



Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Pre-session working group

Forty-ninth session

11-29 July 2011

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

1. It is the practice of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to convene a pre-session working group for five days to prepare lists of issues and questions relating to the initial and periodic reports that will be considered by the Committee at one of its future sessions.
2. The Committee decided that the pre-session working group for the Committee's forty-ninth session would meet from 25 to 29 October 2010, immediately after its forty-seventh session in order to ensure that sufficient time would be available to States parties to submit their written replies to the lists of issues and questions, as well as to ensure their timely translation.
3. The following experts were designated as members of the pre-session working group for the forty-ninth session:

Violet Awori
Magalys Arocha Dominguez
Soledad Murillo de la Vega
Violeta Neubauer
Zohra Rasekh
4. The pre-session working group elected Ms. Neubauer as the Chair of the pre-session working group.
5. The pre-session working group prepared lists of issues and questions with respect to the periodic reports of Costa Rica, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Italy, Nepal, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Zambia.



6. To assist in the preparation of the lists of issues and questions, the pre-session working group had before it the reports of the eight States parties listed above, as well as the State parties' core documents, if available; the general recommendations adopted by the Committee; background information and draft lists of issues and questions prepared by the Secretariat, based on an analytical comparison of current reports of States parties and the Committee's discussion of earlier reports; and other relevant information, including concluding observations of the Committee and other treaty bodies. In preparing the lists of issues and questions for periodic reports, the pre-session working group paid particular attention to the States parties' follow-up to the Committee's concluding observations on previous reports.

7. The pre-session working group benefited from written and oral information submitted by United Nations entities and specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and a national human rights institution.

8. Lists of issues and questions adopted by the pre-session working group were transmitted to the eight States parties concerned and are contained in the following documents:

(a) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined fifth and sixth periodic report of Costa Rica (CEDAW/C/CRI/Q/5-6);

(b) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined initial, second and third periodic report of Djibouti (CEDAW/C/DJI/Q/1-3);

(c) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined sixth and seventh periodic report of Ethiopia (CEDAW/C/ETH/Q/6-7);

(d) List of issues and questions with regard to the sixth periodic report of Italy (CEDAW/C/ITA/Q/6);

(e) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined fourth and fifth periodic report of Nepal (CEDAW/C/NPL/Q/4-5);

(f) List of issues and questions with regard to the seventh periodic report of the Republic of Korea (CEDAW/C/KOR/Q/7);

(g) List of issues and questions with regard to the fourth periodic report of Singapore (CEDAW/C/SGP/Q/4);

(h) List of issues and questions with regard to the combined fifth and sixth periodic report of Zambia (CEDAW/C/ZMB/Q/5-6).

9. In accordance with Committee decisions 22/V, 25/II and 31/III, the lists of issues and questions focused on themes addressed by the Convention. The themes included the constitutional and legislative framework and national machinery for the advancement of women; gender stereotypes; poverty and employment; violence against women including domestic violence; trafficking in women and exploitation of prostitution; participation of women in decision-making; education and training; employment; health; social and economic benefits; the situation of vulnerable groups of women, such as older women, rural women, women with disabilities, women belonging to ethnic minorities, and refugee and migrant women; equality before the law; and marriage and family relations.