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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Thirty-seventh session

15 January-2 February 2007

Provisional agenda

- 1. Opening of the session.
- 2. Solemn declaration by the new members of the Committee.
- 3. Election of officers.
- 4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
- 5. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions of the Committee.
- 6. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- 7. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- 8. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee.
- 9. Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- 10. Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session.
- 11. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-seventh session.

Annotations

Item 1

Opening of the session

The thirty-seventh session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General.

Item 2

Solemn declaration by the new members of the Committee

According to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the Committee, new members of the Committee shall make the solemn declaration contained in that rule.

Item 3

Election of officers

The Committee shall elect a Chairperson, three vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur for a term of two years, according to article 19 of the Convention and rules 16 and 17 of the Committee's rules of procedure. The term of office of the officers elected by the Committee at its thirty-seventh session, on 15 January 2007, will expire on 31 December 2008. Under rule 20 of the Committee's rules of procedure, if any of the officers of the Committee ceases to serve or declares her or his inability to continue serving as a member of the Committee, or for any reason is no longer able to act as an officer, a new officer from the same region shall be elected for the unexpired term of her or his predecessor.

Item 4

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Rule 9 of the rules of procedure provides that the first substantive item on the provisional agenda for any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. Rule 7 provides that the provisional agenda for each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairperson, in conformity with the relevant provisions of articles 17 to 22 of the Convention.

At its thirty-sixth session, the Committee approved the provisional agenda for its thirty-seventh session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (CEDAW/C/2007/I/1)

Item 5

Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions of the Committee

Under this item, the Chairperson will brief the Committee on activities and events occurring since the previous session that had a bearing on the Committee's work.

Item 6

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 18 of the Convention provides that States parties to the Convention shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and other progress made in that respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned and thereafter at least every four years and further, whenever the Committee requests.

Based on General Assembly resolution 60/230, the Committee at its thirty-seventh session will meet for up to seven days in parallel chambers to consider periodic reports of States parties. At its thirty-sixth session the Committee decided to invite 14 States parties to present their periodic reports, and 1 State party to present its initial report. All 15 States parties agreed to that request.

At its thirty-sixth session, the Committee agreed on the need for basic and consistent criteria for determining membership in chambers while recognizing the need for some flexibility to make adjustments in the composition of the two chambers, as may be necessary. These criteria include fair geographical balance of experts between the two chambers; length of experience

of experts on the Committee; assignment of experts who are nationals of a reporting State to the chamber that is not considering the report from that State party; assignment of office holders of the Committee to each chamber; and geographical balance, to the extent possible, of States whose reports are to be taken up in each chamber. Taking into account these criteria, the Committee agreed to decide on the membership in chambers based on a proposal to be submitted by its Bureau for action by the Committee in advance of each session.

Also at its thirty-sixth session, the Committee established the composition of the parallel chambers for the thirty-seventh session (see annex II).

At its thirty-seventh session, the Committee will have before it the following reports: the sixth periodic report of Austria (CEDAW/C/AUT/6); the combined second and third periodic report of Azerbaijan (CEDAW/C/AZE/2-3); the combined fifth and sixth periodic report of Colombia (CEDAW/C/COL/5-6); the sixth periodic report of Greece (CEDAW/C/GRC/6); the combined second and third periodic report of India (CEDAW/C/IND/2-3); the second periodic report of Kazakhstan (CEDAW/C/KAZ/2); the combined second and third periodic report of Maldives (CEDAW/C/MDV/2-3); the combined second and third periodic report of Namibia (CEDAW/C/NAM/2-3); the fourth periodic reports of the Netherlands (CEDAW/C/NLD/4 and CEDAW/C/NLD/4/Add.1); the sixth periodic report of Nicaragua (CEDAW/C/NIC/6); the sixth periodic report of Peru (CEDAW/C/PER/6); the combined fourth and fifth, as well as sixth periodic report of Poland (CEDAW/C/POL/4-5, and CEDAW/C/POL/6); the third periodic report of Suriname (CEDAW/C/SUR/3); the combined initial, second and third periodic report of Tajikistan (CEDAW/C/TJK/1-3); and the combined fifth and sixth periodic report of Viet Nam (CEDAW/C/VNM/5-6).

Rule 51 of the rules of procedure provides that representatives of a State party shall be present at meetings of the Committee when the report of the State is being examined and shall participate in discussions and answer questions concerning the report. The Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its thirty-seventh session.

Rule 49 of the rules of procedure provides that, at each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of the non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention. The Secretary-General also provides the Committee with a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention, as well as a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention that have not yet been considered by the Committee

At its thirty-seventh session, the Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the status of submission of reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2007/I/2).

A pre-session working group of the Committee is convened before each session to prepare a list of issues and questions relating to reports for transmission to the States parties before the meetings at which their reports are to be considered. The pre-session working group for the thirty-seventh session met in New York from 31 July to 4 August 2006. The report of the pre-session working group and the responses of States parties to the lists of issues and questions drawn up by the pre-session working group will be before the Committee.

Documentation

Sixth periodic report of Austria (CEDAW/C/AUT/6)

Combined second and third periodic report of Azerbaijan (CEDAW/C/AZE/2-3)

Combined fifth and sixth periodic report of Colombia (CEDAW/C/COL/5-6)

Sixth periodic report of Greece (CEDAW/C/GRC/6)

Combined second and third periodic report of India (CEDAW/C/IND/2-3)

Second periodic report of Kazakhstan (CEDAW/C/KAZ/2)

Combined second and third periodic report of Maldives (CEDAW/C/MDV/2-3)

Combined second and third periodic report of Namibia (CEDAW/C/NAM/2-3)

Fourth periodic reports of the Netherlands (CEDAW/C/NLD/4 and CEDAW/C/NLD/4/Add.1)

Sixth periodic report of Nicaragua (CEDAW/C/NIC/6)

Sixth periodic report of Peru (CEDAW/C/PER/6)

Combined fourth and fifth, as well as sixth periodic report of Poland (CEDAW/C/POL/4-5 and CEDAW/C/POL/6)

Third periodic report of Suriname (CEDAW/C/SUR/3)

Combined initial, second and third periodic report of Tajikistan (CEDAW/C/TJK/1-3)

Combined fifth and sixth periodic report of Viet Nam (CEDAW/C/VNM/5-6)

Report of the Pre-session Working Group (CEDAW/ PSWG/2007/I/CRP.I)

Lists of issues and questions

Austria (CEDAW/C/AUT/Q/6)

Azerbaijan (CEDAW/C/AZE/Q/3)

Colombia (CEDAW/C/COL/O/6)

Greece (CEDAW/C/GRC/Q/6)

India (CEDAW/C/IND/O/3)

Kazakhstan (CEDAW/C/KAZ/O/2)

Maldives (CEDAW/C/MDV/Q/3)

Namibia (CEDAW/C/NAM/Q/3)

Netherlands (CEDAW/C/NLD/Q/4)

Nicaragua (CEDAW/C/NIC/Q/6)

Peru (CEDAW/C/PER/Q/6)

Poland (CEDAW/C/POL/Q/6)

Suriname (CEDAW/C/SUR/O/3)

Tajikistan (CEDAW/C/TJK/Q/3)

Viet Nam (CEDAW/C/VNM/Q/6)

Responses to the lists of issues and questions

Austria (CEDAW/C/AUT/O/6/Add.1)

Azerbaijan (CEDAW/C/AZE/O/3/Add.1)

Colombia (CEDAW/C/COL/Q/6/Add.1)

Greece (CEDAW/C/GRC/Q/6/Add.1)

India (CEDAW/C/IND/Q/3/Add.1)

Kazakhstan (CEDAW/C/KAZ/Q/2/Add.1)

Maldives (CEDAW/C/MDV/Q/3/Add.1)

Namibia (CEDAW/C/NAM/Q/3/Add.1)

Netherlands (CEDAW/C/NLD/Q/4/Add.1)

Nicaragua (CEDAW/C/NIC/Q/6/Add.1)

Peru (CEDAW/C/PER/Q/6/Add.1) Poland (CEDAW/C/POL/Q/6/Add.1) Suriname (CEDAW/C/SUR/Q/3/Add.1) Tajikistan (CEDAW/C/TJK/Q/3/Add.1) Viet Nam (CEDAW/C/VNM/Q/6/Add.1)

Item 7

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 21 of the Convention provides that the Committee may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from States parties. It also provides that such suggestions and general recommendations shall be included in the report of the Committee, together with comments, if any, from States parties.

Task forces on a general recommendation on migrant women and a general recommendation on article 2 will brief the Committee on progress achieved.

Article 22 of the Convention provides that the specialized agencies shall be entitled to be represented during the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the Convention as fall within the scope of their activities and that the Committee may invite the specialized agencies to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in those areas. At its thirty-seventh session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on reports of specialized agencies on that subject (CEDAW/C/2007/I/3 and addenda).

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on reports provided by specialized agencies of the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities (CEDAW/C/2007/I/3)

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (CEDAW/C/2007/I/3/Add.1)

Report of the World Health Organization (CEDAW/C/2006/I/3/Add.2)

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (CEDAW/C/2007/I/3/Add.3)

Report of the International Labour Organization (CEDAW/C/2007/I/3/Add.4)

Item 8

Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

Before each session, the Secretariat prepares a pre-session report on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee, containing information provided by the Secretariat, comments made by members of the Committee or information on developments elsewhere in the human rights regime (CEDAW/C/2007/I/4).

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat (CEDAW/C/2007/I/4, and Add.1)

Item 9

Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Following the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in December 2000, the Committee established the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol. At its thirty-seventh session, the Committee will appoint five members to serve on the Working Group for a term of two years, until 31 December 2008.

The ninth session of the Working Group will be held from 5-7 February 2007.

At its thirty-seventh session, the Committee will continue to implement its mandate under articles 2 and 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention.

Item 10

Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Committee

At its tenth session, the Committee decided that the draft provisional agenda for the following session of the Committee would be approved at the end of each session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Committee

Item 11

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-seventh session

Annex I

Proposed organization of work			
Date/time	Agenda item	Documentation/programme	
Monday, 15 January 2007			
756th meeting			
10-11:00 a.m.	Item 1	Opening of the session	
	Item 2	Solemn declaration by the new members of the Committee	
	Item 3	Election of officers	
	Item 4	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work	
	Item 5	Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions of the Committee	
	Item 6	Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: report of the pre-session working group	
	Item 7	Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: introductory statement	
	Item 8	Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee: introductory statement	
11 a.m1 p.m. (closed)		Informal meeting with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies	
3-5 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 7, 8 and 9	Working Group of the Whole	
Tuesday, 16 January 2007			
757th meeting		Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention	
Chamber A		Kazakhstan, second periodic report (CEDAW/C/KAZ/2)	

Date/time	Agenda item	Documentation/programme	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
Chamber B		Poland, combined fourth and fifth periodic report and sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/POL/4-5 and CEDAW/C/POL/6)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	

Date/time	Agenda item	Documentation/programme	
758th meeting			
Chamber A			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Kazakhstan (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Chamber B			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Poland (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Wednesday, 17 January 2007			
759th meeting			
Chamber A		Greece, sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/GRC/6)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
Chamber B		Vietnam, combined fifth and sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/VNM/5-6)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
760th meeting			
Chamber A			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Greece (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Chamber B			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Vietnam (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Thursday, 18 January 2007			
761st meeting			
Chamber A		India, combined second and third periodic report (CEDAW/C/IND/2-3)	

Date/time	Agenda item	Documentation/programme	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
Chamber B		Nicaragua, sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/NIC/6)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
762 nd meeting			
Chamber A			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	India (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Chamber B			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Nicaragua (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Friday, 19 January 2007			
763rd meeting			
Chamber A		Peru, sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/PER/6)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
Chamber B		Maldives, combined second and third periodic report (CEDAW/C/MDV/2-3)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
764th meeting			
Chamber A			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Peru (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Chamber B			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Maldives (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	

Date/time	Agenda item	Documentation/programme	
Monday, 22 January 2007			
10 a.mnoon		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations	
Noon-1 p.m. (closed)	Item 7	Working Group of the Whole	
3-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 9	Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol	
Tuesday, 23 January 2007			
765th meeting			
Chamber A		Azerbaijan, combined second and third periodic report (CEDAW/C/AZE/2-3)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
Chamber B		Austria, sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/AUT/6)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
766th meeting			
Chamber A			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Azerbaijan (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Chamber B			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Austria (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Wednesday, 24 January			
2007			
767th meeting			
Chamber A		Namibia, combined second and third periodic report	
		(CEDAW/C/NAM/2-3)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	

Date/time	Agenda item	Documentation/programme	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
Chamber B		Netherlands, fourth periodic report (CEDAW/C/NLD/4 and	
		(CEDAW/C/NLD/4/Add.1)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
768th meeting			
Chamber A			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Namibia (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Chamber B			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Netherlands (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Thursday, 25 January 2007			
769th meeting			
Chamber A		Suriname, third periodic report (CEDAW/C/SUR/3)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
Chamber B		Colombia, combined fifth and sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/COL/5-6)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
770th meeting			
Chamber A			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Suriname (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Chamber B			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Colombia (continued)	

Date/time	Agenda item	Documentation/programme	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group	
Friday, 26 January 2007			
771st meeting			
	Item 6 (continued)	Tajikistan, combined initial, second and third periodic report (CEDAW/C/TJK/1-3)	
10-10.30 a.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Introduction by the representative of the State party	
10.30 a.m1 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee	
772nd meeting			
3-5 p.m.	Item 6 (continued)	Tajikistan (continued)	
5-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole	

Date/time	Agenda item	Documentation/programme	
Monday, 29 January 2007			
10 a.m1 p.m. (closed)	Items 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of Whole	
3-6 p.m. (closed)	Item 9 (continued)	Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol	
Tuesday, 30 January 2007			
10 a.m1 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole	
3-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole	
Wednesday, 31 January 2007			
10 a.m1 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole	
3-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7 and 8 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole	
Thursday, 1 February 2007			
10 a.m1 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7, 8 and 9	Working Group of the Whole	
	(continued)		
3-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7, 8 and 9 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole	
Friday, 2 February 2007			
10 a.m1 p.m. (closed)	Items 6, 7, 8 and 9	Working Group of the Whole	
	(continued)		
3-4 p.m. (closed)	Items 7, 8 and 9 (continued)	Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole	
773rd meeting			
4-6 p.m.	Item 10	Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session	
	Item 11	Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-seventh session	

Annex II

Overview of the proposed programme of work of the thirty-seventh session and composition of chambers

Date	Plenary	Chamber A	Chamber B
		Ms. Dorcas Coker-Appiah	Ms. Magalys Arocha
		Ms. Shanthi Dairiam	Ms. Ferdous Ara Begum
		Mr. Cees Flinterman	Ms. Meriem Belmihoub-
		Ms. Naela Gabr	Zerdani
		Ms. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari	Ms. Saisuree Chutikul
		Ms. Violeta Neubauer	Ms. Françoise Gaspard
		Ms. Silvia Pimentel	Ms. Tiziana Maiolo
		Ms. Fumiko Saiga	Ms. Ms. Pramila Patten
		Ms. Hanna Beate Schöpp-	Ms. Hazel Shelton
		Schilling	Ms. Dubravka Šimonović
		Ms. Heisoo Shin	Ms. Anamah Tan
		Ms. Glenda Simms	Ms. Maria Regina Tavares da Silva
			Ms. Xiaoqiao Zou
15 January	Opening; meetings with United Nations entities; NGO	s	
756 th meeting	Office (Autons Chines, 1430)		
16 January		Kazakhstan	Poland
757 th and 758 th			
17 January		Greece	Vietnam
759 th and 760 th	ı		
18 January		India	Nicaragua
761 st and 762nd			
19 January		Peru	Maldives
763^{rd} and 764^{th}			
22 January	Meeting with NGOs; other items		

Date	Plenary	Chamber A	Chamber B
23 January 765 th and		Azerbaijan	Austria
766th 24 January 767 th and 768 th	1	Namibia	Netherlands
25 January 769 th and 770 th		Suriname	Colombia
26 January	Tajikistan		
771 st and 772nd			
29 January	closed meeting		
30 January	closed meeting		
31 January	closed meeting		
1 February	closed meeting		
2 February	closure of session (pm)		