



Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Tenth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 180th MEETING

Held at the Vienna International Centre, Vienna, on Friday, 25 January 1991, at 2.30 p.m.

Chairperson: Ms. TALLAWY

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The meeting was called to order at 2,40 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE CONVENTION (continued)

Initial report of Burkina Faso (continued) (CEDAW/C/5/Add.67)

- 1. At the invitation of the Chairperson, Ms. Haoua (Burkina Faso) took a place at the Committee table.
- 2. Ms. HAOUA (Burkina Faso) thanked the members of the Committee for their objective comments on her Government's report and the good wishes addressed to the Government and herself.

General questions

- 3. Replying to the general questions that had been put, she said that more information had been requested on family size and on the literacy rate. She noted that the concept of family in Burkina Faso differed considerably from that in Europe. For example, a family consisting only of a couple and two or three children was rare. Even urban families frequently included cousins or relatives from the village, given national traditions of solidarity and hospitality. Family size therefore varied widely, from 6 to 10 persons in the towns and from 10 to 20 or 30 in the villages; polygamy was still prevalent. She could not give up-to-date figures for the literacy rate but the latest statistics would be presented in the Government's second periodic report. Between 1984 and 1985, girls had accounted for 24.29 per cent and boys 77.71 per cent of a total school enrolment of 39,369.
- 4. A question had been asked about the people's courts and whether they took the Convention into account. By replacing the customary courts, the people's conciliation courts (TPC), and people's departmental courts (TPD), set up in 1987, had brought greater transparency and equality into the administration of justice. The principle of equality was respected in the choice of juries since the Union of Women of Burkina Faso (UFB) and social workers were present in court to help women and minors. Since the Revolution was based on the same principles of equality as the Convention, there was no problem in that respect. The substantive articles of the Convention corresponded to the overall aims of the Revolution.
- 5. The principle of equality was also set forth in the new Family Code. At the national level, women enjoyed the same rights as men. In the case of civil servants, equal qualifications meant equal pay; women had the same right to vote as men, and so on. She was unaware of any case of discrimination in the public sector. However, it was true that fewer women in the private sector were recruited because they were so often unavailable. Within the family, a woman's status tended to be that of wife, mother and housekeeper. The husband was the head of the family and, traditionally, the decision-maker, responsible for choosing the conjugal domicile, etc. It was difficult, however, to generalize since the status of women depended to some extent on the tribe. There were societies in Burkina Faso where women were the heads of the family.
- 6. As far as changing male attitudes was concerned, the African context must be borne in mind. When a new law was adopted or new messages were to be sent, the dissemination of information became a vital problem, since illiterate people had no direct access to knowledge. Burkina Faso was a society in transition, anxious to

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retain certain traditional values, such as solidarity and respect for the aged, while rejecting others. Increasing awarenesss was a matter of persuasion and was the first vital stage without which no concrete action was possible. Information campaigns were therefore carried out at all levels and directed at the entire population.

- 7. It had been asked whether the national community service was a State body and what its exact role was. The service was a public institution, set up in 1984, to give young men and women completing their university or vocational education some military, political, civic and pre-professional training. It lasted for 18 months to two years. The first year was devoted to general principles, while during the second year the young person worked as a trainee in his or her field, and was thereby introduced to the world of work. A small State bursary was given but no wage. The ultimate aim was to inculcate patriotism and a sense of responsibility.
- 8. The UFB, the National Union of the Elderly and the National Union of Young People were popular political bodies responsible for fostering revolutionary principles and mobilizing and organizing women, the elderly and young people in the political, economic and social fields. They came under the National Secretariat-General for the Committees for the Defence of the Revolution which was their co-ordinator. These were village, departmental and provincial branches. At the lower level, anyone could join and the leaders were elected. The top officers, on the other hand, were appointed by the Head of State.
- 9. The new Family Code, which had come into force on 4 August 1990, abrogated all former provisions in that respect, thus taking precedence over customary law. It had been adopted in 1988 and had been the subject of an information campaign for two years before entering into force. It accorded genuine importance to women's concerns. The problem that remained was its implementation, because it was one thing to possess a Code and another to make use of it. It was unlikely, in view of social pressures, that an uneducated woman would dare to bring a charge against her husband. The ministries concerned needed to find a way of making information available to women and the Code would need to be publicized still more before it could come into effect.
- 10. Burkina Faso had contacts with other countries in the economic, cultural and social fields. For example, an international handicrafts fair was organized every year and an African film festival every two years, a Black People's Institute had been set up in 1988, etc. In addition to international co-operation for development, it was a host country to the West African Economic Community, which had set up a branch, the Association of West African Women, for social and economic contacts and the exchange of experience on women's concerns. All the organizations mentioned were operating well and achieving positive results in their various fields. All were open to women and the international fairs, for example, offered an opportunity for women to earn money.
- 11. It had been asked how assistance from UNDP under the project for strengthening the role of women in the informal sector would reach women in Burkina Faso. First, there would be an evaluation stage, which would be followed up by the implementation of the project. Three government bodies were involved in the evaluation: the Ministry of Planning and Co-operation, the Ministry of Social Welfare and the Service for the Economic Advancement of Women.

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- 12. The UFB enjoyed the moral and financial support of the State. Its premises were provided by the State and its agents were civil servants seconded and paid by the State. It also enjoyed the support of non-governmental organizations and international bodies in its development projects on behalf of women.
- 13. In response to the suggestion that Burkina Faso had no focal point for the advancement of women, she explained that her country felt that that problem was multisectoral and that each institution involved was useful in its field of competence. The Government was therefore reflecting on the matter with a view to adopting a multisectoral strategy on behalf of women to be directed by a committee whose leader would be designated. In the mean time, a number of automomous bodies were involved, controlled by the State Secretariat for Social Welfare through the Department for Promotion of the Family, which was recognized as the most competent technical body. Also, at the political level, the UFB enjoyed considerable influence, and worked closely with other bodies.

- 14. As for the question whether Burkina Faso possessed a constitution, she explained that the country had had a Constitution for a fairly long time after first gaining independence. Successive military governments had been followed by a transitional period during which preparations had been made for a normal constitutional life. When the initial report was drafted, the country had not possessed either a constitution or a parliament. A draft Constitution had now been adopted in which the fundamental rights of women were guaranteed.
- 15. Referring to the question whether any NGOs had been consulted in preparing the report, she said that none had been associated in its drafting. Her department, as the national body responsible for the advancement of women, had assumed responsibility for drawing up the report in the short time available. However, it did collaborate closely with NGOs in various social and economic projects and was aware of what they were doing in the country and the results achieved by their activities, which were frequently inspired by and in line with national policies. She repeated that the substantive articles of the Convention were taken into account in the new Constitution which set forth the principle of equality of men and women and rejected any discrimination, whether based on race, region, religion or sex. However, since the Constitution had not been drawn up with women specifically in mind, not every aspect was covered.
- 16. It had been asked whether the problems of dowry and forced marriage would be dealt with as forcefully as those of excision and prostitution. As she had stressed in her introduction, a shortage of resources obliged her country to make choices if its policies were to be effective. It was therefore concentrating on problems that were the most serious and most harmful to women, namely, excision and prostitution, on which vigorous steps had already been taken. Moreover, dowry was not such an acute problem in Burkina Faso as it was in some other African countries. Not all tribes engaged in the practice or addressed it in the same way. However, the areas where forced marriage and dowry were common had been identified by the State Secretariat for Social Welfare and were being dealt with through information and family life education provided by social workers in the field. The Family Code also dealt with the matter and the Department for Promotion of the Family intended to draw up a programme to eradicate those practices.

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Article 3

- 17. She could not give exact figures for the number of women in the UFB because it was changing very rapidly. However membership was simple and open to all, and in the rural areas very large, and the Union organized groups which worked together to solve their problems under the guidance of an elected president.
- 18. It had been asked why the number of women in high office had declined between 1987 and 1989. That decline should not be seen as a falling back in the position of women but rather as due to political change, many male Ministers having also changed during that period. Political determination to advance the cause of women was as firm as ever. For example a woman had been appointed High Commissioner of Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso, in 1990, which had not been the case in 1988.

- 19. Cultural practices degrading to women consisted above all of traditional practices harmful to health such as excision, and child and forced marriage, all of which were being dealt with by the State Secretariat for Social Welfare. Such practices were the most humiliating to women since bodily integrity should be an inviolable principle. In addition there was a whole range of sexist prejudices as a result of which women were regarded as irresponsible, incapable of decision-making, and so on.
- 20. It had been asked whether the various programmes referred to in the report were effective and whether they had produced results. She explained that the campaigns launched in connection with the programmes against excision and prostitution were only a year old and had not yet been evaluated, and in view of the magnitude of those programmes, a period of reflection was required before they were pursued. The practices in question were well established and it would take a long time to persuade people to abandon them. It had therefore been decided to wait for a period of two years, after which action would be taken. Publicity was not enough; there must be a genuine dialogue so that the population could be associated with the decision.
- 21. If the problem of violence against women became crucial, steps could of course be taken. For the time being there were few complaints and it was therefore not a priority, although women must, of course, be informed of all their rights so as to be able to defend themselves. The social services had always kept an eye on the problem and, in education for family life, harmony was stressed.
- 22. The various national committees set up to combat traditional practices through various information programmes helped women to participate and also protected their health, which was vital to development. The practice of levirate referred to in the report was a customary practice which required a woman, on the death of her husband, to marry a male relative of the deceased so as to be kept within the husband's family. It was not prevalent throughout the country but limited to certain tribes. It had, however, been prohibited by the Family Code as being a highly discriminatory practice.

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- 23. In response to the question about the policy on prostitution, she said that it was co-ordinated by the Department for Social Rehabilitation which was part of the State Secretariat for Social Welfare. The strategy was aimed at prostitutes and minors, both of whom were regarded as persons in difficulty and in need of protection. The same decree dealt with both problems because children living in the streets faced many risks and prostitutes also carried on their profession by accosting clients in the streets. The decree therefore prohibited soliciting and vagrancy. While prostitution itself could not be prohibited, soliciting could be. A national committee had been established and there were committees in the villages, which conducted information campaigns by means of films, talks and lectures, and health information for the prostitutes themselves and for the whole population. The Department for Social Rehabilitation directed unemployed girls to social welfare centres where they could engage in paid work and thus escape from poverty. New jobs were becoming available as salaried women in the towns liked to hire girls to help in the house and with children. Girls who dropped out of school were therefore trained in household skills and child care and helped to find posts.
- 24. On the extent of AIDS in Burkina Faso, she said cases existed, and a committee had been set up to combat the problem, but she had no figures concerning the number of victims.
- 25. As for prostitution, she explained that Burkina Faso was a country of strict morals and as prostitution was clandestine, figures were hard to come by; very few minors, however, engaged in prostitution.
- 26. Four government ministers in Burkina Faso were women, namely, the Ministers of Culture, Information, Tourism and Finance.
- 27. The report failed to mention a parliament because when the report had been drawn up there was neither a constitution nor a parliament. Since the Revolution, power had belonged to the people organized in popular bodies and women had been more widely represented in the Government, but she did not know whether greater participation in political life was envisaged. For the past six years there had been four or five women ministers out of about a dozen, and many women had been directors.
- 28. Discrimination against women was a very complex matter in that it was essentially related to mentalities which could not quickly be changed. It would be a long time before discrimination was eliminated in Burkina Faso but progress was slowly being made. The situation of women in the public sector was not very favourable since many more men occupied senior positions than women. Women were more likely to be handicapped by lack of education, but they were now moving into careers which had formerly been limited to men; women in Burkina Faso were now doctors and university professors, for example.
- 29. The main obstacles to equality were the higher rate of illiteracy among women, their relative unavailability due to frequent pregnancies, an excessive amount of domestic work and cultural burdens such as being subject to the authority of their parents, and subsequently to that of their husbands.

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- 30. Many women were now employed as judges, but that was a recent development and there were more men than women judges, particularly at the highest level.
- 31. In answer to a question concerning the possibility of Burkina Faso women keeping their nationality when they married foreigners, she said that the principle of dual nationality was not recognized in Burkina Faso for either sex. Moreover, it would be difficult for a foreign woman to pass her nationality on to her children.
- 32. Developments with respect to literacy were encouraging: in the past 10 years 37 per cent of girls had gone to school, whereas between 1984 and 1985 nearly 25 per cent had done so. The matter of literacy among women would have to be addressed in her country's second report.
- 33. As to whether there might be any training to equip women for more senior positions, she said that apart from university education, which was available to all students with the requisite qualifications, nothing specific was envisaged for the time being. There were, in any event, very few training institutions in Burkina Faso.
- 34. As the cost of sending their children to school was often more than parents could afford, the Pedagogical Institute of the Ministry of National Education had not only provided grants but also launched a pilot project to encourage young girls to go to school in areas where the attendance problem was the most acute. As for unwanted pregnancies, schools were offering sex education courses, accompanied by lectures, films and discussion classes.
- 35. The disparity between the number of girls and boys with scholarships was explained by the poorer school attendance rate of girls. Girls who went to school sometimes left because they were needed to help in the home.
- 36. The private sector of the Burkina Faso economy was not very large, and current labour legislation accepted the principle of equality of opportunity; however, as private employers tended to hire men rather than women, they would be encouraged to respect the principle of equal access to employment.

- 37. She explained that the social security system in Burkina Faso was based on the contributions of wage-earners, and that women were entitled to a retirement pension according to their grade and number of years' service. The widow of a wage-earner received a widow's pension (provided she did not remarry) and an allowance for children under 18. Women who had not been wage-earners and were not the widows of wage-earners received no pension because no contributions had been paid.
- 38. The wage range given in the report was an indication that women performed lower-grade jobs, but when problems arose they could always seek redress through the UFB or the State Secretariat for Social Welfare.
- 39. Family planning was available to all women in Burkina Faso, although in rural areas at a somewhat basic level. There were many cases of infanticide because abortion was banned; that ban would remain in force until sanitary conditions in rural areas were improved to the point where abortion was no longer considered dangerous.

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Article 12

- 40. She said that in October 1986 Burkina Faso had passed a family planning law under which the population was to be informed and educated in the matter; sex education courses were also organized for both adolescents and their parents. Moreover, it was essential to increase public awareness with a view to putting an end to the practice of excision, which was illegal.
- 41. Traditional midwives trained with the support of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) were instructed in basic hygiene requirements and first aid, but whether those techniques could be described as "modern" was debatable for they had to be viewed in the context of the life of the people of Burkina Faso. Young women trained under the UNFPA-supported project co-ordinated action at village level.

- 42. Under the Family Code, children had the right to inherit from their mother.
- 43. As for the gap between the end of the report and the Family Code, it had to be borne in mind that the Family Code had entered into force only six months before the report was drawn up and since it was not yet being applied it was not possible to evaluate its impact.
- 44. On the subject of the divorce rate and the main reasons for it, she said that divorce was a predominantly urban phenomenon with a number of causes such as escaping one's responsibilities, infidelity, polygamy, violence and alcoholism. Divorce was a rapidly increasing problem but she did not know what the actual rate was.
- 45. Common law was no longer in force, since the Family Code had annulled all prior provisions. The Family Code stated that marriage could be entered into only by mutual consent, and so there was no age limit. The official age limit was 18, but if mutual consent was verified and the parents approved there was nothing to stop a couple marrying under the age of 18.
- 46. Ms. WALLA-TCHANGAI noted that Burkina Faso had consistently made impressive efforts to encourage the participation of women in political life, but much remained to be done if <u>de facto</u> equality were to be achieved. In that regard, the information campaigns being conducted were of great importance.
- 47. The CHAIRPERSON asked the representative of Burkina Faso to convey the Committee's congratulations to her Government on ratifying the Convention and on submitting its initial report without delay. There was clearly great enthusiasm and a strong political will in Burkina Faso for the advancement of women. The report had been very frank in clearly identifying the obstacles, and it was to be hoped that the second report would indicate how those obstacles had been dealt with.
- 48. The meeting was suspended at 4.05 p.m. and resumed at 5.40 p.m.

WAYS AND MEANS OF EXPEDITING THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE (continued)

Interim report of Working Group I

- 49. Ms. ILIC (Co-ordinator of Working Group I) announced that Working Group I had adopted its programme of work, as follows: questions arising from CEDAW/C/CRP.16 (overdue reports, analysis of reports, procedures for considering information); views on conclusions and recommendations of the meeting of chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies; proposal for the Committee in preparing for the analysis of articles and procedures for drafting recommendations; issues arising from the report of the pre-session working group; reports to be considered at the Committee's eleventh session; views on the forthcoming World Conference on Human Rights (1993); World Conference on Women (1995); International Year of the Family; modification of paragraphs 196 and 213 of CEDAW's report on the ninth session, requested by the United Kingdom to reflect accurately the discussion on the United Kingdom's report at the ninth session.
- 50. The first item of the programme of work, relating to document CEDAW/C/CRP.16, had been discussed at length, and 11 recommendations, including specific ways in which the Secretariat could further the Committee's work, had been prepared for the Committee's consideration.
- 51. Under the second item, the Working Group had looked into the results of the meeting of chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies and had prepared a number of proposals to put to the Committee. The proposals were, first, that the Committee should accept in principle the recommendations of the meeting, and especially those set out in paragraphs 49 to 75 of document A/45/636 and relating to overdue reports, the provision of adequate secretariat servicing, the promotion of greater interaction among the treaty bodies, the establishment of a computerized data base, access to and use of information provided by and expertise of specialized agencies and NGOs, the dissemination at national level of information about the Convention and the work of the Committee, and the provision of technical assistance and training programmes to assist States in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention. Secondly, the Committee should defer further consideration of the proposal to transfer the functions of its Secretariat to Geneva until it could assess the benefits of that initiative. Thirdly, the Committee should decide to nominate a member or members to follow the work of each of the other principal treaty bodies and to inform those bodies about the work of CEDAW.
- 52. The following specific action was recommended: revision of CEDAW's guidelines to include the consolidated guidelines relating to the initial part of reports by States parties and to indicate areas where States could include in their reports material contained in reports to other treaty bodies, rather than repeat the same information; and preparation of an evaluation of CEDAW's work for the World Conference on Human Rights.
- 53. The Working Group had also discussed the list of reports that might be considered at the next session, and had decided to recommend that a maximum of five initial reports and five second periodic reports should be taken up. The Committee as a whole would have to discuss the matter, but the Working Group would urge that it be realistic about what it could accomplish in one session.
- 54. Turning to the third item in the Working Group's programme of work, on procedures for preparing for the analysis of articles and for drafting recommendations, she said that all members had agreed that it would be useful to

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have a substantive discussion, based on the Committee's consideration of the reports of States parties, of the meaning of some of the articles, and that the Committee should adopt a programme of work on the articles for the next two years. A number of articles had been suggested for consideration, but no agreement had been reached on how many or which articles should be taken up. The Secretariat had indicated that other human rights treaty bodies might be making their own studies of articles in other treaties that overlapped some of CEDAW's concerns, such as violence and rights of the child. CEDAW should attempt to acquire such materials in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

- 55. The Working Group had discussed how best to correlate consideration of specific articles with the conferences and international years that were to be devoted to specific subjects in future. Pending further consultations within the Working Group and with all members of the Committee, it would appear that article 16 would be the most appropriate for the Committee to take up at its eleventh session.
- 56. The CHAIRPERSON thanked Ms. Ilic for that report on the deliberations of Working Group I, and asked members of the Committee for their comments.
- 57. Ms. SINEGIORGIS agreed with the recommendation that the advisability of transferring CEDAW's Secretariat to Geneva should be studied further. She would request clarification, however, of the proposal that the Committee should strengthen its relationship with other treaty bodies how was that to be achieved? What specific measures would be adopted to enable one or several Committee members, in addition to their regular duties, to monitor the work of other treaty bodies? How would the Secretariat ensure that the Committee was given the additional assistance called for by such expanded functions?
- 58. Mr. MATHIASON (Deputy Director, Division for the Advancement of Women) said that the Secretariat had already requested budgetary allocations for travel connected with CEDAW's new activities, but would welcome a legislative mandate from the Committee to back up those requests.
- 59. Ms. ILIC said it might be useful to decide that CEDAW would concentrate attention on those treaty bodies whose work was most relevant to its own, namely, the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- 60. After a procedural discussion which Mr. MATHIASON (Deputy Director, Division for the Advancement of Women), Ms. SINEGIORGIS, Ms. ILIC, Ms. BUSTELO GARCIA DEL REAL and Ms. CREYDT (Secretary of the Committee) participated, the CHAIRPERSON suggested that Working Group I should be requested to give further consideration to ways and means by which the Committee might keep abreast of the work of other human rights treaty bodies, and especially that of the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

61. It was so agreed.

62. The CHAIRPERSON invited the Committee to consider the list of reports for the eleventh session proposed by Working Group I and to decide on the number of reports it wished to deal with on that occasion.

(The Chairperson)

- 63. Ms. SINEGIORGIS wished to know on what basis the countries listed had been chosen. She proposed that the Committee should consider one report a day at its eleventh session, that it should take up no more than eight reports at any one session, that it should deal with reports in the order in which they had been submitted and, since the pre-session working group would prepare its work, that it should consider five second periodic reports.
- 64. Ms. MATHIASON (Deputy Director, Division for the Advancement of Women) observed that it was not always possible for the Committee to follow the order of submission of reports. The report on Yemen, for example, had been submitted in 1985 and had not yet been updated to cover the whole country. Other factors that had to be taken into account included the readiness of States parties to present their reports, the problem of geographical distribution and the fact that a larger number of support staff could be made available in Vienna than in New York.
- 65. Ms. NIKOLAEVA believed that the Committee should reduce the number of reports considered at its next session to eight and to take them up in the order of submission.
- 66. Ms. CREYDT (Secretary of the Committee), recalling that the Committee had invited the Secretariat two years previously to consult States parties on whether they wished to present their reports in New York or Vienna, said that Barbados, Guyana, Guatemala and Honduras had expressed a preference for New York; Honduras had already submitted its initial and its second report.
- 67. Ms. SINEGIORGIS proposed that at its next session the Committee should consider the initial reports of Honduras, Yemen and Romania and the second periodic reports of El Salvador, Honduras, Sri Lanka, Czechoslovakia and Spain.
- 68. Ms. SELLAMI-MESLEM (Director, Division for the Advancement of Women) said that the representative of Yemen had informed her that his Government had ratified all the treaties and conventions signed previously when the country had consisted of two States. She had asked him whether the present Government intended to ratify the very progressive Family Code promulgated by Democratic Yemen and whether it intended to update the initial report dated 29 June 1985.
- 69. The CHAIRPERSON said that the Committee would take up the report submitted by Yemen when it was known that it could be considered as covering the entire country.
- 70. Mr. MATHIASON (Deputy Director, Division for the Advancement of Women) noted that some Governments had shown more interest in presenting their reports than others. China, for example, was prepared to present its report but Sri Lanka might not be ready to do so. Romania and probably Czechoslovakia would prefer to have its second report considered in Vienna.
- 71. It was agreed that the Committee would consider reports by eight States parties at the eleventh session on the basis of the lists submitted by Working Group I, and that the Secretariat should follow the dates of submission and the wishes of the Governments concerned in finalizing the lists.

Composition of the pre-session working group

72. The CHAIRPEKSON recalled the Committee's previous decision to designate one member from each region to the pre-session working group and to ensure continuity in so doing. She suggested that the African region should be represented by Ms. Sinegiorgis (Ethiopia) with Ms. Aouij (Tunisia) as alternate, the Asian region by Ms. Quintos-Deles (Philippines) with Ms. Akamatsu (Japan) as alternate, the Latin American region by Ms. Alfonsín de Fasan (Argentina) with Ms. Bernard (Guyana) as alternate, the Western region by Ms. Evatt (Australia) with Ms. Schöpp-Schilling (Germany) as alternate, and the Eastern region by Ms. Ilic (Yugoslavia) with Ms. Nikolaeva (USSR) as alternate.

73. It was so decided.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 21 OF THE CONVENTION

Interim report of Working Group II

- 74. Ms. OESER (Co-ordinator of Working Group II) said that the Working Group had begun work on the four general recommendations pending since the previous session (CEDAW/C/SR.168) and had nearly completed consideration of draft recommendations I and II (Unpaid women workers of family enterprises and The measurement/ quantification of unremunerated housework of women and its recognition in the gross national product). It would welcome advice from the Committee on the priority it should accord to the recommendations.
- 75. Ms. ILIC said that although she had as yet been unable to study the draft recommendations, she felt that Working Group II should concentrate on the first two recommendations for the time being.
- 76. Speaking as Co-ordinator of Working Group I, she suggested that arrangements should be made to provide each Working Group with the documentation produced by the other Working Group as well as its own as soon as it was available.
- 77. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 7.10 p.m.