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Summary record of the 2987th meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 12 July 2013, at 10 a.m.

Chairperson: Sir Nigel Rodley

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The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant
(continued)

Sixth periodic report of Finland (CCPR/C/FIN/6; CCPR/C/FIN/Q/6 and Add.1)

1. *At the invitation of the Chairperson, the delegation of Finland took places at the Committee table.*
2. **Mr. Kosonen** (Finland), describing achievements since the submission of his country's sixth periodic report, said that the Human Rights Centre had become operational in 2012. It operated independently but was attached to the Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman and its annual budget was approved by parliament. It promoted the implementation of fundamental and other human rights and cooperation between stakeholders in that field. The Centre comprised a Human Rights Delegation, which approved its annual report and plan of action. Together, the Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman, the Human Rights Centre and the Human Rights Delegation formed the national human rights institution, which was in conformity with the Paris Principles.
3. In 2012, the Government had adopted the first National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights which consisted of 67 human rights projects. The monitoring and evaluation of the Action Plan had been entrusted to a network of representatives of the various ministries, the Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman and the Office of the Chancellor of Justice. In addition, an independent external evaluation would be carried out on implementation of the Action Plan and the resulting report would be submitted to parliament in 2014.
4. Reform of non-discrimination legislation was under way with the aim of taking into account the European legal framework, improving the legal protection of victims of discrimination and strengthening the obligation to actively promote equality. The reform would expand the scope of the current Non-Discrimination Act to cover all public and private activities. The obligation to promote equality would thus be binding not only on public authorities but also on employers and training-providers. The reform would also extend the mandates of the Ombudsman for Minorities and the National Discrimination Tribunal to cover all grounds of discrimination prohibited under the Act, and not just ethnic discrimination. The reform bill was expected to be submitted to parliament by the end of 2013 so that the proposed legislation could be implemented as soon as possible.
5. An amendment of the Gender Equality Act was also expected to be submitted to parliament by the end of the year. The prohibition of discrimination would be extended to discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression, and the provisions on the monitoring of the Act and the available remedies would be expanded accordingly. Moreover, the amended Act would include an obligation to promote the equality of gender minorities and would require basic education providers to comply with the same obligations as other educational institutions.
6. His Government attached particular importance to investigating allegations that Finnish airspace or airports might have been used for the illegal transfer of persons. The Parliamentary Ombudsman was currently conducting an investigation into the matter, which was expected to be concluded by the end of 2013 and might be preceded by a preliminary assessment in early autumn. Allegations in that connection had been made for the first time in 2005 and had been investigated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with other authorities and the company responsible for managing the country's airports. The Ministry had requested information on the flights from the Embassy of the United States on several occasions and its inquiry had covered all possible landings in 2001–2006 of aircraft reported as potentially having been chartered or operated by the

Central Intelligence Agency or otherwise linked to the rendition programme. The material collected had not supported allegations that the Finnish authorities had been in any way party to illegal rendition flights. Furthermore, no evidence had been found that any aircraft illegally transporting persons had landed at a Finnish airport without the knowledge of the authorities, although, due to the limited information available, it had not been possible to draw definitive conclusions in that regard. All the available flight information had been published on the Internet. The Ministry had prepared a report on its findings for the Parliamentary Ombudsman, which had also been published on the Internet, and the Ombudsman had received reports from 14 other authorities for the purpose of its investigation. Finland did not allow its airspace or airports to be used for activities that ran counter to international human rights and humanitarian law.

7. As part of its efforts to make Finland the safest country in Europe, in 2012 his Government had adopted the third Internal Security Programme and developed the National Action Plan for Preventing Violent Extremism. The progress made in the implementation of the Programme was described in an interim report.

8. The Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women was being implemented, even though no separate funds had been allocated to it. A network of municipal contact persons involved in the prevention of domestic violence played a central role in coordinating implementation of the Plan. The National Institute for Health and Welfare had published nationwide quality guidelines for shelters and a survey on domestic violence against Roma women had been launched at the beginning of 2013. In an effort to reduce partner and domestic violence, the Government would replicate the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference model throughout the country.

9. The Firearms Act had been amended to improve security in the light of incidents such as school shootings. Since 2011, applicants for firearms permits had been required to pass a suitability test and doctors were obliged to report to the police any person they deemed unsuitable for using firearms for reasons of health or behaviour. The police then assessed the suitability of the applicant on the basis of that information.

10. A working group set up by the Ministry of the Interior had recently proposed the establishment of a post of coordinator against human trafficking within the Ministry's Police Department. Under the proposal, which would be considered shortly, the coordinator would monitor and coordinate the work of the authorities involved under the guidance of a steering group consisting of directors of the key ministries. He or she would promote the rights of victims among the various authorities, foster cooperation between the authorities and other stakeholders involved in that area, and cooperate with NGOs and authorities in other countries. The coordinator would also collect information and report on steps taken by the Government to combat human trafficking.

11. A bill was being drafted to improve the position of children in pretrial investigation and judicial proceedings, and would be submitted to parliament in autumn 2013. If enacted, the legislation would enable judges to consult experts such as psychologists and social workers in the mediation of maintenance disputes. Municipalities would be responsible for providing expert services and the State would cover their costs. Accordingly, consultations would be free of charge for the parties to the case.

12. The Government, in cooperation with various other stakeholders, had formulated the Future of Migration 2020 Strategy, which examined the situation of immigration to Finland in the coming years and its impact on society. The Strategy defined the objectives of national immigration policy and focused on entry into the country, integration and attitudes towards immigration. An action plan based on the Strategy was expected to be prepared by the end of 2013.

13. The largest population survey on the health and well-being of immigrants had been conducted in 2012. It had revealed marked differences between immigrant groups according to background and gender, and had recommended that municipalities should pay attention to particularly vulnerable groups. While drawing attention to the urgent need to develop mental health services for persons with an immigrant background, it noted that immigrants experienced a good quality of life in Finland and made use of the services provided.

14. The Ministry of Justice had established a working group that was in the process of revising the Sami Parliament Act. The working group was expected to propose a definition of the Sami, which would determine eligibility for inclusion in the electoral roll of the Sami parliament. The obligation of the authorities to consult the Sami parliament might also be further expanded. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry would also set up a working group to prepare measures to strengthen the right of the Sami to participate in decisions on the use of lands and waters of the State. The Sami parliament had announced that it would participate in the working group's activities. Opportunities for other local inhabitants of the Sami homeland to participate in the process would also be considered. The necessary provisions would be incorporated into the legislation governing the organization of the Finnish Forest and Park Service.

15. In 2012, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health had set up a steering and monitoring group to implement the national policy on Roma, which would draw up its first progress report in 2013. The group had consulted Roma organizations for their views on the national policy on Roma and suggestions of ways in which the policy could benefit from their knowledge and skills. The organizations shared the view that priority issues included work for children and young persons, support for families, prevention of exclusion and inclusion in society. The lack of funds and human resources were, however, major obstacles to effective implementation of the policy.

16. The same Ministry would set up a working group to examine the possible amendment of legislation relating to recognition of the gender of transgender persons in the light of the opinion issued recently by the National Advisory Board on Social Welfare and Health Care Ethics. The mandate of the working group was under consideration.

17. In 2012, the Ministry of Defence had appointed a rapporteur to examine the legislation exempting Jehovah's Witnesses from military service, and to assess alternatives to military service that were consistent with the principle of equality enshrined in the Constitution and also the national defence obligation. In his report, published in May 2013, the rapporteur had proposed three alternatives that required careful preparation and extensive discussion before adoption.

18. Parliament had recently approved bills to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Bills were currently being drafted for submission to parliament on the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. Lastly, Finland's common core document was being finalized and would be submitted to the United Nations treaty monitoring bodies in autumn 2013.

19. Recapitulating all of his Government's replies to the list of issues (CCPR/C/FIN/Q/6/Add.1), he added that a task force was being established as a formal coordination mechanism for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI)

issues, in accordance with the first National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights (question 7). Finland was examining the necessary measures to ratify the above-mentioned Council of Europe Convention, and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health had appointed a cross-sectoral working group on partner and domestic violence (question 9). Lastly, in autumn 2013, a bill would be submitted to parliament on the monitoring system being developed for the return of aliens by regular flights (question 18) and the Government was launching a new survey on violence against children from the standpoint of children (question 20).

20. **Mr. Kälén** commended the State party for its high-level delegation and succinct periodic report. It was regrettable that the Committee's limited resources had not enabled it to consider the State party's periodic report earlier since it had been submitted two years previously. However, the Committee appreciated the State party's detailed written replies to its list of issues, which included more recent information.

21. He would welcome additional details on the composition of the Human Rights Delegation in the Human Rights Centre that acted as a national cooperative body for actors in that sector. He asked if it was a supervisory body and, if so, whether it had sufficient resources to be truly independent. If that was the case, would the Centre, together with the Ombudsman, comply with the Paris Principles to constitute an independent national human rights institution? He wished to know whether the Human Rights Delegation had other tasks, such as coordinating joint work.

22. He took note of the State party's written reply to question 1 of the list of issues but remained unconvinced by the arguments it contained. The reply on the reservation to article 10 of the Covenant, on separating juveniles from adults when deprived of their liberty, seemed to suggest that it was unclear whether people aged between 18 and 21 were juveniles. He requested clarification that the age of majority in the State party had been reduced to 18. If so, article 10 of the Covenant would not be applied to the 18 to 21 age group, making the reservation irrelevant to them. For children aged under 18, the written reply referred to the parallel provision in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and indicated that it was not in children's best interests to be held alone or far from home. He questioned whether it was accurate to state that the best interests of the child could not be taken into account under the Covenant, particularly in the light of articles 23 and 24 on the protection of the family and minors and the Committee's jurisprudence.

23. Turning to the State party's reservation to article 14 (7) on *ne bis in idem*, the Committee was in full agreement with the State party, as indicated in its general comment No. 32. Paragraph 56 of that comment stated that the prohibition contained in article 14 (7) did not prohibit the resumption of a criminal trial justified by exceptional circumstances, such as the discovery of evidence which was not available or known at the time of the acquittal. If the State party maintained that reservation, there was a risk that it might be applied to cases of *ne bis in idem* that did not fall under the exception. He therefore questioned the wisdom of maintaining it.

24. As for the reservation to article 20 (1) the obligation to prohibit by law any propaganda for war, he referred the State party to the Committee's general comment No. 34. Paragraphs 50–52 indicated that the Committee took the same position as the State party that article 20 (1) could not be used to limit freedom of expression to an extent that could not be justified under article 19 (3). He would therefore welcome the delegation's comments on the need to maintain that reservation.

25. Turning to the reply to question 10 on the list of issues, he welcomed the increasing number of pretrial investigations and convictions for human trafficking and the establishment of a coordination mechanism. Echoing the concerns of the State party's rapporteur on trafficking, he asked to what extent the amendments that had been introduced

or were planned would facilitate the identification of victims of sexual exploitation as victims of trafficking. It would be useful to know how those individuals could be first and foremost regarded as victims rather than witnesses in criminal proceedings on facilitating prostitution, as was often the case. The Committee would welcome additional details of the State party's experiences in the prevention of human trafficking – particularly on the measures it had taken, how successful they had been and their limitations. It would be interesting to learn more about the cases of people who had been trafficked into forced labour in the State party.

26. **Ms. Majodina** thanked the State party for having submitted its written replies well in advance of the Committee's consideration of its sixth periodic report, thus setting an example of best practice in compliance with reporting obligations. Given that the State party's highest courts had invoked the Covenant in only seven cases in the previous six years, she asked to what extent the judiciary was aware of the Covenant and whether training courses for members of the legal profession included information on the Covenant. It would be useful to know to what end the provisions of the Covenant had been invoked before and/or by the courts in those seven cases.

27. **Ms. Seibert-Fohr** welcomed the delegation's focus on the importance of the protection of human rights in counterterrorism measures and recalled that States parties were responsible for such protection when giving access to their territory and airports. She requested information on reports that Finland might have been a transit point for rendition or secret detention flights, or at least have served as a fake destination or origin to conceal flights from or to neighbouring countries with a detention facility.

28. There was specific information on a Boeing 737 aircraft with tail number N733MA that had landed in Lithuania in the evening of 25 March 2006; according to information released by the Finnish Government, the same plane had landed in Helsinki two hours previously. However, according to the Lithuanian authorities, that flight had arrived from Porto. Indeed, subsequent information from the Finnish authorities had suggested that the flight plan to Helsinki had never been carried out. It had been alleged that the purpose of such dummy flight plans was to conceal the transport of terrorist suspects. She therefore wished to know whether Finland had been used as a destination to conceal rendition flights and whether that could happen without the knowledge of the Finnish authorities.

29. It would be useful to know what measures had been taken to prevent the use of Finnish airports and airspace for such rendition flights in the future and whether any oversight mechanisms were in place to ensure that intelligence activities were in full compliance with the State party's obligations under the Covenant. The Committee would welcome updated information on the preliminary and subsequent assessments of the Parliamentary Ombudsman in the investigations into such reports. She wished to know whether steps would be taken to hold the perpetrators accountable if the Ombudsman's inquiry revealed violations of human rights.

30. **Mr. Salvioli** asked how the State party planned to ensure that equal legal resources were allocated to all forms of discrimination prior to the entry into force of the relevant bill, which was currently under consideration. It would be interesting to learn whether any employers who had not respected the principle of equal pay for women and men had been sanctioned. What specific measures were being taken to prevent the practice of illegal dismissal of women in cases of pregnancy and childbirth? The Committee would welcome information on whether the human and material resources allocated to the Office of the Ombudsman for Equality were adequate to enable it to carry out its work effectively.

31. He would appreciate additional details on the State party's programme to eliminate discrimination against Roma women, especially its short-term goals. He asked whether the State party planned to change its policy of not analysing multiple discrimination separately

in the context of hate crimes. Did the action plan for immigrants include a gender perspective? It would be useful to learn about the results to date of the programmes launched for Roma women that were described in paragraphs 30 and 31 of the written replies (CCPR/C/FIN/Q/6/Add.1). Given that the number of hate crime incidents had increased by approximately 7 per cent between 2010 and 2011, he asked why the action the State party had taken to combat hate crime had failed and how it planned to take more effective measures.

32. Supporting Mr. Kälin's recommendation that the State party should withdraw its reservation to article 20 (1) of the Covenant in the light of the Committee's general comment No. 34, he recommended that the Government review paragraphs 37–49 of that comment.

33. He requested confirmation that the reform of the Non-Discrimination Act would extend the scope of the Act to cover gender identity and gender expression as a motive for discrimination. He also wished to know whether an individual's gender reassignment was legally recognized only if they were sterile and, if so, why. He asked why the new classification of incitement to hatred, defamation and insult of sexual minorities had not been extended to include persons on the basis of their gender identity. It would be useful to know whether there were any specific strategies to tackle criminal cases based on sexual orientation and gender identity and expression. The Committee would welcome details of any measures being taken in the State party to ensure that members of the LGBTI community enjoyed the right to maternity or paternity leave.

34. **Mr. Rodríguez-Rescia** requested details of the results of the measures the State party had taken to integrate migrants, especially the implementation of the Act on the Promotion of Immigrant Integration and the Act on the Reception of Seekers of International Protection and efforts to integrate migrants into the labour market. He asked how many municipal authorities had implemented plans to integrate migrants, what obstacles they had faced and what lessons had been learned to date. He wished to know what measures the State party was taking to tackle negative attitudes towards migrant workers. He would appreciate details of the State party's objectives with regard to the integration of migrants into the labour market in 2014–2016.

35. It would be useful to know how the State party planned to address the xenophobia and racism that migrants faced in connection with public services, in public places, at work or in the form of violence, and to have an update on the plans to set up a monitoring system for integration and ethnic relations. He asked why the State party did not plan to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

36. It would be useful to know when the State party planned to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence and what steps it was taking to implement that Convention. He asked if the low reporting rate for violence against women and domestic violence and the very low conviction rate for such crimes might be the result of the lack of support for victims of those crimes.

37. He asked what the Government was doing to establish a criminal policy to prevent domestic violence and how it was working with potential perpetrators. He expressed concern about the fact that the chapter of the Criminal Code dealing with sex offences had not yet been amended, as its provisions could lead to impunity for such offences. He asked if petty assaults were treated as criminal offences or referred to mediation. He requested disaggregated statistical data on the number of unreported cases of domestic violence and violence against women, on the number of cases investigated and sentences handed down, and on the number of out-of-court settlements and the extent to which those settlements

were honoured. He also requested statistics on repeat offenders. He asked what redress was provided for victims and what efforts were being made to change cultural attitudes towards women.

38. He wished to know what action was being taken to measure and assess the impact of the national action plan to reduce violence against women (2010–2015) and of the training and awareness-raising programmes on domestic violence. He asked how a gender perspective and an LGBTI perspective were included in those training programmes and requested further information about shelters for victims of domestic violence. He asked what was being done to protect migrant women in particular from violence and genital mutilation.

39. **Mr. Shany** asked why the State did not keep statistics disaggregated by ethnicity on complaints of discriminatory practices and how it was able to assess the impact of its policies if it did not monitor the prevalence of such practices. He requested updated information on the review by the Ministry of Justice of the definition of coercion with respect to sexual intercourse as set out in the Criminal Code. He asked if any measures had been taken to monitor the use of mediation in cases of domestic violence and violence against women.

40. **Ms. Chanet** said she recognized that there could be a need for the State party's reservation to article 10 (2) (b) and (3) of the Covenant, given that children in remote areas might have to be kept in total isolation if separated from adults. However, there was no need to maintain the reservation to article 20 (1) as the national legislation prohibiting war propaganda was fully in line with the Covenant. The reservation to article 14 (7) was also unnecessary as the principle of *ne bis in idem* did not apply in cases of fraud, as stated in the Committee's general comment No. 13. She wished to know if there was a law on racism and xenophobia in force in Finland.

The meeting was suspended at 12.05 p.m. and resumed at 12.25 p.m.

41. **Ms. Oinonen** (Finland) said that the newly established Finnish national human rights institution, though small, was dynamic and independent, and that its establishment had been a direct outcome of recommendations by human rights treaty bodies. The institution would be seeking an "A status" accreditation in autumn 2013. Due to limited resources, it was currently not able to devote much time to research.

42. The Human Rights Delegation comprised 20 to 40 members. The special ombudsmen and a representative of the Sami parliament were permanent members, while other members were nominated by various institutions on the basis of their personal expertise in human rights issues and were appointed by the Parliamentary Ombudsman for four-year terms. While the government bill on the Delegation had deliberately excluded representatives of ministries, municipalities and social partners, the parliament's Constitutional Law Committee had concluded that in principle there was no reason to exclude social partners from the Delegation's membership. The Delegation's tasks were to deal with far-reaching and important human rights matters, approve the Human Rights Centre's operational plan and annual report, and serve as a national cooperative body for stakeholders in the field of human rights. It would meet two to four times a year.

43. **Ms. Arrhenius** (Finland) said that the Committee members' comments about the State party's reservations to articles of the Covenant had provided food for thought, particularly its views on the applicability of article 10 (2) of the Covenant to prisoners 18–21 years of age. As at March 2013, there had been only eight prisoners aged 15–17 in Finland.

44. **Mr. Kosonen** (Finland) acknowledged that his Government should reconsider the reservations with a view to further discussions with the Committee at a later date.

45. **Ms. Huotarinen** (Finland) said that the current anti-discrimination legislation took a broad approach to discrimination on the ground of ethnicity, applying to both public and private activities in the fields of employment, education, training, services, housing and access to establishments such as restaurants. That legislation would be amended, however, and until the new legislation entered into force, complaints of discrimination in the workplace were lodged with the occupational health and safety authorities. In some situations victims could also lodge complaints with the Parliamentary Ombudsman or the Chancellor of Justice.

46. **Ms. Arrhenius** (Finland) said that the Ombudsman for Minorities had commissioned a comprehensive study of discrimination against Roma men and women. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health had also planned a survey on access to social and health services for older members of minorities, including persons with disabilities, Roma, Sami and immigrants. That survey would be launched in January 2014.

47. **Ms. Faurie** (Finland) said that the objective of the Government's Equal Pay Programme was to reduce the gender wage gap to 15 per cent by 2015 through measures such as decreasing the gender-based segregation of occupations and supporting women's career development. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health was planning to launch an awareness-raising campaign about the gender wage gap in autumn 2013. The working group established to review the Equality Act had proposed conducting pay surveys to identify the reasons for specific pay gaps and to remedy those situations. The report containing that proposal was being circulated for comments and would soon be submitted to parliament. The Equality Act provided for a fine of at least 3,240 euros to be paid to the victim as compensation for gender-based discrimination in the form of lower pay.

48. No measures had been taken to provide additional resources to the Ombudsman for Equality in order to assess cases of discrimination in employment, but those efforts would be strengthened by the actions of the aforementioned working group. The Equality Act prohibited discrimination against women who were pregnant or had recently given birth and provided for the payment of compensation to victims of such discrimination. A working group within the Ministry of Employment was looking into the issue of employees' return from parental leave.

49. The draft reform of the Equality Act included a prohibition on discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender expression. It would also require authorities, educational institutions and employers to promote the equality of sexual and gender minorities.

50. **Mr. Kosonen** (Finland) said that article 27 of the Covenant was frequently referred to in the courts in cases involving the Sami people. Generally speaking, however, the courts did not often refer to international human rights treaties because Finland made great efforts to fully incorporate into national legislation all the treaties it ratified, so judges most often referred to that national legislation rather than to the treaties that had given rise to it. Nevertheless, the Covenant and related human rights issues were taken into account in the courts, in parliament and in the Constitution, though there might be further scope for awareness-raising among civil servants and the general public.

51. **Ms. Huotarinen** (Finland) said that in November 2011 the Ministry of Justice had established a working group to amend the provisions of the Criminal Code on human trafficking. The working group's proposals, issued in September 2012, focused on clarifying the distinction between human trafficking and other offences such as procurement. Under one of the proposed amendments, prostitutes would be entitled to the same free legal aid and support provided to victims of trafficking. The government bill would be submitted to parliament in autumn 2013.

52. **Ms. Suikkari-Kleven** (Finland) said that, thanks to pressure from the Ombudsman for Minorities, her Government had stepped up its efforts to train social services and health authorities to identify victims of human trafficking, which had resulted in an increase in reported cases. The 200 labour inspectors now knew how to ask the right questions, but victims were still sometimes reluctant to speak out.

53. **Ms. Pietarinen** (Finland) said that in spring 2012 the police had established guidelines on responding to human trafficking with a view to providing a more unified response and promoting equal treatment for possible trafficking victims. According to the Criminal Investigations Act, if any indications of human trafficking appeared during a criminal investigation then the offence must be investigated as a case of human trafficking or aggravated human trafficking. The possibility of human trafficking must be taken into account in procedures to obtain residence permits, asylum procedures, decisions to refuse entry into the country and deportation decisions. Special care must be taken to identify possible victims of human trafficking in cases involving the sale of sexual services or the unlawful use of labour. Police training on responding to human trafficking included training on how to identify victims.

54. **Ms. Oinonen** (Finland) said that her Government acknowledged that the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families was a core human rights treaty and had analysed the possibility of ratifying the treaty three times – in 1994, 2004 and 2011. In the last analysis the authorities had decided that ratification was not appropriate at that time. While migrant workers were not differentiated from other immigrants in Finnish legislation, they enjoyed the same rights under the Constitution and under international instruments. National legislation had been amended to comply with European Union directives on family reunification and the status of third country nationals who were long-term residents. While national social security legislation was largely consistent with the aforementioned Convention, the latter contained some unclear concepts in relation to national labour law.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.