



## INFORMATION NOTES TO NGOS

### COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN 36<sup>th</sup> SESSION, 7 to 25 August 2006 UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

#### **Countries reporting**

The Committee will examine the reports of the following 15 States parties: Cape Verde, China, Chile, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Georgia, Ghana, Jamaica, Mauritius, Mexico, Philippines, Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan.

#### **CEDAW concluding comments**

During its sessions the CEDAW Committee considers reports of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Following such consideration, the CEDAW Committee formulates concluding comments that assist the State party in the further implementation of the Convention. These concluding comments outline positive aspects, principal subjects of concern and the Committee's recommendations on how to address challenges faced by the State party. States parties' reports, concluding comments (once adopted), and other documentation is available online at:

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>

#### **CEDAW Committee members**

The CEDAW Committee consists of 23 members, serving in their personal capacity. In 2006 the members of the Committee are from Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, China, Croatia, Cuba, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Netherlands, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania and Singapore.

For more information, please see: [www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/members.htm](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/members.htm)

#### **Documentation**

The reports of the 15 States parties to be considered at the 36<sup>th</sup> session as well as the provisional agenda and other documents pertaining to the session are available online at: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/36sess.htm>. Sessions open to the public will be listed, with indication of the room where the sessions will take place, in the Daily Journal at: [www.un.org/Docs/journal/En/lateste.pdf](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/En/lateste.pdf).

#### **NGO Participation:**

*Attending as observers*

*Please note that the Division for the Advancement of Women will not send letters of invitation to NGOs to attend the CEDAW session.*

There is no need for accreditation to attend the CEDAW sessions. Non-governmental organizations interested in attending the session should submit the full title of their NGO, the names of their representatives, and the proposed dates of attendance to:

Ms. Tsu-Wei Chang at [changt@un.org](mailto:changt@un.org) on or before 1 August 2006 so that arrangements can be made for the issuance of United Nations ground passes to enter United Nations premises.

To receive the grounds pass, all applicants are required to bring a valid national passport or government issued photo ID such as driver's

license or state non-driver's ID bearing a photograph, and appear in person at the United Nations Pass and Identification Unit, located at 801 United Nations Plaza at the corner of 1st Avenue and East 45th Street. The office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

### **Presenting NGO reports**

In addition to attending the CEDAW session as observers, the Committee welcomes country-specific information from non-governmental organizations, in the form of alternative or shadow reports.

Representatives from NGOs also have the option of orally presenting country-specific information during the informal meetings with the Committee.

#### **A) NGO reports**

NGOs can submit their alternative reports to the CEDAW Committee prior to or at the session.

NGO representatives attending the session should bring a sufficient number of copies (i.e. at least 40) to the session itself, so that they can be distributed during the meeting of the Committee with NGOs.

NGOs not attending the session should send 40 copies to the Division for the Advancement of Women prior to the session, possibly by 1 August 2006.

NGOs can also send their alternative/shadow reports to IWRAP-Asia Pacific, a non-governmental organization, in advance of the session. IWRAP-Asia Pacific distributes NGO shadow reports electronically, and/or in hard copy to experts in advance of the session. IWRAP Asia-Pacific contact details are as follows: Wisma Dicklin, 80-B, Jalan Bangsar, 59200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Tel: (603) 2282 2255, Fax: (603) 2283 2552.

Website: [www.iwraw-ap.org](http://www.iwraw-ap.org)

Email: [iwraw-ap@iwraw-ap.org](mailto:iwraw-ap@iwraw-ap.org)

#### **B) Oral intervention**

NGOs wishing to present information regarding the States that are being examined during the week of 7 August 2006 (China, Cuba,

Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ghana, Jamaica, Mauritius and Uzbekistan), will have the opportunity to address the CEDAW Committee on 7 August, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. NGOs wishing to present information on the States that will be examined in the week of 14 August (Cape Verde, Chile, Czech Republic, Georgia, Mexico, Republic of Moldova, and the Philippines), may do so on 14 August, from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

NGO representatives interested in addressing the CEDAW Committee are requested to submit the names of their representatives, the names of the organizations they represent and on whose behalf they will speak to the Division for the Advancement of Women ([changt@un.org](mailto:changt@un.org)) no later than the Friday prior to the week the State will be considered.

Please note that there is no need for sending the oral statement in advance.

### **Information on future sessions**

#### **37<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> sessions**

The Committee's pre-session working group to prepare lists of issues and questions for States invited to present their reports at the 37<sup>th</sup> session in January 2007 (Austria, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Greece, India, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Peru, Poland, Singapore, Suriname and Tajikistan) and at the 38<sup>th</sup> session in May 2007 (Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Pakistan, Serbia and Montenegro, Syrian Arab Republic, and Vanuatu – preliminary list) will meet from 31 July to 4 August 2006. NGOs have an opportunity to submit written information to the PSWG, and/or present oral information.

#### **For more information**

Coordination and Outreach Unit

Division for the Advancement of Women  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations, 2 UN Plaza, DC2 12th floor  
New York, NY 10017, fax +1 (212) 963  
3463, tel. +1 (212) 963 8070, email:

[changt@un.org](mailto:changt@un.org)