



**COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN  
33RD SESSION, 5 TO 22 JULY 2005  
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS**

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) will convene its 33rd session in New York, USA, from 5 to 22 July 2005. The Committee will examine the reports of the following eight States parties: *Benin, Burkina Faso, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Gambia, Guyana, Ireland, Israel and Lebanon.*

**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 its 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 suggestions and recommendations on how to address challenges faced by the State party. The concluding comments can provide guidance on the issues for the next periodic report. The concluding comments of the CEDAW Committee as well as other country information are available online: [www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/reports.htm](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/reports.htm)

**CEDAW Committee members**

The CEDAW Committee consists of 23 members, serving in their personal capacity. In 2005 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 eight States parties to be considered at the 33rd CEDAW session are available online in the six official languages: [www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/33sess](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/33sess).

The provisional agenda and other documents can also be found online: [www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/33sess.htm#documents](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/33sess.htm#documents). Sessions open to the public will be listed in the Daily Journal ([www.un.org/Docs/journal/En/lateste.pdf](http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/En/lateste.pdf)).

**NGO Participation:**

*Attending as observers*

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) interested in attending the CEDAW session as observers are required to submit the names of their representatives, the full title of their NGO as well as the proposed dates of attendance to the Division for the Advancement of Women at [changt@un.org](mailto:changt@un.org) no later than **24 June 2005**. The Division will facilitate obtaining United Nations ground passes for attending NGOs who do not already have ground passes, but will not send letters of invitation to attend the CEDAW session. To receive the grounds pass, all applicants are required to appear in person at the Pass and Identification Unit, located at 801 United Nations Plaza (at the corner of 1st Ave. and East 45th St.). A valid national passport or government issued photo ID such as driver's license or state non-driver's ID bearing a

photograph will be required of all applicants at the time of first issuance. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays (closed 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.) and 9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Fridays.

### ***Presenting NGO reports***

The CEDAW Committee welcomes information from non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In addition to attending the CEDAW session as observers, NGO representatives can submit alternative and shadow NGO reports to the CEDAW Committee members, and can present information during the informal meetings of the CEDAW Committee members with NGO representatives.

During the 33rd session, NGOs will have the opportunity to address the CEDAW Committee on 5 July 2005 and on 11 July 2005. NGOs wishing to present information regarding *country reports being examined during the week of 5 July* will be able to address the CEDAW Committee on **5 July 2005 from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.** NGO representatives wishing to speak on *the remaining country reports* will be able to do so on **11 July 2005 from 3.00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** 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 **30 June 2005**.

The NGOs can submit their alternative reports to the CEDAW Committee prior or during the session. At the request of the CEDAW Committee, IRAW Asia Pacific collects and sends alternative reports of NGOs to the CEDAW Committee members prior to the session. NGO reports could be sent to IRAW

AP at the following address/email: International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IRAW Asia Pacific)

2nd Floor, Block F, Anjung Felds, Jalan Maktab 54000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Tel: (603) 2691 3292, Fax (603) 26984203

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

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

NGOs can also distribute copies of their alternative reports to the CEDAW Committee at the time of the session.

### **For more information**

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