



**International covenant
on civil and
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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Eightieth session
New York, 15 March to 2 April 2004

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The eightieth session of the Human Rights Committee will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 15 March to 2 April 2004. The first meeting will be convened at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, Conference Room 2, on Monday, 15 March 2004 at 10 a.m.
2. In accordance with rule 6 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the eightieth session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.
3. Pursuant to rule 33 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Covenant or the Optional Protocol that the meetings should be held in private.
4. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 6, which contains the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports during the eightieth session. In accordance with rule 68 of the Committee's rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are expected to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.
5. At its seventy-ninth session, the Committee decided that a working group, established under rule 89 of its rules of procedure, should meet for a period of one week prior to its eightieth session from 8 to 12 March 2004. The first meeting of the Working Group will be convened at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, Conference Room 8, on 8 March 2004, at 10 a.m.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organizational and other matters:
 - (a) Report of the Chairperson/Rapporteur of the pre-sessional Working Group;
 - (b) Miscellaneous.
4. Meeting with representatives of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations.
5. Submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant.
6. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant.
7. Follow-up on concluding observations and on Views under the Optional Protocol.
8. General comments of the Committee.
9. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General

The representative of the Secretary-General will open the eightieth session of the Committee.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the first item on the agenda for any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items.

3. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will (a) consider the report of the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group; and (b) consider miscellaneous issues relevant to the Committee's business.

4. Meeting with representatives of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations

At its seventy-ninth session, the Committee decided to hear representatives of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations represented at United Nations Headquarters during the first plenary meeting of the Committee. The meeting has accordingly been scheduled for the morning of Monday, 15 March 2003, from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

5. Submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant

A. Reports received

Apart from the reports which are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its eightieth and eighty-first sessions (see the timetable for consideration of reports under item 6 below), the Secretary-General has received the initial report of Namibia.

B. Reports due

For the situation with regard to the submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant, reference is made to chapter III and annex IV of the Committee's annual report to the General Assembly for 2003 (see A/58/40, vol. I).

6. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the eightieth session, prepared in consultation with the Chairperson and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

Timetable for consideration of reports of States parties

Colombia	Fifth periodic report (CCPR/C/COL/2002/5)	Monday, 15 March 2004 p.m. Tuesday, 16 March 2004 a.m.
Germany	Fifth periodic report (CCPR/C/DEU/2002/5)	Wednesday, 17 March 2004 a.m./p.m.
Suriname	Second periodic report (CCPR/C/SUR/2003/2)	Thursday, 18 March 2004 p.m. Friday, 19 March 2004 a.m.
Uganda	Initial Report (CCPR/C/UGA/2003/1)	Monday, 22 March 2004 p.m. Tuesday, 23 March 2004 a.m./p.m.
Lithuania	Second periodic report (CCPR/C/LTU/2003/2)	Wednesday, 24 March 2004 p.m. Thursday, 25 March 2004 a.m.

In accordance with rule 68 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its eightieth session. These States parties are Colombia, Germany, Suriname, Uganda and Lithuania.

The reports to be considered during the eighty-first session are those of Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro, Liechtenstein and Finland. The country situation of the Central African Republic will be considered in the absence of the State party's initial report.

7. Follow-up on concluding observations and on Views under the Optional Protocol

At its seventy-fourth session, the Committee adopted decisions governing the procedure for following up on concluding observations. During the seventy-fifth session, a Special Rapporteur for follow-up on concluding observations was appointed; he will provide his fifth progress report on his activities during the eightieth session. The Special Rapporteur for follow-up on Views under the Optional Protocol will also present a progress report.

8. General comments of the Committee

Under this item, the Committee may continue consideration of a draft general comment on article 2 (provision of effective remedies for violations of the Covenant) which was begun at the seventy-fourth session. During the seventy-seventh session the Committee completed the first reading of the draft general comment. During the seventy-ninth session the Committee started the second reading of the draft. The general comment is expected to be adopted during the eightieth session.

9. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of the rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under the Optional Protocol.

Two hundred and fifty-three communications are pending before the Committee. Pursuant to the Committee's new rules of procedure allowing the joint examination of admissibility and merits in most cases, the Committee's examination of these communications may result in the adoption of Views, or in decisions declaring the communications admissible or inadmissible.

In accordance with article 5, paragraph 3, of the Optional Protocol and rule 82 of the Committee's rules of procedure, this agenda item will be considered in closed meetings.
