review commission ([see paragraphs 4.20 - 4.29](#)) was fully sensitised on the rights of a child. On 27 July 2000, as reported by the Kenya news agency quoting the Rift-Valley provincial administrator, Francis Baya, as saying that to date there were 860,000 AIDS orphans in the country. Baya called for serious action against the problems

affecting Kenyan children, as they comprised 60% of the country's total population of 28 million besides forming the basis of future productive investment. [2][16][32w][58]

5.23 The problem of child rape and molestation continued to grow. There are frequent press reports of rape of young girls, with rapists often middle-aged or older. Legally, a man does not rape a girl under the age of 14 if he has sexual intercourse with her against her will; he commits a lesser offence of defilement, which carries a penalty of five years imprisonment. Men convicted of rape normally receive prison sentences of between 5 and 20 years, plus several strokes of the cane. On 9 June 2000, the Nairobi Chief Magistrate ordered Julius Sunkuli, the Minister of State in the Office of the President, to appear before the court to face rape charges brought by FIDA on behalf of Florence Nangini Mpayei who claimed that Sunkuli had raped her in his office when she was 14 years old. In September 2000, the court dropped the case at the behest of Mpayei. In October 2000, fourteen male teachers were interdicted by the Teachers Service Commission over illegal sexual relationships with their pupils. Child prostitution is a major problem in Nairobi and Mombasa, often connected with the tourist trade. Child prostitution has grown due to both economic contraction and the increase in the number of orphans due to the spread of HIV/AIDS.

In February 1999, the Minister for Education and Human Resource Development announced that more than 3 million children under the age of six have no access to early childhood care. He stated that Kenya has 23,344 early childhood care and development centres with an enrolment of 1,064,125 children and a teaching force of 36,201, but the participation rate was only 35%. Real progress has been hindered by poverty, which has affected participation in many development programmes including basic education. The Minister also announced that infant mortality has increased by 20% in the last five years. More than 90,000 children were among the 1.5 million Kenyans living with the AIDS virus. During 1999 there were reports of ritual murders associated with aspects of traditional indigenous religions. The victims were generally teenaged children who were reportedly killed and had parts of their bodies removed for use in traditional rituals by persons seeking renewed youth or health. [2][32af][49e]

5.24 The Employment Act of 1976 makes the employment of children under the age of 16 illegal. It is estimated that there are over 4 million child labourers in Kenya. Children often work as domestic servants in private homes. There are many instances of children working in the informal sector, mostly in family-owned businesses. Children often assist parents on family plots rather than seek employment on their own. A significant number of workers on coffee, sugar and rice plantations are children, who usually work in family units. Forced or bonded labour by children is prohibited by law; however, there reportedly were instances in which it occurred, primarily in rural areas as a form of family debt repayment. [2]

Homosexuality

5.25 In common with a number of other African leaders President Moi has verbally attacked homosexuals and lesbians on various occasions. Sections 162 to 165 of the Penal Code outlaw homosexual behaviour and attempted homosexual behaviour between men, referring to it as "carnal knowledge against the order of nature". The penalty is 5 to 14 years' imprisonment. Lesbian relations, though not specifically mentioned under the law could, depending upon interpretation, be subscribed under the above reference as this applies equally to women as to men. In practice, The Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) advise that whilst men are occasionally prosecuted for homosexual offences, they are not aware of any cases where women

have been prosecuted. It is unlikely that action would be taken against a homosexual male unless some other offence was involved. There is fairly strong social pressure against individual instances of homosexuality and lesbianism such as from family members, it is not however, much of an issue in the public domain. There is no strong antagonistic feeling towards homosexuals but neither is there is an active gay community to provoke it. Discreet homosexuals are unlikely to face prosecution or persecution. [28][49a][53a][53b]

Minorities and Ethnicity

5.26 The Constitution prohibits discrimination based on race, tribe, place of origin or residence or other local connection, political opinion, colour or creed. The authorities did not effectively enforce all these provisions and there are frequent and credible allegations of discrimination among ethnic groups, as well as sporadic interethnic violence. There is credible evidence that the Government sponsored large-scale ethnic violence during the early 1990's, and there were indications that some government officials have at least tolerated and in some instances instigated ethnic violence on a similar scale since that time. Although the President's Cabinet included persons from many ethnic groups, approximately one third were Kalenjin or Luhya. At the end of 2000 there were two ministers from the country's largest ethnic group, the Kikuyu, and no minister from the third largest ethnic group, the Luo; both the Kikuyu and the Luo tend to support opposition parties. However, in 1999, President Moi appointed a person affiliated with the Kikuyu as Vice President ([see paragraph 4.7](#)). There is one nominated MP who is of Asian origin. Estimates for the main minority groups in Kenya show that there are Muslims (22%), Kikuyu (20%), Luhya (14%), Luo (11%), Kamba (10%), Kalenjin (11%), Kisii (5%), Meru (5%), somalis and nomadic minorities (2.5%), Massai (1%) and others (1.5%) including Okiek and Aweer. [2][76]

5.27 Members of the coastal Bajuni, Mijikenda and Digo communities accused the Government of denying them rights to land and of favouring members of inland "up-country" ethnic groups. On 7 June 2000, police in Molo prevented the KHRC from holding a civic education drive for the Ogiek community at Tinet Forest. A spokesman for the KHRC claimed the police deliberately prevented the visit in an attempt to deny the Ogiek their rights. Ethnic-regional differences continue to pose obstacles to political and economic liberalisation. Members of the Kalenjin (President Moi's ethnic group) and other Nilotic ethnic groups are represented disproportionately and hold key positions in the Government, the ruling KANU party, the GSU and the Presidential escort. [2]

Previous Ethnic Clashes

5.28 Ethnic clashes first broke out in October 1991 in Nandi District on the border of Rift Valley, Nyanza and Western Provinces, and continued throughout 1992. According to Human Rights Watch, two years of violence in the Rift Valley had by 1993 forced 300,000 people to flee their homes. The Government's policy with regard to return of the remaining displaced people has been ambiguous. Senior government officials have openly expressed reluctance to allow their return to their former homes, and Parliament voted in November 2000 against a proposal for resettlement. However, President Moi made a statement in November 1999 that those

remaining displaced in the Rift Valley should return and that “maximum security” would be ensured, but local human rights observers have questioned the commitment behind this statement. Some opposition parties accused the government of covertly inciting the violence as a means of undermining the multi-party system reforms. By mid-January 1992 the ethnic clashes were so widespread that the Roman Catholic Bishops issued a pastoral letter, condemning the incidents and castigating the government’s failure to take action. Certain officials the bishops claim were abusing their authority, and had issued inflammatory statements inciting violence. Speculation continued as to whether the violence was a spontaneous response to the political upheaval or instigated by the government to prove its prediction that ethnic violence would be the result of a change to multi-partyism. In April 1992 the NCKK published a report entitled "The Cursed Arrow: Organised Violence Against Democracy in Kenya " that linked the violence to high-ranking government officials. In May 1992, an official Parliamentary Select Committee was set up to investigate the violence, which released a 238 page report in September 1992. The report verified that the attacks had been politically motivated. The most damning indictment of direct government involvement in the clashes came from the report. The report verified that the attacks were politically motivated and had been orchestrated by Kalenjin and Massai individuals close to the President, including Vice-President George Saitoti and MPs Ezekiel Barngetuny and Nicholas Biwott. The Kiliku Report, as it became known, supported the widely held view that government administrators abetted the violence. The Committee found that numerous Kalenjin government officials and security officers had contributed to the violence. The Committee unanimously agreed that the provincial administration and security forces, by often refusing to assist clash victims and releasing attackers who had been arrested, did not react to the situation with the required urgency. Further clashes occurred in 1993 in the Rift Valley and on the borders between lands occupied by the Maasai, Kikuyu and Kalenjin tribes. Foreign observers who toured the affected area in mid 1993 accused the Government of failing to contain the violence. On 3 September 1993, the Government announced the establishment of security zones in the worst hit areas around Molo, Londiani and Burnt Forest. Human rights groups and opposition parties complained that these regulations gave too much power to the security forces. However, at the end of 1993 there were no reports that this new authority had been grossly abused. [1][14][19][21][22][66][77]

5.29 Tribal clashes which occurred in the first half of 1993, described by church organisations as the most serious since independence, were most acute in the Rift Valley and on the borders of the land occupied by the Massai and the Kikuyu tribes. In May, during serious riots and clashes with the police in Nakuru, the capital of the Rift Valley province, a number of prominent opposition MPs were arrested. The rapid escalation in violence prompted a group of opposition MPs to call on the UN to intervene. Kalenjin leaders from the Rift Valley meanwhile, whilst themselves allegedly conniving in the dispossession of Kikuyu farms, warned the Kikuyu not to create conflict. Foreign observers who toured the Rift Valley in mid-1993 accused the government of failing to contain the fighting and of pursuing a policy of ‘ethnic cleansing’. President Moi sealed off part of the Rift Valley in September 1993, ostensibly to prevent further hostilities, although the opposition claimed that his real aim was to suppress criticism of the government. In October 1993 some 500 Massai fighters killed a number of Kikuyu who had taken refuge in churches near Nanok. Church sources accused government troops of involvement in the violence. At the end of October 1993, after three attacks on police stations in different parts of the country, President Moi accused his opponents of fomenting a civil war and gave the police wide-ranging powers to respond to the spiralling violence. Although most of the raids were by Kikuyu, one raid on a police base near Nairobi was carried out by Massai. Five

prominent Kikuyu who were arrested in connection with the other raids included the human rights activist Kiogi Wa Wamwere who had been released earlier in 1993 following his arrest on charges of treason. [\(See section on Prominent People\)](#). [65]

5.30 William ole Ntimama, the minister of local government, openly supported the Massai in their conflict with the Kikuyu and became increasingly active both as a champion of his own Massai people and as a defender of the government position. Mr ole Ntimama himself a Massai, argued that with the introduction of multi-party system, the survival of the smaller ethnic groups has been threatened and that “*majimboism*” (federal government or regional autonomy) was “the only way out to safeguard the interests of smaller tribes and check colonisation and oppression experienced” in the Rift Valley at that time. (If implemented, *majimboism* would mean the expulsion of millions of members of other ethnic groups who have settled there since the 1920s and who have legally purchased land since the 1950s). With increasing frequency, Mr ole Ntimama and other Kalenjin and Massai KANU politicians referred to Kikuyus and others as “aliens” and “foreigners” in the Rift Valley as opposed to “natives” or “original inhabitants”. Critics however, including opposition MPs and twelve Roman Catholic bishops, blamed the government for the tribal conflicts. The international human rights organisation Africa Watch claimed that the ethnic violence had been deliberately exploited by President Moi and his associates in order to undermine the move towards political pluralism. The organisation estimated that 1,500 people had been killed and 300,000 displaced since the clashes began. [21][65]

5.31 Human Rights Watch / Africa Watch concludes that the Moi government has benefitted economically and politically from the violence. The government has been able to generate continued Kalenjin support and has destabilised areas where the political opposition would have been able to garner considerable political support. The report also claimed that the ethnic violence was gradually transforming the Rift Valley Province into a Kalenjin land-owning area. This has significant political implications as the Rift Valley Province is Kenya’s most fertile area and is allocated the largest number of seats in Parliament. [21]

5.32 In 1994 violent clashes involving several ethnic groups occurred, albeit less frequently than in 1993. Massais forcibly evicted Kikuyus from Enosupukia in the Narok district of the Rift Valley. Kikuyu farms were attacked, villagers killed and property confiscated. The displaced Kikuyus sought refuge in camps in Maela. On several occasions Government officials made inciting statements which targeted particular ethnic groups and exacerbated ethnic tensions. Security zone regulations continued to control access to the affected areas. In early 1994 however, the authorities had allowed NGOs working under the UN Development Program (UNDP), the Displaced Peoples Program and diplomatic observers access to the zones, and media representatives were permitted to accompany some officials who visited the areas. UNDP's Rogge report, published in September 1994, noted that the Government had made an effort to reduce tensions and to resettle those displaced. In October 1994 President Moi instructed the Rift Valley local administration to resettle displaced persons resident in the camps in Maela. However, local officials proved incapable or unwilling to carry this out, relocating only 200 families to unproductive land, where no resettlement assistance was provided. On 24 December 1994 officials dismantled the Maela camps, without first informing the UNDP, leaving the residents to fend for themselves. Both Amnesty International and Africa Watch state that the Report of the Parliamentary Select Committee to investigate Ethnic Clashes in Western and Other parts of Kenya (September 1992) and the NCKK report "The Cursed Arrow" (April

1992), proved the involvement of high-ranking government officials in the 1991 to 1994 clashes. In October 1998, the Justice and Peace Commission announced that eighty-eight families displaced during the 1992-93 tribal clashes would be settled in Molo and Lare as the second phase of the UNDP began. [1][15][23b][32p]

5.33 January 1995 saw a number of incidents of ethnic violence. Kipsigi tribes people attacked a displaced persons camp in Thessalia; on 11 January 1995, 10 people were killed in clashes in Longonot, and on 12 January an NCKK camp in Eldoret was raided by Administrative Policemen (AP's) who moved 65 families on. The former residents of the Maela camps also reported harassment by AP's who visited them during the night. They also alleged relief support was prevented from reaching those affected. Many of the displaced remained in the area throughout the year. The remainder of 1995 was conspicuously free of ethnic clashes anywhere in the country; however, 70,000 of the estimated 250,000 originally displaced were still in need of assistance. A number of relief agencies and church organisations were able to work with the displaced without encountering Government interference. [6][14][19][23b]

5.34 Whilst the behaviour of some KANU politicians contributed to the serious problems of 1992-93, the Kenyan Government itself, did not condone the clashes and had no wish to see them perpetuated. The security zones created to restore order were eventually lifted in March 1995 with no resumption of fighting. There have occasionally since, been a number of isolated incidents of inter-communal violence. In November 1995 Luo and Nubian youths clashed in the Kibera slum district of Nairobi, while in February 1996 there were reported clashes between Luo and Kisii tribes' people. Locals reported that the attack was triggered by the murder of a Kisii, which prompted a revenge attack on the Luo community. President Moi has repeatedly condemned inter-tribal violence and has told Kenya's ethnic communities that they should live together in harmony. [19][22][23b][26]

5.35 On 13 August 1997, heavily armed attackers killed six policemen and seven civilians in an attack on Likoni police station. There was no immediate evidence of any directly political motive although pre-election tensions were high ([see paragraphs 5.36 & 5.38](#)). A major security operation was launched to find the attackers. The coast was affected by further civil disturbances which by September 1997 had left nearly 100 people dead and many thousands displaced ([see paragraph 5.65](#)). [30e][46]

5.36 On 21 August 1997 a Kenyan High Court charged 62 suspects with robbery and violence in connection with the Likoni raid while the authorities' security operation to counter the violence resulted in at least 410 arrests. Among those arrested were a number of key local KANU activists, supporting allegations that local KANU factions were somehow involved in the attacks. The attacks were directed at members of non-indigenous "up country" tribes who were considered to be pro-opposition. Thirteen police officers were killed in two attacks in September 1997 allegedly by ethnic Somali bandits, in the Garissa district, North Eastern Province. [30c][30d][30f][32n]

5.37 An article published on 20 November 1997 by Amnesty International claimed that the December 1997 Presidential and Parliamentary elections would be nothing but a sham unless the Kenyan Government stops intimidating its opponents or using violence to disrupt political rallies. Human rights violations had already occurred in the run-up to the elections: pro-democracy rallies were violently disrupted and at least nine people killed and hundreds injured.

There were reports of intimidation and torture by police. On Thursday 18 December 1997 following ethnic clashes, President Moi declared the Trans Mara area of south-west Kenya a security zone. He also outlawed campaigning by non-residents of the area. The election campaign closed on Sunday 28 December 1997 with reports of three murders in the south-west, breaking a national pattern of relative peace on the eve of the polls on 29 December 1997. Hours after police commissioner, Duncan Wachira said his force had been deployed across the country to prevent violence, local police in Kisii said ethnic clashes linked to the elections had claimed more victims. A full Judicial Commission of Inquiry looked into the ethnic clashes in Kenya in 1992 and again in 1998. [See section 5.40](#). [30y][30z][32cw][67]

Recent Ethnic Violence

5.38 Renewed violence occurred in January and February 1998 mainly in the Laikipia and Nakuru district of the Rift Valley Province. Violence initially broke out in Laikipia district and then spread to Njoro. Armed groups of Kalenjin attacked ethnic Kikuyu residents in night raids, raping and hacking with machetes, or killing with firearms, before looting and burning homes. In retaliation, members of the Kikuyu community attacked and virtually wiped out a Kalenjin community at Naishe (Lare) slaughtering men, women, and children. Calm was eventually restored to the area. There were also reports of killings in western Kenya in the Homa Bay and border districts. The clashes, predominantly between the Kikuyu and Kalenjin tribespeople, resulted in the deaths of approximately 120 people. Thousands of people fled the area and took refuge in Nyeri. The Government condemned the violence and took steps to curb the clashes and a curfew between the hours of 9pm and 6am was imposed in Nakuru's urban districts on 5 February 1998, which lasted until 4 March 1998. Police arrested 64 suspects, some of whom appeared in court facing charges related to violence. The Government launched an enquiry into the troubles and began to resettle some of the displaced. A number of politicians were interrogated in connection with the clashes. MPs from the various communities within western Kenya established committees to identify the root causes of the clashes. [10][12][17][33e][34d][34e][48b]

5.39 The Commissioner of Police, Duncan Wachira, released a report into the violence in March 1998. Amnesty International also published a report concerning the violence in June 1998 entitled "Kenya: Political violence spirals". They stated that the violence in the aftermath of the December 1997 elections, followed a similar pattern to the violence that occurred in the run up to the 1992 elections. The difference between the two being that the most recent violence occurred after the elections and for the first time the Kikuyu community retaliated in an organised fashion. Amnesty criticised the Government for failing to provide sufficient security in the area affected, which they stated "implies" complicity. They also urged the Kenyan Government to investigate all extrajudicial killings since December 1997. As in the case of the ethnic violence in the Rift Valley in 1991-93 and on the coast in August 1997, there were credible charges of involvement by local politicians belonging to both KANU and the opposition in the January 1998 clashes. There is no compelling evidence to support charges that the Government itself instigated the violence; however, the Government response to the clashes was slow, inefficient and insufficient once they had started. [10][17][32a][34e]

5.40 In April 1998 Parliament passed an opposition motion to establish a truth and reconciliation commission to investigate the ethnic clashes. On 1 July 1998 President Moi appointed a Judicial Commission of Inquiry to look into the tribal clashes between 1992 and

1998. He named a Ghanaian born Kenyan Appeals Court Judge, Justice Akilano Molade Akiwumi, as the Commission's chairman. The appointment of the Commission was received with scepticism in certain quarters, however, on 14 July 1998 the three appointed judges were sworn in. The Commission was welcomed by the NCCCK. The Commission was held in public and heard evidence from all quarters, including accusations against senior politicians. Details of the inquiries' hearings were published verbatim in the press. The Commission was given the freedom to list down people who in the course of the public hearings were found to have been behind the clashes. Key churches and NGO's claim that a number of witnesses were prevented from testifying, especially after, half way through the investigation, the Government replaced the Commission's aggressive prosecutor John Nyagah Gacivih with the more pro-government Deputy Attorney General, Bernard Chunga. Following this change the Commission were also less vigorous in calling witnesses to testify about the role of government officials in instigating and allowing ethnic violence. The Akiwumi commission was due to present its findings by the end of 1998 but continued to hear evidence throughout 1999 finally winding up on 11 June 1999. According to their terms of reference, the Commission was required at the conclusion of its work, to make recommendations on individuals who ought to be prosecuted in connection with the clashes. The Commission submitted its report to President Moi in August 1999 since when the Government has neither released the report or announced it is taking any formal action on it's findings. On 9 March 2000 the High Court directed that the Attorney General be served with an application involving a suit in which the Law Society of Kenya wants the government compelled to release the findings of the Akiwumi Commission. The government still had not released the report by the end of 2000. [2][12][32c][32f][32m][32n][32bd][32cs]

5.41 In February 1999 twelve people were killed, among them seven policemen, in a fierce gun battle with armed bandits in the Dujis area of North Eastern province. The bandits attacked a passenger bus killing several people including a police inspector. Some policemen were killed when a vehicle belonging to OXFAM, which they were escorting, was also attacked by the bandits. Eight people were also killed in fresh ethnic clashes, which erupted in the western part of Kenya in Narok, Rift Valley province. The four-day skirmishes erupted between the Maasai and Kipsigi (a sub-ethnic group of the Kalenjin's). On 16-17 October 1999, 2 people were killed and others were seriously injured in a series of clashes that followed the distribution of leaflets warning upcountry people to leave the Coast Province. A gang of 20-30 men who reportedly called themselves Kaya Bombo attacked people in Mishomoroni, Mugongeni, Kisimani and Mwandoni. The authorities moved quickly to reassure residents that the attack was not a repeat of the violence that engulfed the Likoni area prior to the 1997 elections. Mombasa police reported 54 arrests in a crackdown that immediately followed the raids. A district official denied that the raids were tribal or politically motivated. In late October 1999, four people were charged with violent robbery following a renewed spate of violence in the coastal town of Kisauni. [32ch][32ci][35d]

5.42 In January 2000 President Moi announced that additional security forces would be deployed to patrol major roads in Laikipia (Rift Valley Province) and try and find a solution to rising crime there and in Nyandarua. The initiative was designed to stop a resurgence of ethnic fighting in an area where 110 people had died during the previous year at the hands of marauding thugs. Moi's announcement shortly followed official opposition leader Mwai Kibaki's accusation that the government had failed to protect its citizens since it was told about the gang more than a year previously. Mr Kibaki claimed that only Kikuyu's had been targeted. On 27 January 2000 a three-day mediation meeting of leaders from different ethnic communities

was held in an attempt to resolve conflict in the region. Also, at the end of January 2000 an operation to ensure that herdsmen from the neighbouring districts commenced. This initiative was also designed to reduce ethnic tension after the herdsmen from Isiolo and Samburu moved in to Laikipia with thousands of their cattle due to the drought. A report on 2 June 2000, said that the situation in Laikipia had become extremely grave with herdsmen driving their animals to large tracts of pasture, where there is till grass, that belonged to specific individuals. In the report four politicians, Juja's Stephen Ndicho, Kabete's Paul Muite, Sotok's Anthony Kimetto and Cabinet Minister Shariff Nassir, were accused of equating this situation with the conflagration in Zimbabwe over land and thus inciting landless people to invade other people's lands especially those belonging to whites. In a separate report, on the same day, President Moi made a plea to Kenyans not to move their stock onto anyone else's farm and singled out Stephen Ndicho for condemnation, saying his plea to Kenyans to copy Zimbabwe-style invasions by war veterans was politics of hatred and division. [32ac][32an][33d][43e][43f]

Cattle Rustling Related Violence

5.43 Attacks and revenge counter-attacks, continued between Pokots and Marakwets. Between Pokots and Turkanas, between Turkanas and Samburus, between Luos and Kisiis, between Boranas and Somalis and among various other Somali clans. During 2000 these attacks resulted in an average of 75 to 100 deaths per month. Many factors contributed to these conflicts, including the proliferation of guns, the commercialism of traditional cattle-rustling, the weakening of state authority, the emergence of local militia leaders, shrinking economic prospects for affected groups, a regional drought and the inability or unwillingness of the security forces to stem the violence. In April 2000, 400 hundred armed men attacked a Somali clan in Isiolo District, between 20 to 40 people were reportedly killed. Twenty-seven people were killed, in April 2000, when 500 Pokot raiders attacked a Turkana village near Baragoi. There were reportedly 23 people killed during the fighting. In June 2000, Pokot gangsters raided a Marakwet village leaving 10 people dead and several others reportedly were missing following the fighting. During the week of 27 June 2000, five people were killed when disputes resurfaced over the ownership of a plot of land along the common border between Gucha and Migori districts in the Western Province. Riots broke out in a suburb of Nairobi between Muslims and slum dwellers fighting over land rights. There were up to 4 people reported to have been injured. A number of shops were set on fire as well as a hotel, a mosque and two churches. In March 2001, 40 people were killed in clashes between cattle herders from Pokot and Marakwet districts. The raid by the Pokot group lasted 3 hours and also left people wounded, houses burnt down and livestock stolen. [2][49f][49g]

Kenyan Asians

5.44 The Asian community comprises between 0.5% and 1% of the population and includes second and third generation Asians with full citizenship as well as a smaller body of recent immigrants. There continues to be tensions between Asian Kenyans and black Kenyans, who see the formers' affluence and seeming reluctance to assimilate African culture and employ black Kenyans, particularly in managerial positions, as a problem. The involvement of some Asians in corrupt activities with government officials has further fuelled popular resentment. Politicians, both opposition and KANU, from time to time appeal to the majority prejudices by attacking

Asian Kenyans, accusing them of exploiting and usurping the natural inheritance of African Kenyans. Chenge Mbitiru, Democratic Party MP from Laikipia West, has called Asians “the greatest economic enemies” of the country. In early September 2000, he called for “Kenyans” to isolate “Asians” unless the government acts to constrain them. The MP reportedly said that President Moi should consider expelling Asians “or allow the Kenyan people to force them to leave through mass action”. On 2 June 2000 President Moi appointed Africa’s first woman judge of Asian origin. [2][43d]

5.45 There have been reports of the Asian community being threatened or coming under attack by groups of African Kenyans; however, President Moi has made it clear that threats to any individual community were unacceptable, and that the police will take action to protect all and maintain the law. On closer inspection very few of the attacks turned out to be politically motivated and were regarded as acts of common criminality. Such crimes have become common occurrences and Asians, who are commonly believed to keep money and valuables in their homes, are popular targets. However, such burglaries are by no means restricted to Asians or Asian households nor is there any evidence that the Asian community is at any greater risk than other ethnic communities who are perceived to be well off (including Europeans and black Africans themselves). There is one Asian Member of Parliament. [2][23a][23g][48a]

Ethnic Somalis

5.46 The Kenyan authorities have targeted Kenya's indigenous ethnic Somalis as the only ethnic group required to carry an additional form of ID to prove their citizenship. The continued presence of large numbers of Somali refugees in Kenya (approximately 80% of Kenya's refugee population) has further exacerbated the problems faced by Kenyan Somalis. However, there were prior to the 1997 elections, 14 Somali MPs and Somalis are also represented in the Cabinet. Since June 1999, seven people were killed during fighting between members of the Abduwak and Auliyen clans of the Somali ethnic group just west of Garissa. In August 1999 fighting between the same two clans reportedly marred county council elections in Garissa County, some deaths were reported following clashes. Worsening gun violence between the clans led to a partial curfew being imposed in Garissa from 13-20 December 1999. During the curfew the General Service Unit of the police force arrested several people violators. When announcing the lifting of the curfew, the Provincial Commissioner said it had achieved its intended goals of restoring peace. In January 2000, four people were killed in central division of Isiolo District after fighting erupted between Degodia and Ajuran (Somali) clans. The District MP, Mr John Chege confirmed that 2 people were killed on 16 January 2000 while others were shot dead on 18 January 2000. He appealed to clan elders to urgently convene a peace meeting to resolve the problem. [2][20][23d][30r][33i][35g]

The Safina Party

5.47 In May 1995 several opposition activists including Gitobu Imanyara, a former Secretary-General of FORD-Kenya, and Paul Muite MP, an influential human rights lawyer, announced the formation of a new political grouping, Safina (the Swahili term for 'Noah's Ark'). Dr Richard Leakey was appointed as the group's Secretary General. Safina's primary aims were to combat

corruption, human rights abuse and introduce an electoral system of proportional representation. In June 1995 Safina submitted a formal application for registration. The official response to this new grouping was hostile. Following constitutional reforms in September 1997 Safina were finally registered on 26 November 1997, a month later than several other political parties obtained their registrations. Prior to November 1997, Safina had no branch offices or ordinary mass membership in Kenya, with its leadership stating that these would come after registration. However, it was not an illegal organisation, nor had it been refused registration. It was rather left in legislative limbo - essentially for political reasons. [1][23c][30h]

5.48 Prior to registration, Safina had a functioning secretariat, which focused its attention on research and policy issues. On occasions, people described as " Safina activists " were arrested. However, such individuals were not necessarily known to the group's leadership, and there is no evidence to suggest that anyone was arrested or detained solely on the grounds of being in Safina. There have been instances of people being arrested in the context of other political activities e.g. participating in unlicensed meetings, which the police do from time to time break up, and they have then claimed allegiance to the grouping. Safina's leadership at this time consisted of a small number of prominent lawyers, three serving MP's and a prominent human rights activist. Whilst these individuals experienced varying degrees of harassment by the authorities they remained public figures whose views and political activities were widely known to the newspaper-reading public in Kenya. Safina's leadership never claimed that they, or their ordinary supporters, were being persecuted, harmed or detained. [1][23c][30h]

5.49 Safina gained 6 seats in the 1997 elections, including one, which was allocated by the Electoral Commission. Richard Leakey was nominated as the MP to take up the allocated seat, but he has since resigned and is now head of the Civil Service ([see paragraph 4.10](#)). [1][23e]

Islamic Party of Kenya (IPK)

5.50 In the run up to the 1992 elections political parties which were religiously or ethnically based were not allowed to register, so preventing the registration of the Islamic Party of Kenya (IPK). Among the reasons given for the Attorney General's decision to refuse the party registration was that non-discrimination was one of the basic principles of the Kenyan constitution. It was argued that the IPK did not represent a cross section of Kenyan opinion, and that the party's ideology was based on a religious platform, which by its very nature is discriminatory. In response to this decision overzealous supporters of the IPK were involved in serious civil disturbances and periodic rioting. [18]

5.51 The IPK's more militant supporters were also affected by the presence of Sheikh Khalid Balala, the IPK's spiritual leader. His fiery rhetoric played on the Muslim community's sense of being a politically and economically "disadvantaged" grouping. Balala's clashes with the authorities, over treason charges, and a "fatwa" he decreed in 1993 against a KANU leader in Mombasa, elevated his position within the IPK. The IPK politically aligned itself with the FORD-Kenya party in the general elections and helped it to win two parliamentary seats in Mombasa. In December 1993 Professor Mzee, an avowed IPK sympathiser, was elected in the Kisauni parliamentary seat in Mombasa. [18]

5.52 Towards the end of 1993 clashes frequently occurred between IPK supporters and members of a rival Muslim faction the United Muslims of Africa (UMA). This was largely internecine squabbling at a local political level; however, it was alleged that the UMA had heavy government backing. The UMA was virtually dissolved by February 1994. There was no evidence that this wrangling among Muslim groups, was sponsored by the government, neither was there evidence of illegal activity against Muslim activists by the authorities. Those involved in unlawful activities or violence ran the risk of arrest for criminal behaviour. There have been reports that the police were sometimes heavy handed in dealing with demonstrations by Muslim activists, but that was also true of all their dealings with public order problems. There were cases of harassment and ill-treatment of IPK activists but the decrease in popularity of the organisation since 1997 has meant that there is no evidence that IPK supporters or activists draw much attention or are intimidated today. No IPK activists, brought before the courts for public order offences, were treated any differently from other people facing similar criminal charges. In the wake of the terrorist bombing of the US Embassy in Nairobi ([see paragraph 5.69](#)) several non-governmental organisations (NGOs), including five Muslim NGOs, were deregistered by the Government, which prompted mass demonstrations by the Muslim community. President Moi stated he would set up a committee to examine Muslim grievances. [18][23f][24d][32i][32o]

5.53 In December 1994 the Kenyan authorities effectively stripped Balala of his Kenyan citizenship, when Kenyan Embassy officials in Bonn rejected his application for a passport extension. His absence from Kenya removed the leadership spark he provided which attracted many young disgruntled Muslims to the IPK movement. Balala remained stranded in Germany until July 1997 when the authorities granted him permission to return to Kenya. The Attorney General Amos Wako cited appeals from Balala's relatives and the Muslim community as the reason why they reversed their decision. Since returning to Kenya, on 12 July 1997, Balala has been free to speak to the press, address his supporters and move unmolested around Mombasa, having been granted a licence to hold a pro-reform meeting on 26 July 1997. He was arrested just prior to the 1997 elections, for inciting people not to vote, and again sometime in June 1998 on further charges of incitement, at which time he was remanded in custody for 10 weeks in Manyani Prison before being released on 21 August 1998. In the aftermath of the Nairobi bombings and the subsequent US air strikes, Sheikh Balala asked the US to exercise caution. Despite the 1997 legal reforms and subsequent registration of several political parties, the Government refused to reverse its 1994 decision to deny registration to the IPK on the grounds of the organisations involvement in violent confrontations with police during the pre-election riots in 1992 ([see paragraph 5.50 – 5.52](#)). [1][2][23f][30b][30g][32i]

MWAKENYA

5.54 In March 1986, it was revealed that several Kenyans had been detained under the provisions of the Public Security Act. During the ensuing 12 months, a conspiracy known as "Mwakenya" became a focal point of Kenyan politics. By early 1987 more than 100 people had been detained in connection with Mwakenya, some of them receiving lengthy prison sentences. Although the government may have over-reacted in its anxieties about Mwakenya, the movement none the less represented genuine undercurrents of discontent. Members of Mwakenya were at one time at risk of persecution. There is no evidence that it is operative in Kenya today. Individuals formerly associated with Mwakenya are now involved in mainstream politics. [24a][24b][24e]

February Eighteenth Movement/February Eighteenth Resistance Army (FEM/FERA)

5.55 During late 1994 to mid 1995 FERA was considered to be a major threat. On 3 February 1995 the Kenyan Government issued a statement accusing FEM/FERA of recruiting disaffected Kenyan youths and giving them military training to mount operations in Kenya including cattle rustling, arson, bank robberies and attacks on businessmen and the police. They alleged the movement was based in neighbouring Uganda and led by a Brigadier John Odongo. The scare over FEM/FERA activity in Western Province led the Kenyan authorities to charge a number of people with suspected membership of FEM. Charges against a number of defendants were later dropped, four were convicted and sentenced to between five and six years. A number of the FEM suspects later reported that they had experienced maltreatment, including torture, and had only signed confessions under duress. Membership of FEM/FERA has since receded. John Odongo and FERA Chairman Patrick Wangamati went into exile in Ghana. On 6 October 1997, Wangamati returned to Kenya. He was detained, held incommunicado and interrogated on his return, and was pardoned in December 1997. He announced publicly that FERA had been officially dissolved. Whilst there was a time when members and people associated with FERA were in considerable danger of persecution in Kenya, there is no evidence that this is still the case. [1][7][8][11a][24c][24e][24k][25][33b]

D. HUMAN RIGHTS: - OTHER ISSUES

Freedom of Assembly

5.56 The Constitution provides for freedom of assembly; however, the Government restricts that right in practice. The Public Order Act, which the Government used for many years to control public gatherings and to restrict this right, was amended in 1997. The requirement that public meetings be licensed was replaced by the less restricting requirement that organisers notify the local police in advance of planned public meetings. However, authorities continued to disrupt public demonstrations about which the organisers informed the police in advance; government officials claimed that the organisers lacked authorisation to hold public gatherings, whereas there no longer appeared to be any basis in domestic law for requiring specific authorisation. In August 2000, President Moi repeated his September 1999 statements that government officials should deny “permits” (for public demonstrations) to politicians who use rallies to abuse other leaders. [2]

5.57 Police forcibly disrupted public assemblies, including some political protest demonstrations. On 28 February 2000, police disrupted a public civic education play by a theatre group and arrested 7 members of the group and two persons from the audience on the pretext that they were holding an unlawful assembly and carrying offensive weapons, a common charge to harass meeting organisers and participants. The organisers argued that such charges were baseless as plays are not governed by the Public Order Act but by the Film and Stage Plays Act, which does not contain a prior notification clause. In December 2000, the persons arrested were acquitted and released. On 8 December 2000, President Moi ordered the police to prevent all future rallies by the Muungano wa Mageuzi (Movement for Change), an organisation backed by a coalition of both opposition and dissident KANU MPs and to cancel licenses that already

had been issued. President Moi said that licenses would only be issued to registered political parties, and that the Government would ban any “lobby groups, some religious organisations and non-governmental organisations whose aims and operations were sinister”. On 11 November 2000, police in Eldoret used teargas and batons to forcibly disperse a rally organised by the Mageuzi allegedly because the rally conflicted with another event and needed to be cancelled; several minor injuries were reported. On 9 December 2000, police in the Western Province set up road blocks to prevent MPs from attending a Mageuzi event in Busia and police forcibly dispersed the rally; six people were injured and several journalists were arrested and detained. On 12 December 2000, police used teargas and batons to prevent a Mageuzi rally at the Kamukunji Grounds in Nairobi; several people suffered minor injuries. Six opposition activists were arrested before police broke up the rally. Student protests and riots occurred frequently during 2000, and police forcibly dispersed several protests after they became violent. However, other assemblies disrupted by the police including some student and political protest demonstrations, were either non-violent or only became violent following police intervention. On 7 January 2001, a meeting held by the unregistered Mungiki sect was violently disrupted by police. The meeting began peacefully at Waithaka town but ended in chaos after police said the meeting was illegal [2][32cl][34p]

Freedom of Speech and of the Press

5.58 The Constitution provides for freedom of speech and the press, although the Government’s broad interpretation of colonial-era laws to restrict free expression. The Government continued to harass, beat and arrest elements of the media. The print media has been relatively independent for decades and since 1992 has multiplied and become more outspoken. In December 2000, the Management of the “Kenya Times” newspaper sacked 12 editorial staff for undisclosed reasons. The entire proof-reading section was also phased out in an unprecedented move. Photo-journalist John Osoro, who was serving a suspension, also had his services terminated. The move left the paper with only the news editor, Martin Massai, and his deputy, Kiprotich Mutai, together with 2 standby reporters. On 10 December 2000, police beat up a photo journalist working for “The People Daily” newspaper in Naivasha town, in the Rift Valley Province. The incident occurred moments before a meeting by the lobby group Mageuzi was due to start. Collins Kwayu was beaten up after he attempted to take photographs of heavily armed police officers in riot gear who were patrolling the town’s streets to ensure the group’s rally did not take place. Unlike in 1999 there were no reports that any publications were refused registration or forced to suspend publication due to government action. [2][35i][42a]

5.59 There was significant liberalisation of electronic media during 2000, particularly radio, television and the Internet. The developing regulatory framework for broadcast media allowed abuse and manipulation in the issuance, withholding and revoking of broadcast permits and frequencies. Kenya Broadcasting Corporation stations do not criticise the Government and give large share news time to government or KANU party functions and little coverage to opposition activities. In a report from the Kenyan newspaper “Daily Nation” website on 17 November 2000, the MP Kiraitu Murungi was critical of Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC). He said that in the 1997 general election, all parties signed the Inter-Party Parliamentary Group (IPPG) agreement, one of whose stipulations was that KBC would give each party equal air time. He went on to say that the KBC was created to help take care of the secular needs of all Kenyans whatever their religious affiliation, but it behaves as though it is a Christian mouthpiece. In April 2000, during a speech to Parliament, Julius Sunkuli, the Minister for State in the office of

the resident, criticised ethnic vernacular radio stations as being tribal and a detriment to national unity. In August 2000, President Moi's request that the Attorney General draft a law to force radio stations to broadcast only in English or Kiswahili. This drew a negative response from the public, which caused the Government intended to ban vernacular broadcast. No such law was implemented by the end of 2000. On 7 November 2000, a new KBC Kikuyu language radio station called Coro FM was launched. This new station came in the wake of the controversy sparked by President Moi when he proposed the ethnic broadcasting should be banned. The Government continued to delay action on a large number of radio and television license applications throughout most of 2000, reflecting the arbitrariness of the broadcast license process. [2][32cr][32cz]

5.60 The Government somewhat loosened its control over the electronic broadcast media in urban areas during 2000. This was particularly over radio, the principal news medium for most citizens. In 2000, there were 12 radio stations operating in Nairobi compared to 6 in Nairobi and one in Mombasa in 1999. The Kenya Television Network (KTN) is still owned by KANU supporters, airs news programs with more balanced political coverage. Stellavision is owned by KANU supporters and provides balanced coverage. In 2000, KTN and Stellavision both began broadcasting in Mombasa. Citizen Radio and TV news programs generally are objective. Family TV and Radio, a Christian broadcasting network, and Nation Television and Radio began broadcasting television and radio in the Nairobi metropolitan area in 1999. Nation Television began broadcasting in Mombasa in August 2000, providing independent media cover. [2]

5.61 Information, Transport and Communication has licensed a total of 12 television and 20 radio stations to date; however only 5 private television stations (KTN, Citizen, Family, Nation, and Stellavision) and 9 private radio stations (Citizen, Family, Sayare Rehema, Capital, Nation Radio, Kiss, Baraka, BBC Nairobi and BBC Mombasa) are fully operational. In 1999 Nation Media Group received authorisation for radio broadcasts in Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu and Nukuru and began radio and television transmission to Nairobi. Nation Media also sued the Government for permission to broadcast radio and television nationwide, but the case was still before the courts by the end of 2000. In 1998 the Ministry approved radio and television broadcast licenses for a Muslim group and a Christian group. In 1999 the Ministry of Information, Transport and Communication licensed an Islamic radio station and three Catholic television stations. On 26 May 2000 the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM) began test-running Iraq Radio Station, which provides information, educational programming and entertainment for Muslim audiences in Nairobi. [2]

Freedom of Religion

5.62 The Constitution provides for freedom of religion and the Government generally respects this right in practice; however, while groups were generally allowed to worship freely, on occasions the Government have interfered with other activities of religious groups. The Government requires all religious organisations to register. Once registered, religious organisations enjoy tax-free status and clergy are not subject to any duty on purchased goods. Some small splinter groups have found registration difficult due to their inability to define their status as more than an offshoot of a larger religious organisation. Religious organisations generally receive equal treatment from the Government. Traditional indigenous religious groups are permitted to register though many choose not to do so. The Government at times disrupted public meetings that religious groups organised or participated in for political reasons. On 10

June 1999, a demonstration arranged by Protestant, Catholic and Muslim organisations was violently disrupted ([see paragraph 4.22](#)). The Government did not grant registration to the Tent of the Living God, a small Kikuyu religious group banned during the single-party era; however with the arrival of a multiparty system in 1992, the Tent of the Living God has virtually disappeared. [2][3]

5.63 Despite legal reforms in 1997 and the subsequent registration of a large number political parties, the Government refused to reverse its 1994 denial of registration of the Islamic Party of Kenya (IPK) on the grounds that the IPK had been involved in a number of violent confrontations with the police in 1992 and because the party refused to drop the Islamic title from their name. Muslim leaders continued to charge that the Government is hostile towards Muslims. Muslims complain that non-Muslims receive preferential treatment when applying for proof of citizenship. According to Muslim leaders, government authorities more rigorously scrutinise the identification cards of persons with Muslim surnames and require them to present additional documentation of their citizenship. The Government has overwhelmingly singled out Muslim ethnic Somalis as the only group whose members are required to carry additional form of identification to prove that they are citizens. Foreign missionary groups of nearly every faith operate in Kenya. The Government generally has permitted them to assist the poor and found of schools and hospitals. The missionaries openly promote their religious beliefs and have encountered little resistance; however some missionary groups expressed concern following the 1999 release of the report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into Devil Worship. Purporting to practise witchcraft reportedly is a criminal offence under colonial-era laws; however, persons generally are prosecuted for this offence only in conjunction with some other offence, such as murder. [2]

5.64 The Mungiki order is an unregistered traditional religious group that rejects the trappings of Western culture. In early 2000 the order sometimes referred to as the Mungiki youth sect, was reported to have a membership of 300,000 based in the largely pro-opposition Kikuyu ethnic group. The Government have periodically arrested and briefly detained some Mungiki members. However, on 7 February 1999, 81 members of the order were arrested in Nakuru District and refused bail. The government accused the Mungiki members of requiring adherents to take illegal oaths against the Government, coercing females to undergo the practice of female genital mutilation ([see paragraph 5.20](#)), and coercing males to undergo circumcision rights. The 81 arrested were acquitted on 16 March 1999 after the prosecution failed to prove a case against them. There have been reports, denied by Mungiki, of women being grabbed off the streets and forcibly circumcised. During the 1997 elections there were fights between Mungiki members and the youth wing of KANU. Mungiki has grown rapidly since then and Kenyan political observers fear that the next bout of violence could be much worse. Some members of Mungiki also belong to MVUWA; a youth movement formed in January 2000 (see paragraph 4.27). Ndura Waruingi, the national co-ordinator of Mungiki is also a member of the MVUWA steering committee. [2][3][32j][32ax][32ca][32cq][54]

Freedom to Travel/Internal Flight

5.65 The Government does not restrict emigration or foreign travel. Civil servants and MP's must obtain government permission for international travel, which is routinely granted. Kenyans may freely travel within the country. Many of the rural residents in the Rift Valley who were displaced by the ethnic clashes in 1991-1993 remain displaced in urban areas. Some of the

several thousand people displaced by the Rift Valley clashes of 1998, and in the Pokot-Marakwet region during 1999, have not returned to their homes for fear of renewed violence. There are Kikuyu communities spread all around Kenya, and Kikuyus, who may have been displaced by ethnic clashes in the Rift Valley are able to freely travel to other parts of Kenya where they could integrate with other Kikuyu communities outside of the Rift Valley. [2][23h]

Mob violence

5.66 During 2000, mob violence increased, which observers believe may have been associated with a continuously high crime rate. According to the KHRC, 138 people were killed in mob violence during 2000 and the Government recorded 240 deaths due to mob violence. Human rights organisations attribute the high rate of mob violence to a lack of public confidence in the police and the judicial process. The great majority of mob violence victims, who died by lynching, beating or burning were persons suspected of criminal activities, including robbery, cattle rustling and membership of terror gangs. However, the social acceptability of mob violence also provided cover for personal vengeance under the guise of “mob justice”. Occasionally mobs killed members of their own community on suspicion that they practices witchcraft; however there are no known statistics about the number of deaths during 2000. [2]

Civil unrest

5.67 On 8 January 1999 security guards violently broke up a peaceful demonstration against the hand over of public land in Karura Forest. Greenbelt Movement leader Professor Wangari Maathai was beaten as about 20 protesters including MP's and journalists tried to plant seedlings on land cleared for development. Police at the scene did not intervene. The Attorney General, Amos Wako later apologised to Professor Maathai, and ordered a full investigation into the incident. Students were injured, including several that had to be hospitalised, during violent confrontations with the police at the forest on 30-31 January 1999. The University in Nairobi was closed indefinitely due to the rioting. Fourteen diplomatic missions said they were concerned at what they termed “the abuse of public assets”. Three Kenyan opposition MPs were arrested on 2 February 1999 and charged with inciting university students to riot after three days of protests about plans to build a luxury housing estate in the Karura forest on the outskirts of Nairobi. David Mwenje, James Orengo and Njehu Gatabaki were released on bail of 100,000 Kenya Shillings each. A report on 27 February 2000, stated that large areas of the Mount Kenya forest reserve had already been marked out as farmland as a 28-day excision notice issued by the Government expired on 26 February 2000. The Government plans to turn the 168,000 acres comprising 10% of total forest reserves in Kenya into settlements. The move has sparked countrywide condemnation, with the Parliamentary Environment Committee vowing to ensure that the planned excision was rescinded. [13c][13d][32ad][32cx][35b]

5.68 On 6 September 2000 fire broke out at Gikomba open-air market in Nairobi's eastern Kamukunji estate. This triggered protests among vendors who said that they suspected sabotage. At least two people were killed as the rioting broke out. The rioters tried to storm the Nairobi City Council headquarters. There were accusations that the local authorities are selling the market to developers, who might have hired arsonists to torch it to force the vendors out. The fire burnt down the whole market. This fire was the second at a major clothes market in the last eight days. Freemark clothes market in Nairobi burned down on 28 August 2000 and the traders

there also said the fire was started deliberately. At the end of January 2001, police detained more than 200 people after violent clashes erupted in the city centre of Nairobi. The riot followed a demonstration by more than 1000 street traders against the demolition of their market stalls by the city council earlier in the week. The violence continued for a second day when police fired live bullets and threw teargas canisters at the hawkers. About 150 suspects were arrested. [30x][32cy][49h][64]

National Security

5.69 In August 1998 a bomb placed next to the United States' (US) embassy exploded in central Nairobi killing 253 people and wounding more than 5,000. Two men were later arrested and charged in the US with murder. Six Muslim NGOs were deregistered in September 1998 with the government citing security concerns in the wake of the bombing. A further 11 were threatened with deregistration. In October 1998 the High Court suspended deregistration of 5 of the NGOs pending appeal. In December 1998, the NGO Co-ordination Board said it was in the process of reviewing the cases of all the NGOs, which were issued with notices of intended deregistration. The board said it was satisfied that two NGOs, namely the International Islamic Relief Organisation and Ibrahim bin Abdulaziz Al-Ibrahim Foundation, should continue with their operations. [11b][12][17][33h]

5.70 In July 1999 the Government put the Kenyan army on combat-ready alert following escalating insecurity along the country's borders with its Horn of Africa neighbours. The insecurity posed by remnants of the militia from Somalia and other neighbouring countries could not be taken for granted and a state of preparedness was needed to resist cross border incursions by hostile groups a State Minister announced on 4 July 1999. On 5 July 1999 and again on 22 August 1999, the Government closed the border with Somalia. Nighttime sweeps in urban areas were subsequently intensified in an effort to stem the influx of weapons, illegal goods and persons. Although the border remained officially closed at the end of 1999 many applicants for refugee status continued to enter the country from Somalia. In February 2000 security forces were placed on high alert after threats from Somali Patriotic Movement that they would attack Kenyan border settlements in search of Auliyahan militia. The Provincial Commissioner denied that Kenya was harbouring any Somali militia. [2][32r][39f]

Health Issues

5.71 About 1.9 million Kenyans are infected with HIV; of them 91,000 are children. Each day around 500 Kenyans die of AIDS, 80% of whom are between the ages of 15 and 49. In Nairobi, an estimated one in four workers is infected with HIV. At the end of 1997, Kenya's adult HIV prevalence rate was 11.64%; it is now about 14%. At least 49% of HIV-infected adults are women. Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) has been working with AIDS patients all over Kenya with programs based on reducing HIV transmission, home-based care for AIDS patients and work with local groups to develop income-generating activities. Teams train health workers and organise comprehensive care in patients' homes (in the Nairobi slum areas of Dandora and Kibera), Mbagathi Hospital and several health centres. MSF offers psychological support and social assistance, which sometimes means paying rent or school fees for family members of those with AIDS. At the end of November 2000 a representative of the German drug company Boeringer Ingelheim announced that they will be able to provide an anti-HIV drug free of charge

to pregnant women for 5 years. [39i][78][79]

5.72 At the end of November 2000, an HIV/AIDS syllabus and curriculum was launched in Kenyan schools to be introduced in 2001. In December 2000 the Kenyan Health Ministry set up a task force to regulate the prices of essential drugs so as to ensure access of basic medicines to people. The Kenyan Minister of Medical Service said that the high prices of the drugs was partly attributed by the high importer or producer prices. In September 2000, the British government announced that it will disburse 30bn shillings (US\$350 million) to help fight HIV/AIDS in Kenya. In January 2001, the American government allocated 1.6bn shillings for management of HIV/AIDS epidemic in Kenya. In December 2000, the World Bank announced that Kenya was to benefit from a 4bn shilling credit “to provide quality and effective care to most vulnerable population”. In February 2001, in what could become an important test for international law, an orphanage for HIV-positive children in Kenya announced that it will order AIDS drugs from Cipla, an Indian drug manufacturer supplying medication at an affordable rate. On 6 March 2001, The Kenyan Health Minister Sam Ongeru said that the appropriate legislation would be put to parliament shortly. The move is likely to infuriate international pharmaceutical companies who are already fighting a legal battle to stop South Africa from doing the same. In April 2001, the Health Minister Professor Sam Ongeru drafted a bill to legalise the import of cheap generic HIV/AIDS drugs. [32da][32db][39j][42c][47b][49i][49j][57d]

5.73 Medical treatment in Kenya is generally very good, as confirmed by the British High Commission in Nairobi, with many countries having their African Embassies there as well as various United Nations agencies and International companies. [80]

CHRONOLOGY.

- 1895** Kenya declared a British protectorate.
- 1902** White settlement encouraged in the central highlands.
- 1907** Legislative council established comprising mainly of European settlers.
- 1914** The 1,000 European landholders meet with significant African armed resistance.
- 1920** African political activity begins to organise particularly amongst the Kikuyu in Nairobi, and the Luo.
- 1925** Local native councils introduced.
- 1940s** White settler farmers achieve considerable prosperity.
- 1944** The Kenya African Union (KAU), an African nationalist organisation formed, demanding access to white-owned land.
- 1947** Jomo Kenyatta becomes President of KAU.
- 1952/6** Campaign of terrorism conducted by the Mau Mau, a predominantly Kikuyu secret society.
- 10/52** A state of emergency declared by the British authorities.
- 6/53** Kenyatta imprisoned for alleged involvement in Mau Mau activities, and the KAU is banned. All political activity is suspended until 1955. Despite the ban, two Luo political activists, Tom Mboya and Oginga Odinga come to prominence.
- 1957** African members elected to the legislative council on a limited franchise (60% adult African population). Mboya unofficial leader of these members, who refuse government posts and demand a universal adult suffrage.
- 1/60** The state of emergency is revoked. A transitional constitution drafted during January and February allowed Africans a large majority in the legislative council and legalised political parties. African members of the council subsequently formed the Kenya African National Union (KANU), with James Gichuru being elected as acting president of the party.
- 1961** General election; KANU candidates win a majority of the seats in the legislative council.
- 8/61** Kenyatta released from prison and assumes the presidency of KANU.
- 5/63** KANU wins a decisive victory in the general election.

- 6/63** Internal self-government begins. Kenyatta becomes Prime Minister.
- 12/63** Kenya becomes independent.
- 12/64** Kenya declared a republic. Kenyatta becomes President.
- 1965** Clear divisions within KANU appear between party's conservative wing, led by Mboya, and the radicals led by Odinga.
- 4/66** Odinga resigns as Vice-President.
- 1966** Oginga Odinga forms a new party, the Kenya People's Union (KPU), and accuses the government of furthering the interests of a small privileged class. Legislation requiring the 30 KPU members of the House of Representatives to contest by-elections is immediately approved; only nine members re-elected. Security legislation also enacted giving the Government powers of censorship and the right to hold suspects in detention without trial.
- 12/66** Kenya's two legislative chambers are amalgamated to form a unicameral national assembly.
- 1/67** Daniel Arap Moi becomes Vice-President.
- 7/69** Tom Mboya, Minister for Economic Planning, and Secretary-General of KANU, is assassinated by a Kikuyu. Luo demonstrations against Kenyatta follow. The KPU is banned, and Odinga detained.
- 12/69** Two-thirds of the KANU members of the National Assembly lose their seats in a general election.
- 1970s** Kenyatta becomes increasingly reclusive and autocratic.
- 9/74** Kenyatta is returned unopposed for a third five-year term.
- 8/78** President Kenyatta dies.
- 10/78** Daniel Arap Moi, a Kalenjin, takes over the Presidency. A programme is initiated to purge Kenya's corrupt bureaucracy.
- 12/78** All political detainees are released.
- 12/79** Despite Moi's emphasis on regional representation in his new government, Odinga and four other former KPU members are barred from participating in the general election. Student protests begin, with predominantly Luo participation, prompted by the KPU banning. Relations with the USA strengthen. US forces use Kenyan facilities.
- 1980** Moi succeeds in bringing Odinga, and his substantial following, back into KANU.

- Nevertheless, Odinga continues to attack the US military presence in Kenya, and denounces the Government's economic management.
- 4/80** Charles Njonjo resigns as Attorney General.
 - 6/80** Njonjo elected to the National Assembly, and later becomes Minister of Home and Constitutional Affairs.
 - 1980** A de-tribalisation drive commences. Virtually every Kenyan organisation title, which has tribal implications, is renamed.
 - 1981** Disagreements between Njonjo and Mwai Kibaki, the Vice-President, become unbridgeable; intense factional disputes develop between their supporters.
 - 2/82** Kibaki wins the power struggle and gains Njonjo's Home Affairs portfolio in a Cabinet reshuffle. Moi appears to become increasingly intolerant of criticism.
 - 5/82** Odinga and another former MP are expelled from KANU for advocating the formation of another political party.
 - 6/82** Kenya constitutionally becomes a one-party state.
 - 8/82** An attempted coup takes place, following a series of political detentions and increased press censorship. Several hundred people are killed.
 - 9/84** In an attempt to reduce corruption and increase discipline within KANU and the civil service, Moi directs that all civil servants must be members of KANU.
 - 1986/7** The Government acts to suppress an unofficial left-wing opposition group known as Mwakenya (the Union of Nationalists to Liberate Kenya). By early 1987, more than 100 people, mainly University teachers, students and journalists, have been arrested in connection with the group's activities.
 - 8/86** KANU approves an open 'queue-voting' system to replace the secret ballot in the preliminary stages of a general election. The new system is opposed by church leaders, civil servants, and others, whose political impartiality is necessary for their work.
 - 12/86** The National Assembly adopts constitutional amendments that increase the power of the President by transferring control of the civil service to the President's office, and reducing the independence of the judiciary.
 - 6/87** It is announced that only members of KANU are entitled to vote during the preliminary stages of a general election.
 - 7/87** Amnesty International publish allegations that Kenyan political detainees are tortured and two have died in custody.
 - 2/88** Moi is nominated unopposed to serve a third term as President.

- 3/88** In an extensive cabinet reshuffle following a general election, Joseph Karanja replaces Mwai Kibaki as Vice-President.
- 7/88** The National assembly adopts constitutional amendments allowing the President to dismiss senior judges at will, and increasing the legal permissible period of detention without trial from 24 hours to 14 days, for persons suspected of committing capital offences. The measures lead to an intensification of criticism of the Government's human rights record.
- 9/88** Elections take place for the leadership of KANU.
- 12/88** Kenneth Matiba, Minister of Transport and Communications resigns and is expelled from KANU after criticising the conduct of the party elections.
- 4/89** The National Assembly unanimously approve a motion of 'no confidence' in Karanja, after allegations that he abused his position as Vice-President to further personal and tribal interests. Karanja denies the allegations but resigns shortly after. Prof. George Saitoti becomes Vice-President.
- 6/89** Moi releases all political prisoners held without trial, and offers an amnesty to exiled dissidents. Allegations continue to be made regarding convicted political prisoners given unfair trials.
- 2/90** Dr Robert Ouko, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, dies in suspicious circumstances. Allegations that the Moi administration is implicated in his death lead to anti-Government riots in Nairobi and Kisumu. In response, Moi bans all demonstrations and asks the British police to investigate Ouko's death.
- 5/90** A broad alliance of intellectuals, lawyers and clergy, under the leadership of Matiba, begin to exert pressure on the Government to legalise political opposition to KANU.
- 7/90** Moi orders the arrests of Matiba and other prominent leaders of the alliance. Serious rioting follows in Nairobi and its environs. More than 20 people are killed, and 1,000 arrested.
- 8/90** An Anglican bishop, who publicly criticised the Government, dies in a car crash, after threats to his life by members of the Cabinet; the most senior of these, Peter Okondo subsequently resigns as Minister of Labour. The Government orders an inquest into the bishop's death.
- 9/90** The British police report their findings to the Kenyan authorities re Ouko's death.
- 10/90** Moi orders a judicial inquiry into the affair.
- 11/90** Amnesty International report that several hundred rioters remain in prison after the July riots. Allegations of torture are made.

- 12/90** KANU abolishes the system of 'queue-voting' after consideration of the findings of a political review committee who had tested public opinion, and resolves to cease expelling party members.
- 1/91** KANU agrees to readmit 31 expelled members.
- 6/91** Matiba is released from prison, apparently on the grounds of ill health.
- 7/91** Four of those detained in the July 1990 riots are found guilty of sedition and each sentenced to 7 years imprisonment. Africa Watch, a human rights organisation, publishes allegations that the Government is permitting the torture of detainees, and exerting undue influence on the judiciary.
- 8/91** Six opposition leaders, including Oginga Odinga, form a new political movement, the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy (FORD). The Government immediately outlaws the group, but it continues to operate.
- 9/91** The judicial inquiry into the death of Ouko is presented with evidence that he was murdered.
- 11/91** Moi dismisses Nicholas Biwott, the Minister of Industry, in response to widespread suspicion that Biwott had been implicated in Ouko's assassination. Shortly after the judicial inquiry is dissolved. Several members of FORD are arrested prior to a planned pro-democracy rally in Nairobi. Protesters at the rally are dispersed by security forces. The Kenyan authorities are condemned internationally for suppressing the demonstration, and most of the detained opposition activists are subsequently released. Creditors suspend aid to Kenya indefinitely pending the acceleration of both economic and political reforms; donors particularly emphasise a desirable improvement in Kenya's human rights record.
- 12/91** A special conference of KANU delegates, chaired by Moi, accede to domestic and international pressure for reform, and resolve to permit a multi-party political system. The National Assembly subsequently endorses appropriate amendments to the Constitution. Moi dismisses Peter Oloo Aringo, the Minister of Manpower Development and Employment, after criticism of the Government; Aringo resigns as Chairman of KANU. Later in the month Mwai Kibaki resigns as Minister of Health, in protest of alleged electoral malpractice and the unsatisfactory outcome of the judicial inquiry into Ouko's death. Kibaki immediately founds the Democratic Party (DP), and five other ministers and deputy ministers resign their posts in the following weeks.
- 1992** Several new political parties are registered. In first half of year, some 2,000 people are reportedly killed in tribal clashes in western Kenya.
- 3/92** The Government bans all political rallies, purportedly in order to suppress the unrest. Restrictions are placed on the press.
- 4/92** Following a two-day general strike organised by FORD, the Government ends the ban on political rallies.

- 1992** FORD appears weakened by internal divisions.
- 8/92** FORD splits into two opposing factions.
- 10/92** FORD's two opposing factions register as separate political parties; FORD-Asili, led by Matiba, and FORD-Kenya, led by Odinga.
- 12/92** Multi-party Presidential and legislative elections take place. Prior to the elections opposition parties had protested that administrative and legal obstacles had disenfranchised some sectors of the electorate. Moi is elected to a fourth term in office winning 36.35% of vote. 100 of the 188 seats in the National Assembly are won by KANU. Votes are cast predominantly in accordance with ethnic affiliation. Opposition leaders allege gross electoral irregularities.
- 1993** Tribal clashes continue in the Western region.
- 1/93** A Commonwealth monitoring group, while accusing the Government of corruption, intimidation and incompetence, state the outcome of the elections reflected the will of the people.
- 2/93** The authorities impound copies of three anti-Government publications, amid allegations that they contain seditious material.
- 4/93** Four opposition members arrested and charged with participating in an illegal demonstration.
- 5/93** A general strike is co-ordinated by the Central Organisation of Trade Unions (COTU) who demand wage increases for its members and the dismissal of Saitoti as Vice-President, and Minister of Planning and National Development; although some wage concessions made, the Secretary General of COTU is arrested and charged with inciting industrial unrest. During **May and June** a leader of the banned radical-fundamentalist Islamic Party of Kenya (IPK) is detained on three separate occasions and charged with sedition.
- 6/93** FORD-Kenya becomes the largest opposition party in the National Assembly, following the defection of a FORD-Asili representative to KANU.
- 9/93** Several hundred supporters of the IPK riot in Mombasa.
- 10/93** Tribal clashes escalate significantly.
- 11/93** Africa Watch reiterate persistent allegations by the opposition that the Government is covertly inciting ethnic violence in order to discredit the newly-introduced political pluralism. Several people are arrested and charged with co-ordinating the unrest. International donors agree to resume aid in response to the Government's progress in implementing reforms.

- 1/94** Oginga Odinga dies and is succeeded as the Chairman of FORD-Kenya by Michael Wamalwa Kijana.
- 2/94** A petition by Matiba, to challenge the validity of Moi's 1992 election as President, is rejected by the Court of Appeal.
- 6/94** Main opposition groups, excluding FORD-Asili, form a loose coalition, the United National Democratic Alliance (UNDA), in an attempt to gain a tactical advantage over the Government at future elections. UNDA was subsequently divided by disagreements. Disunity is also evident within both factions of FORD.
- 1994** University staff and employees in the public sector strike in protest at the Government's refusal to recognise their respective trade unions, and to grant better conditions of employment. Many strikers are dismissed.
- 7/94** A suspect, charged with the murder of Dr Robert Ouko, is acquitted.
- 11/94** A FORD-Kenya representative and the National Assembly's one independent member are found guilty of electoral malpractice during the 1992 elections and are retrospectively disqualified.
- 4/95** Kenya's Roman Catholic bishops publish a pastoral letter that accuses the Government of eroding the independence of the judiciary, condoning police brutality and endemic corruption.
- 5/95** Leading opposition activist's form a new political party, Safina, under the chairmanship of Mutari Kigano, a lawyer specialising in human rights cases. Dr Richard Leakey, a prominent white Kenyan, is appointed Safina's Secretary-General. The authorities reject Safina's application for official registration. Later in the month, Paul Muite and four other Safina members were detained overnight after visiting a site the authorities had declared legal. A legal case against them was subsequently dropped.
- 8/95** Police fail to protect Richard Leakey and a group of Safina people who were attacked by KANU supporters whilst on a visit to Nakuru. After official investigations three suspected participants in this attack were arrested and charged in September. A party including Paul Muite are stopped by uniformed personnel when they try to visit Koigi Wa Wamwere in prison.
- 10/95** Koigi Wa Wamwere, a founding member of Safina, is found guilty of attempted robbery and sentenced to 4 years imprisonment. Opposition members of the National Assembly denounce the trial.
- 11/95** An Opposition Alliance is established with Leakey as its co-ordinator. Factionalism within opposition parties continues to undermine efforts to present a cohesive challenge to Moi and KANU. Raila Odinga, son of Oginga Odinga, claims to have ousted Wamalwa as Chairman of FORD-Kenya. 5 Safina activists are arrested at Nairobi University following non-political student disturbances. The individuals involved (who were not senior members) are charged with incitement and released on bail.

- 12/95** Amnesty International allege the security forces are systematically torturing criminal suspects and opposition activists.
- 95-96** Several opposition politicians disaffected by internal rivalries defect to KANU. Rivalries also begin to emerge within KANU.
- 1/96** The Moi administration provisionally withdraws controversial draft legislation that would severely restrict the freedom of the press. A trip by Leakey to Mombasa to visit the site of a proposed Safina office is disrupted by a rowdy mob of local KANU supporters, who threaten and verbally abuse the Safina party. Two IPK activists, with Safina links, are arrested and released the following day without charge.
- 3/96** President Moi claims that student unrest at Egerton University is caused by Safina, as a part of its wider plan to cause chaos in the country.
- 4/96** A party congress of FORD-Kenya tries to reconcile the split factions, but ends in chaos as delegates attack the designated mediator and riot police intervene to restore order.
- 7/96** The Government inaugurates a human rights committee to investigate alleged humanitarian abuses by the authorities. Police in Nanyuki arrest Paul Muite and several other members of Safina when they attended a local volleyball contest; the police detain them for 2 hours. During July and September, Moi announces that constitutional reforms would not be considered prior to the next Presidential and legislative elections.
- 9/96** Justice Mochoye, a Safina activist is arrested along with 7 other people for holding an unlicensed meeting. At a public rally Moi pardons two self-confessed guerrillas who confessed to having been involved in an attempt to assassinate Moi, and other prominent Kenyans; also to have plotted to free Wamwere from prison. It is widely believed that the allegations have been fabricated in order to discredit the opposition.
- 10/96** The independent Kenya Human Rights Commission condemns Kenya's prisons as being the worst in the world.
- 11/96** Safina's Chairman Muturi Kigano, and a lawyer, narrowly avoid being assaulted by youths when they go to defend a Safina activist who is appearing at Nyambene courthouse.
- 12/96** Raila Odinga is reportedly expelled from FORD-Kenya; he claims to have resigned, and then joins the National Development Party. Wamwere is released on bail in order to seek medical attention abroad. African Rights claim Kenya's judicial system is corrupt.
- 1/97** Amnesty International allege the Government has failed to halt widespread torture. Considerable disquiet is provoked after Biwott, a principal suspect in the inquiry into Ouko's death, is re-appointed to the Cabinet.
- 2/97** Kenya becomes a signatory to the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment and Punishment. During a visit to Nyeri, Paul Muite,

- Kiraitu Murungi and a party of Safina supporters, are set upon by the police. Police deny beating the activists, in a statement issued by the District Commissioner of the Province. Nairobi University students' leader, Solomon Murili, dies in mysterious circumstances. Violent protests occur over his death. Opposition MPs call for an investigation into his death by British police. FORD-Asili MP Stephen Ndichu is jailed for 6 months for causing a disturbance and incitement in 1994.
- 3/97** Police arrest approximately 70 people for possession of offensive weapons during the parliamentary by-election, caused by the resignation of Raila Odinga from FORD-Kenya. Odinga retained his seat on behalf of his new party, the National Development Party. The Attorney General announces an inquest into the death of Solomon Murili. 100 people are killed in northern Kenya as fighting intensified between the security forces and bandits from Ethiopia.
- 4/97** Opposition leaders and NGOs convene a 4-day symposium on constitutional reform. Students protest at the killing of a 20 year old student by police. KANU criticise Odinga and Matiba for attempts to introduce tribal political parties. In return they accuse the police of brutality after several opposition politicians experience problems. FORD-Asili National Treasurer, Haroun Lempaka, defects to KANU. Koigi Wa Wamwere returns to Kenya to bury his father.
- 5/97** 1 person killed and 6 injured, as fighting breaks out at an illegal rally held by the National Convention Executive Council (NCEC). At least 77 people killed during clan violence, involving cattle rustling, in the Rift Valley. Kenya's Electoral Commission (KEC) sets dates for voters registration, and agrees to extend period after calls that 30 days is insufficient. 19 May, voters' registration begins. A new political party, Patriotic Pastoralist Alliance of Kenya, is formed. Security forces break up an illegal opposition rally, protesting for constitutional change. Violent unrest ensues.
- 6/97** 4 leading opposition parliamentarians are placed under house arrest for the duration of the President's annual speech in order to curb protests. Moi states there will be no constitutional changes before the elections. The unrest continues. FORD-Asili Chairman, Kenneth Matiba, quits parliament, and the party splits further. Further allegations of human rights abuses by Amnesty International are rejected by the authorities. Opposition MPs disrupt the Budget announcement on 19 June. Blows are exchanged between members and riot police seal off parliament. Police also clash with students demanding constitutional reform. Despite a boycott of the debate, the Budget is passed.
- 7/97** The opposition ends its boycott of Parliament. Riots prevail in Nairobi when students clash with police during a protest against the increase in fees. The NCEC call a rally to commemorate Saba Saba, which is declared illegal by the authorities. The rally, on 7 July, erupts into violence and rioting continues for several days, resulting in the deaths of 16 people, and the closure of the two universities in Nairobi. Several people are arrested during the violence. Sheikh Khalid Balala returns to Kenya. The President agrees to a dialogue with the opposition on reforms. Opposition parties are to be granted licences for rallies, which will now only be denied in exceptional circumstances. KANU agree to enact constitutional reforms prior to the elections.

- 8/97** A tough anti-corruption Bill is published in wake of the Goldenberg scandal, together with the Statute Law (Repeals and Miscellaneous Act) Bill 1997, which proposes to repeal the Vagrancy Act. Mid-August, serious violence erupts along the coastal area of Mombasa, initiated by an attack on a police station, during which 7 police officers are killed. Approximately 67 people are killed and 450 people arrested, including opposition politicians and two prominent members of KANU.
- 9/97** The violence in Mombasa continues. Police are deployed to block an NCEC rally early in the month. An Inter-Party Parliamentary Group Committee agrees on constitutional reforms. Amnesty International launch a campaign to improve Kenya's human rights record. Somali bandits attack Turkana district.
- 10/97** Six opposition MPs are arrested in order to stop a pro-reform rally. Teachers strike over pay. 10 new political parties are registered, 3 are rejected. Several Safina members are arrested at a gathering for a pro-reform rally. Skirmishes break out in Nairobi slums leaving one dead. A Government Minister and four others are charged with fraud. Civil servants receive a pay increase of 10%. Police fire shots and tear-gas to break up an opposition rally towards the end of the month.
- 10/97** Kenya passes the first Reform Bill, The Statute Law (Repeals and Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill. The Bill amends the Public Order Act, National Association act and the Kenya Broadcasting Act. 5 people are killed in clashes over land rights, between the Maasai and the Kisili.
- 10/97** Parliament passes The Constitution of Kenya Amendment Bill, which will allow for a coalition government and defines Kenya as a multi-party democratic state. President Moi appointed 10 new members to the Electoral commission, amongst whom, were members of the opposition
- 11/97** Both new Reform Bills receive presidential assent. On 10 November President Moi dissolved Parliament. Two days later the Electoral Commission announce that elections will be held on 29 December 1997. Seven opposition MPs leave FORD-Kenya for other parties. Koiga Wa Wamwere changes from Safina to NDA Kenda. Matiba announces that FORD-Asili will now be known as Saba-Saba Asili. Moi dismisses Amnesty International's allegation regarding intimidation of voters. An investigation is launched by police after Raila Odinga's motorcade is stoned. A new political movement is formed to agitate for genuine reforms, the African National Convention. FORD-Asili MP, Mary Warjiru joins KANU. 12 die in clashes between KANU factions. At end of the month nurses strike over pay. On 26 November, the Government allowed Safina to be registered.
- 12/97** The Chief Justice quashes Koiga Wa Wamwere's 4-year jail sentence. Explosions occur at a primary school when petrol bombs are thrown. 16 are arrested. Tribal clashes occur in western Kenya, the President declares the area a security zone. Police attack Presidential candidate Charity Ngilu's vehicle with tear gas. 29 December 1997, polls open amid chaos. Allegations of irregularities are made by both sides, that voting has been rigged. Voting extends into a second day.

- 1/98** Moi wins elections with 40% of the vote, and is sworn in on 5 January 1998. KANU take 113 seats to the opposition's 109. Safina gain 6 seats. Several opposition MPs are challenging the outcome through the courts. Renewed outbreak of ethnic violence in Rift Valley Province, leaves approximately 100 dead and thousands displaced. Violence is curbed by the end of the month.
- 1/98** Mwai Kibaki files a petition in the High Court against President Moi and the Electoral Commission.
- 2/98** Opposition MPs demonstrate at start of the first parliamentary session.
- 2/98** A curfew is imposed between 9pm and 6am in Nakuru District in order to quell further outbreaks of violence.
- 2/98** Bank workers began a strike, which ended on 6 March 1998
- 3/98** The KHRC, was amongst three NGOs, threatened with deregistration after the government warned them not to get involved with politics. A number of politicians were interrogated in connection with the ethnic clashes, which occurred at the beginning of the year. The Commissioner of Police released a report into the violence. Running battles took place in Nairobi between police and hawkers. The curfew is lifted in the Rift Valley. The NDP explains its co-operation with the ruling party.
- 3/98** The Goldenberg trial recommenced.
- 3/98** Police open fire on rioting students. Nairobi University is closed as a result.
- 3/98** The Presidential addresses the state opening of Parliament.
- 4/98** The Attorney General announced the members of the Constitutional Review Committee. The committee first met on 7 April 1998. Maalim Mohammed threatened to resign unless the government launched an enquiry into police torture. More ethnic fighting broke out in the north-west. Rioting took place in Nairobi following a battle between street children and a private security guard. A guard was stoned to death. A ground breaking economic forum was held in Mombasa attended by KANU MPs and 80 opposition members.
- 5/98** Rallies held in Kitale to discuss the insecurity in the area, were disrupted. A one month amnesty was announced for the surrender of illegal arms. The government renewed its diplomatic links with Libya.
- 6/98** 8,785 petty offenders were pardoned to mark the Madaraka Day celebrations. FORD-Kenya MP James Orenge threatened to disrupt the announcement of the budget. He lacked support from other opposition MPs and was thrown out of the parliamentary chamber. Amnesty International published a report on the ethnic clashes that occurred in the aftermath of the December 1997 elections. Three NGOs launched a report into the 1997 elections. President Moi announces the setting up of a judicial inquiry into the tribal

clashes. Divisions emerge within the NDP with the registration of the party's deputy leader. The SDP threatened to boycott the constitutional review talks in protest at the disruption of the rallies in Kitale.

- 7/98** Kenyan teachers threaten to go on strike over the government's refusal to implement the next phase of their pay deal. The introduction of a controversial education bill is suspended. Several top Treasury officials are arrested by the Director of the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority (KACA), John Harun Mwau. Less than 24 hours after their arrest the charges were dropped and Mwau and Finance Minister, Simeon Nyachae become embroiled in a verbal exchange. Mwau was later suspended and a tribunal was set up to investigate his performance. Three judges appointed to sit on the judicial inquiry into the ethnic clashes are sworn in. Hundreds of guns and ammunition are surrendered as part of a presidential amnesty. The government bans a magazine and two weekly newspapers, sparking off international criticism. Christians and Muslims joined together at a Peace Convention and adopted a national peace accord. Charles Njonjo returns to the political scene when he is appointed Chairman of the Kenya Wildlife Service Board. A High Court judge overturned the government's order to close four tabloids.
- 8/98** A terrorist bomb explodes next to the US Embassy in Nairobi, and five minutes later the US Embassy in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania is also hit by an explosion. The explosion in Nairobi destroys Ufundi House, next to the Embassy. More than 253 people are killed, including, 12 Americans. Thousands more are injured. An unknown terrorist organisation claims responsibility.
- 8/98** The terms of reference for the Constitutional Review Body are finally agreed. President Clinton vows to track down those responsible for the attacks. Osama Bin Laden, a Saudi born dissident is believed to have been involved. Two suspects arrested in the aftermath of the bombings were extradited to the USA to stand trial. One claimed that the explosives were brought in as part of a relief food consignment. In the wake of the bombings, eleven NGOs were de-registered by the government, sparking protests from the Muslim community. Cabinet Minister Maalim Mohammed threatened to resign unless the Kenyan government launched an inquiry into allegations of police torture. He was supported by 5 KANU MPs and 2 opposition members. America launches missile attacks on Bin Laden's camp in Afghanistan and a chemical factory in Khartoum, allegedly producing an element for use in chemical warfare, and linked to Bin Laden.
- 9/98** The Attorney General proposes the abolition of laws protecting the government and its organs in the administration of justice, and also says police will be trained in human rights. KANU seeks an alliance with the largest opposition party the DP. President Moi appoints Dr Richard Leakey as Director of the Kenya Wildlife Service. His seat is taken over by Josephine Shiyo the first blind MP.
- 10/98** A consultative forum on Kenya's Constitution unanimously adopted a draft bill on law reform. Kenyan teachers came out on strike over their pay award. The strike ended on 20/10/98. Thousands of Muslims take to the streets in protest at the de-registration of five Muslim NGOs after the bombings. Parliament passed a resolution to create an Ombudsman's office to address complaints against public servants.

- 12/98** President Moi said that NDP Chairman, Raila Odinga's co-operation with KANU may propel him to future leadership. The Electoral Commission announced wide-ranging changes being planned to Kenya's electoral system. The Assistant Police Commissioner admits at a human rights workshop that police tortured suspects on the orders of powerful politicians. Human rights groups threaten to sue the Commissioner of police over the death of a suspect in custody. Three police officers are arrested for bribery in Kericho. The Standing Committee on Human Rights issued its first public report. One of the new bills to reform the criminal justice system is passed. The Commission of Enquiry into the ethnic clashes continues to hear evidence and will submit a report by 30 April 1999.
- 1/99** President Moi announced the members of the advisory board of the KACA. A by-election took place in Makueni constituency following the death of the SDP MP who held the seat. The vote counting was marred by violence leaving two MPs injured. A new party the United Party (UP) was registered and another the United Democratic Movement (UDM) formally applied for registration. The NCEC announced it would set up a parallel review forum. On 25/01/99 the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission Act 1998 came into full operation. Several judges were reshuffled following allegations of bribery against a judge. A new National Security Intelligence Service is established. A new East African passport is due to be issued. Demonstration began over the development of the Karura forest. Violent confrontations with the police take place over the issue. Two people are killed following clashes between farmers in the Mwea rice irrigation scheme and police.
- 2/99** President Moi reiterated his commitment to fight corruption. On 18/02/99 President Moi reshuffled his cabinet. As a result Finance Minister Simeon Nyachae resigns. Also the Commissioner of Police, Duncan Wachira was replaced as well as the Director of the CID and the Principle Immigration Officer. One SDP MP and two councillors' officials defect to KANU. The constitutional review talks reached a sticking point over nominees for the committee. Several MPs are injured in a clash with anti-riot police at a farmers' meeting in Eldoret. The KHRC called for police to compensate victims of abuse. 12 people are killed in a fierce gun battle in North Eastern Province. The editor of "Expression Today" is kidnapped and tortured by a gang.
- 3/99** A High Court judge censured the Attorney General's office for the delay in disposing of murder cases in Mombasa. Rioting by students occurs over the Karura forest development. Three MPs are arrested for incitement. Police launch a new probe into Kamlesh Pattni, the man at the centre of the Goldenberg scandal.
- 4/99** President Moi re-appoints Professor George Saitoti as the country's Vice President. Fighting broke out between supporters of Raila Odinga (NDP) and James Orengo (Ford-K) at the start of a rally. KANU increased its majority by winning by-elections in Tigania and Mumtomo constituencies in eastern Kenya. A vote of no confidence was made against Prof. Saitoti over allegations of his involvement in the Goldenberg scandal. President Moi is also implicated in the Goldenberg scam along with other top officials. The High Court suspends the entire Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority (KACA) board.
- 5/99** Police investigate allegations of torture of an inmate at Kodiaga GK Prison by warders. Parliament passed a motion that seeks the establishment of a commission for gender

equality. The pioneering political and business journal, the Weekly Review folds after 24 years in operation. President Moi proposes that the constitutional reform process be transferred to the KANU dominated National Assembly.

- 6/99** Police and protesters clashed outside parliament during protests into the slow pace of constitutional reforms. 27 people were killed in northern Kenya in a series of cattle raids. President Moi suggests that Parliament should review the constitution drawing mixed reactions from opposition leaders and civil society representatives. Demonstrations against his idea were held on Budget Day 10 June 1999. The People's Power Movement is launched. 11 June 1999 The Akiwumi Commission winds up. On 24 June 1999 Nairobi Chief Magistrate Uiter Kidullah ruled that Solomon Murili set himself ablaze. The court throws out Mwai Kibaki's election petition against President Moi. Police arrest 30 corrupt officials at the Registrar of Companies offices and the Immigration Department. Visa requirement is waived to draw in more tourists. On 30 June 1999 the no confidence motion against the Vice-President fails.
- 7/99** Police fired tear gas and rubber bullets at demonstrators seeking constitutional reforms who were trying to block roads into Nairobi. The Saba Saba day rally at Kamukunji grounds in Nairobi passed off peacefully. Opposition MP Paul Muite was charged with theft but later released on bail. President Moi launches his recovery strategy and appoints Richard Leakey as head of the civil service. James Orengo challenges Moi to clear his name over his alleged involvement in the Goldenberg affair. 84 MPs including 14 from KANU file a motion of no confidence in the government. MP James Orengo and two of his aides are arrested on 17 July 1999 in Kisumu. The high court dismisses Mwai Kibaki's challenge against the result of the December 1997 elections.
- 8/99** A special crime prevention police unit is launched to curb the influx and trafficking of illegal arms.
- 9/99** KANU win by-elections in Nithi and Saikago. President Moi reshuffles his cabinet. Although he cuts the number of ministries from 27 to 15 all cabinet ministers retain their seats. The Government announces plans to retrench 60,000 state employees as part of its Civil Service cut back programme. Ford Kenya MP, George Kapten, is charged with defamation.
- 10/99** Mwandawiro Mgangha resigns as Safina Secretary-General. Mombasa police make 54 arrests after clashes in Coast Province leave two people dead and several injured.
- 11/99** The national assembly votes unanimously to cut presidential powers and give parliament, not the president, the power to appoint the Clerk of the House. MP George Kapten is charged with subversion following comments about the Goldenberg scandal.
- 12/99** The National Assembly votes to create Parliamentary Select Committee to review the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission Act and help form a commission. NDP leader Raila Odinga is made chairman of the 27-member committee on which KANU has a majority. Opposition MP's mandate religious leaders to lead a people's driven review, to run parallel to the Parliamentary one. Opposition MP George Kapten dies at his home in Kitale, some opposition MP's express suspicion of foul play.

- 1/00** Rival gangs in the constitutional debate clash in Nairobi. Ford-K MP James Orengo is charged with inciting public violence, meanwhile four youths, later identified as NDP activists, who attacked him, a second MP and two civilian's are not prosecuted. A new youth movement, MVUWA, is formed at a rally where young people vow to disrupt the Parliamentary Select Committee's proceedings.
- 2/00** Kenya appeals for international aid to combat famine threatening much of the country. KANU Chief Whip, Sammy Leshore and his deputy are shot and seriously wounded during a robbery after their car is involved in a collision. Several people are injured when riot police attacked a large crowd who had turned up for a MVUWA meeting in Thika.
- 3/00** 11 opposition MP's call for a select committee to investigate the December 1999 death of MP George Kapten. NDP Secretary-General and two other top officials resign accusing the party of having lost its original vision.
- 7/00** IMF promised to resume aid in poverty reduction and growth facility to Kenya.
- 7/00** Constitutional Amendment Bill passed through Parliament. It was rushed through the crucial second-reading, committee and third-reading stages and is currently awaiting the President's assent to become law and lead to the formation of a commission to review the Constitution.
- 8/00** American priest Father John Kaiser is murdered. He was a vocal critic of the tribal clashes in the Rift Valley prior to the 1992 and 1997 elections. Madeline Albright pledges that the US government will be monitoring the investigations into his death.
- 9/00** An attempted escape by eight prisoners from Kingongo Prison, in the Nyeri District, left six prisoners dead and a number of prison officials badly hurt. The remaining two prisoners escaped. All eight were awaiting execution. There is to be an official enquiry.
- 9/00** Riots followed a blaze at Gikombo market in Nairobi's eastern Kamukunji estate. The fire triggered protests among the vendors who said they suspected sabotage. This fire was the second at a major clothes market in the previous eight days. Freemart clothes market in central Nairobi burned down on 28 August and traders claimed the fire was started deliberately. There were accusations that the local authorities are selling the market to developers who might have hired arsonists to torch the vendors out.
- 11/00** Kenya Broadcasting Corporation launches "Coro FM" radio station. The station is a Kikuyu-language based.
- 12/00** Twelve editorial staff with the "Kenya Times" newspaper were sacked for undisclosed reasons.
- 03/01** Dr Richard Leakey resigned as head of The Kenyan Civil Service and was replaced by Sally Kosgei.

Prominent People Past & Present.

Daniel Arap Moi - (Kalenjin) President of Kenya, 1978 to date. Leader of KANU.

Jomo Kenyatta - (Kikuyu) President of Kenya 1964 - until his death in 1978.

Abdul Majid Cockar - Former Chief Justice until December 1997

Reverend Mutava Musyimi - Sec Gen. National Council of Churches.

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga - (Luo) Former Vice-President and member of KANU during the 1960s before forming the opposition group Kenya People's Union (KPU). In the 1992 elections Odinga led FORD-Kenya. Odinga died in January 1994.

Raila Odinga - (Luo) Leader of National Development Party - Son of Oginga Odinga

Tom Mboya - Former Secretary-General of KANU and Minister for Economic Planning and Development. Assassinated July 1969. His death sparked numerous disturbances.

Kenneth Matiba - (Kikuyu) Leader of FORD-Asili, the party split just prior to the 1997 elections and Matiba renamed his faction Saba-Saba Asili, which has not been registered.

Mwai Kibaki - Former Vice-President and leader of the Democratic Party. **Leader of the opposition in the National Assembly**

Charity Ngilu - Leader of the Social Democratic Party.

Zacchaeus Chesoni - Current Chief Justice, appointed December 1997.

Dr Richard Leakey - Conservationist and Secretary General of Safina. Nominated MP on Safina's allocated seat. In September 1998 was re-appointed as Director of the Kenya Wildlife Service by President Moi, and subsequently resigned his seat in parliament. In July 1999 he was appointed as head of the Civil Service/Public Service. At the end of March 2001 Dr Leakey resigned and was replaced by former ambassador to Britain and permanent secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sally Kosgei.

Paul Muite - (Kikuyu) FORD-Kenya MP and prominent member of Safina. Well-known human rights lawyer.

Muturi Kigano - Human rights activist and Chairman of Safina.

George Saitoti - (Maasai) Former Vice President. KANU MP, currently Minister of Planning and National Development. Re-appointed Vice-President in April 1999.

Sheikh Khalid Balala - Spiritual leader of the Islamic Party of Kenya (IPK)

Prof. Onesmus Mutungi - Chairman of the Standing Committee on Human Rights. Lawyer and former Dean of the Law Faculty at Nairobi University.

Prof. Rashid Mzee - FORD-K MP and IPK sympathiser

Amos Wako - Attorney General.

Robert Ouko - Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. Died in mysterious circumstances February 1990.

Nicholas Biwott - Former Minister of Industry, dismissed from the Cabinet November 1991 amid allegations of his involvement in Ouko's death. Controversially re-appointed to the Cabinet January 1997. Currently the Minister of East African and regional Co-operation.

Charles Mugane Njonjo - (Kikuyu) Former Attorney General and Minister for Home and Constitutional Affairs, who resigned from politics in 1983 following a judicial inquiry into his conduct. Returned to political life in 1998 when appointed Chairman of the Kenya Wildlife Service Board

Simeon Nyachae - Former Finance Minister. Resigned from the government in February 1999 after being moved to the Ministry of Industrial Development.

George Kapten - Political lawyer and Ford Kenya MP who died on 25 December 1999 in what some opposition MP's claimed were suspicious circumstances.

Koigi Wa Wamwere. Founder of the National Democratic and Human Rights Organisation (NDEHURIO). Koigi Wa Wamwere went into exile in 1986 finding refuge in Norway. While abroad he formed an underground party called Kenya Patriotic Front (KPF). After the formation of political parties was partly allowed in 1991 the KPF ceased its clandestine existence and its members joined other parties. Wamwere was arrested by the Kenyan authorities in October 1990, reportedly having been abducted from Uganda. He was charged with sedition but his lengthy trial was abandoned in January 1993 and he was released from detention. Wamwere continued to campaign for human rights and democratisation in Kenya without specifically identifying himself with any of the (now legal) opposition parties. However, the authorities continued to regard him as a dangerous radical, and he was subsequently re-detained on charges relating to a raid on a police station in November 1993. His trial began in Nakuru on 12 April 1994 and concluded in October 1995. International observers concluded that the prosecution did not produce credible evidence tying him to the incident; however, the Chief Magistrate found Wamwere and his two co-accused guilty of robbery, but not armed robbery, and sentenced them to 4 years in prison plus three strokes of the cane. The fourth defendant was acquitted of all charges. Wamwere's defence attorneys established alibis for the defendants and showed that the state had tampered with evidence. Human rights groups both in Kenya and abroad considered the three defendants political prisoners. Wamwere's defence team lodged appeals in December 1995, and he was granted bail in December 1996 on medical grounds, as were his two associates. International observers at his trial concluded that the prosecution had fabricated the evidence against him. Since his release Wamwere has been able to speak to journalists and has had his passport returned so that he could travel abroad to receive medical treatment. In April/May 1997 he returned to Kenya to attend his father's burial ceremony. The Kenyan authorities did not

attempt to stop him entering the country nor harass him whilst there. In November 1997 Wamwere announced he was joining the Kenya National Democratic Alliance (KENDA) to run for the Presidency. In December 1997 the Chief Justice quashed Wamwere's four-year jail sentence and dropped all charges against him and his two co-defendants.

[1][5][9][13a][13b][30g][34b][34f][72a]

MAIN POLITICAL PARTIES/ ORGANISATIONS

Democratic Party (DP) - Formed 1991. Predominantly Kikuyu. President - Mwai Kibaki.

Forum for the Restoration of Democracy - Asili (FORD-Asili) - Formed 1992. Predominantly Kikuyu - Chairman - Kenneth Matiba, Sec-General - Martin J. Shikoku. Prior to the elections in 1997, FORD-Asili split further into two parties, FORD-Asili led by Matiba was renamed Saba-Saba Asili, but Matiba was unable to register the party under this name. A second faction FORD-People is led by Kimani Wa Nyoike

Forum for the Restoration of Democracy-Kenya (FORD-Kenya) - Formed 1992 - Predominantly Luo support. Chairman - Michael Kijana Wamalwa.

GEMA (Gikuyu [Kikuyu], Embu, Meru Association) - a tribal organisation dedicated to keeping political power in Kikuyu hands.

Kenya African National Union (KANU) - Formed 1960. President - Daniel Arap Moi. Chairman - Wilson Ndolo Ayah.

Kenya National Congress (KNC) - Formed 1992

Kenya National Democratic Alliance Party (KENDA) - Formed 1991. Chairman - Mukaru Ng'ang'a.

Kenya Social Congress (KSC) - Formed 1992 Chairman - George Mosei Anyona; Sec-Gen. Onesmus Mbali

Labour Party Democracy - Chairman - Mohammed Ibrahim Noor.

National Convention Executive Council (NCEC) - Group of NGOs, church leaders and politicians, campaigning for constitutional reform. Co-Convenor - Prof. Kivutha Kibwana

National Development Party (NDP) - Formed 1994. Leader - Raila Odinga , Chairman - Stephen Omondi Oludhe.

Party for Independent Candidates of Kenya (PICK) - Leader Harun Mwau

People's Union of Justice and New Order - Kisumu; Islamic support. Leader - Wilson Owili

Rural National Democratic Party - Formed 1992; supports farmers interests. Chairman - Sebastian Munene

Safina ('Noah's Ark') - Formed Nairobi 1995; aims to combat corruption and human rights abuses and to introduce proportional representation. Chairman - Mutari Kigano; Sec-Gen.- Dr

Richard Leakey. Formally registered by the authorities 26 November 1997.

Social Democratic Party (SCP) - Formed 1992. Leader - Charity Ngilu

United Muslims of Africa (UMA) - Formed 1993. Leader - Emmanuel Maitha.

United National Democratic Alliance (UNDA) - Formed 1994; an informal coalition of main opposition parties (excl. FORD-Asili) formed to present an agreed list of candidates at elections.

United Party (UP) - registered January 1999

United Patriotic Party (UPP) - Formed 1995.

Youth Associated with the Restoration of Democracy (YARD) - Chairman - Eliud Ambani Mulama.

NON-REGISTERED PARTIES.

Saba Saba Asili - Split from Ford-Asili just prior to the 1997 elections - Led by Kenneth Matiba. Still not officially registered.

Islamic Party of Kenya (IPK) - Formed 1992. Spiritual leader - Sheikh Khalid Balala. Chairman - Omar Mwinyi; Sec-Gen. Abdulrahman Wandati. The previously exiled Sheikh Balala was allowed to return home to Kenya in July 1997. IPK is still a banned organisation.

United Democratic Movement (UDM) - Fronted by two KANU MP's, Cyrus Jirongo and Kipruto Arap Kirwa. UDM have launched a court case against the registrar's decision not to register the party in July 1999. President Moi had ordered the registrar to register the party earlier in 1999.

People's Power Movement - Launched 9 June 1999. Interim Chairman Audi Ogada. Interim Organising Secretary: - Daniel Cheruiyot.

People's Alliance for Change in Kenya (PACK) - Launched on 19 November 1999 with the aim of writing diverse ethnic groups. Secretary General: - Olang Sana.

ORGANISATIONS

Release Political Prisoners (RPP) - Pressure group campaigning for the release of political detainees.

Kenya Human Rights Commission - Independent human rights organisation. KHRC produces a quarterly Repression Report cataloguing the human rights situation as well as a steady stream of special reports. It also organises activities to publicise special causes.

February Eighteen Movement (FEM) and armed wing February Eighteen Popular Resistance Army (FERA) - Led by Brig. John Odongo. Subversive organisation based in a neighbouring country. Banned by the Government. Has since been dissolved.

Muungano wa Mageuzi (Movement for Change) – Led by Ugenya MP, James Orengo. The leaders of this organisation are not only made up of various political parties, but, they are also from various ethnic groups.

THE GOLDENBERG AFFAIR.**AUGUST 1999 - US\$ = 74.15 Kenya Shillings.**

Kamlesh Pattni's exploits started in October 1990 when he wrote to the then Vice-President and Minister for Finance, Prof. George Saitoti, seeking exclusive rights for five years for Pattni's company Goldenberg International, to export gold and diamonds, promising in return to earn Kenya US\$60 million annually. Under the export scheme, entrepreneurs were able to claim back a percentage of the value of their exports as compensation. Pattni was accused, however, of claiming on exports of jewellery he never made, making multi-millions for himself. He claimed and received compensation, which he says was approved by Prof. Saitoti.

According to the controller and auditor general's report for 1993, Goldenberg International were allegedly paid around US\$ 100 million between 1991 and 1993 as a premium on non-existent gold and diamond exports from the Finance Ministry. Kenya produces little gold and has no diamonds. Pattni's dealings caused the Kenya Central Bank(CBK) to pay out unearned compensation in violation of the Banking Act. In 1993 the government had to appoint a receiver for the bank but much of the illicit money had already been withdrawn. Mr Pattni pledged to settle the difference from his other resources but failed to deliver the money. Instead he purchased the Grand Regency Hotel for US\$14 million but this was taken back by the receivers on behalf of the CBK. This led to Pattni's first arrest for theft of Shs2.6 billion from the CBK. He was denied bail and detained for three months at Kamiti prison. On his release he found the Grand Regency had been advertised for sale by the CBK. Mr Pattni then went to the High Court to stop the sale. The legal battle over the hotel has been ongoing ever since.

The Goldenberg case has been pending in court for the past seven years with no resolution in sight. Lawyer and MP Paul Muite has led a campaign to punish those involved in the fraud but Pattni has since accused him of receiving by extortion Sh20 million as the price for his silence. Muite has persistently rejected this claim and the allegations are being investigated by the Law Society of Kenya.

In February 1999, Mr Nassir Ibrahim Ali, head of the World Duty Free Company based in Dubai, swore an affidavit stating that none of the precious stones Goldenberg claimed to have exported went through his Dubai company. According to the affidavit Goldenberg International claimed to have exported gold and diamonds worth 15.3 billion Shillings to the World Duty Free Company in 1992 and 1993. Mr Ali was goaded into going on the offensive after the control of the Kenya Duty Free was wrestled from him.

In March 1999, police launched a new probe on Kamlesh Pattni after confidential state documents were found during a police raid. Following the raid Pattni was charged with obtaining by false pretences and theft of Shs322 million (US\$4.97 million) between 1992 and 1993 in a fraud relating to gold and diamond exports. This is in addition to the allegations that his company received money from the Finance Ministry.

In April 1999 a Motion of no confidence in Parliament was brought against the Vice-President,

George Saitoti stating that Professor Saitoti could not hold the office because he had not been cleared of his alleged involvement in the Goldenberg scandal. In June 1999 Professor Saitoti made a personal statement before Parliament denying any connection with the Shs5.8 billion and the additional Shs13.5 billion payments that are the subject of the Goldenberg litigation. Saitoti stated that the payments had been made in 1993, at different times, when he was no longer Minister of Finance (He left the Treasury in January 1993). As for the contentious 15% "special export bonus" granted to Goldenberg in 1990, over and above the normal 20%, Professor Saitoti argued that this had been approved by parliament and had been eventually scrapped in 1992. Mr Musalia Mudavadi who succeeded Prof. Saitoti also defended himself vigorously from blame. He tabled a Legal Notice in Parliament in which he stopped the payments of any compensation on gold and jewellery. However, three payments were made on April 19, June 28 and July 6 of 1993, which was after the publication of his Legal Notice on 15 April 1993. Mr Mudavadi told Parliament that upon discovery of these payments on 21 October 1993 he wrote to the Controller and Auditor-General D.G. Njoroge and then CID Director Noah Arap Too asking them to conduct investigations. The unanswered question is who exactly did authorise the payments. On 30 June 1999 the no confidence motion against Saitoti failed.

The judiciary also came under attack from President Moi in July 1999, when he commented that the courts should hurry up and get to the bottom of the matter and stop going round in circles. According to the Nation newspaper over the years the courts have still not unravelled the Goldenberg scam and have subjected the public to a circus of injunctions, counter-injunctions, case file transfers, and a lot of other hanky-panky. Allegations have been made of bribery. First by Mr Ali, who claimed that Mr Pattni bribed Judge Richard Kuloba with Shs5 million allegedly so that the Duty Free case could be decided in Mr Pattni's favour. Judge Kuloba was cleared of the bribery accusations by Chief Justice Z. Chesoni though the case file was transferred to another Judge. Controversial publisher Tony Gachoka of the Post also made accusations of bribery against Chief Justice Chesoni. Gachoka, who is facing contempt of court charges, appeared before a seven-judge bench of the Court of Appeal in July, where his application to call high-level witnesses, including the President and others named by Mr Ali, was turned down. Mr Pattni accused the Attorney-General of a deliberate campaign to frustrate his defence.

In July 1999, Mr Ali claimed that he had a lot of information on the Goldenberg scandal. Mr Ali claimed that he was in possession of a letter allegedly signed by the President seeking assistance from some Middle East and Far East countries through "his emissaries Joshua Kulei and Kamlesh Pattni". Mr Kulei is President Moi's private secretary. The assistance was to oil KANU's campaigns in the 1992 General Election. Mr Ali claimed he introduced senior government officials from the Middle East and Far East to Mr Kulei and Mr Pattni. Mr Pattni denies he ever met with Mr Ali in Dubai.

The Attorney General stated that the letter could be a forgery and instructed the Commissioner of police to investigate its authenticity. President Moi did not comment personally on the letter. Mr Ali voluntarily surrendered at CID headquarters in order to answer questions as to how he came into possession of the letter. Mr Ali, who is resident in Dubai is a Canadian national. Among the top Government officials, Mr Ali alleged were also involved with the President were confidante Nicholas Biwott; son Gideon Moi; an associate of Gideon's Mr Mukesh Gohil; Chairman of the Co-operative bank Hosea Kipalgat; Minister of Information and Broadcasting Joseph Nyagah; former CID Director Noah Arap Too; Court of Appeals Judge Effie Owuor and Chairman of KenGen Mr Moses Wetangula. Instead of the Shs9 billion originally linked to

Goldenberg, Mr Ali now claims the real figure is Sh68 billion. Several MP's from both KANU and the opposition urged President Moi to clear his name.

On 27 July 1999, Nassir Ali was deported to Dubai amid claims from the KHRC that his deportation was part of a government plot to avoid exposing the main protagonists. Mr Ali's wife accused high political personalities and businessman Kamlesh Pattni of plotting to grab the duty free business. Mr Ali and Kamlesh Pattni have been engaged in a fierce dispute over ownership of the Kenyan Duty Free shops in Nairobi and Mombasa. Mr Pattni claims to have brought the shops for Sh15.3 billion in 1991/2, however Mr Ali claims that the documents allegedly used in the deal were forged. Arising from the dispute over the Grand Regency Hotel and the World Duty Free shops are numerous, endless court cases that remain unresolved. There is also a pending criminal case involving former Treasury Permanent Secretary Wilfred Koinange, former deputy CBK Governor Eliphaz Riungu, and former CBK Assistant Chief Dealer Onesmus Wanjihia who, alongside Mr Pattni, are facing charges of stealing Sh5.8 billion from the Paymaster-General.

After deporting Mr Ali the Kenyan police claimed that there was a warrant of arrest from the United Arab Emirates for him on allegations that he issued a worthless cheque for US\$500,000. However Mr Ali's lawyer told the press that at no time did the police question or inform Mr Ali of any alleged offences which had been committed outside of Kenya, nor had he been served with any extradition papers as required by Kenyan law.

On 9 July 1999, Chief Justice Chesoni barred news organisations from covering the Goldenberg trial. On 23 July Safina MP and lawyer Paul Muite was charged with the theft of 31.1 million shillings (see paragraph 4.11). Mr Muite linked the court case with his role in trying to unravel the Goldenberg case. On 28 July 1999 84 MP's, including 14 from KANU filed a motion of no confidence in the government over the case citing the fact that high-ranking government officials have been implicated in the scandal. The MP's called for the removal of President Moi for his alleged involvement. On 8 August 1999, Kwanza MP George Kapten (FORD-Kenya) was arrested by CID officers at his home in connection with an interview carried in the 'Finance Magazine' in which he implicated President Moi in the scandal.

In September 1999 some legal experts expressed concern that the appointment of Bernard Chunga as Chief Justice and Uniter Kidullah as Director of Public Prosecutions would cause confusion. Chunga had led the prosecution in the Goldenberg case while Kidullah was the chief magistrate. At a hearing of a constitutional reference application related to the Goldenberg cases in October 1999 Mr Pattni sought to have one of the judges disqualify himself. In November 1999 Mr Kapten was again arrested, this time along with Njehu Gatabiki MP, and charged with subversion after stating that President Moi was a prime suspect in the Goldenberg case. The two MP's who were released on a bond of 100,000 shillings said that they wanted President Moi summoned as a defence witness. George Kapten subsequently died at his home on 25 December 1999.

In February 2000 Chief Justice, Bernard Chunga, said that he wanted to see a "speedy resolution" to the Goldenberg case. He said he would set a date "as soon as practicable" for an appeal, lodged by Pattni in the court of appeal, contesting the inclusion of one of the judges in the constitutional reference hearing. Chunga said that he would then appoint a fresh three-judge bench to handle the constitutional matter that seeks to quash the 13.5 billion shillings, 5.8 billion

shillings, 322 million shillings and 16 million shillings theft cases against Pattni and his firm, Goldenberg International. The World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have been pressing for the prosecution and imprisonment of all those involved in the affair.

The initial hearing took place in London on 15 January 2001 when procedural issues were discussed, with the arbitration panel deciding to hold sessions on 5th and 6th July 2001 in The Hague. The hearing will remain behind closed doors since the Kenyan Government is unlikely to consent to an open forum. The case is expected to highlight the Sh68 billion Goldenberg scandal and the way in which it has been handled by the Kenyan courts. Mr Ali, the Duty Free owner, was thrown out of Kenya in July 2000, in the middle of a tussle between himself and Mr Kamlesh Pattni over the ownership of the Duty Free complex. He was deported a few days after he publicised documents that appeared to link the President with the Goldenberg affair. The documents released by Mr Ali suggested that President Moi and Mr Kulei were aware of the Goldenberg transactions.

[2][29][30m][30t][32ae][32ao][32as][32bn][32bp][32br][32bs][32bu][32cb][32cf][32dc]
[32dd][33k][34h][34q][34r][34s][38][39e][45]

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