



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.12/Q/NOR/2
21 May 2004

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Pre-sessional working group
17-21 May 2004

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT
ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS**

**List of issues to be taken up in connection with the consideration of the
fourth periodic report of NORWAY concerning the rights referred to
in articles 1-15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and
Cultural Rights (E/C.12/4/Add.14)**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. While taking note of the information in paragraph 6 of the report, please provide information on the extent to which the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has the same status in the domestic legal order of the State party as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
2. Please provide information on the measures taken to ensure that the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights remains in compliance with the Paris Principles (see annex, General Assembly resolution 48/134).
3. Please provide information on the State party's position with regard to the Optional Protocol to the Covenant.

II. ISSUES RELATING TO THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE COVENANT (arts. 1-5)

4. Please provide information about the protection against discrimination, in law and in practice, afforded to minorities, foreigners and persons of immigrant background, particularly with regard to ensuring equality of opportunities in and access to employment, housing and work.
5. With reference to the obligations undertaken by the State party under article 3 of the Covenant, please provide information about how the State party ensures the equal right of men and women in the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, including the implementation of the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.

III. ISSUES RELATING TO SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE COVENANT (arts. 6-15)

Article 7: The right to just and favourable conditions of work

6. Please clarify the contents of paragraph 57 of the report regarding occupational accidents and diseases and the coverage of accidents in the offshore, petroleum and fishing industries. Please also provide more information regarding the approximately 35,000 occupational accidents which are recorded each year and the reasons why only 20-25 per cent of all occupational accidents are reported.

Article 10: Protection of the family, mothers and children

7. Please provide updated information on the extent of domestic violence against women and children, including the latest statistical data. Please also provide information on specific measures undertaken to combat domestic violence and punish offenders.
8. With regard to paragraph 120 of the report, please clarify the restrictions imposed on foreign nationals, including asylum-seekers and refugees, with regard to the possibility of contracting marriage in the State party.

Article 11: The right to an adequate standard of living

9. With reference to paragraph 218 of the report, please provide information on the provisions adopted by the Storting that prohibit discrimination in the housing market.

Article 12: The right to physical and mental health

10. Please provide specific information on the situation of tobacco consumption, particularly among children and youth, and on the measures taken by the State party to address the situation.

11. Please provide more information about the National Programme for Mental Health 1999-2006 (paragraph 308 of the report) and about the conditions under which compulsory health care is provided (paragraph 320 of the report). Please also provide information on the extent to which coercion and force is used in psychiatric treatment and in the treatment of senile dementia patients.

Articles 13 and 14: The right to education

12. Please provide disaggregated statistical data for all levels of education in relation to student enrolment, graduation, and dropout rates.

Article 15: The right to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and protection of authors' rights

13. Please provide more specific information concerning the guarantees for the Sami people with regard to their traditional livelihoods and the control over their natural resources. Please also clarify the extent to which the Sami people are involved in decision-making procedures relating to the management of land and natural resources in Finnmark.
