



Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.: General
29 July 2025

Original: English

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women Ninety-first session

Summary record of the 2162nd meeting

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Wednesday, 25 June 2025, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Ms. Mikko (Vice-Chair)

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In the absence of Ms. Haidar, Ms. Mikko (Vice-Chair) took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Consideration of reports submitted by States Parties under article 18 of the Convention *(continued)*

Combined initial to fifth periodic reports of San Marino (CEDAW/C/SMR/1-5; CEDAW/C/SRM/QPR/1-5)

1. *At the invitation of the Chair, the delegation of San Marino joined the meeting.*
2. **The Chair**, welcoming the Permanent Representative of San Marino to the meeting, explained that the other members of the delegation would be participating via video link.
3. **A representative of San Marino**, introducing his country's combined initial to fifth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/SMR/1-5), said that the failure to submit an initial report until now in no way implied an absence of efforts or progress in the area of human rights. On the contrary, San Marino had implemented and strengthened measures in many areas covered by the Convention. In order to facilitate the Committee's work, it had recently accepted the amendment to article 20 (1) of the Convention.
4. Significant progress had been achieved in recent years in combating violence against women and gender-based violence. For example, amendments had been introduced to Law No. 97 of 20 June 2008 on the prevention and elimination of violence against women and gender violence and the Criminal Code to bring them into line with the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence of the Council of Europe. In particular, the definition of violence against women and gender-based violence had been revised and new criminal offences had been introduced.
5. The Authority for Equal Opportunities was responsible for storing and disseminating data on gender-based violence, which were provided by a range of institutions working with women victims of violence. The set of indicators on gender-based violence had been expanded to include the number of protection and barring orders issued, cases of violence against women with disabilities, cases of violence against children and cases of children who had witnessed violence. Meetings were being held to formalize a new disaggregated dataset for all pending criminal proceedings, which would include information on age, sex, nationality, type of violence and relationship between the perpetrator and the victim.
6. In addition, San Marino had adopted the Comprehensive National Plan of Action against Violence against Women for the period 2024–2026, while the ministries responsible for labour, health and internal affairs, trade unions and employers' associations had signed the Multi-year National Plan on the Elimination of Violence, Harassment and Discrimination in the World of Work, with provision for the establishment of a permanent technical working group, in implementation of International Labour Organization Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190), the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, among other instruments.
7. Furthermore, a 24-hour psychosocial support service had been set up, along with an emergency shelter where victims, and their dependent children could obtain healthcare and social and legal assistance. To complement the long-standing Tecum mobile application enabling victims of domestic abuse and gender-based violence to request assistance, a website for women victims of violence had been created in November 2024.
8. Discussions were under way on the drafting of a bill to establish an equal opportunities hub. In addition to the annual activities organized on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the Authority for Equal Opportunities had launched an awareness-raising campaign on violence against women and, more recently, "The New Languages of Violence" campaign.
9. Every year, the University of San Marino held compulsory training courses for a wide range of professionals, including judges and prosecutors, police officers, social and healthcare service providers, educators and family mediators. However, as deep and lasting change must begin at a young age, the University had long been actively collaborating with

schools to foster an innovative and inclusive educational approach capable of responding to contemporary social and cultural challenges.

10. Government institutions were supported in their efforts by non-governmental organizations and volunteers, which also brought human rights issues to the attention of the authorities. For example, the introduction of the concept of registered partnerships, whereby same-sex and heterosexual couples could obtain legal recognition of their relationship equivalent to marriage in areas such as residence, social security, pensions and inheritance, had been introduced through a popular initiative. Civil society had also been behind the referendum for the legalization of voluntary termination of pregnancy.

11. Recent progress notwithstanding, some challenges persisted, for instance with regard to gender stereotypes and the representation of women in politics, at all levels of decision-making and in leadership positions in all sectors.

Articles 1 and 2

12. **Ms. Schläppi**, noting that no information had been received from civil society in preparation for the dialogue, said that she wished to know whether the provisions of the Convention were directly applicable in the State Party, whether the Convention was referred to in practice by the courts, in legislative work and in administrative decisions and what steps had been taken since ratification to raise the visibility and public awareness of the obligations and rights under the Convention.

13. She was interested in hearing whether the State Party planned to expand the list of explicitly prohibited grounds for discrimination contained in article 4 of the Declaration of Citizens' Rights and Fundamental Principles of San Marino Constitutional Order to include language, colour, origin and gender identity, and to introduce a comprehensive law prohibiting and preventing discrimination in the private and public spheres. She was also interested in hearing about how the authorities integrated a gender perspective and women's views and interests in the legislative process and in administrative decisions at the national and local levels.

14. She would welcome information on the legal procedures currently available to women for submitting complaints about discriminatory acts in civil and administrative matters, any examples of those procedures being used, any barriers to their use and any training provided to law enforcement personnel to ensure equal treatment of men and women in civil and administrative proceedings.

15. Lastly, it would be helpful to know what specific steps and timelines were envisaged for improving the collection and analysis of disaggregated data to monitor gender equality and the implementation of the Convention and Sustainable Development Goal 5.

16. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Department of Foreign Affairs had coordinated the preparation and drafting of the report and had invited civil society to contribute to the process by sending their submissions either to it or directly to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The Union of San Marino Women, which had been instrumental in the legislative reform to allow women to pass on their San Marino nationality to their children.

17. Both the authorities and civil society were sensitive to the issue of violence against women. However data collection and analysis remained a challenge. One of the issues to be discussed in the negotiations on an association agreement with the European Union was the establishment of a data collection agency, and the Government would welcome the Committee's specific recommendations in that regard.

18. **A representative of San Marino** said that efforts were under way to establish a statistical body similar to Eurostat or the Italian National Institute for Statistics. The prohibited grounds for discrimination enumerated in article 4 of the Declaration of Citizens' Rights was by no means exhaustive. The list had been drafted to allow for the widest possible interpretation of types of discrimination, or protected characteristics.

19. **A representative of San Marino** said that there were currently no plans to adopt a single anti-discrimination law, as the relevant amendments to the Constitution and the

Criminal Code were in line with international standards. International instruments, such as European Union directives and the Convention, were applicable once transposed into national law. The digitization of court documents continued apace. In collaboration with the judicial authorities of Italy, judges received training in the handling of ill-treatment, discrimination and child protection cases.

20. **A representative of San Marino** said that the provisions of the Convention were fully applicable and could be transposed into national laws. The process of digitalizing court records and legal proceedings was well under way in San Marino, which would facilitate data collection. Members of the judiciary were provided with in-service training on gender-based violence and discrimination against women, and legal assistance was provided to victims of discrimination.

21. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Gendarmerie had an office specifically dedicated to addressing gender-based violence and violence against children. As standard procedure, the criminal investigation department referred cases of such violence to the courts. Furthermore, it ensured the protection of victims regardless of whether formal complaints were filed. It was responsible for referring cases to the relevant health or child welfare authorities and informing victims of their rights, such as the right to request protection orders. The Gendarmerie were given in-service training on gender-based violence. Staff at the gender-based violence office attended a three-week training course, in collaboration with the Italian police.

22. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Government had worked with the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings of the Council of Europe to develop a centre for equal opportunities, or hub, which would be tasked with recognizing all forms of discrimination, including discrimination against women, persons with disabilities and others. The hub would be responsible for collecting data on gender-based violence and violence against children. The Authority for Equal Opportunities was currently collecting data that would provide comprehensive information on gender-based violence. The data would ultimately be compiled by the new statistical body that was being developed. The Authority for Equal Opportunities and the University of San Marino had designed a training course that had been used by various institutions and the police.

23. **Ms. Schläppi** said that articles 1 and 2 covered all forms of discrimination. She looked forward to receiving information on the available remedies for acts of discrimination, particularly in administrative matters. She would like to know whether there had been any cases before the courts that explicitly referred to the Convention. She understood that the proposed hub would be a first step towards a more general approach to tackling discrimination, but wondered whether there were plans to establish a legal basis for the prohibition of discrimination. In other words, were there plans to introduce a comprehensive law on discrimination?

24. **A representative of San Marino** said that work was currently under way to enact a law, which would be the legal basis for the hub for equal opportunities. Although a bill have not yet been drafted, there were plans bring such a new law before the parliament.

Articles 3 and 4

25. **Ms. Draz** said that San Marino has demonstrated a commitment to promoting gender equality through several institutional frameworks, including the Commission for Equal Opportunities and the Authority for Equal Opportunities. However, there was currently no unified national gender equality strategy and mandates remained somewhat fragmented. She would appreciate clarification on the mandates, coordination mechanisms and resource allocations for the Commission and the Authority and a description of the concrete activities that they undertook. She wondered what monitoring and implementation mechanisms were in place to follow up on the level of progress of the Commission's work and how the activities of the various bodies that dealt with discrimination were coordinated. She would also welcome a description of how gender perspectives were currently integrated into public policy across ministries and sectors and whether there were plans to adopt a national gender equality strategy to guide that work.

26. The Authority for Equal Opportunities managed a dedicated fund for victim support, training and awareness-raising, with allocations reaching €30,000 in 2023. While that demonstrated a concrete financial commitment, she still had concerns about the sufficiency of resources in terms of their long-term impact. Updated information on the human and financial resources available to the bodies responsible for gender equality would be helpful. It was not clear whether steps were being taken to ensure their sustainability in line with their growing mandates. San Marino had a vibrant civil society, with women's groups such as the Union of San Marino Women contributing significantly to legal and institutional reforms. She would like to know how women's organizations were formally included in the development and monitoring of gender equality policies and what funding mechanisms were in place to support their work. She would also appreciate clarification on the measures taken to ensure the participation of civil society organizations in national and international platforms.

27. San Marino had not yet established a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles. It would be useful to have an update on the process and timeline for establishing an independent national human rights institution and an explanation as to how it would ensure compliance with the Paris Principles in terms of independence, mandate and resourcing.

28. **Mr. Safarov** said that the purpose of article 4 (1) was to accelerate de facto, or substantive, equality between men and women, to bring about the structural, social and cultural changes necessary to correct past and current forms of discrimination against women and to provide them with compensation. Such measures were of a temporary nature. Measures taken by States Parties under article 4 (1) of the Convention should aim to accelerate the equal participation of women in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

29. He wished to know what kind of temporary special measures had already been implemented in the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; what temporary special measures had the State Party adopted, in addition to the principle of parity, to accelerate substantive equality between men and women; what monitoring and evaluation mechanisms had the State Party implemented to verify the impact of special measures on compliance with the Convention; what training was provided to judicial, political and administrative authorities on the nature, legitimacy and enforceability of temporary special measures; and what kind of temporary special measures had been adopted and implemented in the political, public, cultural, social, economic, sporting, media, health and judicial spheres.

30. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Government was currently drafting a bill on the Office of the Ombudsman, which was expected to be adopted later that year, and the Office was expected to be operative in 2026. The Office would have a monitoring function, including compliance with international human rights standards and fundamental freedoms. It would work to combat discriminatory acts, introduce complaints mechanisms and mediation between the private and public sector and make recommendations for institutional reforms. The Ombudsman's mandate would be six years, which could be renewed only once. The Ombudsman would not be under the control of any other department and would have an independent budget.

31. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Government was encouraging the full participation of civil society organizations in the fight against violence and discrimination. In 2023, the parliament had adopted a decree law that recognized a popular petition submitted by the Union of San Marino Women calling for measures to support civil society organizations working to prevent violence against women. The petition also called for monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the fight against discrimination. The Government was developing a register of civil society organizations that were active in the field of women's rights and combating gender-based violence. The national plan to combat gender-based violence that had been adopted by the Congress of State included the possibility of entering into memorandums of understanding with civil society organizations, and collaboration with such organizations was clearly spelled out. The Government worked with the association Confine, which dealt with violence, harassment and discrimination in the world of work. The association worked in particular among young people in an effort to

change mindsets. A project with schools was also imminent. The services offered to victims by such a small State as San Marino were quite adequate. While civil society organizations played an important role in upholding the rights of women, the guarantees afforded by the State were extensive. For example, there was reception centre for victims of violence and a helpline that operated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

32. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Labour Office was tasked with handling complaints of violence, harassment and discrimination from both public and private sector employees and by residents and non-residents alike. It received individual applications and met with trade union representatives to discuss labour rights. The Office was responsible for ensuring that labour standards were upheld.

33. **A representative of San Marino** said that men and women enjoyed equal access to employment, without discrimination. In 2022, the Government had introduced Delegated Decree No. 105, which included financial incentives to encourage greater female employment, leading to a significant increase in the number of women and a reduction of the gap between men and women in the labour market.

34. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Authority for Equal Opportunities had established a fund for the provision of training on combating violence and direct financial assistance to victims.

35. **Ms. Draz** said that she would appreciate information on the establishment of an independent national human rights institution.

36. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Government was in the process of establishing a national human rights institution based on the Paris Principles, which was expected to be operational in 2026. In accordance with the bill currently before the parliament, members of the national human rights institution would be impartial and would not belong to any political party.

Article 5

37. **Ms. Toledo Vásquez** said that she would be interested to know the impact of the steps taken to combat gender stereotypes, including the adoption of the Information and Media Law, the development of a protocol to prevent sexist advertising and the training of journalists. She wished to know what channels were available for submitting complaints about content that reinforced gender stereotypes, especially in relation to women with disabilities, immigrant women and lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women.

38. In respect of the legal framework on violence against women, she would like to know why psychological violence, which was addressed under civil law provisions, was not considered a criminal offence. She was concerned that the definition of sexual violence contained in the Criminal Code referred to the use of threats and other conduct but not to the lack of consent, and therefore did not cover sexual violence committed against women under the influence of alcohol or drugs; nor did the law provide for and punish all forms of non-consensual sexual penetration. She wondered whether the State Party intended to amend its laws to remedy those shortcomings.

39. Regarding the prevention of violence against women, she would appreciate information on the nature and impact of public awareness campaigns aimed at men, and about services for perpetrators. She would also like to hear about the distribution of information materials among employers. She wondered what percentage of health, justice, education and social services professionals had received specialized training on gender-based violence and whether such training was mandatory for judges, prosecutors and lawyers.

40. Noting that the State Party provided protection services, including shelters, for women experiencing violence and their children, she said she wished to know whether those services were available to women with disabilities, immigrant women, women deprived of their liberty and women who had not lodged a formal complaint. She wondered whether the Government deemed its protection services to be adequate. She would also be interested to know more about the procedure for cooperation with the Association of Lawyers and Notaries and how many women victims of violence had received legal aid.

41. In the context of investigations into cases of violence against women, she would like to know how many protection orders the courts had issued; how many complaints of violence against women had been dismissed or withdrawn; how many cases had resulted in prosecutions and convictions; and how long the proceedings typically lasted. Information on the coordination of different services involved in victim protection and support, and on the public funding set aside for civil society organizations active in that area, would be welcome. Lastly, she wished to know how the State Party ensured access to full reparation for women victims of violence, including victims of psychological violence, how many victims had been provided reparation and what was the nature of the reparation provided.

Article 6

42. **Ms. Dettmeijer-Vermeulen** said that, in its 2024 report, the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings had expressed concern that strong demand for foreign labour created a risk of labour trafficking and had urged the State Party to adopt a strategic policy document on action against trafficking in human beings. The Committee therefore welcomed the decision to prepare a national strategy against trafficking in human beings and wished to know when the strategy would be finalized and what funds and personnel would be allocated to ensure its successful implementation.

43. Although the State Party's report stated that regular training was provided for professionals who might come into contact with victims of trafficking, the report of the Group of Experts suggested that such training needed to be strengthened. She would therefore be grateful for more details regarding the training provided to the professionals tasked with the identification, investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases. She would be interested to know what steps were being taken to put in place procedures and mechanisms for the referral of trafficking victims to appropriate support services.

44. Certain sectors had been identified as susceptible to trafficking, including the domestic work sector, given the presence in the State Party of *badanti* (female migrant workers, mostly from Ukraine, who worked as caregivers for older persons). She therefore wondered how the State Party intended to implement the recommendation of the Group of Experts to raise public awareness about trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation. Lastly, noting that prostitution was a criminal offence and that sex workers might be afraid to come into contact with the police and the health service, she asked whether the Government planned to decriminalize sex work and whether it was taking steps to ensure that sex workers had access to support services.

45. **A representative of San Marino** said that Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings of the Council of Europe had published the report on its third evaluation visit to San Marino in October 2024, and the Government had immediately begun work on the proposals for action. Studies had been conducted with a view to gaining a deeper understanding of trafficking, identifying victims and raising public awareness. No cases of trafficking had come before the San Marino Court, likely owing to the country's small size, the fact that it was surrounded by Italy, another State committed to the fight against trafficking, and the efficacy of its law enforcement agencies.

46. Work on the national strategy against trafficking in human beings and its accompanying protocol had begun in January 2025, and two drafts had been circulated among stakeholders. As San Marino was in the process of negotiating an agreement with the European Union on border management, the Government was currently taking stock of the situation and attempting to optimize resources and create synergies. According to the timeline agreed with Group of Experts, the new protocol was expected to be in place by 2026. The strategy would include a specific time frame for the development of training modules on identification of victims and would indicate which professionals needed to receive the training. Since no trafficking cases had been detected, it was unlikely that the topic would be addressed as part of officials' lifelong learning, but it would be covered in their initial training.

47. The authorities were aware that foreign carers were at risk of trafficking. For that reason, the law enforcement agencies conducted thorough background checks to verify

information on their status and circumstances. Foreign carers were informed of their rights in San Marino.

48. **A representative of San Marino** said that the Labour Office carried out more than 2,800 inspections a year across all sectors of the economy. New training modules were being designed for the latest cohort of labour inspectors and would include the issue of trafficking. Officials could avail themselves of training opportunities in both San Marino and Italy. The Labour Office conducted in-person interviews with all foreign carers and had detected no cases of trafficking. It would, however, remain alert to the risk.

49. **A representative of San Marino** said that Law No. 97 of 20 June 2008 had been amended by Delegated Decree No. 161 of 29 October 2024 to include psychological violence in the definition of violence against women. In the decree, psychological violence was defined as “any intentional behaviour that seriously harmed the psychological integrity of another person”.

50. **A representative of San Marino** said that the delegation would provide written responses to the questions on consent, cases in which the victim was unconscious, non-consensual sexual penetration, and reparation for victims of violence.

51. Judges could issue protection orders in both civil and criminal proceedings. In the criminal jurisdiction, 7 protection orders had been issued in 2023 and 13 in 2024, while 4 protection orders had been ordered in civil cases in 2024. An operational protocol for cooperation and the exchange of information between civil and criminal court judges had been adopted to ensure that decisions were consistent. A law had recently been passed to ensure that administrative, civil and criminal proceedings were conducted within a reasonable time frame. The San Marino Court prioritized cases involving violence and discrimination.

52. Annual training on the issue of trafficking was open to justice officials from both the criminal and civil courts. Officials attended courses organized by the San Marino Court and by the Italian Higher School of the Judiciary.

53. **A representative of San Marino** said that San Marino did not have any associations specifically devoted to the prevention of violence against women. Civil society organizations could apply for funding from the Government and the Authority for Equal Opportunities in order to carry out protects and initiatives.

54. **A representative of San Marino** said that, following the identification of regulatory weaknesses, a framework law on the elimination of violence against women and gender-based violence had been introduced in 2008. In 2024, efforts had been made to improve the provision of training and the dissemination of information on the prevention of discrimination. In February 2025, the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence had conducted an evaluation of a range of initiatives designed to address any cases of violence or discrimination that might arise. The association Confine was responsible for providing rehabilitation services for perpetrators of violence.

55. Social workers were available 24 hours a day to respond immediately to reports of violence or discrimination and were responsible for providing support to victims of violence to help them pursue an education or find employment. San Marino had a team of 15 social workers, and the authorities considered that the funding allocated to their activities was sufficient for the size of the country. In partnership with the Authority for Equal Opportunities and the Counselling Centre for women victims of violence, mandatory training was provided to the social work team to enable them to handle cases of violence. Emergency financial assistance was available to victims of violence, pursuant to Delegated Decree No. 60/2012.

56. Under Decree No. 21 of 2016, prospective caregivers were required to pass an interview and an Italian language test to ensure that they were properly qualified to work with older persons. No cases of trafficking in persons had been reported in the care sector.

57. **A representative of San Marino** said that in 2024, an emergency shelter had been set up to provide a safe haven for victims of violence for an initial 24-hour period. The shelter’s activities were conducted in coordination with hospitals and social work services,

and the Authority for Equal Opportunities had signed memorandums of understanding with the Professional Association of Psychologists and the Bar Association for the provision of psychological support services and pro bono legal advice, respectively. Efforts were being made in conjunction with local banks to develop a protocol on the provision of financial support for vulnerable victims of violence. In addition, a training module had been introduced for journalists with the aim of raising awareness of gender stereotypes.

58. **A representative of San Marino** said that the emergency shelter for victims of violence was open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and could accommodate children, including unaccompanied minors. It was monitored in accordance with the relevant international standards.

59. **A representative of San Marino** said that guidance had been circulated to all schools on the importance of selecting textbooks that met international standards on non-discrimination and fostered a sense of citizenship among students. The authorities also engaged with families, who were central to efforts to combat discrimination.

60. **Ms. Dettmeijer-Vermeulen** asked whether the State Party's authorities might consider re-examining their conviction that trafficking in persons did not exist in the country because of its small size.

61. **Ms. Toledo Vásquez** said that she would like to know whether women who had experienced violence but had not filed a formal police or judicial complaint were able to obtain access to protection services. She would welcome more details about the accommodation available at the emergency shelter.

Articles 7 and 8

62. **The Chair** said that she would welcome details of any measures being considered by the State Party with a view to increasing women's participation in public life and achieving parity in women's political representation. She wished to know whether there were any plans to revise the quota according to which one third of candidates of electoral lists must be women. She would welcome the delegation's comments on the reasons for the low level of women's representation at the ministerial level. It would be useful to know whether there were any measures in place to ensure that women were represented at the level of heads of State and what concrete steps would be taken to increase the number of women in leadership positions in the public administration and the judiciary.

63. **Ms. Pia-Comella** said that she would welcome data, disaggregated by sex, on the number of people who had obtained citizenship through naturalization and the number of people who had transmitted citizenship to their children. She wished to know whether the State Party planned to repeal the ban on dual citizenship. The delegation might describe any outreach or support mechanisms that were in place to ensure that individuals who were eligible for citizenship of the State Party through their mother – including in particular adult children or persons living outside the country – were aware of and able to exercise that right.

64. **A representative of San Marino** said that 50 per cent of the citizens of San Marino, including 40 per cent of persons eligible to vote, lived outside the country. Since 2000, it had been possible to pass on citizenship through the maternal line as well as the paternal line. In addition, the rule providing that, in families living abroad, citizenship could be passed down for only three generations had been rescinded. The prohibition on dual nationality applied only to persons who acquired citizenship of San Marino through naturalization.

65. There had recently been a sizeable influx of women joining the diplomatic corps; there had been calls in some quarters for a quota to ensure that men were sufficiently represented.

66. **A representative of San Marino** said that legislation had been introduced almost 20 years earlier to guarantee women's participation in public life. Women now represented one third of members of parliament and 50 per cent of departmental directors. At one time, there had been a female president of the Court of San Marino. It was unlikely that the quota system would be maintained: the authorities intended to focus more on raising awareness and changing mindsets by introducing measures designed to support families, including in the areas of childcare and parental leave.

67. **A representative of San Marino** said that there was strong female representation in the judiciary. Certain types of judges served five-year terms while others had no term limits imposed on them. There were two female judges in the Court of Appeal and three in the Tax Court. The public selection process for appointments to posts in the judiciary was based solely on merit.

68. **A representative of San Marino** said that, in 2021, the regulations governing the physical requirements for persons wishing to join the Gendarmerie had been revised; as a result, the percentage of female recruits had risen from 9 per cent to 20 per cent. In the police and the Fortress Guard, women now made up 17 per cent of officers. There were also women serving in brigadier and colonel posts in some law enforcement agencies.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.