

Country File

SOUTH AFRICA



Last updated: **December 2008**

Region	Africa
Legal system	Civil Law/Common Law
UNCAT Ratification/ Accession (a)/ succession (d)	10 December 1998
Relevant Laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constitution of 1996 (Act No. 108, 16 December 1996)
Relevant Articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prohibition of Torture: Article 12 of the Constitution• Definition of Torture:• Penalties:
Languages Available	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English (official language)
Other Relevant Information	

Relevant Articles – SOUTH AFRICA

ENGLISH

Constitution of 1996 (Act 108, 16 December 1996)

Article 12 Freedom and security of the person

- (1) Everyone has the right to freedom and security of the person, which includes the right-
- (a) not to be deprived of freedom arbitrarily or without just cause;
 - (b) not to be detained without trial;
 - (c) to be free from all forms of violence from either public or private sources;
 - (d) not to be tortured in any way; and
 - (e) not to be treated or punished in a cruel, inhuman or degrading way.
- (2) Everyone has the right to bodily and psychological integrity, which includes the right-
- (a) to make decisions concerning reproduction;
 - (b) to security in and control over their body; and
 - (c) not to be subjected to medical or scientific experiments without their informed consent.