



**International covenant
on civil and
political rights**

Distr.
GENERAL

CCPR/C/153
9 June 2004

Original: ENGLISH

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

**Eighty-first session
Geneva, 5 to 30 July 2004**

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The eighty-first session of the Human Rights Committee will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 5 to 30 July 2004. The first meeting will be convened at the United Nations Office at Geneva, Palais Wilson, Ground Floor Conference Room on Monday, 5 July 2004 at 10 a.m.
2. In accordance with rule 6 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the eighty-first session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.
3. Pursuant to rule 33 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Covenant or the Optional Protocol that the meetings should be held in private.
4. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 6, which contains the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports during the eighty-first session. In accordance with rule 68 of the Committee's rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are expected to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.
5. As established under rule 89 of its rules of procedure, a working group should meet for a period of one week prior to its eighty-first session. During its eightieth session, the Committee decided to convert the meeting of the working group into a week of meetings of the Committee plenary. Therefore, the eighty-first session will last four weeks.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the High Commissioner for Human Rights.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organizational and other matters.
4. Meeting with representatives of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations.
5. Submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant.
6. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant.
7. Working methods:
 - (a) Submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant;
 - (b) Optional Protocols.
8. Follow-up to concluding observations on State reports and to Views under the Optional Protocol.
9. Preparation for the third informal meeting with States parties during the eighty-second session.
10. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant.
11. Adoption of the annual report.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the session by the High Commissioner for Human Rights

The new High Commissioner will open the eighty-first session of the Committee.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the first item on the agenda for any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items.

3. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will consider miscellaneous issues relevant to the Committee's business.

4. Meeting with representatives of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations

At its eightieth session, the Committee decided to hear representatives of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations represented at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The meeting has accordingly been scheduled for the morning of Monday, 12 July 2004, from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

5. Submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant

A. Reports received

Apart from the reports which are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its eighty-first session (see the timetable for consideration of reports under item 6 below), the Secretary-General has received the initial reports of Albania, Benin and Greece; the second periodic report of Uzbekistan; and the fifth periodic reports of Italy, Morocco and Poland.

B. Reports due

For the situation with regard to the submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant, reference is made to chapter III and annex IV of the Committee's annual report to the General Assembly for 2003 (see A/58/40, vol. I).

6. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the eighty-first session, prepared in consultation with the Committee, is given below:

Timetable for consideration of reports of States parties

Belgium	Fourth periodic report (CCPR/C/BEL/2003/4)	Monday, 12 July 2004 p.m. Tuesday, 13 July 2004 a.m.
Namibia	Initial report (CCPR/C/NAM/2003/1)	Wednesday, 14 July 2004 a.m./p.m. Thursday, 15 July 2004 a.m.
Liechtenstein	Initial report (CCPR/C/LIE/2003/1)	Friday, 16 July 2004 a.m./p.m.
Serbia and Montenegro	Initial report (CCPR/C/SEMO/2003/1)	Monday, 19 July 2004 a.m./p.m. Tuesday, 20 July 2004 a.m.
Central African Republic	Examination of country situation in the absence of a report	Thursday, 22 July 2004 a.m./p.m.

In accordance with rule 68 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its eighty-first session.

The reports to be considered during the eighty-second session are those of Albania, Benin, Finland and Morocco. The country situation of Kenya will be considered in the absence of the State party's second periodic report.

7. Working methods

Under this item, the Committee will examine working methods related to the consideration and adoption of communications under the Optional Protocol and to consideration and adoption of concluding observations. Under the same item the Committee is invited to discuss the results of the Third Inter-Committee meeting and the 16th meeting of Treaty Body Chairpersons, held on 21 to 22 and on 23 to 25 June 2004 respectively.

8. Follow-up to concluding observations and to Views under the Optional Protocol

At its seventy-fourth session, the Committee adopted decisions governing the procedure for following up on concluding observations. During the seventy-fifth session, a Special Rapporteur for follow-up on concluding observations was appointed; he will provide his sixth progress report on his activities during the eighty-first session.

9. Preparation for the third informal meeting with States parties during the eighty-second session

During its seventy-eighth session (July 2003), the Committee decided to convene the third informal meeting with States parties during the eighty-second session in October 2004. The plenary of the eighty-first session should agree on the agenda for this meeting.

10. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of the rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under the Optional Protocol.

Two hundred and ninety-six communications are pending before the Committee as of 15 May 2004. Pursuant to the Committee's new rules of procedure allowing the joint examination of admissibility and merits in most cases, the Committee's examination of these communications may result in the adoption of Views, or in decisions declaring the communications admissible or inadmissible.

In accordance with article 5, paragraph 3, of the Optional Protocol and rule 82 of the Committee's rules of procedure, this agenda item will be considered in closed meetings.

11. Adoption of the annual report.

The eighty-first session will have before it the draft annual report of the Committee to the General Assembly (future A/59/40), presented by the Rapporteur.
