



Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.: General
13 November 2014

English only

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women Fifty-ninth session

Summary record (partial)* of the 1274th meeting**

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Friday, 7 November 2014, at 3p.m.

Chairperson: Ms. Ameline

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- * No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.
** No summary records were issued for the 1265th to 1273rd meetings.

This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent *within one week of the date of this document* to the Editing Section, room E.5108, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Any corrections to the records of this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

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The discussion covered in the summary record began at 5.20 p.m.

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-ninth session

(CEDAW/C/BEL/CO/7; CEDAW/C/BRN/CO/1-2; CEDAW/C/CHN/CO/7-8; CEDAW/C/GHA/CO/6-7; CEDAW/C/GIN/CO/7-8; CEDAW/C/POL/CO/7-8; CEDAW/C/SLB/CO/1-3 and CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/7-8; CEDAW/C/2014/III/CRP.1; CEDAW/C/2014/III/L.1)

1. **Ms. Patten** introduced the Committee's draft report, which was contained in document CEDAW/C/2014/III/CRP.1. She drew attention to chapter IV of the draft report concerning the draft concluding observations on the eight State party reports that the Committee had considered during its fifty-ninth session, which were contained in documents CEDAW/C/BEL/CO/7; CEDAW/C/BRN/CO/1-2; CEDAW/C/CHN/CO/7-8; CEDAW/C/GHA/CO/6-7; CEDAW/C/GIN/CO/7-8; CEDAW/C/POL/CO/7-8; CEDAW/C/SLB/CO/1-3 and CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/7-8.
2. **The Chairperson** said she took it that the Committee wished to adopt the documents containing the draft concluding observations.
3. *It was so decided.*
4. **Ms. Patten** introduced the draft report of the Working Group of the Whole, contained in chapters VI and VII of the draft report. She introduced the provisional agenda for the sixtieth session, contained in chapter VIII of the draft report.
5. *The provisional agenda for the sixtieth session was adopted.*
6. *The draft report of the Committee on its fifty-ninth session was adopted, as a whole, subject to finalization by Ms. Patten.*

Statement by the Chairperson

7. **The Chairperson** said that during the session the Committee had considered eight State party reports. It had held informal meetings with NGOs and national human rights institutions. The NGOs had made significant contributions to the Committee's work and their high level of attendance had been welcome. Thanks were due to the United Nations entities and other bodies that had provided detailed information, to the Inter-Agency Group on CEDAW Reporting, with which it had discussed ways of enhancing engagement, and to the United Nations country teams that had submitted their reports through the Inter-Agency Group.
8. The Committee had made progress with the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/268 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, in particular through its decision to apply the simplified reporting procedure from January 2015 on a pilot basis. The work done by the Working Group on Working Methods had enabled the Committee to decide on its working languages for the next two years. The informal meeting with States parties to the Convention had highlighted that the Committee was making headway with strengthening and streamlining its working methods and was covering relevant issues.
9. The major achievements of the session included the adoption of a joint general recommendation/general comment on harmful practices with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the adoption of general recommendation No. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness of women, and progress with a draft general recommendation on access to justice, for which respective working groups were to be congratulated. The efforts and expertise of the Working Group on Communications had resulted in the adoption of four decisions on individual communications.

10. She paid tribute to several outgoing members of the Committee, who had made valuable professional contributions and would be missed.

11. Progress achieved in other areas included the establishment of a Working Group on Inquiries, and the preparation of concluding observations. The Committee had been briefed by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development and the Director of Amnesty International, France on various issues, such as new forms of violence against women. Lastly, Ms. Patten had represented the Committee on the High-level Advisory Group for Global Study on Security Council resolution No. 1325 (2000).

12. On a personal note, as outgoing Chairperson, she expressed her gratitude to the Committee members for their support. They should pride themselves in their work, which gave hope to millions of women worldwide, in differing circumstances. In the words of a speaker at a meeting of chairpersons held in New York, the Committee was an indispensable bastion against any kind of barbarity that degraded humanity. She was proud to have had the opportunity to reflect such an image of the Committee that would no doubt be carried over by her successor. She thanked the people working behind the scenes who had ensured the smooth running of the meetings.

13. **Ms. Gabr** expressed her sincere thanks to the outgoing Committee members for their support, friendship, professionalism and hard work, and for setting an example to all. She thanked Ms. Ameline for her leadership and the secretariat for its work.

14. **Ms. Haidar** said that she was grateful to have had the opportunity to work under Ms. Ameline, whose influence on the members went beyond the work done in the Committee. She looked forward to working with her successor.

15. **Ms. Gbedemah** endorsed the comments of her colleagues, adding that Ms. Ameline had been a valuable mentor.

16. **Mr. Schneider** (Secretary of the Committee), speaking on behalf of the secretariat, thanked Ms. Ameline for her human approach to management. It had been an honour to work with her.

Closure of the session

17. **The Chairperson** declared the fifty-ninth session closed.

The discussion covered in the summary record ended at 5.40 p.m.