



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

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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Seventh session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 130th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Friday, 4 March 1988, at 10 a.m.

Chairperson: Ms. BERNARD

later: Ms. NOVIKOVA

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The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

WAYS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 21 OF THE CONVENTION (continued)

1. The CHAIRPERSON invited the Committee to continue its consideration of draft recommendations for possible inclusion in the report on its seventh session.
2. Ms. NOVIKOVA observed that the draft resolution on publicity dealt with matters connected with the draft resolution on national machinery. She proposed combining the two by adding the substance of the former as a final paragraph to the latter.
3. Ms. EVATT concurred, and agreed to draft the combined recommendation accordingly.
4. The CHAIRPERSON said she understood from earlier discussions that the Committee wished to adopt five draft recommendations: on temporary special measures, on effective national machinery (which, as just proposed, would be merged with the draft recommendation on publicity), on resources, on the implementation of article 8 of the Convention, and on specialized agencies.
5. It was her understanding that the Committee wished to defer for consideration at a later session the draft recommendations on equal remuneration for work of equal value, on statistics and data collection, on traditional practices and on technical assistance and training seminars.
6. It was so decided.
7. Ms. NOVIKOVA said that the views of all the experts should be kept in mind when the recommendations, particularly the one on specialized agencies, were put into their final form. She and other members had suggested abbreviating or deleting the preambles. She would like to know who would be responsible for producing the definitive texts.
8. The CHAIRPERSON said that the Rapporteur and the Secretariat would take care of the matter.

SESSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE (continued)

9. The CHAIRPERSON recalled that the Committee had been asked to consider holding all future sessions in Vienna as a way of achieving economies. It appeared from the Committee's report on its sixth session (A/42/38, annex V), however, that the economies in question would be no more than \$900. Arguments against changing the Committee's venue included the fact that its rules of procedure called for meetings to be held normally at Headquarters; that meeting services were little better in Vienna than in New York; and that most of the reporting countries had missions in New York. Developing countries especially would suffer financial hardship if they had to send delegations to introduce country reports in Vienna, where, moreover, they had no established support staff.

10. Ms. SINEGIORGIS, observing that the Human Rights Committee held two sessions a year, one of them in New York, strongly recommended that the Committee should continue to meet alternately in New York and Vienna. She asked the Chairperson to explain fully, when she addressed representatives of States parties to the Convention later that morning, why the Committee should continue meeting in New York.
11. Ms. CORTI agreed that it would be ridiculous, for \$900, for the Committee to change the arrangements for its sessions.
12. Ms. SOUMARE agreed that the financial implications were not an issue. On the other hand, there would be a political problem if the Committee met only in Vienna. Since the Nairobi Conference, women's issues had come to the fore, and the opportunity to meet in New York was very important for the Committee.
13. The CHAIRPERSON observed that the Committee clearly received greater publicity at Headquarters than in Vienna. The problem that remained, therefore, was to improve the quality of the meeting services made available to it, whether at Headquarters or in Vienna.
14. She would take it, if she heard no objection, that the Committee wished to continue holding sessions alternately in Vienna and at Headquarters.
15. It was so decided.
16. Ms. OESER said that the Committee would have to decide on the procedure to follow when it requested the allocation of a third week for its eighth session.
17. Ms. TALLAWY said she thought the Committee should not press for an additional week until it had ascertained that adequate secretariat services would be provided.
18. Ms. OESER agreed that the problem of conference servicing must be dealt with, but pointed out that the Committee had decided to consider a large number of reports at its eighth session.
19. The CHAIRPERSON, Ms. CORTI and Ms. SINEGIORGIS pointed out that the Committee had reached a consensus at its 127th meeting on the need to hold a three-week session.
20. Ms. Novikova took the Chair.
21. Ms. PILATAXI DE ARENAS pointed out that, even though the Committee had not wasted any time during its current three-week session, it had still had difficulty completing its work.
22. After a procedural discussion in which Ms. TALLAWY, Ms. SINEGIORGIS, Ms. EVATT and Ms. CORTI took part, the CHAIRPERSON said that, if she heard no objection, she

(The Chairperson)

would take it the Committee wished to request that its eighth session, exceptionally, should be extended to include a third week.

23. It was so decided.

ADOPTION OF THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON ITS SEVENTH SESSION (CEDAW/C/L.3 and Add.1-29)

24. The CHAIRPERSON drew attention to the draft report on the Committee's seventh session, which was contained in documents CEDAW/C/L.3 and Add.1-29.

25. Ms. CREYDT (Secretary of the Committee) said that, unfortunately, several sections of the draft report would not be available for consideration during the current session.

CEDAW/C/L.3

26. Document CEDAW/C/L.3 was adopted.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.2

27. Ms. WADSTEIN, Rapporteur, announced some revisions to the text.

28. Document CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.2, as revised, was adopted.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.3

29. Ms. WADSTEIN, Rapporteur, announced some revisions to the text.

30. Document CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.3, as revised, was adopted.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.4

31. Ms. WADSTEIN, Rapporteur, announced some revisions to the text. There were two views on how to treat the second sentence of paragraph 19: she would suggest amending it to read: "It was understood that Uruguay was a predominantly Roman Catholic country, and information was sought on the impact of the Church on the advancement of women"; Ms. Forde favoured deleting the sentence altogether.

32. Ms. CORTI expressed her support for the wording suggested by the Rapporteur.

33. The amendment suggested by the Rapporteur was adopted.

34. Document CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.4, as revised and amended, was adopted.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.5

35. Document CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.5 was adopted.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.6

36. Ms. WADSTEIN, Rapporteur, announced some revisions to the text.
37. Document CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.6, as revised, was adopted.
38. Ms. Bernard resumed the Chair.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.7

39. Ms. WADSTEIN, Rapporteur, announced some revisions to the text.
40. Document CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.7, as revised, was adopted.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.8 and Add.9

41. Documents CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.8 and Add.9 were adopted.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.10

42. Ms. WADSTEIN, Rapporteur, announced some revisions to the text.
43. Document CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.10, as revised, was adopted.

CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.15

44. Document CEDAW/C/L.3/Add.15 was adopted.

OTHER MATTERS

45. The CHAIRPERSON reported that she had just spoken with the representatives of several States parties to the Convention. They had requested that, when the States parties convened on 7 March 1988, the person responsible for secretarial services should explain why the Committee had not been given adequate conference-servicing support. They had inquired about the financial implications, particularly for developing countries, of holding future meetings of the Committee at Headquarters. Two developing countries had spoken in favour of that venue, while others said they needed further information before taking a decision.

46. She had been requested to report to the States parties on the steps taken to expedite the Committee's work. She had pointed out that it might not be possible to complete the work on the Committee's report at the current session because some of the addenda had yet to be circulated, the Rapporteur had been working beyond the call of duty, typists had not been provided and, in many instances, experts were obliged to use working languages with which they were not familiar.

(The Chairperson)

47. She had informed the representatives that the Committee wished to meet for three weeks in 1989 if finances would permit. As there was an increasing number of reports which had yet to be considered, she believed that they would agree.

48. One representative had said that she, for one, would agree to holding meetings of the Committee at Headquarters if the Secretariat guaranteed the same services as were provided in Vienna. She (the Chairperson) had requested that services in both Vienna and New York should be upgraded to match the assistance given to other treaty bodies.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.