



Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Seventeenth meeting

New York, 26 June 2012

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Election, in accordance with article 17, paragraphs 4 and 5, of the Convention, of 11 members of the Committee, to replace those members whose terms are due to expire on 31 December 2012

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In accordance with article 17, paragraph 4, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Secretary-General will convene the seventeenth meeting of States parties at United Nations Headquarters on 26 June 2012 for the election of 11 members of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women from a list of persons nominated by States parties to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 31 December 2012 (see annex I). The names of the other members, who will continue to serve on the Committee until 31 December 2014, appear in annex II.

2. In compliance with article 17, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the Secretary-General, in a note verbale dated 9 December 2011, invited the States parties to submit their nominations not later than 9 March 2012 for the election of 11 members of the Committee. The Secretary-General has prepared the following list, in alphabetical order, of all persons nominated by 9 March 2012, indicating the States parties that had nominated them.

* CEDAW/SP/2012/1.



<i>Candidate</i>	<i>Nominated by</i>
Noor Al-Malki Al-Jehani	Qatar
Nicole Ameline	France
Violet Awori	Kenya
Barbara Bailey	Jamaica
Gloria Bender	Argentina
Niklas Bruun	Finland
Nuria Chinchilla	Spain
Fatimata Dembele Djourte	Mali
Hilary Gbedemah	Ghana
Nahla Haidar	Lebanon
Marie-Carmelle Lafontant	Haiti
Dalia Leinarte	Lithuania
Natalija Micunovic	Serbia
Theodora Oby Nwankwo	Nigeria
Silvia Pimentel	Brazil
Bianca Pomeranzi	Italy
Victoria Popescu	Romania
Zohra Rasekh	Afghanistan
Olena Suslova	Ukraine
Xiaoqiao Zou	China

3. The curricula vitae of the candidates, as provided by their Governments, are contained in annex III.

Annex I**List of the 11 members of the Committee whose terms expire on 31 December 2012**

<i>Member</i>	<i>Country of nationality</i>
Nicole Ameline	France
Magalys Arocha Dominguez	Cuba
Violet Tsisiga Awori	Kenya
Barbara Evelyn Bailey	Jamaica
Niklas Bruun	Finland
Indira Jaising	India
Soledad Murillo de la Vega	Spain
Silvia Pimentel	Brazil
Victoria Popescu	Romania
Zohra Rasekh	Afghanistan
Xiaoqiao Zou	China

Annex II**List of the members who will continue to serve on the
Committee until 31 December 2014**

<i>Member</i>	<i>Country of nationality</i>
Ayse Feride Acar	Turkey
Olinda Bareiro-Bobadilla	Paraguay
Meriem Belmihoub-Zerdani	Algeria
Naela Mohamed Gabr	Egypt
Ruth Halperin-Kaddari	Israel
Yoko Hayashi	Japan
Ismat Jahan	Bangladesh
Violeta Neubauer	Slovenia
Pramila Patten	Mauritius
Maria Helena Lopes de Jesus Pires	Timor-Leste
Patricia Schulz	Switzerland
Dubravka Simonovic	Croatia

Annex III

Curricula vitae of candidates*

Noor Al-Malki Al-Jehani (Qatar)

Date and place of birth

1961, Doha

Working languages

English and Arabic

Current position/function

Ms. Al-Jehani recently retired and is now working as an independent expert. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development (DIIFSD).

Main professional activities

Ms. Al-Jehani served as Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Family Affairs (SCFA), the national mechanism for family and women's issues, from April 2009 to October 2011. Before that, she was the director of the women department at SCFA.

She was also a member of Qatar National Committee on Human Rights (NHRC) from 2003-2011.

Educational background

BA in Humanities from Qatar University in 1984 and training in gender issues, women's rights and child rights

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

She was Qatar's representative in the Arab Women Committee (Arab League) and Committee on Women (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia) and a member or head of many national delegations to regional and international conferences on women's and children's rights. During her service in SCFA, she was assigned to the file of Qatar's ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women from 2004 to 2009. Then, she chaired the national committee for drafting Qatar's first report on the implementation of the Convention. She supervised and participated in drafting national reports on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (2000-2009).

Ms. Al-Jehani participated in drafting many national strategies and plans including Qatar's first national development strategy, 2011-2016 (as chair of the drafting committee on the Sectoral Strategy on Family Cohesion and Empowerment of Women). She also participated in the review or drafting of legislation pertaining to social and women's issues and initiated and oversaw several landmark studies by

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

distinguished scholars on women's issues, including Violence against Women in Qatari Society, Violence against Married Women — Qatar case study, and Obstacles to Qatari Women Reaching Decision-making Positions. She organized and supervised numerous workshops, panel discussions and awareness-raising campaigns on women's issues such as domestic violence, family law and political rights. During her membership in NHRC, she was active in advocating for the rights of women, children, people with disabilities and domestic workers.

Most recent publications in the field

Ms. Al-Jehani's writings, analyses and reports in the field of human rights in general and women's rights in particular were presented to SCFA, NHRC and other relevant Government bodies for the purpose of formulating policies and strategies, as well as enacting legislation on human rights-related issues.

Nicole Ameline (France)

[Original: French]

Date of birth

4 July 1952

Working languages

French, English

Current position/function

Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Elected member of the French Parliament (National Assembly)

Member of the National Advisory Committee on Human Rights

Main professional activities

Minister for Gender Issues and Professional Equality (2002-2005)

Ambassador for social and gender issues and representative of the French Government to the International Labour Organization (ILO) (2005-2007)

Elected member of the French Parliament (National Assembly) since 1991

Educational background

Bachelor's and master's degrees in law

Diplôme d'études supérieures (postgraduate degree) in law and political science

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

President of a European foundation for professional equality

Organized an extraordinary meeting of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in Paris in 2010 to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention

Organized a meeting in Brussels in 2011 with the European Commission on the implementation in Europe of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Will organize a further meeting in Brussels to be attended by Lady Ashton, to strengthen the mainstreaming of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in Europe's external relations

Supports proposals and legislation concerning equality between men and women

Has provided expert advice and undertaken missions for many countries in the field of women's rights

Most recent publications in the field

Assessments carried out within the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Parliamentary reports on development assistance and on the International Criminal Court

Press and media comment on the situation of women in France and around the world

Violet Awori (Kenya)**Date and place of birth**

19 July 1957, Kenya

Working languages

English

Current position/function

I am the proprietor of my own legal firm dealing with family law. I am also a consultant on women's and human rights. I provide training on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. This has been to relevant Government officers and members of the judiciary particularly in countries that are reporting to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for the first time.

Main professional activities

Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. I am currently the Committee Rapporteur and so I ensure that the reports of the Committee are accurate before they are adopted. Also a member (former Chairperson) of the Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA). This is a women's rights non-governmental organization that provides legal aid to marginalized women. It also provides awareness and training on human and women's rights to women, various Government officers, police officers, etc. FIDA also lobbies for changes in laws, especially those that discriminate against women. I am also the Vice-Chairperson of SMEP, which is a microfinance organization that provides loans to small and medium enterprises particularly targeting poor and rural women.

Educational background

Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Nairobi

Diploma in Law from the Kenya School of Law in Nairobi

Currently pursuing a Master's degree in International Criminal Justice at the Open University of Tanzania

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Training on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and human rights to the Zimbabwe National Human Rights Commission in September 2011. Mock session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for the Zimbabwe Government delegation and training on the Convention and human rights for some Zimbabwe civil society organizations in December 2011. Prepared and made a presentation on witness protection in Geneva in May 2011. Attended and made some contributions at the Seminar of Experts on United Nations Treaty Bodies Reform in Poznan, Poland, in September 2010. Made a presentation at a half-day panel discussion in Geneva to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention in Geneva on 4 November 2009.

Most recent publications in the field

Not published

Barbara Bailey (Jamaica)

Date and place of birth

14 March 1942, Kingston, Jamaica.

Working languages

English

Current position/function

Professor Emerita and Immediate Past University Director of the Regional Coordinating Unit, Institute of Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica, 1996-2010. Since 1985, Professor Bailey has represented the Government of Jamaica at regional and international conferences on matters relating to gender and women's rights.

Main professional activities

August 2010 to present

Professor Emerita, University of the West Indies, Mona Kingston, Jamaica

August 1995 to July 2010

University Director, Regional Coordinating Unit, Institute of Gender and Development Studies, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica

2003

Appointed Professor, Gender and Education, Regional Coordinating Unit, IGDS

Educational background

PhD education, University of the West Indies (UWI), Jamaica, 1987

MA education, University of the West Indies, Jamaica, 1983

BSc General (Botany and Zoology), 2nd Class Honours, University of London, University College of the West Indies, Jamaica, 1964

Non-degree studies: Advanced Reading Course on Gender and Development Issues, Dalhousie University, Canada, 1999

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Consultant to UNFPA to provide technical support to the Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas to develop a National Gender Equality Policy, August to October 2011

Consultant to the Caribbean Development Bank to assess the implementation, effectiveness and mainstreaming of the gender equality policy and strategy, February to May 2012

Consultant to Commonwealth Secretariat to prepare the draft Final Report: Mid-term Review of the Implementation of the Commonwealth Plan of Action for Gender Equality 2005-2015 in consultation with the Commonwealth Secretariat, May 2010.

Chair, Gender Task Force, 2030 National Development Plan, Planning Institute of Jamaica, 2007-2009

Consultant to UN-Women, Caribbean Office to carry out a gender audit of the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), October 2008

Most recent publications in the field

Feminization of Poverty Across Pan-African Societies: The Church's Response — Alleviative or Emancipatory. In *Religion and Poverty: Pan African Perspectives*, Peter Paris, ed., Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 2009

Implicit and Explicit Gender-Based Violence in Caribbean Educational Institutions. In *Caribbean Journal of Education*, vol. 29(1), 2007

Caribbean Labour Markets: Potential of the CSME for Reducing Gender Disparities. In *CARICOM Single Market and Economy: Genesis and Prognosis*, Hall, K. and Chuck-A-Sang, M., eds., Kingston, Jamaica: Ian Randle Publishers, 2007.

Gloria Bender (Argentina)

[Original: Spanish]

Working languages

Spanish. Reads and understands English.

Current position/function

Special International Representative for Women's Issues (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina). Appointed ambassador charged with promoting gender equality and women's rights at the regional and international levels

President of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee for Follow-up to the Beijing Platform for Action, the coordinating body for the highest authorities on gender issues at the provincial level

Principal Delegate to the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States (OAS)

Main professional activities

Ambassador Bender has more than 20 years of experience within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina, having held various decision-making positions, including at the Department of Cultural Affairs and the Executive Committee on the Bicentennial of the May Revolution, forums where she sought to link culture with current and historical women's rights issues in Argentina.

In her current position as Special International Representative, she is responsible for monitoring the gender agenda at the regional and international levels and negotiating international gender instruments and cooperation agreements on gender at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. She has headed her country's delegation at the major meetings on gender, including sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations and the Inter-American Commission of Women of OAS, and the Meeting of Women Ministers and High-level Authorities on Women's Affairs of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR).

Educational background

Degree in modern languages, Department of Philosophy and Humanities, National University of Cordoba, Argentina

Lecturer in modern languages, Department of Philosophy and Humanities, National University of Cordoba, Argentina

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Negotiated the presidential declaration on gender equality signed in January 2011 by President Cristina Fernández of Argentina and President Dilma Rousseff of Brazil

Organizes the annual celebration of International Women's Day

On the occasion of the 2011 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women at the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she presented a

compendium of national, regional and international regulations relating to women's rights prepared by the Special International Office for Women's Issues. She is responsible for coordinating the process of drafting and adopting the national plan for the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security. She promoted the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Argentine Ministry of Economic Affairs and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) on developing a gender-sensitive budget. She also advocated for gender mainstreaming within the Committees on Border Integration with Chile. In her current post, she works to build dialogue on gender between Argentina and the European Union, as well as between the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States and the European Union. She was a speaker at the International Colloquium on Observatories on Gender and Violence against Women, held by the National Women's Council in Buenos Aires in 2011.

Most recent publications in the field

She has contributed to many publications and catalogues relating to the work of the Department of Cultural Affairs, which she headed for more than six years.

She is currently working on the publication of a compendium of national, regional and international regulations on women's rights issues.

Niklas Bruun (Finland)**Date and place of birth**

1950, Finland

Working languages

Finnish, Swedish, English and Danish

Current position/function

Professor of Private Law, University of Helsinki, Finland

Head of the Research Programme “Regulating Markets and Labour”, Stockholm University (Sweden)

Member of the Research Team of the Centre of Excellence in the Foundations of European Law and Polity, University of Helsinki

Main professional activities

Professor of Private Law, University of Helsinki, 2006-(continuing)

Professor in Law, Swedish School of Economics and Business Administration, Helsinki, 1986-2006

Guest Professor of the National Institute for Working Life, Stockholm, Sweden, 1993-1996, linked to the Institute as an academic supervisor for European Union labour law research, 1997-2007

Director IPR University Center, University of Helsinki 2000-(continuing)

Professor of the Year in Finland, 2005

Guest lecturer in numerous European universities, including the European University Institute-Florence, Italy, the University of Bari, the University of London (King’s College), London School of Economics and Humboldt University, Berlin (continuing)

Expert Member of the European Labour Law Network (ELLN), supported by the European Commission (continuing)

Educational background

LLD, Dissertation, Helsinki University, 1979

Doctor of Law H.C., University of Stockholm, 2000

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women*Commissions of trust, national*

Involved as an expert in the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women into Finnish law, 1980-1985

Chairperson of the Equality Board of Finland, 1999-2007

Chairperson of the Committee for Revision of the Gender Equality Act of Finland, 2000-2002

Chairman of the Board of Good Business Practice of the Central Chamber of Commerce, 1999-2010

Finnish Copyright Council, Vice-Chairman, 1988-1995; Chairman, 1997-2008

Member of the Equality Committee, 2007-2009

Expert Member of the Group preparing a Government Report on Gender Equality, 2009-2010

Commissions of trust, international

Member of the Freedom of Association Committee, ILO, 1996-1998, 2006-2008, 2011-2014

Member of the High-level Mission of Inquiry concerning Belarus appointed by ILO, 2003-2004

Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 2009-2012, Member of the Optional Protocol Working Group on Communications 2011-(continuing)

Expert for the European Union Institutions (the European Commission and the European Parliament) on numerous occasions

Most recent publications in the field

Several publications in the area of labour law and gender equality, including *Gender Discrimination* (1996) and *Gender Discrimination and Equality* (2006). Frequent articles in Nordic and international publications.

Nuria Chinchilla (Spain)

[Original: Spanish]

Working languages

Spanish and English

Current position/function

She is a member of the awards panels of Fundació Bufí y Planas and the magazine *Capital*, the board of trustees of Fundació Alares, the awards panel of the María Teresa Rodo private foundation, the council of experts of the Generalitat de Catalunya, the *Business Digest* Advisory Committee, the editorial board of the publication *Nueva Empresa*, the economic and social council of the University of Catalonia and the honorary board of trustees of The Family Watch.

Main professional activities

She is currently Academic Director of a programme focused on women at the IESE Business School in Barcelona. She is a professor in the Department of Managing People in Organizations and the founder and director of the International Center for Work and Family at the IESE Business School (University of Navarra). Since 1999, Professor Chinchilla and her team at IESE have been developing the International Family-Responsible Employer Index (IFREI), which studies the extent to which family-friendly policies and culture are implemented within various companies and sectors. She is also the president and founder of the company NCH & Partners: Developing People and Organizations, president of the non-governmental organization Acción para la Democracia (Action for Democracy) and a columnist and pundit for print and other media.

Educational background

Law degree from the University of Barcelona

Doctorate in economic and business sciences from the University of Navarra

Master's degree in economics and business management and doctorate from the IESE Business School

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Member of the Advisory Board and VIP Club of the European Professional Women's Network

Member of the Advisory Board of Women's International Networking and the International Women's Forum

Organizer of a course on business management for women in Madrid and of the Women's Lobby in Barcelona

Participant at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, and the Symposium on Women, Business and Society in the 21st Century

Academic Director of a programme focused on women at the IESE Business School in Barcelona

Most recent publications in the field

La ambición femenina: como re-conciliar trabajo y familia (Female ambition: balancing work and family)

Criterios de decisión en los procesos de selección en España ¿se discrimina a la mujer? (Criteria for decision-making in recruitment processes in Spain: Are women discriminated against?)

La mujer y su éxito (Women and their success)

Las mujeres empresarias en la China del siglo XXI ¿un estilo diferente de liderazgo o simplemente mujeres? (Businesswomen in China in the twenty-first century: a different leadership style or simply women?)

Mujer y empresa en el nuevo siglo: 7 preguntas clave (Women and business in the new century: 7 key questions)

Guía para la igualdad de oportunidades entre mujeres y hombres en la empresa (Guide to equal opportunities between women and men in business)

Fatimata Dembélé Djourté (Mali)

[Original: French]

Date and place of birth

18 October, Bamako

Working languages

French

Current position/function

Lawyer

Director of Maison de la femme et de l'enfant pour l'autonomisation de la femme et l'épanouissement de l'enfant (Centre for women's empowerment and child development)

Training expert on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women for the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Training expert on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women for judges, lawyers, police officers and health workers

Main professional activities

Legal information on women's rights

Training on women's rights, international conventions, mechanisms to protect women against discrimination and gender-based violence; training for parliamentarians on women's rights

Free legal assistance for women and girls

Research on women's rights

Educational background

Certificat d'aptitudes à la profession d'avocat (qualifying certificate for the practice of law)

Diplôme d'études approfondies (advanced university degree) in international law and international cooperation

Master's degree in public law

Certificate of accreditation to train human rights trainers; certificate of accreditation to train trainers on gender and gender-based comparative analysis

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Author of the draft periodic report of Mali on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in respect of the combined second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports of Mali

Preparation of a training module for judges on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Advocacy with policymakers for the adoption of temporary measures to accelerate equality between women and men, girls and boys

Research on discriminatory provisions in Malian law

Helping women access justice and equality; defending and advising women victims of gender-based violence and practices harmful to women's health; seeking financial resources and credit for the empowerment of women

Most recent publications in the field

Etude analytique sur l'identification des dispositions sexo spécifiques discriminatoires à l'égard des femmes en Afrique de l'Ouest: cas du Mali en 2008 (Analytical study to identify the gender-specific provisions that discriminate against women in West Africa: case study of Mali, 2008)

Claiming Our Rights: Surviving Pregnancy and Childbirth in Mali, 2002

Module de formation sur femmes et politique en Afrique de l'Ouest (Training module on women and politics in West Africa), 2004

Les violences faites aux femmes avec identification des axes prioritaires de lutte (Violence against women with identification of the priority areas for combating it)

Hilary Gbedemah (Ghana)

Date and place of birth

1 October 1953, Nsawam, Ghana

Working language

English

Current position/function

Rector, The Law Institute, Labone Accra. The Institute is Ghana's premier vocational law training institute undertaking training of non-legal personnel in paralegal studies and legal personnel in specific aspects of the law they require courses in. Functions include lecturing in family law, human rights, legal aspects of human resource management and employment discrimination, law of succession, alternative dispute resolution and contract law; research, curriculum development and administration.

Main professional activities

Research in law, gender and human rights, human resource law

Producing publications and academic writings

Curriculum development for vocational law programmes, production of training materials

Implementation of paralegal studies training programmes, within and outside the Institute

Partner, network and build coalitions with non-governmental organizations, the private sector and governmental and international stakeholders

Advocacy on contemporary human rights issues (inheritance, property rights of spouses; affirmative action and women's equal representation; economic rights; access to, and management of natural resources — water, forestry, mining)

Supervision of office administrative functions, ensuring quality control in the Institute's output

Educational background

LLM (Master's Degree in Law), Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., 1996

LLB (Hons.), University of Ghana, Legon, 1975; BL (Professional Law Qualification), 1977

Women in Senior Management, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration

International Humanitarian Law (Certificate), Henri Dunant Institute, Geneva, 1998

Diploma in Leadership and Advocacy, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., 1996

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Engaged with civil society organizations in identifying discriminatory articles in Ghana's citizenship laws in 1992, and with the International Spouses Association on discriminatory aspects of Ghana's citizenship laws in order to present submissions to the Constitutional Review Commission in 2011. Has engaged in legislative advocacy and community sensitization on the Property Rights of Spouses Bill and the Intestate Succession Bill. Produced and presented a paper to ILO with chapters on prostitution and trafficking of girls. Has written, trained and engaged in advocacy on affirmative action. Is a member of Netright — a coalition of civil society organizations, on whose platform she made a presentation on women's economic rights at the Beijing+15 NGO Forum; Formed an entrepreneurial club — Women on the Move — to assist young women in business, and was a contributor to the World Bank/International Finance Corporation publication *Women, Business and the Law 2012: Removing Barriers to Economic Inclusion*. Has worked with the Legal Awareness Programme, advancing the legal rights of rural areas women and establishing their claim-making power.

Most recent publications in the field

Trokosi: Twentieth Century Female Bondage — A Ghanaian Case Study

Rape and Defilement; Interventions available to Victims of Rape and Defilement; Safety Planning — Preventing Rape and Defilement

Enhancing Women's Representation in Governance through Affirmative Action

Unpublished 80-page manuscript paper prepared for ABANTU for Development

Nahla Haidar (Lebanon)**Date and place of birth**

22 July 1951, Lebanon

Working languages

Arabic, English and French

Current position/function

Retired, after a 34-year United Nations career. Volunteering in support of different NGOs with regional involvement in the development field and, inter alia, overseeing the programme component related to human rights education for Amel Association and Amel International. Acting as an adviser to other NGOs on a pro bono basis to streamline gender perspective into their policies and programmes (i.e. MENTOR ARABIA). Consultant to DARA, an international NGO undertaking evaluation of development and humanitarian assistance at the field level in Sudan and Yemen).

Main professional activities

Deputy focal point for the advancement of women, United Nations Office at Geneva
 Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States (World Intellectual Property Organization) focusing on development cooperation, including the promotion of women inventors and innovators in the region

Deputy Executive Director, War Torn Societies Project (United Nations Office for Project Services). In charge of outreach and learning for peacebuilding projects in Guatemala, Rwanda and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, empowering women at the community level through participatory action research and dialogue processes

Chief of a Unit covering North, Central and Eastern Africa, the Middle East and Afghanistan (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) with a special emphasis on protection issues and women in conflict

Recruitment Officer at United Nations Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva focusing, among other issues, on improving the representation of women at the senior level within the Secretariat

Social Affairs Officer (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia), working on community development projects throughout the region including special projects aiming at better integration of women in development

Educational background

Advanced University Degree in Law, major in Sociology of Law, Pantheon-Sorbonne, Paris

“Licence en Droit”, major in International Law and Islamic Sharia, Université Saint-Joseph, Beirut

“Licence en Sociologie”, sociologie du développement, École supérieure des lettres, Beirut

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Throughout my life I have been very active in the field of human rights, in particular through the Arab Lawyers Union in the early 1980s, as a member of the special committee on women and Sharia, as well as through the Arab Organization for Human Rights. I have also been an active member of the group constituted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) of Arab women researchers in social sciences. In addition, I served on several internal United Nations panels investigating claims of discrimination, including gender discrimination.

Most recent publications in the field

Although I have no recent publications in the specific field of discrimination against women, I have contributed to several United Nations reports including on the status of women within the Secretariat, as well as other reports, and training materials on various topics addressing also gender concerns, such as the protection of civilians in armed conflict, women in disasters, humanitarianism and war and, most recently, the 2010 Humanitarian Response Index, published by DARA International.

Marie-Carmelle Lafontant (Haiti)

[Original: French]

Date and place of birth

7 April 1930, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Working languages

French

Current position/function

Consultant to the Ministry for the Status of Women and Women's Rights, Port-au-Prince

Executive Director of the Haitian Centre for Research and Actions for the Advancement of Women

Contractor with the Pan-American Development Foundation (PADF) — DEJEN/United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Main professional activities

In charge of social programmes for Food For The Poor

Municipal assessor in Port-au-Prince

Specialist attached to the Department of Economic and Social Planning of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Head of the Conciliation and Arbitration Service of the Ministry of Social Affairs

Head of the Educational Materials Production Department of the Service coopératif haitiano-américain d'éducation rurale (SCHAER) (Haitian-American Cooperative Service for Rural Education)

Educational background

University of Río Piedras (Puerto Rico): social work training

Integrated development, Quito, Ecuador

Specialization in education, Washington, D.C.

Teacher training college, Port-au-Prince, Haiti: diploma

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Technical adviser to the Ministry for the Status of Women and Women's Rights

President of the Haitian delegation to the regional conference of business and professional women's clubs (Havana, Cuba)

Member of the twinning task force of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, together with the delegates of Australia, Benin, Italy and Togo

Most recent publications in the field

Enquête sur le statut socio-économique de la marchande haïtienne (Study on the socio-economic status of Haitian women traders)

Violences exercées sur les femmes et les fillettes en Haïti (Violence against women and girls in Haiti)

Habilitation de la femme haïtienne: un impératif du développement durable (The empowerment of Haitian women: an imperative for sustainable development)

Dalia Leinarte (Lithuania)**Date and place of birth**

25 October 1958, Lithuania

Working languages

English and Russian

Current position/function

Professor, Director of the Gender Studies Centre at Vilnius University, Lithuania (since 2000)

Professor of Family History, Vilnius University (since 2009)

Consultant of the Inter-Ministerial Commission on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men, Lithuania (since 2000)

Member of the Working Group for the Action Plan for the Implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), Lithuania (since 2011)

Main professional activities

Vilnius University, (Lithuania): teaching and research areas: family history; women's history; women's movements; women and nationalism; women and totalitarian regimes; trafficking in women; gender mainstreaming

Inter-Ministerial Commission on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men, (Lithuania): women's rights and position monitoring in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; gender mainstreaming and gender equality implementation through national programmes

Educational background

PhD in History, Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania (1996)

Visiting Professor, Gender Studies Programme at Idaho State University, United States of America (2005-2008)

Research Scholar, American Association of University Women (AAUW), United States (2005-2006)

Fulbright Scholar, State University of New York, United States (2002-2003)

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

2007-2011: Gender equality expert and panellist in the European Union and international conferences such as: the high-level conference of the Community of Democracies on "Women Enhancing Democracy: Best Practices" (2011), the European Union seminar on "Good Practices in Gender Equality: Implementation of Gender Mainstreaming" (2011), the international conference on women's entrepreneurship in the OSCE region, the high-level meeting of the Community of Democracies on Women and Leadership (April 2010), and the conference of European gender experts entitled "Employability and Entrepreneurship — Gender

Stereotypes” in the framework of the Portuguese Presidency of the European Union (2007)

2006-2008: Coordinator of the European Social Fund project entitled “Gender Stereotypes in the Labour Market”

2004-2007: Drafter of the third and fourth periodic reports of Lithuania under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women submitted to Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

2002-2003: International Coordinator of the Preventive — Informative Campaign against Trafficking in Girls and Women in the Baltic States

2002-2003: International Coordinator of the international training courses on “Violence Prevention Strategy in Schools: Training for Trainers: Kaliningrad Region, Belarus, Russia, Lithuania”

Most recent publications in the field

Life Stories of Lithuanian Women, 1945-1970, Rodopi, New York, 2010

Families in Europe between the 19th and the 21st century, in *Romanian Journal of Population Studies*, 2009

Gender Mainstreaming in Social Inclusion Policies in Lithuania, USP Publishing, 2008

Gender Mainstreaming in the EU Member States, Ministry of Integration and Gender Equality, Sweden, 2006

Trafficking in Women and Prostitution in Lithuania, Vilnius University Press, Vilnius, 2003

Natalija Micunovic (Serbia)**Date and place of birth**

26 March 1957, Belgrade

Working languages

English, French and German

Current position/function

Director, Gender Equality Directorate, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy

Main professional activities

Member of the Council on Gender Equality of the Government of the Republic of Serbia

Associate Research Fellow at the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory

Visiting Lecturer at the Department of Political Science, University of Belgrade

Director of HEDONE Publishing House

Registered EC-FP7-EMM expert

Educational background

PhD in philosophy, Purdue University, 1996

MA in philosophy, Purdue University, 1987

BA in philosophy and comparative literature, Sarajevo University, 1984

BS in mathematics, Sarajevo University, 1983

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Formation of an inter-sectoral team for reporting to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, report prepared in 2009

Prepared Law on Gender Equality, adopted in December 2009

Prepared National Strategy for Improvement of the position of women and promotion of gender equality and action plan, adopted in 2010

Prepared National Strategy for preventing and combating violence against women in the family and in partner relationships, adopted in April 2011

Prepared succession of the Republic of Serbia to the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence of the Council of Europe

Permanent representative of Republic of Serbia in the Steering Committee on Equality of Women and Men of the Council of Europe, 2007-2011

List of most recent publications in the field

“Influence of Transition on Gender Relations in Serbia” in *Philosophy and Society XXIX*, Belgrade, 2006.

“Ideological Obstacles to Integrated Scientific Community” presented at the Enwise Workshop in 2003 in Brussels, published in the conference materials

“Ideology and Theory in Southeastern European Context”, presented at the 21st World Congress of Philosophy in August 2003 in Istanbul, published in the proceedings

“Enlightenment and Sensitivity”, in *Women, Spirituality and Education*, Belgrade, 2001

“Gendered Aspects of New Socio-Economic Developments and Social Research in Yugoslavia”, Sofia, 23 and 24 November 1999, published in the proceedings

Theodora Oby Nwankwo (Nigeria)**Date and place of birth**

22 September 1956, Nigeria

Working languages

English

Current position/function

Executive Director, Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre, an NGO committed to the promotion and protection of human rights, women's rights, gender equality, good governance and access to justice. Independent gender and development expert and has consulted for UN-Women, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on gender budgeting, anti-corruption strategy, women's political participation, access to justice and gender policy, among others.

Main professional activities

Retired from the Nigerian judiciary after 23 years as Chief Magistrate; runs an NGO that provides pro bono legal services to indigent women; trainer and facilitator on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, women's rights and gender; in the forefront of the campaign for respect for gender equality for over three decades; represents Africa on the Steering Committee of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court; Chairperson of the civil society organizations Coordinating Committee on Constitutional and Electoral Reform; founding Coordinator of the National Coalition on Affirmative Action, a network of civil society organizations committed to the domestication of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the adoption of affirmative action for women's increased participation in governance in Nigeria. Member of the National Technical Committee on the Convention, the National Committee on the Review of Discriminatory Laws against Women, the Advisory Board of Global Fund for Women and the ICC Gender Justice Team.

Educational background

LLM University of Nigeria (1992); BL Nigeria Law School (1980); LLB University of Nigeria (1979); Women's Global Leadership Institute, Rutgers University, New Jersey (1999); Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Washington College of Law, American University, United States (2003); training on "Using International Human Rights Instruments in the Enforcement of Human Rights" by the World Organization against Torture, Geneva (2002)

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Active involvement in legislative advocacy and the campaign for the domestication of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against

Women in Nigeria as coordinator; facilitation of NGO shadow reporting on the Convention; provision of technical advice to the Government on periodic country reporting under the Convention. Consultant on the comparative analysis of the domestication processes of the Convention and the African Union Protocol in different countries in Africa to inform the process in Nigeria. Consultant for United Nations bodies on engendering the Nigerian national anti-corruption strategy, engendering the Liberian public finance management systems and policies within government agencies and development of gender policies and strategic results frameworks. She has attended all hearings of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on Nigeria since 2004. Participated in the Expert Group meeting on good practices in legislation on violence against women of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat, Vienna, May 2008.

Most recent publications in the field

Current Themes in the Domestication of Human Rights Norms, C. C. Nweze and O. Nwankwo, eds., FDP Books, 2005. “Ensuring Justice to Women in the ICC: A Call to Action”, *The ICC Monitor*, No. 33. Human Rights of Women: A Compilation of Treaties and Conventions — Peculiar Instincts, 2005. CEDAW as a Tool for Women’s Rights Activism: FDP Books, 2001. Affirmative Action Strategies: Perspectives from Around the Globe, Sam Egwu and Oby Nwankwo, eds., FDP Books, 2003. Engendering the Budget Process in Nigeria, FDP Books, 2008.

Silvia Pimentel (Brazil)

Date and place of birth

1 March 1940; Minas Gerais, Brazil

Working languages

English, French, Spanish and Portuguese

Current position/function

Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Chair of the Working Group on Access to Justice, inside the Committee, for the elaboration of a general recommendation on access to justice for women. PhD Professor in the programme of graduation and postgraduate studies of law at Pontifícia Universidade Católica (PUC), São Paulo.

Main professional activities

Expert of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women since 2005. Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women from 2011 to 2012. Currently teaches law at the Catholic University of São Paulo, where she began teaching in 1973, both in the graduate and postgraduate programmes.

Educational background

PhD in Legal Philosophy, Catholic University of São Paulo (1977)

Master in psychology of education, Catholic University of São Paulo (1973)

Law degree, Catholic University of São Paulo (1970)

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Founding member of the Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights (CLADEM) (1987); member of its Honorary Consulting Council (2003-present); Coordinator of the Brazilian Section of CLADEM (1992-2005). Founding member of the International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAP) (1985). President of the Institute for the Advancement of Equality (IPE) (2003-present). Member of the Director Council of the Commission of Citizenship and Reproduction (CCR). Author of the New Civil Statute of Women, a proposal for changing the Brazilian Civil Code, which was included in its reform in 2002. Participation in the drafting process of the Brazilian Constitution in 1986. Co-author of the Maria da Penha Law, which is the Brazilian legislation on violence against women.

Most recent publications in the field

"A Lei Maria da Penha na perspectiva da responsabilidade internacional do Brasil", in *Lei Maria da Penha: comentada em uma perspectiva jurídico-feminista*, organized by Carmen Hein de Campos, Lumen Juris, Rio de Janeiro, 2011

“Education and Legal Literacy”, in *The Circle of Empowerment — Twenty-five Years of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, Cees Flinterman and Beate Schopp-Schilling, eds., Feminist Press, New York, 2007

Bianca Pomeranzi (Italy)

Date and place of birth

14 June 1950, Arezzo, Italy

Working languages

English and French

Current position/function

Senior Adviser on Gender and Development at the General Directorate for Development Cooperation (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs), member of Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/Development Assistance Committee GENDERNET, member of the European Union gender experts. The functions related to professional activities deal with the implementation of international agreements and conventions for gender equality and women's empowerment.

Main professional activities

2010-2011: Head of the Office of Italian Development Cooperation for Senegal and West Francophone Africa

2008-2010: National Counselor for Equal Opportunities of the Italian Government

2000: Editor and speaker at the European Union Preparatory Conference for the Beijing+5 Conference (1996-2001): Adviser of the Italian Minister for Equal Opportunities for International Affairs

1995: Adviser of the Italian Delegation to the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing

1994-ongoing: Adviser of the Italian delegation to the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations

1981-1991: Co-founder and planner of the Association of Italian Women for Development

Educational background

2001: Course on theories of gender — Prof. Rosi Braidotti — Women's Studies Centre — Utrecht University

1985: Fellowship of Equal Opportunities Programme, Marshall Fund, United States of America

1974: Diploma in History of Africa — Italo-African Institute

1973: Masters degree in Social Sciences, University of Florence

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

2009: Member of the Italian Government team for the G8 Conference on Violence against Women, Rome

2008-ongoing: Member of the Italian Committee on Human Rights (CIDU)

2007: Responsible for the organization of the Regional Conference of the Italian Directorate for Development Cooperation “Women in West Africa” Bamako, Mali

2005-2006: Teacher in the Masters programme in equal opportunities on the United Nations system and international treaties and the Convention on Gender

1975-ongoing: Member of several Italian and international women’s associations for the advancement of women

Most recent publications in the field

“What’s next for the UN system and the international women’s movement” in DWF, *International Review for Anthropological, Sociological and Historical Studies on Woman* — 2008, No. 3, 4

“The Woman’s Body and Multiculturalism” in *Democracy and Rights, Quarterly Review of the Centre for the Reform of the State* — 2004, No. 1

Victoria Popescu (Romania)

[Original: French]

Date and place of birth

23 August 1951, Bucharest

Working languages

English, French and Spanish

Current position/function

Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Vice-Chairperson)

Diplomat (Minister Plenipotentiary), Department for the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

National correspondent for the International Organization of la Francophonie (since 2009)

Member of the Romanian Interministerial Council for Gender Equality (since 1999)

Main professional activities

2009-2010, Deputy Director, Department for the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

2004-2009, Ambassador of Romania to the Kingdom of Sweden

2004, Director General for the United Nations and world affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

2000-2003, Director, Department for the United Nations and its specialized agencies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1999-2000, Deputy Director for human rights and the Council of Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1994-1999, Counsellor, Human Rights and Social Affairs Section, Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations, New York

1992-1994, First and Second Secretary, European Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1990-1991, English/French interpreter and teacher, Foreign Languages Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1976-1989, English/French interpreter and teacher, Centre for International Relations

Educational background

1970-1976, Department of Foreign Languages (French/English section), University of Bucharest

1993-1994, course in international relations (Bucharest, September 1993-June 1994; Clingendael Institute, The Hague, 1994)

1991, Oxford, proficiency course in English

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (2003-2006; 2009-2012); Vice-Chairperson, Bureau of the Committee (2003-2004; 2011-2012)

Speaker and resource person on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and gender issues (e.g., Bratislava, 2005; Bangkok, 2006; Stockholm, 2007; Beirut, 2008; Vienna and Istanbul, 2009; Geneva, 2010; Burkina Faso, Amman and Berne, 2011; Helsinki, 2012)

Alternate member, United Nations Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (2000-2006)

Rapporteur and Vice-Chairperson, Third Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations (1996-1997; 1998-1999)

Chairperson of the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (1998-2000)

Facilitator of United Nations resolutions on the advancement of women (1997-1999) and facilitator of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1999)

Most recent publications in the field

Articles and studies on gender equality and human rights

Articles on educational and literary topics, literary translations in Romanian journals

Speeches and presentations on human rights, gender equality and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women at national and international meetings

Zohra Rasekh (Afghanistan)**Date and place of birth**

7 February 1969, Kabul

Working languages

English and Persian

Current position/function

Zohra Rasekh is the President of Global Watch Group (GWG), an independent non-profit organization, dedicated to the protection of human rights and promotion of health for all people. GWG focuses on investigative research, promoting public awareness of human rights violations and providing health-care services in situations of health and human rights crises in conflict and post-conflict countries around the world.

Main professional activities

General Director, Office of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs and Adviser to the Foreign Minister on human rights and gender issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, 2003-2010. Among other accomplishments, established a sustainable human rights treaty body reporting mechanism within the Afghan Government, initiated the process of human rights treaty body reporting including that of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

Research Analyst, Population Action International, 2000-2003. Managed a three-year project on reproductive health rights policies in seven countries.

Senior Research Analyst, Physicians for Human Rights. Initiated and led two epidemiological research projects on the impact of war and Taliban policies on women's health and human rights under the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

Educational background

Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Certificate from the Women and Public Policy Program, 2006

George Washington University, School of Medicine and Healthcare Sciences, Masters of Public Health, May, 1994

George Washington University, B.A., Biology, December 1989

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Zohra Rasekh is an expert on human rights, gender and health issues, with a focus on Afghanistan. She is one of the world's leading spokespersons for human rights and gender equality in Afghanistan and the region. Ms. Rasekh also has expertise on women in conflict and post-conflict situations. She regularly appears before Congress, international forums and international media. Ms. Rasekh has conducted

two unprecedented studies on the impact of Taliban policies and the prolonged war on Afghan women's health and human rights in 1998 and 2000. Ms. Rasekh is the co-founder of the Women's Alliance for Peace and Human Rights (WAPHA) and founder of Global Watch Group, a non-governmental organization focusing on human rights of women and children in conflict and post-conflict countries.

Most recent publications in the field

- *Terrorism and Public Health: A Balanced Approach to Strengthening Systems and Protecting People*, Oxford University Press, 2012
- "Women's Health and Human Rights in Afghanistan", *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, 1998
- *The Taliban's War on Women: A Health and Human Rights Crisis in Afghanistan*, 1998
- Education, a Health Imperative: The Case of Afghanistan, François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard Publication, 1999
- "Health and Human Rights of Adolescent Girls in Afghanistan", *Journal of American Medical Women's Association*, 2000
- *In this Generation: Sexual and Reproductive Health Policies for a Youthful World Population*, Action International Publishing, 2002

Olena Suslova (Ukraine)

Date and place of birth

23 April 1958, Orenburg, the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Working languages

Ukrainian, English, Russian, Spanish and German

Current position/function

Gender Activity Coordinator Parliamentary Development Project, Ohio State University (2005 to date)

Founder, Chair of the Board, Women's Information Consultative Centre, Ukraine (1995 to date)

Main professional activities

The main focus of Ms. Suslova's work of 20 years has been women's human rights advocacy, training on gender sensitivity and gender mainstreaming, gender analysis of legislation, consultations on individual cases of gender discrimination and preparing publications on women's human rights and gender equality. Human rights activist since 1990. Contributed to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women governmental and alternative reporting. Member of the Advisory Council at the Parliament Committee on Human Rights. Experienced in international training — Azerbaijan, Belarus, Myanmar, Georgia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan. Initiated the Empowering Education Project — Equal Rights and Equal Opportunities for Girls and Boys (gender education) (www.empedu.org). Author and editor of more than 50 articles, manuals and other publications.

Educational background

Ukrainian Academy of International Trade, Masters Degree in International Law (Masters theme was on United Nations peacekeeping operations), 2001

National University of "Kyiv — Mohyla Academy" in collaboration with Tempus — Tacis Programme, research in social work and social policy course, 1999

Central European University (CEU) Summer University, Course on Conflict Transformation: The Transcend Approach, 1999

Orenburg Polytechnic Institute, Civil Engineering Degree, 1979

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Expert on gender mainstreaming, training, consultations, UNDP (2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009); coordinator of about 30 research, advocacy, informational projects of the Women's Information Consultative Centre (1995-2012); leader of the team on equal opportunity law comments; Gender Strategic Platform Coordinator; author of trainings on implementation and monitoring of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Optional Protocol; member of the

Expert Commission on Gender Discrimination at the Ministry on the Affairs of Family and Youth.

Most recent publications in the field

Protecting women and children by judicial and law enforcement bodies in Ukraine (co-author), Council of Europe TRES project, 2010

Equal Opportunities Law — comments (co-author), UNDP, 2009

Mechanisms of counteraction and monitoring gender violence and discrimination — analysis, UNFPA, 2009

Our rights are not optional, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Optional Protocol to the Convention, comments of International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAP) (translation and edition), Ukrainian Women's Fund (UWF), 2008, Women's Information Consultative Centre (WICC), 2009

Regional Legislative Analysis and Mapping on Correspondence to International Treaties on Discrimination against Women, UNFPA — analysis, 2008

Xiaoqiao Zou (China)

Date and place of birth

22 February 1952, China

Working languages

Chinese and English

Current position/function

Director General of the International Liaison Department of the All-China Women's Federation, board member of China Human Rights Studies Society, board member of China NGO Network for International Exchanges, council member of China United Nations Association, Member of China UNESCO National Committee, Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women since 2005 (Vice-Chair of the Committee, 2009-2010).

Main professional activities

Ms. Zou has over 30 years of experience in promoting women's human rights and gender equality, with a solid theoretical background. A champion of quite a number of policy and legislative proposals, such as integration of gender equality and combating of domestic violence into the revision of the Law on the Protection of Women's Rights and Interests of China, and further strengthening of sex-disaggregated data in surveys and statistics. She has been dedicated to women's studies, with a focus on women's empowerment in economy and politics, violence against women and the rights of rural women, in both national and international contexts. She has attended almost all major regional, international and United Nations conferences on human rights, women and social development.

Educational background

1986, University of Los Andes, Colombia, Diploma in methodology, data collection and data analysis

1985, University of Chicago, United States, Diploma in sociology and women studies

1978-1980, University of Canberra, Australia, Diploma in History, politics and literature

1971-1975, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China, BA in English literature

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Ms. Zou has long been committed to promoting the dissemination and implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, at both national and international levels. She has actively engaged in various major activities, including publishing articles in mainstream newspapers and magazines, and has made special efforts to enhance public knowledge of the Convention in China through, inter alia, promoting the publication of easy-to-read booklets on the Convention, translation of the Convention in ethnic languages and

giving lectures on the Convention to Government officials, judges, procurators and those working for women's rights. She has also been actively involved in regional and international seminars/workshops, giving lectures on the Convention and other international human rights instruments in Viet Nam, Fiji and Samoa. She provided consultancy and advice on China's seventh and eighth combined report on the Convention.

Most recent publications in the field

Safeguard Women's Human Rights and Promote Women's Overall Development

The Advancement of Chinese Women in the Thirty-year Reform and Opening-up

Footsteps of Progress: Human Rights in Another Perspective

Building a Fairly Well-off Society in an All-round Way and Human Rights
