



Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Forty-first session

30 June-18 July 2008

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the fortieth and forty-first sessions of the Committee.
4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
5. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
6. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee.
7. Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
8. Provisional agenda for the forty-second session of the Committee.
9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-first session.

Annotations

Item 1

Opening of the session

The forty-first session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will be opened by the Chairperson of the Committee. The High Commissioner for Human Rights, Rachel Mayanja, Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, Carolyn Hannan, Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women, and the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women will be invited to make statements.



Item 2

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Rule 9 of the rules of procedure provides that the first substantive item on the provisional agenda for any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. Rule 7 provides that the provisional agenda for each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairperson, in conformity with the relevant provisions of articles 17 to 22 of the Convention.

At its fortieth session, the Committee approved the provisional agenda for its forty-first session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (CEDAW/C/2008/II/1)

Item 3

Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the fortieth and forty-first sessions of the Committee

Under this item, the Chairperson will brief the Committee on activities and events occurring since the previous session that had a bearing on the Committee's work.

Item 4

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 18 of the Convention provides that States parties to the Convention shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and other progress made in that respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year of entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned and thereafter at least every four years and further, whenever the Committee requests.

At its thirty-ninth session, the Committee decided to invite eight States parties to present their reports. Those States parties agreed to that request.

At its forty-first session, the Committee will have before it the following reports: the fifth and sixth periodic reports of Finland (CEDAW/C/FIN/5 and CEDAW/C/FIN/6); the fifth and sixth periodic reports of Iceland (CEDAW/C/ICE/5 and CEDAW/C/ICE/6); the third and fourth periodic reports of Lithuania (CEDAW/C/LTU/3 and CEDAW/C/LTU/4); the sixth periodic report of Nigeria (CEDAW/C/NGA/6); the combined second, third and fourth periodic report of Slovakia (CEDAW/C/SVK/4); the fifth and sixth periodic reports of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (CEDAW/C/UK/5 and CEDAW/C/UK/6); the combined fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report of the United Republic of Tanzania (CEDAW/C/TZA/6) and the sixth periodic report of Yemen (CEDAW/C/YEM/6).

Rule 51 of the rules of procedure provides that representatives of a State party shall be present at meetings of the Committee when the report of that State is being examined and shall participate in discussions and answer questions concerning the report. The Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the

tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee.

Rule 49 of the rules of procedure provides that, at each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of the non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention. The Secretary-General also provides the Committee with a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention, as well as a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention that have not yet been considered by the Committee.

At its forty-first session, the Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the status of submission of reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2008/II/2).

A pre-session working group of the Committee is convened before each session to prepare a list of issues and questions relating to reports for transmission to the States parties before the meetings at which their reports are to be considered. The pre-session working group for the forty-first session met from 16 to 20 July 2007. The report of the pre-session working group and the responses of States parties to the lists of issues and questions drawn up by the pre-session working group will be before the Committee.

Documentation

Fifth and sixth periodic reports of Finland (CEDAW/C/FIN/5 and CEDAW/C/FIN/6)

Fifth and sixth periodic reports of Iceland (CEDAW/C/ICE/5 and CEDAW/C/ICE/6)

Third and fourth periodic reports of Lithuania (CEDAW/C/LTU/3 and CEDAW/C/LTU/4)

Sixth periodic report of Nigeria (CEDAW/C/NGA/6)

Combined second, third and fourth periodic report of Slovakia (CEDAW/C/SVK/4)

Fifth and sixth periodic reports of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (CEDAW/C/UK/5 and CEDAW/C/UK/6)

Combined fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report of the United Republic of Tanzania (CEDAW/C/TZA/6)

Sixth periodic report of Yemen (CEDAW/C/YEM/6)

Report of the pre-session working group (CEDAW/PSWG/2008/II/CRP.1)

Lists of issues and questions

Finland (CEDAW/C/FIN/Q/6)

Iceland (CEDAW/C/ICE/Q/6)

Lithuania (CEDAW/C/LTU/Q/4)

Nigeria (CEDAW/C/NGA/Q/6)

Slovakia (CEDAW/C/SVK/Q/4)

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (CEDAW/C/UK/Q/6)

United Republic of Tanzania (CEDAW/C/TZA/Q/6)

Yemen (CEDAW/C/YEM/Q/6)

Responses to the lists of issues and questions

Finland (CEDAW/C/FIN/Q/6/Add.1)

Iceland (CEDAW/C/ICE/Q/6/Add.1)

Lithuania (CEDAW/C/LTU/Q/4/Add.1)

Nigeria (CEDAW/C/NGA/Q/6/Add.1)

Slovakia (CEDAW/C/SVK/Q/4/Add.1)

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (CEDAW/C/UK/Q/6/Add.1)

United Republic of Tanzania (CEDAW/C/TZA/Q/6/Add.1)

Yemen (CEDAW/C/YEM/Q/6/Add.1)

Item 5

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 21 of the Convention provides that the Committee may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from States parties. It also provides that such suggestions and general recommendations shall be included in the report of the Committee, together with comments, if any, from States parties.

Task forces on a general recommendation on migrant women and a general recommendation on article 2 will brief the Committee on progress achieved.

Article 22 of the Convention provides that the specialized agencies shall be entitled to be represented during the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the Convention as fall within the scope of their activities and that the Committee may invite them to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in those areas. At its forty-first session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on reports of specialized agencies on that subject (CEDAW/C/2008/II/3 and Add.1-4).

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on reports provided by specialized agencies of the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities (CEDAW/C/2008/II/3)

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (CEDAW/C/2008/II/3/Add.1)

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (CEDAW/C/2008/II/3/Add.2)

Report of the World Health Organization (CEDAW/C/2008/II/3/Add.3)

Report of the International Labour Organization (CEDAW/C/2008/II/3/Add.4)

Item 6**Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee**

Before each session, the Secretariat prepares a pre-session report on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee, containing information provided by the Secretariat, comments made by members of the Committee or information on developments elsewhere in the human rights regime.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/2008/I/4)

Item 7**Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

Following the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in December 2000, the Committee established the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol. At its thirty-seventh session, the Committee appointed five members to serve on the Working Group for a two-year term until 31 December 2008.

The twelfth session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol will be held from 21 to 23 July 2008.

At its forty-first session, the Committee will continue to implement its mandate under articles 2 and 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention.

Item 8**Provisional agenda for the forty-second session of the Committee**

At its tenth session, the Committee decided that the draft provisional agenda for the following session of the Committee would be approved at the end of each session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the forty-second session of the Committee

Item 9**Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-first session**

Annex**Proposed organization of work**

| <i>Date/time</i> | <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Documentation/programme</i> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Monday, 30 June 2008 | | |
| 831st meeting | | |
| 10-11 a.m. | Item 1 | Opening of the session Statements of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Executive Director of UNIFEM |
| | Item 2 | Adoption of the agenda and organization of work |
| | Item 3 | Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the fortieth and forty-first sessions of the Committee |
| | Item 4 | 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 |
| | Item 5 | Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: introductory statement |
| | Item 6 | Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee: introductory statement |
| 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Informal meeting with the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies (closed) |
| 3-4.15 p.m. | | Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations |
| 4.15-5.15 p.m. | | Informal meeting with national human rights institutions |
| 5.15-6 p.m. | Items 5, 6 and 7 | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Tuesday, 1 July 2008 | | |
| 832nd meeting | | |
| | | Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention |
| | Item 4 | Yemen, sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/YEM/6) |
| 10-10.30 a.m. | | Introduction by the representative of the State party |
| 10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee |

| <i>Date/time</i> | <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Documentation/programme</i> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 833rd meeting | | |
| 3-5 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Yemen (continued) |
| 5-6 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Wednesday, 2 July 2008 | | |
| 834th meeting | | |
| | Item 4 (continued) | Lithuania, third and fourth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/LTU/3 and CEDAW/C/LTU/4) |
| 10-10.30 a.m. | | Introduction by the representative of the State party |
| 10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee |
| 835th meeting | | |
| 3-5 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Lithuania (continued) |
| 5-6 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Thursday, 3 July 2008 | | |
| 836th meeting | | |
| | Item 4 (continued) | Nigeria, sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/NGA/6) |
| 10-10.30 a.m. | | Introduction by the representative of the State party |
| 10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee |
| 837th meeting | | |
| 3-5 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Nigeria (continued) |
| 5-6 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Friday, 4 July 2008 | | |
| Holiday | | |
| Monday, 7 July 2008 | | |
| 10 a.m.-noon | Item 7 | Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol (closed) |
| noon-1 p.m. | | Discussion on reservations (closed) |

| <i>Date/time</i> | <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Documentation/programme</i> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 3-4.15 p.m. | | Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations |
| 4.15-5.15 p.m. | | Informal meeting with national human rights institutions |
| 5-6 p.m. | Items 5, 6 and 7 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Tuesday, 8 July 2008 | | |
| 838th meeting | | |
| | Item 4 (continued) | Iceland, fifth and sixth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/ICE/5 and CEDAW/C/ICE/6) |
| 10-10.30 a.m. | | Introduction by the representative of the State party |
| 10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee |
| 839th meeting | | |
| 3-5 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Iceland (continued) |
| 5-6 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Wednesday, 9 July 2008 | | |
| 840th meeting | | |
| | Item 4 (continued) | Finland, fifth and sixth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/FIN/5 and CEDAW/C/FIN/6) |
| 10-10.30 a.m. | | Introduction by the representative of the State party |
| 10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee |
| 841st meeting | | |
| 3-5 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Finland (continued) |
| 5-6 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Thursday, 10 July 2008 | | |
| 842nd meeting | | |
| | Item 4 (continued) | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, fifth and sixth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/UK/5 and CEDAW/C/UK/6) |
| 10-10.30 a.m. | | Introduction by the representative of the State party |
| 10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee |

| <i>Date/time</i> | <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Documentation/programme</i> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 843rd meeting | | |
| 3-5 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (continued) |
| 5-6 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Friday, 11 July 2008 | | |
| 844th meeting | | |
| | Item 4 (continued) | United Republic of Tanzania, combined fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/TZA/6) |
| 10-10.30 a.m. | | Introduction by the representative of the State party |
| 10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee |
| 845th meeting | | |
| 3-5 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | United Republic of Tanzania (continued) |
| 5-6 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Monday, 14 July 2008 | | |
| 846th meeting | | |
| | Item 4 (continued) | Slovakia, combined second, third and fourth periodic report (CEDAW/C/SVK/4) |
| 10-10.30 a.m. | | Introduction by the representative of the State party |
| 10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. | | Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee |
| 847th meeting | | |
| | Item 4 (continued) | Slovakia (continued) |
| | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Tuesday, 15 July 2008 | | |
| 10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol (closed) |
| 3-6 p.m. | Items 4, 5 and 6 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |

| <i>Date/time</i> | <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Documentation/programme</i> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday, 16 July 2008 | | |
| 10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Item 5 (continued) | Informal meeting with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders on a general recommendation on article 2 |
| 3-4 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| 4-6 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Informal meeting with States parties |
| Thursday, 17 July 2008 | | |
| 10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| 3-6 p.m. | Items 4, 5 and 6 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| Friday, 18 July 2008 | | |
| 10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Item 4 (continued) | Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| 3-4 p.m. | Items 4, 5, 6 and 7 | Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole (closed) |
| 848th meeting | | |
| 4-6 p.m. | Item 8 | Provisional agenda for the forty-second session |
| | Item 9 | Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-first session |
