



# Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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## Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

### List of issues and questions in relation to the eighth periodic report of Angola\*

#### Visibility of the Convention, the Optional Protocol and the Committee's general recommendations

1. Please provide information on awareness-raising activities for women on their rights under the Convention, the Optional Protocol and the Committee's general recommendations and on the steps taken to ensure coordination between local authorities, civil society organizations and traditional, religious and community leaders in this regard, including to make the Convention available in accessible formats.

#### Legislative framework

2. With reference to paragraph 12 of the Committee's previous concluding observations (CEDAW/C/AGO/CO/7), please specify:

(a) The progress made to adopt a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women that encompasses both direct and indirect discrimination in the public and private spheres, as well as intersecting forms of discrimination, in accordance with articles 1 and 2 of the Convention;

(b) The ways in which the legislation, policies and programmes outlined in paragraphs 15 and 16 of the State Party's report<sup>1</sup> ensure a gender-sensitive approach;

(c) The number of claims of gender-based discrimination that have been received from women and girls pursuant to article 212 of the Angolan Criminal Code and the outcome of the proceedings, and the measures in place to ensure that every complaint is registered and investigated in an impartial manner, including claims made by disadvantaged groups of women.

#### Women and peace and security

3. Please provide information on the measures taken to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions, including by adopting a new national action plan on women and peace and security, by ensuring that the needs

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\* Adopted by the Committee at its ninety-first session (16 June–4 July 2025).

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, paragraph numbers refer to the eighth periodic report of the State Party (CEDAW/C/AGO/8).



of women and girls are taken into account in post-conflict reconstruction activities and by guaranteeing their equal participation in the development and implementation of these activities.

### **Access to justice**

4. With reference to the Committee's general recommendation No. 33 (2015) on women's access to justice, please provide:

(a) Data on the number of women receiving State-provided legal aid (paras. 24 and 25), disaggregated by age, disability, region, type of complaint and outcome;

(b) The measures taken by the State Party to ensure access to courts and out-of-court dispute settlement centres, including reasonable and procedural accommodations, for women facing intersecting forms of discrimination, such as women in rural areas, women with disabilities, women with albinism, women who are victims of gender-based violence and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women;

(c) The oversight mechanisms in place to monitor that women are not mandatorily referred to alternative dispute resolution processes but have a free and informed choice to avail themselves of such processes, that such processes do not constitute an obstacle to women's access to formal justice and that, in cases of gender-based violence against women, such processes are not used instead of formal justice procedures, including prosecution in criminal proceedings.

### **National machinery for the advancement of women**

5. Please provide updated information on:

(a) The human, technical and financial resources allocated to the national machinery for the advancement of women, specifically to the Ministry of Social Action, the Family and the Advancement of Women, and its mandate and institutional capacity to coordinate the advancement of women in the State Party;

(b) The measures taken to monitor the implementation of a gender-responsive budgeting approach, following its introduction by Presidential Decree No. 235/19 of 22 July 2019;

(c) The status of the review of the National Policy for Gender Equality and Equity and of its Advocacy and Resource Mobilization Strategy for Implementation and Monitoring, and the budget allocated to the National Directorate for Gender Equity and Equality and the Multisectoral Gender Commission to implement the policy and monitor its impact, and their presence at all levels of Government;

(d) Measures taken to strengthen the collaboration with and support to women's civil society organizations and the collaboration with other civil society actors involved.

### **National human rights institution**

6. With reference to paragraph 18 of the Committee's previous concluding observations, please provide information on:

(a) The progress made to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman to enable it to effectively and independently discharge its mandate in full compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and to obtain accreditation from the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(b) The human, technical and financial resources allocated to the Office of the Ombudsman, and to its standing commission to support particularly vulnerable citizens, that are specifically dedicated to women's rights, the number of complaints received regarding gender equality, and any steps taken to provide the Ombudsman with a specific mandate on women's rights.

### **Temporary special measures**

7. Noting the temporary special measures taken by the State Party to advance gender parity in decision-making positions, including through article 20 (1) of Act No. 2/05 of 1 July 2005 on political parties, and noting also the measures taken to raise awareness among politicians and the general public about the importance of achieving substantive equality between women and men in all areas of society, please inform the Committee about any considerations to introduce statutory quotas requiring political parties to ensure 50/50 parity, subject to fines in the event of non-compliance, in the nomination of candidates for elections to the parliament and provincial and local councils. Please also provide information on activities to raise awareness among legislators, policymakers, other public officials and employers in the public and private sectors of the nature and importance of temporary special measures, as well as the temporary special measures adopted to accelerate the substantive equality of women belonging to disadvantaged groups.

### **Gender stereotypes and harmful practices**

8. Please provide:

(a) Information on whether a comprehensive anti-discrimination law and strategy to address stereotypes on the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society, including discrimination based on gender, gender identity and sexual orientation, and harmful practices, is in place in the State Party or is planned to be developed;

(b) Updated disaggregated data on the prevalence of child and forced marriage, including such marriages celebrated under customary law, polygamy, female genital mutilation, forced sterilization, accusations of witchcraft and other harmful practices affecting women and girls, disaggregated by the number of investigations, prosecutions and convictions, the penalties imposed on those responsible for such harmful practices, and the mechanisms in place to collect and analyse such data;

(c) Information on the legislation in place to prohibit accusations of witchcraft and witchcraft-related acts of violence, and related awareness-raising activities;

(d) Information on measures taken to protect women with albinism and to combat social stigma.

### **Gender-based violence against women**

9. Please provide information on:

(a) The status of the public consultation on Act No. 25/11 of 14 July 2011, against domestic violence, and its implementing regulations, and whether the Criminal Code comprehensively criminalizes all forms of gender-based violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres, in line with general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, and if not, the efforts made to adopt such legislation;

(b) Efforts to remove barriers to reporting, including to increase access to and awareness about the availability of victim support services, to address societal bias

and stigma against women generally and disadvantaged groups of women specifically, and to ensure the impartial investigation of any reported cases.

10. Please also provide:

- (a) The human, technical and financial resources allocated to mechanisms and services for women and girls victims of gender-based violence, including to the Executive Plan to Combat Domestic Violence, the Commission to Combat Domestic Violence, the Support and Protection Programme for Victims of Violence and the free reporting hotline (15020), as well as to multisectoral victim assistance teams, appropriate referral mechanisms and other mechanisms and services, that are accessible at the local level and take into account the needs of specific groups of women, such as girls, women with disabilities and rural women;
- (b) Information on the status of the domestic violence data and information platform (<http://violenciadomestica.ao>) and other measures taken to compile and analyse data on gender-based violence;
- (c) Reliable data on all forms of violence against women, disaggregated by age, ethnicity, disability (whether congenital or acquired as a result of gender-based violence), sexual orientation and gender identity, and on the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, as well as on protection measures, prosecutions and sanctions imposed on perpetrators;
- (d) Information on the measures taken to address violence against children as a form of violence against women (“vicarious violence” or “violence by proxy”), including the use of children to control, coerce or harm their mothers, and protection mechanisms for children who witness domestic violence.

### **Trafficking in women and girls and exploitation of prostitution**

11. Please provide:

- (a) Disaggregated data and information on the enforcement of anti-trafficking legislation by conducting gender-sensitive investigations and ensuring the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators, including data on the trafficking of women with albinism;
- (b) An update on the establishment of shelters for victims of trafficking accessible in all parts of the State Party (para. 123) and on the provision of adequate legal, medical and psychosocial assistance;
- (c) Information on the conclusions that were drawn from the State Party’s studies on the root causes of exploitation of women in prostitution (para. 124) and the mechanisms put in place to address those root causes and the demand for prostitution;
- (d) Data on women in prostitution and exploitation of prostitution, the availability of accessible shelters, and rehabilitation and social reintegration programmes, including exit programmes for those who wish to leave prostitution.

### **Participation in political and public life**

12. Please inform the Committee about:

- (a) The measures taken to continue to increase the representation of women in decision-making positions in the public and political sphere, in particular at the local level, and in the foreign service and international organizations, including temporary special measures implemented to foster the participation of women facing intersecting forms of discrimination;

(b) Women's access to leadership positions in both public and private enterprises and in the security forces.

#### **Women human rights defenders, journalists and civil society organizations**

13. Please explain the measures in place to ensure that women human rights defenders, journalists and members of civil society organizations can carry out their work in safe conditions. Please also explain the extent to which the new National Security Law may negatively affect them.

#### **Nationality**

14. Recalling paragraph 34 of the Committee's previous concluding observations, please provide:

- (a) Updated and disaggregated data on the issuance of birth registration and identity documents;
- (b) Information on the steps taken to update the Civil Registry Code and to remove the requirement that both parents be present for birth registration.

#### **Education**

15. Please provide:

- (a) Updated information on the budget allocated to the education sector and information on any data collection and analysis undertaken to assess whether girls in all areas of the State Party have access to inclusive, quality education, including schools with adequate sanitary facilities and accommodation for girls with disabilities and with albinism;
- (b) Updated data on the number of girls who are enrolled in school, including special schools, and who dropped out of school, any impact analysis of the measures described by the State Party to address some of the root causes of girls' absenteeism and school dropout (paras. 163–169 and 176), and any other measures taken to adopt regulations and programmes that facilitate girls' retention in or return to school;
- (c) The status of the revision of school materials to eliminate gender stereotypes, to promote respect for women's rights and to strengthen comprehensive and age-appropriate education on sexual and reproductive health and rights under the curricular adaptation programme (2018–2025).

#### **Employment**

16. Please provide:

- (a) Updated data on women, including disadvantaged groups of women, who made claims under the non-discrimination provisions of the New General Labour Act (Act No. 23/23 of 27 December 2023) and of the Civil Service Framework Act (Act No. 6/22 of 8 August 2022) and who benefited from policy measures to eliminate horizontal and vertical occupational segregation and the concentration of women in the informal labour market and in low-paying jobs, described in paragraphs 180, 188, 189, 192 and 193 of the State Party's report, as well as the budget allocated to these policy measures;
- (b) An update on the status of the Informal Economy Conversion Programme, on the number of women covered by the social protection scheme through Presidential Decree No. 295/20 of 18 November 2020, and on the access of women in the informal sector, including women in prostitution, to food subsidies, maternity allowances and other social protection measures;

- (c) Information on the progress made to address the higher rates of unemployment among women, including young women and women facing intersecting forms of discrimination, and the budget allocated to provide social protection to vulnerable groups of women;
- (d) Measures taken to protect girls from child labour, including domestic work;
- (e) Information on further progress made to accede to the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization.

### **Health**

17. Please provide information on:

- (a) Further consultations and awareness-raising, particularly among religious communities, with the aim to align the State Party's legislation on abortion with the Convention, specifically to amend the Criminal Code to legalize and decriminalize abortion in all cases;
- (b) The steps taken to remove barriers to access to abortion and guarantee access to safe abortion and high-quality post-abortion care, with a view to ensuring the full realization of the rights of women, their equality and their economic and bodily autonomy to make free choices about their reproductive rights, and provide data on all forms of abortion;
- (c) Maternal mortality by region and type of care, the impact of the interventions described in paragraphs 222 to 230 of the State Party's report in reducing the maternal mortality rate in rural areas, and other measures taken to counter the alarming rate of maternal mortality;
- (d) Details on the mental health services available to women victims of violence and trafficking for their comprehensive rehabilitation; please indicate how mental health services take gender issues into account and whether such services are available in the community.

18. Please also provide information on:

- (a) The measures taken to prevent early pregnancy, including the status of implementation of the Strategy for Comprehensive Healthcare for Adolescents and Youth, and access to affordable and modern contraceptives and family planning services, particularly in rural areas;
- (b) The steps taken to increase access to water, sanitation and hygiene, particularly in rural areas;
- (c) The accommodation provided to women and girls with disabilities for them to gain access to healthcare, and the measures taken to combat stigma and discrimination that increase barriers to such services, particularly for disadvantaged groups of women;
- (d) The impact on the prevalence of HIV among women and girls of the measures outlined in paragraphs 234 to 236 of the State Party's report;
- (e) Whether women and girls with disabilities and women with albinism, who are frequently victims of "virgin rapes" because of the belief in them as a cure for HIV/AIDS, have access to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programmes.

### **Rural women**

19. Please provide information on:

- (a) The status of the policy aimed at creating favourable conditions for women in rural areas and the impact of the actions under the National Development Plans on the situation of rural women (paras. 245 and 246);
- (b) The measures taken to ensure compliance with consultation obligations under the Mining Code and adequate compensation.

### **Women facing intersecting forms of discrimination**

20. Please provide information on:

- (a) The steps taken to address intersecting forms of discrimination and any cases of violence faced by women and girls with disabilities, with albinism, living with HIV/AIDS, and in prostitution and lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women, including the activities undertaken under the plan for the protection of persons with albinism for the period 2023–2027 and the plan for the inclusion and support of persons with disabilities for the same period, as well as the impact of the workshops described in paragraph 238 of the State Party's report, and the mechanisms in place to consult such women in the development and implementation of policies and programmes;
- (b) The access of migrant and asylum-seeking women and girls to health services and education, the reporting mechanisms in place in case of violence committed against them, the naturalization options available to them, and the safeguards in place against extradition, deportation, expulsion or other forms of removal of asylum-seeking and migrant women and girls from the territory of the State Party to the territory of another State when there are substantial grounds to believe that there is a real risk of irreparable harm; and please provide updated data on the registration of migrant and asylum-seeking women.

### **Marriage and family relations**

21. Please inform the Committee about:

- (a) The progress made in revising article 24 of the Family Code to increase the minimum age for marriage to 18 years for both women and men, without exception;
- (b) The measures taken to ensure that women, children and other dependants are protected and receive appropriate assistance in cases of domestic violence, and that domestic violence is taken into account in judicial proceedings relating to child custody, visitation rights, spousal support and other matters arising from separation or divorce;
- (c) Free legal aid available to women who face discriminatory practices on family matters, such as inheritance, custody determinations, child support and the financial consequences of separations and divorces, and the number and outcome of related court cases.

### **Data collection and analysis**

22. Please indicate the mandate and the human, technical and financial resources allocated to the Gender Observatory of Angola, and whether capacity-building on data analysis and monitoring and evaluation is provided to its staff.