



**Convention on the Elimination
of All Forms of Discrimination
against Women**

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**Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination
against Women**
Thirty-second session
10-28 January 2005

Provisional agenda

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3. Election of officers.
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
5. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the thirty-first and thirty-second sessions of the Committee.
6. Consideration of the reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
7. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
8. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee.
9. Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
10. Provisional agenda for the thirty-third session.
11. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-second session.

Annotations

Item 1
Opening of the session

The thirty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General.

Item 2**Solemn declaration by the new members of the Committee**

According to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the Committee, new members of the Committee shall make the solemn declaration contained in that rule.

Item 3**Election of officers**

The Committee shall elect a chairperson, three vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur for a term of two years, according to article 19 of the Convention and rules 16 and 17 of the Committee's rules of procedure. The term of office of the officers elected by the Committee at its thirty-second session, on 10 January 2005, will expire on 31 December 2006. Under rule 20 of the Committee's rules of procedure, if any of the officers of the Committee ceases to serve or declares her or his inability to continue serving as a member of the Committee, or for any reason is no longer able to act as an officer, a new officer from the same region shall be elected for the unexpired term of her or his predecessor.

Item 4**Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

Rule 9 of the rules of procedure provides that the first substantive item on the provisional agenda for any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. Rule 7 provides that the provisional agenda for each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairperson, in conformity with the relevant provisions of articles 17 to 22 of the Convention.

At its thirty-first session, the Committee approved the provisional agenda for its thirty-second session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (CEDAW/C/2005/I/1)

Item 5**Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the thirty-first and thirty-second sessions of the Committee**

Under this item, the Chairperson will brief the Committee on activities and events occurring since the previous session that had a bearing on the Committee's work.

Item 6**Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

Article 18 of the Convention provides that States parties to the Convention shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and other progress made in this respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned and thereafter at least every four years and further, whenever the Committee requests.

At its thirty-first session, the Committee, taking into account the criteria of preference to be given to those States parties whose reports had been pending for the longest time, the need to give priority to initial reports and the desirability of balance of reports in terms of geographic and other factors, decided to invite eight States parties to present their reports. Eight States parties agreed to that request.

At its thirty-second session, the Committee will have before it the following reports: the combined initial, second and third periodic reports of Samoa (CEDAW/C/WSM/1-3); the combined initial, second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (CEDAW/C/LAO/1-5); the second periodic report of Algeria (CEDAW/C/DZA/2); the combined second and third periodic reports of Croatia (CEDAW/C/CRO/2-3); the combined second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports of Gabon (CEDAW/C/GAB/2-5); the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Italy (CEDAW/C/ITA/4-5); the combined third and fourth and fifth periodic reports of Paraguay (CEDAW/C/PAR/3-4 and CEDAW/C/PAR/5 and Corr.1); and the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Turkey (CEDAW/C/TUR/4-5 and Corr.1).

Rule 51 of the rules of procedure provides that representatives of a State party shall be present at meetings of the Committee when the report of the State is being examined and shall participate in discussions and answer questions concerning the report. The Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its thirty-second session.

Rule 49 of the rules of procedure provides that, at each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of the non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention. The Secretary-General also provides the Committee with a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention that have not yet been considered by the Committee.

At its thirty-second session, the Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the status of submission of reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2005/I/2).

A pre-session working group of the Committee is convened before each session to prepare a list of issues and questions relating to reports for transmission to the representatives of States parties before the meetings at which their reports are to be considered. The pre-session working group for the thirty-second session met in New York from 26 to 30 July 2004. The report of the pre-session working group and the responses of States parties to the lists of issues and questions drawn up by the pre-session working group will be before the Committee (CEDAW/PSWG/2005/I/CRP.1 and 2 and addenda).

Documentation

Combined initial, second and third periodic reports of Samoa (CEDAW/C/WSM/1-3)

Combined initial, second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (CEDAW/C/LAO/1-5)

Second periodic report of Algeria (CEDAW/C/DZA/2)

Combined second and third periodic reports of Croatia (CEDAW/C/CRO/2-3)

Combined second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports of Gabon (CEDAW/C/GAB/2-5)

Combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Italy (CEDAW/C/ITA/4-5)

Combined third and fourth and fifth periodic reports of Paraguay (CEDAW/C/PAR/3-4 and CEDAW/C/PAR/5 and Corr.1)

Combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Turkey (CEDAW/C/TUR/4-5 and Corr.1)

Report of the pre-session working group (CEDAW/PSWG/2005/I/CRP.1 and Add.1 (Algeria), Add.2 (Croatia), Add.3 (Gabon), Add.4 (Italy), Add.5 (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Add.6 (Paraguay), Add.7 (Samoa) and Add.8 (Turkey))

Responses to the list of issues (CEDAW/PSWG/2005/I/CRP.2 (Algeria) and Add.1 (Croatia), Add.2 (Gabon), Add.3 (Italy), Add.4 (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Add.5 (Paraguay), Add.6 (Samoa) and Add.7 (Turkey))

Item 7

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 21 of the Convention provides that the Committee may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from States parties. It also provides that such suggestions and general recommendations shall be included in the report of the Committee, together with comments, if any, from States parties.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee decided that its next general recommendation would be on article 2 of the Convention, and that work thereon would commence at its thirty-first session, in July 2004. At its thirty-first session, on 21 July 2004, the Committee held a general discussion in which representatives from seven non-governmental organizations and four United Nations entities participated. The Committee agreed to establish an intersessional task force with the following core members: Mr. Flinterman, Ms. Gnacadja, Ms. Manalo, Ms. Morvai and Ms. Šimonović. The task force was invited to prepare intersessionally a document containing proposed elements for the general recommendation, for discussion by the Committee at its thirty-second session in January 2005. It was agreed that the Group would draw from the Committee's initial discussion held on the topic at its informal meeting in Utrecht, the Netherlands, as well as the inputs and suggestions made during the general discussion held on 21 July 2004.

All other interested members of the Committee were invited to submit any contribution to the members of the task force.

At its thirty-second session, the Committee will have before it elements for the general recommendation on article 2 of the Convention, prepared by the task force of the Committee.

Under this agenda item, the Committee also provides opportunities for specialists from the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to present to the Committee, in plenary, information related to specific articles of the Convention or to issues being considered for general recommendations and suggestions.

Article 22 of the Convention provides that the specialized agencies shall be entitled to be represented during the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the Convention as fall within the scope of their activities and that the Committee may invite the specialized agencies to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in those areas. At its thirtieth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on reports of specialized agencies on that subject (CEDAW/C/2005/I/3 and addenda).

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on reports provided by specialized agencies of the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities (CEDAW/C/2005/I/3)

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (CEDAW/C/2004/I/3/Add.1)

Report of the World Health Organization (CEDAW/C/2005/I/3/Add.2)

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (CEDAW/C/2005/I/3/Add.3)

Report of the International Labour Organization (CEDAW/C/2005/I/3/Add.4)

Elements for a general recommendation on article 2 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2005/I/4/Add.2)

Item 8

Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

Before each session, the Secretariat prepares a pre-session report on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee, containing information provided by the Secretariat, comments made by members of the Committee or information on developments elsewhere in the human rights regime (CEDAW/C/2005/I/4).

At its thirty-first session, the Committee considered the recommendations of the third inter-committee meeting (held at Geneva on 21 and 22 June 2004) and the sixteenth meeting of chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies (held at Geneva from 23 to 25 June 2004) and, in particular, the proposals on guidelines for an expanded core document and treaty-specific targeted reports and harmonized guidelines on reporting under the international human rights treaties (HRM/MC/2004/3). Following its preliminary exchange of views and questions of members, the Committee agreed that its working group on this question (Ms. Popescu, Ms. Schöpp-Schilling and Ms. Shin) would prepare proposals for consideration and further discussion at its thirty-second session, to be held in January 2005. Members were invited to submit their further suggestions and comments in writing to the members of the group.

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat on ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee (CEDAW/C/2005/I/4)

Working paper: in proposals on guidelines for an expanded core document and treaty-specific targeted reports and harmonized guidelines on reporting under human rights treaties (CEDAW/C/2005/I/4/Add.1)

Item 9

Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Following the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention in December 2000, the Committee established the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol. At its twenty-eighth session, the Committee confirmed the appointment of five experts as members of the Working Group for a two-year period. The term of office of the five members expires on 31 December 2004.

At its thirty-second session, the Committee will be called upon to appoint five members of the Working Group.

The fifth session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol will be held from 31 January to 2 February 2005.

The Committee will continue to implement its mandate under article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention. At its thirty-second session, the Committee will consider follow-up measures taken by the Government of Mexico in response to the Committee's inquiry.

Item 10

Provisional agenda for the thirty-third session

At its tenth session, the Committee decided that the draft provisional agenda for the following session of the Committee would be approved at the end of each session.

Documentation

Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Committee

Item 11

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-second session

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
Monday, 10 January 2005		
666th meeting		
10 a.m.-11.30 a.m.	Item 1	Opening of the session
	Item 2	Solemn declaration by the new members
	Item 3	Election of officers
	Item 4	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	Item 5	Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the thirty-first and thirty-second sessions of the Committee
	Item 6	Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: report of the pre-session working group
	Item 7	Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: introductory statement
	Item 8	Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee: introductory statement
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)		Informal meeting with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies
3 p.m.-4.30 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations
4.30 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 7, 8 and 9	Working Group of the Whole
Tuesday, 11 January 2005		
667th meeting		
		Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention
	Item 6	Algeria, second periodic report (CEDAW/C/DZA/2)
10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
668th meeting		
3 p.m.-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Algeria (continued)
5 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
Wednesday, 12 January 2005		
669th meeting		
	Item 6 (continued)	Gabon, second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/GAB/2-5)
10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
670th meeting		
3 p.m.-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Gabon (continued)
5 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 13 January 2005		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	Item 9 (continued)	Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention
3 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Friday, 14 January 2005		
671st meeting		
	Item 6 (continued)	Paraguay, combined third and fourth and fifth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/PAR/3-4 and CEDAW/C/PAR/5 and Corr.1)
10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
672nd meeting		
3 p.m.-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Paraguay (continued)
5 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8	Working Group of the Whole
Monday, 17 January 2005		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	Items 7 and 8	Working Group of the Whole
3 p.m.-4.30 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations
4.30 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 9	Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
Tuesday, 18 January 2005		
673rd meeting		
	Item 6 (continued)	Croatia, combined second and third periodic reports (CEDAW/C/CRO/2-3)
10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
674th meeting		
3 p.m.-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Croatia (continued)
5 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Wednesday, 19 January 2005		
675th meeting		
	Item 6 (continued)	Lao People's Democratic Republic, combined initial, second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/LAO/1-5)
10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
676th meeting		
3 p.m.-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Lao People's Democratic Republic (continued)
5 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 20 January 2005		
677th meeting		
	Item 6 (continued)	Turkey, combined fourth and fifth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/TUR/4-5 and Corr.1)
10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
678th meeting		
3 p.m.-5 p.m.	Item 6	Turkey (continued)
5 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
Friday, 21 January 2005		
Official holiday		
Monday, 24 January 2005		
		Samoa, combined initial, second and third periodic reports (CEDAW/C/WSM/1-3)
679th meeting		
10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
680th meeting		
3 p.m.-5 p.m.		Samoa (continued)
5 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6	Working Group of the Whole
Tuesday, 25 January 2005		
	Item 6 (continued)	Italy, combined fourth and fifth periodic report (CEDAW/C/ITA/4-5)
681st meeting		
10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
3 p.m.-5 p.m.		Italy (continued)
682nd meeting		
5 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Wednesday, 26 January 2005		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	Items 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 7 and 9 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 27 January 2005		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3 p.m.-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
Friday, 28 January 2005		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
683rd meeting		
3 p.m.-4 p.m. (closed)	Items 7 and 8 (continued)	Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole
4 p.m.-6 p.m.	Item 10	Provisional agenda for the thirty-third session
	Item 11	Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-second session