



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

Distr.
GENERAL

CEDAW/C/ZWE/1
20 July 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION
OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Initial report of States parties*

ZIMBABWE

* The present report is being issued as received, without formal editing.

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
FOREWORD	6
INTRODUCTION	7
PART 1	
Core Document	
The Convention and Zimbabwe	8
PART 2	
The Convention: article by article	13
Article 1	
The definition of "discrimination against women"	13
Article 2	
Legal and administrative measures undertaken to eliminate discrimination ..	14
Article 3	
Measures to ensure the full development and advancement of women and basic human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with men	17
Article 4	
Temporary measures that have been effected in order to accelerate de facto equality between men and women	18
Article 5	
Social and cultural patterns that lead to discrimination and to stereotyped roles for men and women. Responsibility of both men and women for raising children	19
Article 6	
Suppression of the traffic in and of the exploitation of the prostitution of women	22
Article 7	
Elimination of discrimination against women in political and public life ..	23
Article 8	
Equal opportunities with men to serve as representatives of government at the international level and as participants in the work of international organizations	27
Article 9	
Equal rights to acquire, change or retain their nationality	28
Article 10	
Elimination of discrimination against women in the field of education	29
Article 11	
Elimination of discrimination against women in the field of employment	39

/...

	<u>Page</u>
Article 12	
Elimination of discrimination against women in the field of health	44
Article 13	
Elimination of discrimination against women in other areas of economic and social life	50
Article 14	
Problems faced by rural women	54
Article 15	
Equality before the law	58
Article 16	
Elimination of discrimination against women within marriage and the family	59
Conclusion	63

Tables

1. Percentage employment distribution by sector and gender	21
2. Participation in legislative bodies	25
3. Participation in political party decision-making bodies by gender: ZANU (PF)	25
4. Executive office by gender	25
5. Participation in local government	26
6. Administrative officers in Zimbabwe Civil Service, June 1993	26
7. The Judiciary, 1994	26
8. Ambassadorial appointments, by sex, 1995	27
9. Enrolment by gender in primary school: 1991-1994	31
10. Number of female students at Chibero Agricultural College: 1990-1994 .	33
11. Female participation in higher education	33
12. Enrolment at the University of Zimbabwe, by faculty and gender: 1991-1994	34
13. Number of students by gender and faculty at the National University of Science and Technology for the period August 1994-February 1995	35
14. Number of students by gender and faculty at Africa University for the period 1993-1994	35

	<u>Page</u>
15. Percentage composition of teachers in primary and secondary schools by gender from 1981 to 1994	37
16. Cumulative AIDS cases by age group and gender: 1987-1994	48
17. STD episodes by year: 1986-1994	48
18. Percentage of women knowing a method of contraception, ever user and current user of methods: 1994	49
19. Number of loans approved by SEDCO by gender: 1985-1993	52
20. Number of beneficiaries under group lending scheme: Agricultural Finance Corporation: 1992-1995	52

Annex tables

1. Primary school enrolment by gender and grade	64
2. Percentage enrolment in primary school	65
3. Secondary school enrolment by gender and form (Forms 1-4)	66
4. Percentage enrolment in secondary school (Forms 1-4)	67
6.* Secondary school dropout rate by gender and form (Forms 1-4)	68
7. Secondary school enrolment by gender and form (Forms 5-6)	69
8. Percentage enrolment in secondary school (Forms 5-6)	69
9. Secondary school dropout rate by gender (Forms 5-6)	70
10. Percentage distribution of population aged 5+ by school attendance and gender, Zimbabwe 1992 census	70
11. Percent distribution of the population aged 5+ by school attendance and by gender, urban and rural areas, Zimbabwe 1992 census	71
12. Number of people per hospital bed (excluding maternity beds)	72
13. Number of hospital facilities, population and number of people per facility	73
14. Life expectancy at birth, 1978-1990, Zimbabwe 1992 census	74

* Table 5 has not been supplied by the State party.

	<u>Page</u>
15. A. Infant mortality rates by gender, 1978-1990, Zimbabwe 1992 census	74
B. Child mortality rates by gender, 1978-1990, Zimbabwe 1992 census .	75
C. Infant and child mortality rates and life expectancy at birth (EO) by gender for urban and rural areas 1990, Zimbabwe 1992 census ...	75
D. Infant mortality and child rates and life expectancy at birth (EO) by gender and level of education of mother 1989 and 1990, Zimbabwe 1992 census	76
16. Percent distribution of children surviving by gender from the average number of children ever born, by age group of mothers, Zimbabwe 1992 census	77
17. Female probabilities of surviving from age 25 to age X, Zimbabwe 1992 census	78
18. Distribution of private households by size and sex of household, Zimbabwe 1992 census	79

FOREWORD

Zimbabwe ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1991 and by so doing became a State party to the Convention. As a State party, the Government committed itself to respect and continue to observe the rights set out in the Convention, which it considers the International Bill of Rights for Women.

The report of Zimbabwe presented herein gives a detailed and comprehensive description of the current position of women in Zimbabwe. It is based upon a review of relevant publications and contributions submitted by relevant government ministries, non-governmental organizations and research institutions.

Upon the independence of Zimbabwe in 1980, the Government established a Ministry of Community Development and Women's Affairs as the national machinery for the advancement of women in all spheres of life. Through the activities of the national machinery working in conjunction with other government sectors and non-governmental organizations, considerable progress has been made in a number of areas. More progress is called for and, working in partnership with civil society, non-governmental organizations and other interested agencies, the aims of the convention will be accomplished.

I am pleased to submit the initial report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

(Signed) F. L. CHITAURO
Minister of National Affairs, Employment
Creation and Cooperatives