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POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Secretary-General has the honour to circulate herewith a report on the political rights of women prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1132 (XLI) of 26 July 1966. In that resolution, which was adopted on the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women, 1/ the Council requested the Secretary-General:

"(a) To prepare in 1966, with the necessary revisions, a consolidated report based on the annual memoranda on constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to political rights of women, and to issue thereafter annual supplements to that report;

"(b) To prepare biennially the reports on the implementation of the principles of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, requested in Council resolution 961 B (XXXVI) of 12 July 1963, and to combine these reports with the supplementary reports mentioned in subparagraph (a) above in a single document entitled 'Political rights of women'; and

"(c) To circulate this document to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session, in 1968, and biennially thereafter."

2. Under the above resolution, therefore, the Secretary-General presents each year to the General Assembly information available to him on constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to political rights of women in Member States of the United Nations, and/or members of the specialized agencies and/or parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice. Every two years the Secretary-General also brings to the attention of the General Assembly information furnished by Member States on the implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women.

3. The present report is essentially the annual supplementary report on constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments referred to in paragraph (a) of Council resolution 1132 (XLI) (see paragraph 1 above).

4. The previous report on political rights of women, submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session, (A/8132 and Add.1) contained information on the implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women furnished by 48 Member States. 2/ Since that report was issued in December 1971, however,

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4175), para. 187.

2/ Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Ceylon, China, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Guatemala, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Romania, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

additional replies have been received from seven Member States, while two other Member States forwarded corrections or revisions to the information furnished previously. ^{3/} The additional information received has been incorporated in the present document.

5. The present report is divided into two parts:

(a) Section II contains a brief summary of relevant constitutional provisions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to political rights of women, which have become available to the Secretary-General since 15 October 1970.

(b) Section III includes a summary of the additional replies received (see paragraph 4 above) relating to the implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women.

6. The annex to the present document includes six tables, which have been brought up to date in the light of the additional information available.

7. In accordance with the relevant resolutions, the countries listed in tables 1-4 are States Members of the United Nations and/or members of the specialized agencies and/or Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, while those listed in tables 5 and 6 are States Members of the United Nations only.

^{3/} The additional replies are from the following seven Member States: Brazil, Central African Republic, France, Pakistan, Philippines, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and United States of America. Argentina submitted a correction concerning women who have held diplomatic posts (see annex, Table 6, C). Austria submitted a revised reply (see section III below).

II. CONSTITUTIONS, ELECTORAL LAWS AND OTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENTS
RELATING TO THE POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN 4/

8. Since the publication of the previous report on constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to the political rights of women (A/8132 and Add.1), the developments, briefly summarized below, have come to the attention of the Secretary-General.

9. In Switzerland, women acquired the right to vote and to be eligible for election on equal terms with men at the federal level. The present situation is the following:

"An amendment to article 74 of the Federal Constitution was accepted by a plebiscite on 7 February 1971 (institution of the women's vote at the federal level). The new provision establishes equality between men and women with regard to the right to vote and eligibility for election at the federal level.

"Furthermore, in the cantons of Aargau, Basel-Land, Basel-Stadt, Fribourg, Geneva, Glarus, Lucerne, Nonchâtel, Schaffhausen, Solothurn, Ticino, Valais, Vaud, Zug and Zürich women have the right to vote at the cantonal and commune level. Women are, generally speaking, considered to be eligible for election in the same way as men in these cantons.

"Other cantons have special provisions concerning the political rights of women at the commune level." 5/

4/ The texts of the legislation referred to in this section may be consulted on request to the United Nations Secretariat (Division of Human Rights, Section on the Status of Women).

5/ Information furnished by the Office of the Permanent Observer of Switzerland to the United Nations. The following legislative texts and other documents are available for consultation in the United Nations Secretariat:

- Progress report on the political rights of women in Switzerland;
- Federal Order of 9 October 1970 on the institution of the women's vote at the federal level;
- Federal Council Order of 28 October 1970 concerning the plebiscite of 7 February 1971 relating to the Federal Order on the institution of the women's vote at the federal level;
- Circular from the Federal Council to cantonal governments of 28 October 1970 concerning the plebiscite of 7 February 1971;
- Report of the Federal Council to the Federal Assembly of 26 February 1971 concerning the result of the plebiscite of 7 February 1971;
- Federal Order of 16 March 1971 concerning the result of the plebiscite of 7 February 1971.

10. Equal political rights for men and women were confirmed in the revised Constitution of Kenya (article 70 of the Constitution of 1969). 6/

11. In Spain, the electoral laws regulating, inter alia, the election of certain members of the municipal councils provided that only women heads of family were able to participate in them. 7/ Law No. 82 of 5 December 1968 extended to all married women the right to elect and to be eligible in the election of members of certain municipalities. 8/ Decree No. 17 of 9 October 1969 extended this right to the municipalities of Madrid and Barcelona. 9/

12. The right to vote for both men and women on equal terms was confirmed in Tunisia by article 2 of the Electoral Code promulgated by Act No. 69-25 of 8 April 1969. 10/

13. In the period under review, the Federal Republic of Germany, 11/ on 4 November 1970, and the Netherlands, on 30 July 1971, became parties to the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, making a total of 69 States parties to the Convention as of 20 September 1971 (see the annex, table 4).

6/ Text of the Constitution furnished by the Government for the Year Book on Human Rights, 1969.

7/ Articles 78 (to be elected) and 86 (to elect) of Leyes de Bases de Regimen Local, 17 July 1945.

8/ Boletín Oficial del Estado, Gaceta de Madrid, 7 December 1968, No. 294, p. 17565.

9/ Boletín Oficial del Estado, Gaceta de Madrid, 10 October 1969, No. 243, p. 15871.

10/ Text of the Electoral Code furnished by the Government for the Year Book on Human Rights, 1969.

11/ Bulgaria, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics sent letters to the Secretary-General stating that the action by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany of extending the application of the Convention to the territory of West Berlin was illegal since West Berlin was not part of the Federal Republic of Germany (see CN/9/1971 Treaties - 1 of 11 February 1971 - Mongolia; CN/28/1971 Treaties - 2 of 23 March 1971 - Poland; CN/32/1971 Treaties - 3 of 23 March 1971 - Bulgaria; CN/46/1971 Treaties - 4 of 15 April 1971 - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and CN/65/1971 Treaties - 5 of 10 May 1971 - Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

14. As indicated above (see paragraph 4), this part of the report contains a summary of the additional information on the implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women furnished by Member States of the United Nations in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 961 B (XXXVI) and 1068 B (XXXIX), and resolution 1 (XXII) of the Commission on the Status of Women.

AUSTRIA^{12/}

Original: English
7 May 1971

The following information is furnished concerning women elected to the national Parliament and those holding high posts:

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u> ^{13/}
<u>National Parliament</u>		
<u>Nationalrat</u>	8	5
<u>Bundesrat</u>	10	19
Provincial parliaments	33	8
Ministers or Heads of Department	2	13
	(Minister for Science and Research and Secretary of State for Social Affairs)	

^{12/} Revised reply from the Government of Austria (the information replaces that contained in document A/8132, section III).

^{13/} The figures given in this column throughout the report are those furnished by the Government concerned. Where no figures were supplied, this has been indicated by a dash (-).

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
<u>Provincial governments</u>		
Vienna	3	20
Lower Austria	1	14

The other seven Provincial governments have no women.

Federal civil service	41 ^{14/}	
	(including two female museum directors)	

No woman has yet risen to the highest category.

Judiciary	32	2
	(judges and public prosecutors)	

No woman has been appointed to a Court of Appeals or a Supreme Court.

Diplomatic service

Ambassador	1	-
Minister and Minister Plenipotentiary	2	-
Consuls-general	2	-
	(second and third class)	

Women have on occasion been members of Austrian delegations to various conferences of the ILO and WHO, but no woman has yet taken part in sessions of the governing bodies of these two organizations.

^{14/} Only women of Dienstklasse VII and VIII (which may roughly be compared to the rank of D-1 and D-2 posts in the United Nations administration) are included in the offices of the federal administration.

BRAZIL

/Original: English/
28 April 1971

The following information is furnished concerning women holding high posts:

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
Congress	1 (for the State of Bahia)	-
Judicial posts	-	29 ^{15/}
Ambassadors	3 (Ambassadors to Trinidad and Tobago, Senegal and the Philippines)	-
Career diplomats	41 (there are 619 male diplomats)	6.6

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

/Original: French/
17 November 1970

The Government of the Central African Republic stated that after independence women in the Republic enjoyed the same political rights as men.

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
Ministers	2	-
Vice President of M.E.S.A.N. (Parti National Unique)	1	-
District Mayor (Maire d'arrondissement)	1	-
Mayor of City District (Maire d'une Circonscription)	1	-
Director of a Technical College for Women	1	-
Deputy Director of Sections within Ministries	2	-
Chief of Personnel within a Ministry	3	-
Chief of Services within a Ministry	4	-

^{15/} This percentage is based on information obtained from only nine of Brazil's 23 states.

FRANCE

Original: French
5 October 1971

The Government has transmitted the following information:

Concerning elective office, article 17 of the Ordinance of 21 April 1944 states that women in France enjoy the same civil and political rights as men, under the same conditions, with no discrimination. They can vote and are eligible for election in legislative, cantonal and municipal elections.

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
National Assembly	8	-
Senate	5	-
Secretary of State for Social Affairs	1	-
Cantonal Councillors	58	-
Town Councillors	12,707	-
Mayors	485	-

With regard to the civil service, the Act of 19 October 1946, which defined the status of civil servants in France, and the Ordinance of 4 February 1959 on the general status of civil servants, which replaced it, established the principle of absolute equality between men and women with regard to admission and promotion in the French government service.

The only exceptions to this principle are applied in special cases and are governed by the nature of the services rendered. In practice they only concern the armed forces and the law enforcement authorities - although women are admitted to certain posts in the army and the police - and a few civil posts of authority, such as that of the Prefect.

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
<u>Central Government</u>		
Departmental Heads	2	-
Assistant Directors	24	-
<u>Major State Bodies</u>		
Council of State	9	-
Audit Office	4	-
Civil Service	400	Out of a total staff of 2,800
Diplomatic and consular posts	141	-
Ministers Plenipotentiary	1	-
Councillors and Secretaries for Foreign Affairs	71	-
Women Chancellors, Secretaries to the Chancellery or Cipher Officers	74	-

With regard to the judiciary, the legal profession was opened to women under the Act of 11 April 1946. They were recruited first by direct appointment /particularly the appointment of barristers (avocates) registered at the bar for over 10 years/ and later by competitive examination in the same way as for men.

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
Judiciary	401	9.21 ^{a/}
Judges	352	
State Counsel in court	9	

^{a/} In 1959 the proportion was 6 per cent.

PAKISTAN

/Original: English/
16 December 1970

The Government states that Pakistan has already implemented articles 1, 2 and 3 of the Convention on the Political Rights for Women. Furthermore, under the existing Constitution, if a woman is qualified for appointment to the services in Pakistan, she is not discriminated against in respect of any such appointment on the grounds of sex. She is entitled to vote in the elections to the national and provincial assemblies in Pakistan, and to be elected as a member of the national and provincial assemblies and even as President of Pakistan.

The following information was furnished concerning women elected to Parliament and holding high posts:

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
Head of a Government Department	1	-
Representatives at the International Conferences on Human Rights (1968-1969)	3	-

There are 13 seats reserved for women in the National Assembly of Pakistan and 21 seats in the various provincial assemblies. Besides the reserved seats, a woman can also contest for a general seat in the national and provincial assemblies.

PHILIPPINES

/Original: English/
27 January 1971

The following tables were furnished concerning the participation of men and women in higher positions of public offices:

Public offices of the Philippine Republic	1966 Members					1968 Members				
	Total	Male		Female		Total	Male		Female	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
I. EXECUTIVE BRANCH										
The President of the Philippines	1	1	100.00	-	-	1	1	100.00	-	-
The Vice-President of the Philippines	1	1	100.00	-	-	1	1	100.00	-	-
The President's Cabinet	20	20	100.00	-	-	25	25	100.00	-	-
Department secretaries and under-secretaries	30	30	100.00	-	-	31 ^{g/}	29	93.55	2	6.45
Bureau Directors	92	87	94.57	5	5.43	99	92	92.93	7	7.07
Embassies										
Ambassador*	27	26	96.30	1	3.70	30	29	96.67	1	3.33
Consul General**	13	12	92.31	1	7.69	19	19	100.00	-	-
Consul	13	11	84.62	2	15.38	18	15	83.33	3	16.67
Vice Consul	28	23	82.14	5	17.86	29	23	79.31	6	20.69
Consulates General										
Consul General**	15	12	80.00	3	20.00	14	12	85.71	2	14.29
Consul	17	15	88.24	2	11.76	13	11	84.62	2	15.38
Vice Consul	7	3	42.86	4	57.14	14	11	78.57	3	21.43
Commercial Attache	35	32	91.43	3	8.57	41	39	95.12	2	4.88
Commercial Analyst	29	19	65.52	10	34.48	49	32	65.31	17	34.69
Department of Justice										
Office of the Solicitor General										
Provincial Fiscal	55	55	100.00	-	-	65	65	100.00	-	-
City Fiscal	41	41	100.00	-	-	48	48	100.00	-	-
Court of Agrarian Relations										
Executive Judge and District Judge	N.A.					34	33	97.06	1	2.94
Commissioner	N.A.					18	17	94.44	1	5.56
Court of Industrial Relations										
Presiding Judge and Associate Judge	5	5	100.00	-	-	5	5	100.00	-	-
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court										
Presiding Judge	1	-	-	1	100.00	1	-	-	1	100.00
Court of Tax Appeals										
Presiding Judge and Associate Judge	3	3	100.00	-	-	3	3	100.00	-	-
Court of First Instance										
District Judges	144	143	99.31	1	0.69	224 ^{d/}	219	97.77	5	2.23
Circuit Criminal Courts										
District Judges	N.A.					16	16	100.00	-	-
Council of State										
Members of the Council	29	29	100.00	-	-	30	30	100.00	-	-
National Security Council										
Members of the Council	20	20	100.00	-	-	21	21	100.00	-	-
Provincial and City Officials										
Provincial Governor and Sub-Provincial										
Governor	65	60	92.31	5	7.69	65	60	92.31	5	7.69
Provincial Vice-Governor	61	58	95.08	3	4.92	65	60	92.31	5	7.69
City Mayor	46	45	97.83	1	2.17	48	46	95.83	2	4.17
City Vice-Mayor	46	44	95.65	2	4.35	48	45	93.75	3	6.25
Provincial Board Member	160	153	95.62	7	4.38	182	174	95.60	8	4.40
City Board Member	371	357	96.23	14	3.77	383	366	95.56	17	4.44
Division Superintendent of Schools	67	65	97.01	2	2.99	74	70	94.59	4	5.41
City Superintendent of Schools	21	18	85.71	3	14.29	26	21	80.77	5	19.23
* Assistant Secretary (Ambassador)	19	8	88.89	1	11.11	10	8	80.00	2	20.00
Department of Foreign Affairs (Minister)	1	-	-	1	100.00	1	-	-	1	100.00
** Executive Officer (Minister)	1	-	-	1	100.00	2	1	50.00	1	50.00
Department of Foreign Affairs										

PARTICIPATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN HIGHER POSITIONS OF PUBLIC OFFICES IN THE PHILIPPINES: 1966 AND 1968 (continued)

Public offices of the Philippine Republic	1966 Members					1968 Members				
	Total	Male		Female		Total	Male		Female	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
II. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH										
Congress of the Philippines										
Senate										
Senators	24	21	87.50	3	12.50	24	20	83.33	4	16.67
House of Representatives										
Representatives	102	96	94.12	6	5.88	98 ^{a/}	93	94.90	5	5.10
Commission on Appointments										
Senators and Representatives	N.A.					26	22	84.62	4	15.38
Joint Legislative-Executive Tax Commission										
Senators and Cabinet Members	N.A.					9	9	100.00	-	-
III. JUDICIAL BRANCH										
Supreme Court										
Chief Justice, Associate Justices	10	10	100.00	-	-	9 ^{b/}	9	100.00	-	-
Presidential Electoral Tribunal										
Chief Justice and Associate Justices	N.A.			-	-	11	11	100.00	-	-
Court of Appeals										
Presiding Justice and Associate Justices . .	17	17	100.00	-	-	18	17	94.44	1	5.56

N.A. Data not available.

- a/ Out of 107 seats, 9 were vacant.
- b/ Out of 10 seats, 1 was vacant.
- c/ Out of 33 seats, 2 were vacant.
- d/ Out of 236 seats, 12 were vacant.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Original: Russian
August 1970

The Government stated that the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics confers on women, on equal terms with men, the right to vote at elections and the right to be elected to publicly elected bodies. Women's active electoral rights on equal terms with men are based on articles 134 and 135 of the Constitution, which provide for universal, equal and direct suffrage, by secret ballot, for all citizens of the Soviet Union without any discrimination whatever. Every Soviet woman, like every Soviet man, has the right, on reaching the age of 18 and irrespective of race or nationality, religion, education, domicile, social origin and property status, to vote in elections to State organs of all levels. Every citizen, man or woman, who has reached the age of 23 is eligible to become a Deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; for election to the Supreme Soviets of the Union and autonomous republics, citizens must have reached the age of 21, and for election to local Soviets the age of 18.

Soviet women are elected to all organs of State power, from rural or district Soviets of Working People's Deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The women elected as deputies include workers, collective farmers, scientists and scholars, doctors and actresses. They combine their public activities with practical work in their particular fields. Women make extensive use of their voting rights under the Constitution, and the proportion of women voters participating in elections to the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and local Soviets usually exceeds 99 per cent. Many women normally take part in preparing and conducting election campaigns; they are active in district, regional, Republican and central electoral commissions. For example, women accounted for 44.7 per cent of the members of the electoral commissions in the elections to the Supreme Soviets of the Union and Autonomous Republics and to the local Soviets of Working People's Deputies in March 1969. During the election campaigns, women participate in nominating and discussing the candidates, providing information on canvassing among the population for the nominated candidate, voting procedures and electoral rights, and so on. The following number of women have been elected to parliament and have held high posts:

<u>Supreme Soviet</u>	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
1st session	189	-
2nd session	277	-
3rd session	280	-
4th session	348	-
5th session	366	-
6th session	390	-
7th session	425	-
8th session (Deputies)	-	30.5 (out of 1,517 deputies)

<u>Supreme Soviet</u>	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR	4	-
Standing Commissions of Presidium	123	-
Chairmen of Presidiums of Supreme Soviets of the Autonomous Republics	5	-
Ministers	28	-

(in the USSR and the Union Republics they hold posts as Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Industry, Higher and Secondary Education, Public Instruction, Culture, Social Security and Public Services.)

Judiciary

Women have an equal right with men to be elected to offices in the judicial system. Article 109 of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Constitution and article 2 of the Statute governing elections to District (City) People's Courts in the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist State (RSFSR) states that:

"Every citizen of the RSFSR of other Union Republic who is entitled to vote and who, by the day of the election, has reached the age of 25, is eligible for election as People's Judge or People's Assessor."

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
People's judges	2,369	31.2 (of the total number of people's judges serving in the USSR; the percentage is particularly high in the Estonian SSR (60.3 per cent), the Latvian SSR (51 per cent) and the RSFSR (35 per cent)).
People's Assessors	252,409	44
People's Assessors in Supreme Court	14	(out of 45)
Jurists in Supreme Court	27	
Deputy Chairman in Supreme Court	7	
Staff or organs of the Procuracy		20.2
Central Office of the Procuracy		24.9

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

/Original: English/
10 February 1971

In the United States a citizen's participation in elections is voluntary. The exercise of the vote, therefore, is a matter of individual interest and responsibility. Election records do not provide statistics on the number of women who vote, but estimates by experienced observers indicate that women participate actively in elections in all parts of the country in about the same numbers as men, and that they constitute a large proportion of the election officials serving at the polls. The 19th Amendment to the Constitution, adopted in 1920, which specifies: "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex", gave women the right to vote; and the 24th Amendment (1964) forbids the imposition of a poll tax of any other qualification for voting, thus protecting limitation based on property. The American system of government, therefore, places no restrictions upon women's right to participate as "political" citizens, but as in many countries of the world, full and effective use of these rights has not been achieved.

Women are as likely as men to feel strong identification with a political party and voters have a choice of political parties and a voice in selecting their party candidates through primary elections or through open meetings and conventions. The major political parties provide specifically that women be matched with men in state and national party leadership. Perhaps the greatest contribution women have made in the field of government and politics is in the formulation of issues and the building of opinion to be expressed through voluntary organizations, who carry the quest for good government throughout their neighbourhoods and communities, and whose interest in electing responsible, respectable, trustworthy candidates never wanes. As more and more women plan ahead for a career after their children are grown, and apply themselves in earlier years to a grassroots apprenticeship, the scale of the political activity will broaden.

The League of Women Voters, one of the most influential of voluntary groups, came into existence in 1920 and immediately began a programme of non-partisan education activities, including voter registration drives, citizenship training schools for new voters, demonstrations on how to make use of voting machines, and acquainting women with their new responsibilities and procedures on election day.

The President's Commission on the Status of Women (established in December 1961) suggested several years ago that the lower proportion of women in public life reflects the "low proportion of women prominent in the private occupations that normally lead to political activity and advancement. Few women possess the practical experience obtained at middle and upper levels of administrative and executive responsibility and they therefore lack the public visibility that goes with such posts and in turn become a basis for appointment to public office".

Today there are many more women, housewives and professionals, who have been appointed and elected to various posts with national, State, county and municipal governments. These positions provide the practical experience and change attitudes concerning the role of women in the judiciary, in the Foreign Service, as political reporters and as freelance political writers, have also advanced the public visibility of women in broader fields of activity.

Women's participation as delegates at the national nominating conventions in 1968 was slightly higher than in previous years. The Republican Party Convention had 223 women as full delegates and 335 alternates, or about 21 per cent of the Convention total. The Democratic Party had 419 women delegates and 498 alternates, or more than 16 per cent of the Convention total. Women represented 53 per cent of the total number of persons of voting age in the 1970 national election (64,039,000 women; 56,431,000 men).

Because of the strong desire to be nearer their families, United States women seeking elective office have tended to devote more attention to elective offices at the state and local level than at the national level which requires their presence in Washington throughout the year and would take them away from their families. The 1968/1969 statistics for women in elective and appointive office at the state and local levels are as follows:

	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Percentage of women</u>
Mayors (cities over 10,000 population)	23	-
State elective positions	31	-
State legislatures	350	-
County officials, elected (3,011 counties, 9 boroughs, 37 cities)	4,019	-
Women appointed to state commissions and boards (this information was not available from 10 States)	4,713	-
<u>Federal government</u>		
High level policy-making positions	135	-
<u>Parliament</u>		
House of Representatives	12	-
Senate	1	-

ANNEX

TABLE 1

Countries where women may vote in all elections and are eligible
for election on an equal basis with men a/
(124 countries)

Afghanistan	France
Albania	Gabon
Algeria	Gambia
Argentina	Ghana
Australia	Greece
Austria	Guatemala
Barbados	Guinea
Belgium	Guyana
Bolivia	Haiti
Botswana	Honduras
Brazil	Hungary
Bulgaria	Iceland
Burma	India
Burundi	Indonesia
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Iran
Cambodia	Iraq
Cameroon	Ireland
Canada	Israel
Central African Republic	Italy
Ceylon	Ivory Coast
Chad	Jamaica
Chile	Japan
China	Kenya
Colombia	Laos
Congo	Lebanon
Costa Rica	Lesotho
Cuba	Liberia
Cyprus	Libyan Arab Republic
Czechoslovakia	Luxembourg
Dahomey	Madagascar
Denmark	Malawi
Dominican Republic	Malaysia
Ecuador	Maldives
Egypt	Mali
El Salvador	Malta
Ethiopia	Mauritania
Federal Republic of Germany	Mexico
Finland	Monaco

a/ The countries listed in tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 are States Members of the United Nations and/or members of the specialized agencies and/or Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

TABLE 1 (continued)

Mongolia	Spain
Morocco	Sudan
Nepal	Swaziland
Netherlands	Sweden
New Zealand	Switzerland <u>d/</u>
Nicaragua	Syrian Arab Republic
Niger	Thailand
Nigeria <u>b/</u>	Togo
Norway	Trinidad and Tobago
Pakistan	Tunisia
Panama	Turkey
Paraguay	Uganda
Peru	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Philippines	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Poland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Portugal <u>c/</u>	United States of America
Republic of Korea	Upper Volta
Republic of Viet-Nam	Uruguay
Romania	Venezuela
Rwanda	Western Samoa <u>e/</u>
Senegal	Yugoslavia
Sierra Leone	Zaire
Singapore	Zambia
Somalia	
South Africa	

b/ Only in the following states: Western, Lagos, Midwestern Rivers, East Central and South Eastern.

c/ In elections to the local boards (Juntas de Fregusia), the qualification to vote emanates from the fact of being head of the family without distinction as to sex.

d/ See paragraph 9 above.

e/ No legal limitations exist against the participation of women in elections, but under Samoan custom the "Matai" or chiefly title, which is the basic electoral qualifications, is usually held by men.

TABLE 2

Countries where the right to vote and/or the eligibility of women
for election are subject to limitations not imposed on men

San Marino Women may vote, but are not eligible for election.

TABLE 3

Countries where women have no voting rights and are
not eligible for election
(6 countries)

Jordan
Kuwait
Liechtenstein
Nigeria a/
Saudi Arabia
Yemen

a/ North Eastern State, North Central State, North Western State,
Benue-Plateau State, Kwarra State and Kano State.

TABLE 4.

States Parties to the Convention on the Political
Rights of Women as at 15 October 1970 a/

State	Signature	Ratification, accession or notification of succession
AFGHANISTAN		16 November 1966 ^{b/}
ALBANIA		12 May 1955 ^{b/}
ARGENTINA	31 March 1953	27 February 1961
AUSTRIA	19 October 1959	18 April 1969
BELGIUM		20 May 1964 ^{b/}
BOLIVIA	9 April 1953	22 September 1970
BRAZIL	20 May 1953	13 August 1963 ^{b/}
BULGARIA		17 March 1954 ^{b/}
BURMA	14 September 1954	
BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC	31 March 1953	11 August 1954 ^{b/}
CANADA		30 January 1957 ^{b/}
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC		4 September 1962 ^{c/}
CHILE	31 March 1953	18 October 1967
CHINA	9 June 1953	21 December 1953
CONGO		15 October 1962 ^{c/}
COSTA RICA	31 March 1953	25 July 1967
CUBA	31 March 1953	8 April 1954
CYPRUS	10 September 1968	12 November 1968
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	31 March 1953	6 April 1955
DENMARK	29 October 1953	7 July 1954
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	31 March 1953	11 December 1953
ECUADOR	31 March 1953	23 April 1954
EL SALVADOR	24 June 1953	
ETHIOPIA	31 March 1953	21 January 1969 ^{a/}
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY		4 November 1971 ^{a/}
FINLAND		6 October 1958 ^{b/}
FRANCE	31 March 1953	22 April 1957
GABON	19 April 1967	19 April 1967
GHANA		28 December 1965 ^{b/}
GREECE	1 April 1953	29 December 1953
GUATEMALA	31 March 1953	7 October 1959
HAITI	23 July 1957	12 February 1958
HUNGARY	2 September 1954	20 January 1955
ICELAND	25 November 1953	30 June 1954
INDIA	29 April 1953	1 November 1961
INDONESIA	31 March 1953	16 December 1958
IRELAND		14 November 1968 ^{b/}
ISRAEL	14 April 1953	6 July 1954
ITALY		6 March 1968 ^{b/}
JAMAICA		14 August 1966 ^{b/}
JAPAN	1 April 1955	13 July 1955
LAOS		28 January 1969 ^{b/}
LEBANON	24 February 1954	5 June 1956

TABLE 4 (continued)

State	Signature	Ratification, accession or notification of succession
LIBERIA	9 December 1953	
LUXEMBOURG	4 June 1969	
MADAGASCAR		12 February 1964 ^{b/}
MALAWI		29 June 1966 ^{b/}
MALTA		9 July 1968 ^{b/}
MAURITIUS		18 July 1969 ^{c/}
MEXICO	31 March 1953	
MONGOLIA		18 August 1965 ^{b/}
NEPAL		26 April 1966 ^{b/}
NETHERLANDS	8 August 1968	30 July 1971 ^{b/}
NEW ZEALAND		22 May 1968 ^{b/}
NICARAGUA		17 January 1957 ^{b/}
NIGER		7 December 1964 ^{c/}
NORWAY	18 September 1953	24 August 1956
PAKISTAN	18 May 1954	7 December 1954
PARAGUAY	16 November 1953	
PHILIPPINES	23 September 1953	12 September 1957
POLAND	31 March 1953	11 August 1954 ^{b/}
REPUBLIC OF KOREA		23 June 1959 ^{b/}
ROMANIA	27 April 1954	6 August 1954 ^{c/}
SENEGAL		2 May 1963 ^{c/}
SIERRA LEONE		25 July 1962 ^{b/}
SWAZILAND		22 July 1970 ^{b/}
SWEDEN	6 October 1953	31 March 1954
THAILAND	5 March 1954	30 November 1954
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO		24 June 1966 ^{b/}
TUNISIA		24 January 1968 ^{b/}
TURKEY	12 January 1954	26 January 1960
UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC	31 March 1953	15 November 1954
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS	31 March 1953	3 May 1954
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND		24 February 1967 ^{b/}
URUGUAY	26 May 1953	
YUGOSLAVIA	31 March 1953	23 June 1954

a/ Declarations and reservations to the Convention made by certain States Parties may be found in Multilateral Treaties in respect of which the Secretary-General Performs Depositary Functions (1970) (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.V.5). For the Federal Republic of Germany, see foot-note 11 above.

b/ Accession.

c/ Notification of succession.

TABLE 5

Countries where women have been elected to the
national Parliament

The present table relates to States Members of the United Nations and is based exclusively on information furnished by the Governments concerned either for the present report or for the previous reports (E/CN.6/430, E/CN.6/470 and Add.1, A/7197, and A/8132 and Add.1).

Afghanistan	Khmer Republic
Argentina	Laos
Australia	Luxembourg
Austria	Madagascar
Belgium	Malawi
Brazil	Malta
Bulgaria	Mexico
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Netherlands
Cameroon	New Zealand
Canada	Nicaragua
Central African Republic	Nigeria
Ceylon	Norway
Chile	Pakistan
China	Panama
Colombia	Philippines
Costa Rica	Poland
Czechoslovakia	Portugal
Denmark	Romania
Dominican Republic	Singapore
Ecuador	South Africa
Egypt	Spain
Ethiopia	Swaziland
Finland	Sweden
France	Thailand
Gabon	Trinidad and Tobago
Greece	Tunisia
Ghana	Turkey
Guatemala	Uganda
Hungary	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
India	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Iran	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ireland	United Republic of Tanzania
Israel	United States of America
Italy	Upper Volta
Jamaica	Uruguay
Japan	Venezuela
Kenya	Yugoslavia

TABLE 6

Countries where women have held high governmental, judicial
or diplomatic posts

Table 6 relates to States Members of the United Nations and is based exclusively on information furnished by the Governments concerned either for the present report or for the previous reports (E/CN.6/430, E/CN.6/470 and Add.1, A/7197, A/7635, and A/8132 and Add.1).

A. Governmental posts

<u>State</u>	<u>Minister</u>	<u>Deputy Minister</u>	<u>Head of Department a/</u>	<u>Other high posts</u>
Afghanistan	X			X
Argentina			X	X
Australia	X			
Austria	X	X	X	X
Belgium				X
Bulgaria				X
Burundi				X
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	X	X	X	X
Cambodia	X		X	X
Canada	X		X	X
Central African Republic	X		X	X
Ceylon	X			
Chile				X
China	X		X	X
Colombia	X		X	X
Costa Rica			X	X
Cyprus	X			
Czechoslovakia	X			X
Denmark	X		X	X

a/ This column includes both the administrative head of a ministry and the head of a department or division within a ministry.

TABLE 6 (continued)

A. Governmental posts (continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Minister</u>	<u>Deputy Minister</u>	<u>Head of Department a/</u>	<u>Other high posts</u>
Dominican Republic	X	X		X
Ecuador				X
Egypt	X		X	X
El Salvador				X
Ethiopia		X	X	
Finland	X			X
France	X		X	X
Gambia				X
Ghana	X			X
Greece	X		X	X
Guatemala			X	X
Hungary	X			X
India	X		X	X
Iran		X	X	X
Iraq	X		X	X
Ireland	X		X	X
Israel	X		X	X
Italy		X	X	X
Jamaica			X	X
Japan		X	X	
Jordan				X
Khmer Republic			X	X
Laos			X	
Luxembourg	X			X
Madagascar			X	X
Malta				X
Mexico			X	
Netherlands	X			X
New Zealand	X			X

TABLE 6 (continued)

A. Governmental posts (continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Minister</u>	<u>Deputy Minister</u>	<u>Head of Department a/</u>	<u>Other high posts</u>
Nicaragua		X	X	X
Nigeria	X			X
Norway	X			X
Pakistan	X		X	X
Panama	X	X	X	X
Philippines	X		X	X
Poland		X		X
Portugal		X		X
Romania		X	X	X
Sierra Leone				X
Singapore			X	X
South Africa				X
Spain			X	X
Swaziland				X
Sweden	X		X	X
Thailand				X
Togo			X	X
Trinidad and Tobago	X		X	X
Tunisia			X	X
Turkey			X	X
Uganda	X			X
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	X	X	X	X
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	X	X	X	X
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	X		X	X
United Republic of Tanzania			X	
United States of America	X	X	X	X
Upper Volta	X			X

TABLE 6 (continued)

A. Governmental posts (continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Minister</u>	<u>Deputy Minister</u>	<u>Head of Department a/</u>	<u>Other high posts</u>
Uruguay				X
Venezuela			X	X
Yugoslavia		X	X	X
Zambia				X

B. Judicial posts

<u>State</u>	<u>Judges (Supreme, High and Appeal Courts)</u>	<u>Judges (other courts)</u>	<u>Other high legal posts</u>
Afghanistan	X	X	
Argentina	X	X	X
Austria		X	X
Belgium			X
Brazil		X	
Bulgaria	X	X	X
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	X	X	X
Cameroon			X
Canada		X	X
Chile		X	X
China		X	X
Costa Rica	X	X	X
Czechoslovakia		X	X
Denmark	X		
Dominican Republic		X	
Ecuador		X	
El Salvador	X	X	
Finland	X	X	X

TABLE 6 (continued)

B. Judicial posts (continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Judges</u> (<u>Supreme, High and</u> <u>Appeal Courts</u>)	<u>Judges</u> (<u>other courts</u>)	<u>Other high</u> <u>legal posts</u>
France	X	X	X
Gabon		X	
Gambia		X	
Ghana	X	X	
Greece		X	X
Guatemala		X	X
Hungary	X	X	X
India	X		
Iran		X	
Iraq		X	X
Ireland		X	X
Israel		X	X
Italy		X	
Khmer Republic		X	
Jamaica			X
Japan		X	X
Luxembourg			X
Madagascar	X	X	X
Morocco	X		
Netherlands	X	X	X
Nicaragua	X	X	X
Nigeria	X		X
Norway	X	X	X
Panama		X	
Philippines	X	X	X
Poland	X	X	X
Romania	X	X	X
Sierra Leone			X

TABLE 6 (continued)

B. Judicial posts (continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Judges</u> <u>(Supreme, High and</u> <u>Appeal Courts)</u>	<u>Judges</u> <u>(other courts)</u>	<u>Other high</u> <u>legal posts</u>
Singapore		X	X
Spain		X	
Sweden	X		
Togo		X	X
Trinidad and Tobago		X	
Tunisia		X	
Turkey	X	X	X
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	X	X	X
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	X	X	X
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	X	X	X
United States of America	X	X	
Upper Volta			X
Uruguay		X	
Venezuela		X	X
Yugoslavia	X	X	X

C. Diplomatic posts

<u>State</u>	<u>Ambassador</u>	<u>Other high</u> <u>diplomatic</u> <u>posts</u>	<u>United</u> <u>Nations</u> <u>General</u> <u>Assembly</u>	<u>Specialized</u> <u>agencies</u> <u>and UNICEF</u>	<u>Other</u>
Afghanistan			X		
Argentina	X	X	X		
Australia		X	X		X
Austria	X	X	X	X	

TABLE 6 (continued)

C. Diplomatic posts (continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Ambassador</u>	<u>Other high diplomatic posts</u>	<u>United Nations General Assembly</u>	<u>Specialized agencies and UNICEF</u>	<u>Other</u>
Belgium		X			
Brazil	X				X
Bulgaria				X	
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic			X	X	X
Cameroon		X	X		
Canada		X			
Central African Republic			X	X	
China		X		X	X
Colombia		X			
Costa Rica	X	X	X	X	X
Cyprus					X
Denmark	X		X	X	X
Dominican Republic		X			
Ecuador		X	X	X	X
Egypt					X
Finland	X		X	X	X
France					X
Gabon			X		
Ghana			X		
Greece			X		X
Guatemala	X	X	X		
Hungary		X		X	
Iran			X	X	X
Iraq	X	X	X		X
Ireland	X		X	X	
Israel	X	X		X	

TABLE 6 (continued)

C. Diplomatic posts (continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Ambassador</u>	<u>Other high diplomatic posts</u>	<u>United Nations General Assembly</u>	<u>Specialized agencies and UNICEF</u>	<u>Other</u>
Italy			X	X	
Khmer Republic		X			
Jamaica			X		
Japan			X	X	
Jordan		X	X		X
Kenya			X		
Laos					X
Libyan Arab Republic			X		X
Madagascar			X	X	
Malta			X		
Mexico	X		X		X
Morocco	X		X		
Netherlands		X	X	X	
New Zealand	X	X	X	X	
Nicaragua					X
Nigeria			X		
Norway		X	X		
Pakistan	X		X		X
Panama	X	X			X
Philippines	X	X	X	X	X
Poland	X				
Portugal		X	X		
Romania			X	X	
Sierra Leone			X		
Spain					X
Sweden	X		X	X	X
Thailand					X
Trinidad and Tobago			X		X

TABLE 6 (continued)

C. Diplomatic posts (continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Ambassador</u>	<u>Other high diplomatic posts</u>	<u>United Nations General Assembly</u>	<u>Specialized agencies and UNICEF</u>	<u>Other</u>
Tunisia		X			
Turkey				X	
Uganda			X		
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic			X	X	X
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	X	X	X		X
United States of America	X	X	X	X	
Uruguay		X			X
Venezuela	X		X		
Yugoslavia	X	X	X		X