



**Convention on the Elimination
of All Forms of Discrimination
against Women**

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**Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination
against Women**
Thirty-fourth session
16 January-3 February 2006

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Dubravka Šimonović

II. Organizational and other matters

**A. States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All
Forms of Discrimination against Women and to the
Optional Protocol**

1. As at 3 February 2006, the closing date of the thirty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, there were ___ States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979 and opened for signature, ratification and accession in New York in March 1980. In accordance with article 27, the Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981. ___ States parties had accepted the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention concerning the Committee's meeting time.

2. On the same date, there were ___ States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999 and opened for signature, ratification and accession in New York on 10 December 1999. In accordance with article 16, the Optional Protocol entered into force on 22 December 2000.

3. A list of States parties to the Convention is contained in annex ___ to the present report. A list of States parties that have accepted the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, concerning the Committee's meeting time is contained in annex ___. A list of States parties that have signed, ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention is contained in annex ___.

B. Opening of the session

4. The Committee held its thirty-fourth session at United Nations Headquarters from 16 January to 3 February 2006. The Committee held ___ plenary meetings (702nd to ___) and held ___ meetings to discuss agenda items 4, 5, 6 and 7. A list of the documents before the Committee is contained in section ___ of annex ___ to the present report.

5. The session was opened by the Committee's Chairperson, Rosario Manalo.

6. The Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, Rachel Mayanja, and the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women, Carolyn Hannan, addressed the Committee at its 702nd meeting.

C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

7. The Committee considered the provisional agenda (CEDAW/C/2006/I/1 and Corr.1) at its 702nd meeting. The agenda was adopted as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
 3. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions of the Committee.
 4. Consideration of the reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
 5. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
 6. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee.
 7. Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
 8. Provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session.
 9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-fourth session.
8. Statements were made by Krisztina Morvai, Meriem Melmihoub-Zerdani and Hanna Beate Schoepp-Schilling.

D. Report of the pre-session working group

9. At the 702nd meeting, Victoria Popescu introduced the report of the pre-session working group. The pre-session working group for the thirty-fourth session of the Committee met from 25 to 29 July 2005.

10. The following members, representing different regional groups, participated in the working group: Mary Shanthi Dairiam, Magalys Arocha Domínguez, Françoise Gaspard, Pramila Patten and Victoria Popescu Sandru. The pre-session working group elected Ms. Popescu Sandru as its Chairperson.

11. The working group prepared lists of issues and questions relating to the reports of the following States parties: Australia, Cambodia, Eritrea, Mali, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (see CEDAW/PSWG/2006/I/CRP.1, CEDAW/C/AUL/Q/4-5; CEDAW/C/KHM/Q/1-3; CEDAW/C/ERI/Q/1-3; CEDAW/C/MLI/Q/2-5; CEDAW/C/THA/Q/4-5; CEDAW/C/MCD/Q/1-3; CEDAW/C/TGO/Q/1-5; and CEDAW/C/VEN/Q/4-6).

E. Organization of work

12. At the 702nd meeting, the Chief of the Women's Rights Section, Christine Brautigam, Division for the Advancement of Women, introduced item 5, implementation of article 21 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2006/I/3 and Add.1, 3 and 4), and item 6, ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee (CEDAW/C/2006/I/4).

13. On 16 January 2006, the Committee held a closed meeting with representatives of specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations in which country-specific information was provided as well as information on the efforts made by the body or entity concerned to promote the provisions of the Convention at the national and regional levels through its own policies and programmes.

14. On 16 and 23 January, the Committee held informal public meetings with representatives of non-governmental organizations who provided information about the implementation of the Convention in States reporting at the thirty-fourth session, namely Australia, Cambodia, Mali, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

F. Membership of the Committee

15. All members except Tiziana Maiolo attended the session. A list of members of the Committee, indicating the duration of their terms of office, is contained in annex ___ to the report.

III. Report of the Chairperson on the activities undertaken between the thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions

16. At the 702nd meeting, the Chairperson reported on her activities undertaken since the thirty-third session. She highlighted her participation in the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, where she had addressed the Third Committee on 11 October under items 64 and 65.
