



**Convention on the Elimination
of all Forms of Discrimination
Against Women**

Distr.
GENERAL

CEDAW/C/SR.95
8 April 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Sixth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 95th MEETING

Held at the Vienna International Centre, Vienna,
on Monday, 6 April 1987, at 2.30 p.m.

Chairperson: Ms. BERNARD

CONTENTS

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

Other business

This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of distribution of this document to the Head, Translation Service, Language and Documentation Division, room D0748.

Any corrections to the records of the meetings of this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

The meeting was called to order at 2.40 p.m.

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

Initial report of France (CEDAW/C/5/Add.33 and Amend.1) (continued)

1. At the invitation of the Chairperson, Mr. de Gouttes (France) took a seat at the Committee table.
2. Mr. de GOUTTES (France), replying to members' questions and comments concerning his country's initial report, said that that document had perhaps been unduly brief, for which he apologized. That could be attributed to the absence of guidelines for the preparation of such reports. He welcomed Ms. Novikova's suggestion that a seminar be held to discuss the question of their format. Members' criticisms of France's initial report would be taken into account in the preparation of the second report.
3. On the question of the applicability of the Convention in France, he pointed out that under article 55 of the 1958 Constitution, international conventions, when ratified, took precedence over domestic law. It was therefore possible to invoke such conventions in the courts.
4. With regard to reservations, he said that on 22 March 1984 France's reservation with respect to article 7 of the Convention had been withdrawn. On 22 June 1986 its reservation with respect to article 16, paragraph 1 (d), had also been withdrawn following the entry into force in December 1985 of the Law on the equality of spouses in marriage and the equality of parents in the administration of the property of children below the age of majority. Thirdly, on 22 July 1986, the reservations with respect to article 15, paragraphs 2 and 3 and article 16, paragraphs 1 (c) and (h) had been withdrawn subsequent to the entry into force of the same Law.
5. Technical reservations still remained with respect to article 14, paragraphs 2 (c) and (h), article 16, paragraphs 1 (d) and article 5 (b). The question of the need to maintain those reservations would be examined in the light of the new draft legislation on the exercise of parental authority already adopted by the Council of Ministers.
6. A further reservation, concerning article 16, paragraph 1 (g), on the choice of a family name, was also under review.
7. Finally, there was also a reservation with respect to the provision in article 29 concerning the procedure for settlement of disputes. However, he believed that reservation to be of secondary importance.
8. Ms. de Refuveille would provide further information requested by members of the Committee.
9. Ms. REFUVEILLE (France) said that the transformation of the Ministry of Women's Rights into a Delegation on the Status of Women had been the subject of much discussion. The new structure was justified, however, in the context of the continuing efforts to find more effective ways of enhancing the status of women.
10. The Minister for Social Affairs was responsible for a wide range of issues affecting women's lives, and it was logical that the responsibilities of the former Minister for Women's Rights should now be entrusted to the new Minister: the resulting improvement in efficiency was apparent in the day-to-day activities of the Delegation on the Status of Women.

/...

(Ms. Refuveille)

11. The Delegation also had an important inter-ministerial role and worked in close collaboration with all the Government departments concerned with women's affairs. In addition, an inter-ministerial committee established in 1978 was responsible for considering government policy on women's rights and for co-ordinating activities. That committee had not in fact met between 1978 and 1983, but would convene in the near future under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

12. In implementing Government policy, the Delegation currently had at its disposal all the staff formerly attached to the Ministry of Women's Rights. Continuity was thus maintained. In 1987 the budget for social affairs had been 104 billion francs, or approximately 10 per cent of the State budget. The 109 million francs allocated for activities related to the status of women did not represent the Government's total expenditure on such activities, which were also financed by the Ministry of Social Affairs, other ministries, and by the European Social Fund.

13. In addition to its headquarters staff in Paris, the Delegation had 26 regional delegates and almost 100 departmental representatives in a country-wide network.

14. There were four main aspects to the Delegation's work, namely enhancement of the status of women at work, as mothers, as individuals and as citizens. The Delegation also had an important role in making information available to women, and it participated in the work of European and world bodies, such as EEC, the Council of Europe, OECD, the United Nations and UNESCO, in areas related to the status of women.

15. The Delegation had a highly-efficient and computerized information service, open to the public and researchers, with an archive containing legislative and regulatory texts and publications concerning women. It spent a quarter of its budget on the operation of a network of information centres.

16. With regard to the Delegation's role in the area of training, close attention had been paid to the need to diversify the educational options open to girls. Although the statistics submitted to the Committee showed that complete success in that field was still a long way off, considerable progress had nevertheless been made, and women were now represented in all occupations in France. The Delegation had co-operated with the Ministry of National Education in fostering awareness of the need to ensure that the initial training girls received was relevant to present-day society, and in investigating the obstacles which prevented girls from opting for scientific and technical careers. In that connection, the Minister for Training had given the Delegation much practical assistance. The question of the admission of girls to boarding schools hitherto reserved exclusively for boys was being considered and the Ministry was currently studying ways and means of enrolling girls in the technical lycées and the preparatory classes for the grandes écoles. A scholarship scheme to enable girls to pursue studies leading to careers in engineering had also been established.

17. The Delegation had financed from its budget 50 vocational training courses oriented towards new technologies and new types of jobs and some 10,000 women were availing themselves of them. At its request, the National Vocational Training Fund had provided funds for an upgrading of courses in technological fields. In addition, courses had been organized for unemployed young women, and seminars and other forms of assistance had been arranged for women setting up enterprises.

/...

(Ms. Refuveille)

18. Professional equality was one of the Delegation's principal concerns, and she was pleased to report that great progress had been achieved in such areas as the integration of women in police training courses.

19. Mention had been made of refuges for women, which had been the subject of considerable discussion in France. A study had been made by the Simone de Beauvoir Audio-visual Centre of ways of helping women who had been victims of violence, and organizations with relevant experience were being consulted to determine whether such refuges should be run as far as possible by the women involved themselves or whether the emphasis should be placed on providing security and protection.

20. Regarding relations with the feminist movement, she was able to report that, since its establishment, the Delegation had collaborated constructively with a wide variety of women's organizations, many of which it was assisting financially. One member of the Committee had asked what "image" of women the Delegation was seeking to promote. The view taken was that it was not for the Government to specify the behaviour of one part of the population; the task of the authorities was to create conditions in which each individual could develop in his or her own way. A similar approach explained the attention which the Delegation paid to reconciling work with motherhood, since there was an increasing trend in France for women to continue working after they had children.

21. In seeking to eliminate stereotyped images of women in school textbooks, the Delegation fully recognized the difficulty of the task. Teaching curricula were generally prepared by the schools inspectorate, which enjoyed a large measure of autonomy; the publishers then prepared textbooks which were submitted, in the case of primary school textbooks, to the municipal education authorities and, for secondary schools, to the teachers' councils. The Delegation could therefore only intervene in the form of recommendations channelled through the Ministry of Education.

22. Given the primacy of the principle of freedom of expression, the Delegation was limited in what it could do to change the stereotyped image of women in the media. However, in the case of advertising, an advertising standards office (BVP) was able to put forward recommendations on acceptable practice. For the cinema, legislation had imposed a heavy value added tax on pornographic films as a deterrent measure. In television, article 10 of the Charter of Antenne 2, which would soon be the only publicly owned television network in France, stipulated that all televised material must respect the dignity of men and women and protect the dignity of adolescents. The Delegation would monitor the broadcasts of the other television channels and hoped that they would observe similar guidelines.

23. Ms. Chaussade would answer further questions from members of the Committee.

24. Ms. CHAUSSADE (France), replying to questions on the influence of religion on the position of women in France, said that French legislation took account of the fact that since 1905 the country had been a secular State. Only civil marriages were recognized and all French citizens enjoyed the same status whatever their religious belief. Family law had altered considerably in the last 20 years: children, whether born within or outside wedlock, now had the same rights; divorce had become easier; the crime of adultery had been abolished; and contraception and abortion were now allowed. Despite the disapproval of some churches, artificial insemination was widely used.

25. In reply to a question related to article 7 of the Convention, she said that the figures in the annexes to the report on the number of French women elected to the European Parliament in 1984 were still valid.

(Ms. Chaussade)

26. Regarding the influence of the voting method on the number of women elected to France's National Assembly, she said that 5.7 per cent of the deputies elected in 1986 under the two-stage ballot system were women, as against 5.9 per cent in 1981 under the proportional representation system. However, the electoral system did not appear to be a significant factor in the number of women elected, since independent women deputies had been elected under both systems.

27. With respect to women's participation in political parties, according to statistics supplied by the various parties, women represented 36 per cent of the membership in the case of the Communist Party, 40 per cent in the case of the Republican Party, 21 per cent in the case of the Socialist Party and 43 per cent in the case of the RPR.

28. Women accounted for 21 per cent of the central committee membership in the Communist Party, 32 per cent in the Republican Party, 18 per cent in the Socialist Party and 8 per cent in the RPR.

29. At the executive level (political bureaux, etc.), the figures were 18 per cent in the Communist Party, 20 per cent in the Republican Party, 15 per cent in the Socialist Party and 8 per cent in the RPR.

30. Women accounted for 17 per cent of the secretariat of the Communist Party, 6 per cent of the Republican Party, 14 per cent of the Socialist Party and 8 per cent of the RPR.

31. Ninety-one per cent of French women were on the electoral register and women had constituted 53 per cent of the electorate at the last national elections. However, since 1951, abstentionism had been greater among women than among men, varying between 7 and 13 per cent.

32. To improve women's participation in public life, the Delegation on the Status of Women had set up two working groups composed of representatives of women's associations and government and opposition deputies. One group was seeking to determine why women did not play a greater role in bodies such as parents', tenants' and hospital associations, and in chambers of commerce, and the other was seeking ways of encouraging women to enter local and national political parties.

33. Replying to questions related to article 11 of the Convention she said that female immigrants were covered by the general aliens legislation; they were allowed to live in France with their husbands and under-age children, and to receive social security benefits; their children had the same educational rights as French children.

34. With regard to the acquisition of French nationality by the children of immigrants, she explained that anyone born in France of foreign parents could opt for French nationality on attaining his or her majority if for the previous five years he or she had resided in France or in French overseas territories covered by special legislation.

35. Referring, under article 12, to the question of contraception, abortion and sterilization, she explained that since 1967 contraception had been legally recognized in France. Since 1974 it had been available free of charge and under conditions of secrecy. Minors could obtain contraceptives free of charge from recognized family planning clinics, as could adult women not covered by social security. Information on contraception was available from 910 family planning clinics, one-third of which were operated by public authorities. Such information was also provided in schools, enterprises and welfare centres.

/...

(Ms. Chaussade)

36. Under legislation passed in 1975, 1979 and 1982 pregnancies of up to 10 weeks could be terminated. After that period abortion was still possible for pregnant mothers whose physical or mental health was in danger or who might give birth to an abnormal child. Under-age girls had to have the consent of at least one parent to the operation. Moreover, under the 1979 legislation a minor had to give her personal consent to the operation without her parents being present. If parents refused their consent to abortion some judges considered that they had the right to authorize it, but that attitude had been severely criticized and the measure was only possible for minors members of families already under supervision by the welfare authorities.

37. In the case of women of full age, the decision to abort or not was left entirely to the person concerned and could not be influenced by the husband. Abortions had to be performed in hospitals, and a map showing the hospitals obliged to provide abortion services had been published in 1982.

38. Abortion costs were reimbursed under the social security scheme and the operation was performed free of charge for women without resources. In 1983, 182,735 legal abortions had been performed in France.

39. Sterilization for men and women, even with the patient's consent, was contrary to the penal code, except for therapeutic reasons and could be carried out only if the patient was informed of the consequences. It had, however, sometimes been carried out on men with their consent, without any prosecution having resulted.

40. Replying to questions concerning the collection of alimony, she explained that under the French Civil Code maintenance was payable by either spouse but that about 90 per cent of such payments went to women. Divorced women with custody of children also received maintenance payments from the father.

41. Under an act of 1973 an officer of the court could obtain payment from a defaulting father's employer or bank and social security and tax offices were obliged to give any necessary information to an officer of the court. A 1975 law provided that, when all else failed, payments had to be made by the Treasury or by welfare bodies and then recovered from the father. Failure to pay maintenance fixed by a court was treated as abandonment of family and punishable under the Penal Code, as was declaration in bankruptcy to avoid such payment. Draft legislation now before the Parliament and already adopted by the Council of Ministers might solve some of the problems of claiming maintenance.

42. As to the criteria for attributing parental authority after divorce, she explained that a judge could call for a report on the situation of a child living with either parent and courts could also ask for the views of the minors involved, even from children as young as six years old. In 80 per cent of cases the mother was given custody of the child. For children born outside wedlock the law provided that when both parents had recognized the child, the mother was to be given parental authority. However, changes in that regard were expected under pending legislation.

43. With respect to legal action against a presumptive father or fathers, there were several possibilities under the Civil Code. Paternity could be established in cases where the parents had lived together as man and wife and when a man contributed to the upkeep of the child. Legal proceedings had to be taken in the two years following the birth of the child.

44. The Civil Code also stipulated that any illegitimate child whose paternity had not been established could, while a minor and for two years thereafter, claim /...

(Ms. Chaussade)

allowances from any man or men who had had relations with the mother during the legally-recognized conception period. That procedure was widely used in France.

45. Replying to questions on the joint management of property by a husband and wife, she explained that the French Civil Code stipulated that the consent of both spouses was needed for certain contracts concerning property held in common but that each spouse freely disposed of his or her own personal property.

46. Replying to questions concerning the French tax system, she said that 1983 legislation had done away with the idea of the husband as head of the family and had given women fiscal independence. Women now had to sign their own tax returns, but the absence of a woman's signature on a joint tax return did not invalidate the document. An inter-ministerial committee had been appointed to devise a system of absolute fiscal equality for women but the Government had decided not to implement its findings because they would have resulted in higher taxes for many couples.

47. Ms. Levy would reply to further points raised by members.

48. Ms. LEVY (France) replying to questions of members concerning attitudes towards household tasks, said that in practice little had changed in the last 15 years: household organization was still characterized by egalitarianism in decision-taking and specialization in household work. She referred to pages 73 and 74 of the publication "Femmes en Chiffres" which gave data from surveys carried out in 1964 and 1979 on the various household tasks carried out by men and by women. The State's role in that regard was limited: it could give men and women the possibility of organizing their domestic life as they saw fit and, in particular, by providing for parental leave, allow men who so desired to take more responsibility for their children. No global statistics were available on the proportion of men taking parental leave, but government statistics showed that only 1 per cent of male civil servants took it. In the civil service both men and women were allowed twelve days of leave per year if their children were ill.

49. Since 1985 a father was entitled to 10 weeks of leave from work if the mother died at the birth of his child. Further information on parental leave would be provided in France's next report.

50. The position of women on the employment market had improved, despite the prevailing unemployment, as a result of job creation schemes and action taken by local authorities. However, the number of women working on a part-time basis or under short-term contracts was rising. Part-time employment for women had increased at the same rate in the public as in the private sector, where full-time employment had also declined. Women did not always wish to work on a part-time basis, and 17 per cent of them so engaged in the private sector - generally at unskilled jobs - were seeking different employment. In France, mothers working part time were entitled to a day off work on Wednesdays, when children did not attend school; that facility might have to be curtailed in future since too many women were making use of it. Part-time wage earners had exactly the same rights as those working full-time, commensurate with the amount of time they spent working.

51. There continued to be a greater element of precariousness in employment for women than for men. This was principally due to the number of short-term contracts being given to women. Other precarious forms of employment, such as temporary youth employment schemes, included a high proportion of women. With respect to the improvement of working conditions, the remuneration gap between men and women in the private sector had narrowed in 1985, partly owing to the rise in the minimum legal wage, which had benefited women in particular, since they were more heavily /...

(Ms. Levy)

represented in the low-wage-earning sector of the population. Since 1980, the proportion of women holding positions at higher management levels had risen from 22 to 26 per cent. At the middle management level, the figure had risen from 42 to 48 per cent.

52. In the field of vocational training, women's participation in training schemes directly funded by enterprises had risen. Regarding measures specially aimed at young women, more of the latter had been trained than had been recruited by enterprises. However, the position for young women was more encouraging with respect to vocational training schemes less directly related to employment. For example, 48.2 per cent of participants in schemes for young people in the 16-18 age group were females. As part of France's recent decentralization efforts, more attention was being paid to women in the regions and local offices were beginning to take over initiatives started by the central Government. Forty-one per cent of all job trainees in the regions were women. The overall proportion of women participating in job training schemes in France was increasing.

53. Unemployment was higher among women than among men; in March 1986, 12.3 per cent of women and 8.7 per cent of men had been unemployed. One problem that women had to face was the fact that, because they performed a smaller range of jobs than men did, there was more competition among them for the available posts. One measure taken to offset that situation was the professional equality report, introduced in 1983, which was submitted by the employer to the works committee and was designed to promote discussion in the enterprise of the question of professional equality. Since 1985, all enterprises employing more than 50 persons had been obliged to provide such reports. Measures proposed in the report by the employer or the works committee could be negotiated with the trade unions with a view to the preparation of a so-called professional equality plan.

54. Prior to the 1983 Law it had been difficult to draw up an overall policy on professional equality owing to the lack of precedent. It had now been decided, however, to provide State financial assistance to enterprises taking exemplary steps to ensure equality of opportunity. As much as 50 per cent of vocational training costs and 30 per cent of the wages of workers participating in training schemes was to be made available. To date, some 15 contracts of that type had been signed for training women to carry out more skilled tasks involving new technologies, giving priority to women in middle-management jobs, developing internal promotion to favour women or modifying the equipment to enable women to undertake tasks they had previously been unable to perform. The delegation's budget for provision of such assistance had risen to 15 million francs for 1987.

55. The implementation of all legal provisions banning discrimination against women in employment were monitored by the works inspector. The latter reported any breaches to the courts, which decided whether prosecution was justified. Twenty-one breaches had been reported in 1985. The inspector was also entitled to make observations to the enterprises concerning implementation of the law. Regarding court action undertaken on behalf of women workers, any association, provided it fulfilled certain conditions, could take a case of discrimination to court. Trade unions, for example, could act on behalf of women employees, but that had happened in few cases. Most of the problems dealt with had involved breach of contract. No court had as yet issued an injunction to an employer to take measures to ensure equality in employment.

56. A Council for Professional Equality had been established under the 1983 Law. Its chairman was the Minister for Social Affairs and it was composed of representatives of the Government, of trade unions and of employers' organizations,

(Ms. Levy)

as well as recognized experts. It had been invited by the Commission of the European Communities to represent France on the EEC Consultative Committee for Equality of Opportunity. The Council's secretariat was drawn from the internal structure of the Delegation on the Status of Women.

57. The question of the unconstitutionality of quotas had arisen in France in connection with women's participation in municipal elections. The legislation providing for a 25 per cent quota of candidates of either sex had been ruled unconstitutional. The question of quotas in the field of employment had been the subject of much discussion. It had been decided that there would be no quotas guaranteeing women a certain place in employment. On the other hand, particular emphasis would be placed on vocational training schemes.

58. There was a small number of occupations where the sex of the applicant was determined because discrimination was justified: artists' models, performers of male or female roles, mannequins, certain civil service posts for which there were separate competitive examinations for men and women and some of which involved physical requirements, and certain police and education posts. The number of such occupations had been reduced in 1982 from 21 to 15; it now stood at 11 and would soon be reduced to 7.

59. Pregnant women on pre-natal or post-natal leave from their work could not be dismissed and pregnant women could be dismissed prior to their pre-natal leave only for reasons unconnected with their pregnancy. Specific measures concerning women in the areas of hygiene and safety covered the carrying and handling of heavy loads, work underground and the handling of certain toxic substances. Those measures, which had remained virtually unchanged since 1892, were to be revised in the light of international legislation and new methods of handling heavy loads and toxic substances. In the case of pregnant women, French legislation envisaged the possibility of temporary withdrawal from work at their own request or at the request of a doctor, on full pay and with the right to resume work later.

60. Mr. de GOUTTES (France) apologized for the length of his country's replies. He acknowledged that the criticism that its report was too brief had perhaps been justified. He suggested that all the replies given might be communicated to members of the Committee in writing.

61. The CHAIRPERSON welcomed that suggestion.

62. Ms. CORTI and Ms. ESCOBAR wished to know why the Ministry for Women's Rights had been abolished, especially if all its functions were being fulfilled by the Delegation on the Status of Women; if the change had been made for reasons of efficiency why had not all the other ministries been replaced by delegations?

63. Ms. GUAN Mingqian asked whether the Delegation was a permanent body, how its members were elected and whether they were paid.

64. Ms. CARON, said that the detailed replies which had been given certainly made up for the inadequacy of the written report submitted by France.

65. If she had understood correctly that sterilization was unlawful in France, she wondered how a government could take a decision on such a personal matter which was really for the individual. Freedom of choice appeared to be dangerously threatened by such a prohibition. As for sexist advertising in the mass media, she understood the difficulties encountered by the State in intervening in the private domain, but felt that a greater effort could be made by the Government of France, since other countries, such as her own, had banned all sexist advertising.

66. The CHAIRPERSON said that the last questions asked concerning the report of France would be answered in due course, the desired information being provided in writing.

Initial report of Poland (continued) (CEDAW/C/5/Add.31)

67. At the invitation of the Chairperson, Ms. Jelowiecka took a place at the Committee table.

68. Ms. JELOWIECKA (Poland), replying to the questions and comments of members of the Committee, said that although Polish legislation complied in all respects with the principle of equality of rights for men and women, in some cases the practice deviated from the spirit and the letter of the law. Equality had been achieved de jure, but efforts were being made by the Government and by women's organizations to achieve full equality de facto. More centrally programmed action was required, and that was why a Government Plenipotentiary for Women's Affairs had been appointed to take over and integrate the functions of all quasi-governmental bodies for the advancement of women. The Government Plenipotentiary would be monitoring research studies undertaken by the Main Statistical Office on the working and living conditions of Polish women and on their participation in political, economic, social and cultural life. On her initiative a special data bank was to be established on the social and occupational situation of women.

69. The main task of the Government Plenipotentiary was to co-ordinate measures designed to enhance the status of women, to ensure equality of rights between men and women in all aspects of political, economic, social and cultural life, and to undertake activities aimed at improving their living conditions and facilitating the performance of their various roles in society and the family. In establishing the office of the Plenipotentiary, the Council of Ministers had also specified a Programme of Action to improve the socio-occupational status and living conditions of women in 22 areas of activity over the period 1987-1990.

70. All the measures and decisions taken in respect of women were of a permanent nature. It had not been thought necessary to introduce temporary, or emergency, measures for a limited period in order to accelerate de facto equality.

71. There were still shortcomings with regard to the participation of women in the decision-making process. The Government Plenipotentiary was giving high priority to dealing with them and to raising the level of education and the professional qualifications of women. The percentage of women members of the Polish United Workers' Party was 26.9, while the corresponding percentages for the United Peasant Party and the Democratic Party were 26.0 and 32.4. The percentage of women members of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party was 15.2. Nine of the 134 branch trade unions were chaired by women, and in some branches, such as those for the food-processing and light industry sectors, the proportion of women members was as high as 60 and 75 per cent, respectively. Women occupied 32.9 per cent of all posts in the central administration, but only 5 or 6 per cent of the posts of minister or deputy minister, or the most senior regional and municipal administrative posts. That low representation was a cause of permanent concern.

72. There were no plans to establish quotas for women at the higher levels of government and of the trade unions, or for members of Parliament. It was for women themselves to improve the level of their representation; they were appointed and promoted under a unified system which applied equally to men and women.

73. Since the period covered by the report, a post of spokesman for civic rights had been established, with the task of developing effective guarantees of legality and improved protection of civic rights.

/...

(Ms. Jelowiecka)

74. The Constitutional Tribunal, whose members were elected by the Parliament, had begun to function on 1 January 1986. Its main task was to monitor the degree to which the regulations of leading and central organs of the State complied with the Constitution. Findings of non-compliance were subject to review by Parliament, and were then binding. Five of the eight cases examined so far had resulted in amendment of legislative acts which had been appealed against.

75. With reference to role stereotypes, she said that the pressure on women in the home was greater than it was on men; women had only four hours of leisure a day, while men had five hours and 22 minutes. Only 15 per cent of men performed housework, 25 per cent did shopping and 28 per cent cooked.

76. The CHAIRPERSON invited the representative of the Government of Poland to continue her report at the following meeting.

77. Ms. Jelowiecka (Poland) withdrew.

OTHER BUSINESS

78. Ms. EVATT said that, because important decisions affecting the United Nations budget for 1988-1989 were to be taken by the Committee on Programme and Co-ordination in May and by the Economic and Social Council in July 1987, and because the Commission on the Status of Women had already accepted a draft programme which referred to the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the latter should be in a position to explain its resource requirements to those who would be taking the decisions. She therefore requested that the Secretariat provide for the information of members during the current session the part of the draft programme of work for the period 1988-1989 which related to equality for women. She asked the Secretariat to identify the resources within that programme which were provisionally allocated to the Committee for that period and the comparable figures for 1986-1987, as well as the cost of servicing CEDAW sessions in 1988-1989, and the comparable costs in 1986-1987. With that information at its disposal, the Committee would be in a position to decide how to make its views known to the Committee on Programme and Co-ordination and the Council.

79. Ms. SELLAMI-MESLEM (Director, Branch for the Advancement of Women) said that she did not think it would be possible to provide during the present session information on the implications for the 1988-1989 Programme Budget of an extension of the Committee's activities in terms of time. However, a plan would be prepared on the basis of the Committee's meeting for three weeks, of all meetings held in New York having to be serviced by the Committee staff necessitating more professional and general service staff travel to New York - and of preparation of the Committee's operating costs in normal conditions. No supplementary costs could be included in the first draft because of strict instructions that the budget for 1988-1989 should not exceed that for 1986-1987. An effort would be made to provide those figures during the present session.

The meeting rose at 5.35 p.m.