



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

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**Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination
against Women**

Forty-second session

20 October-7 November 2008

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the forty-first and forty-second sessions of the Committee.
4. Consideration of 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 forty-third session of the Committee.
9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session.

Annotations

Item 1

Opening of the session

The forty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will be opened by the Chairperson of the Committee.

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Rule 9 of the rules of procedure provides that the first substantive item on the provisional agenda for any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. Rule 7 provides that the provisional agenda for each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairperson, in conformity with the relevant provisions of articles 17 to 22 of the Convention.

At its forty-first session, the Committee approved the provisional agenda for its forty-second session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (CEDAW/C/2008/III/1)

Item 3

Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the forty-first and forty-second sessions of the Committee

Under item 3, the Chairperson will brief the Committee on activities undertaken between the forty-first and forty-second sessions that had a bearing on the work of the Committee.

Item 4

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 18 of the Convention provides that States parties to the Convention shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and other progress made in that respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year of entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned and thereafter at least every four years and further, whenever the Committee requests.

On the basis of the authorization provided by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/218, at its forty-second session the Committee will meet in parallel chambers to consider the periodic reports of 12 States parties. The Committee will also consider the initial and second periodic reports of one State party in plenary.

At its thirty-seventh session, the Committee agreed on the need for basic and consistent criteria for determining membership in the chambers while recognizing the need for some flexibility to make adjustments in the composition of the two chambers, as may be necessary. Those criteria include fair geographical balance of experts between the two chambers; length of experience of experts on the

Committee; assignment of experts who are nationals of a reporting State to the chamber that is not considering the report from that State party; assignment of office holders of the Committee to each chamber; and geographical balance, to the extent possible, of States whose reports are to be taken up in each chamber. Taking those criteria into account, the Committee agreed to decide on the membership in the chambers based on a proposal to be submitted by its Bureau for action by the Committee in advance of each session.

At its forty-first session, the Committee established the composition of the parallel chambers for the forty-second session (see annex II).

At its forty-second session, the Committee will have before it the following reports: the combined initial and second periodic reports of Bahrain (CEDAW/C/BHR/2); the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Belgium (CEDAW/C/BEL/6); the combined second and third periodic reports of Cameroon (CEDAW/C/CMR/3); the combined sixth and seventh periodic reports of Canada (CEDAW/C/CAN/7); the seventh periodic report of Ecuador (CEDAW/C/ECU/7); the seventh periodic report of El Salvador (CEDAW/C/SVL/7); the third periodic report of Kyrgyzstan (CEDAW/C/KGZ/3); the combined second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports of Madagascar (CEDAW/C/MDG/5); the combined fifth, sixth and seventh periodic reports of Mongolia (CEDAW/C/MNG/7); the combined second and third periodic reports of Myanmar (CEDAW/C/MMR/3); the sixth and seventh periodic reports of Portugal (CEDAW/C/PRT/6) and (CEDAW/C/PRT/7); the fourth periodic report of Slovenia (CEDAW/C/SVN/4) and the combined fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh periodic reports of Uruguay (CEDAW/C/URY/7).

Rule 51 of the rules of procedure provides that representatives of a State party shall be present at meetings of the Committee when the report of that State is being examined and shall participate in discussions and answer questions concerning the report. The Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its forty-second session.

Rule 49 of the rules of procedure provides that, at each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of the non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention. The Secretary-General also provides the Committee with a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention, as well as a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention that have not yet been considered by the Committee. At its forty-second session, the Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the status of submission of reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2008/III/2).

A pre-session working group of the Committee is convened before each session to prepare a list of issues and questions relating to reports for transmission to the States parties before the meetings at which their reports are to be considered. The pre-session working group for the forty-second session met from 4 to 8 February 2008. The report of the pre-session working group and the responses of States parties to the lists of issues and questions drawn up by the pre-session working group will be before the Committee, and will be presented by the Chairperson of the working group.

Documentation

Combined initial and second periodic reports of Bahrain (CEDAW/C/BHR/2 and Add.1)

Combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Belgium (CEDAW/C/BEL/6)

Combined second and third periodic reports of Cameroon (CEDAW/C/CMR/3)

Combined sixth and seventh periodic reports of Canada (CEDAW/C/CAN/7)

Combined sixth and seventh periodic reports of Ecuador (CEDAW/C/ECU/7)

Seventh periodic report of El Salvador (CEDAW/C/SVL/7)

Third periodic report of Kyrgyzstan (CEDAW/C/KGZ/3)

Combined second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports of Madagascar (CEDAW/C/MDG/5)

Combined fifth, sixth and seventh periodic reports of Mongolia (CEDAW/C/MNG/7)

Combined second and third periodic reports of Myanmar (CEDAW/C/MMR/3)

Sixth and seventh periodic reports of Portugal (CEDAW/C/PRT/6) and (CEDAW/C/PRT/7)

Fourth periodic report of Slovenia (CEDAW/C/SVN/4)

Combined fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh periodic reports of Uruguay (CEDAW/C/URY/7)

Report of the pre-session working group (CEDAW/PSWG/2008/II/CRP.1)

Lists of issues and questions

Bahrain (CEDAW/C/BHR/Q/2)

Belgium (CEDAW/C/BEL/Q/6)

Cameroon (CEDAW/C/CMR/Q/3)

Canada (CEDAW/C/CAN/Q/7)

Ecuador (CEDAW/C/ECU/Q/7)

El Salvador (CEDAW/C/SVL/Q/7)

Kyrgyzstan (CEDAW/C/KGZ/Q/3)

Madagascar (CEDAW/C/MDG/Q/5)

Mongolia (CEDAW/C/MNG/Q/7)

Myanmar (CEDAW/C/MMR/Q/3)

Portugal (CEDAW/C/PRT/Q/7)

Slovenia (CEDAW/C/SVN/Q/4)

Uruguay (CEDAW/C/URY/Q/7)

Responses to the lists of issues and questions

Bahrain (CEDAW/C/BHR/Q/2/Add.1)
Belgium (CEDAW/C/BEL/Q/6/Add.1)
Cameroon (CEDAW/C/CMR/Q/3/Add.1)
Canada (CEDAW/C/CAN/Q/7/Add.1)
Ecuador (CEDAW/C/ECU/Q/7/Add.1)
El Salvador (CEDAW/C/SVL/Q/7/Add.1)
Kyrgyzstan (CEDAW/C/KGZ/Q/3/Add.1)
Madagascar (CEDAW/C/MDG/Q/5/Add.1)
Mongolia (CEDAW/C/MNG/Q/7/Add.1)
Myanmar (CEDAW/C/MMR/Q/3/Add.1)
Portugal (CEDAW/C/PRT/Q/7/Add.1)
Slovenia (CEDAW/C/SVN/Q/4/Add.1)
Uruguay (CEDAW/C/URY/Q/7/Add.1)

Item 5**Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

Article 21 of the Convention provides that the Committee may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from States parties. It also provides that such suggestions and general recommendations shall be included in the report of the Committee, together with comments, if any, from States parties.

The Chairpersons of the working groups on a general recommendation on migrant women and a general recommendation on article 2 will brief the Committee on progress achieved.

Article 22 of the Convention provides that the specialized agencies shall be entitled to be represented during the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the Convention as fall within the scope of their activities and that the Committee may invite them to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in those areas. At its forty-second session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on reports of specialized agencies on that subject (CEDAW/C/2008/III/3 and Add.1-4).

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on reports provided by the specialized agencies of the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities (CEDAW/C/2008/III/3)

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (CEDAW/C/2008/III/3/Add.1)

Report of the International Labour Organization (CEDAW/C/2008/III/3/Add.2)

Item 6

Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

Before each session, the Secretariat prepares a pre-session report on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee, containing information provided by the Secretariat, comments made by members of the Committee or information on developments elsewhere in the human rights regime (CEDAW/C/2008/III/4).

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat (CEDAW/C/2008/III/4)

Item 7

Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Following the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in December 2000, the Committee established the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol. At its thirty-seventh session, the Committee appointed five members to serve on the Working Group for a two-year term until 31 December 2008.

At its forty-second session, the Committee will continue to implement its mandate under articles 2 and 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention.

Item 8

Provisional agenda for the forty-third session of the Committee

The draft provisional agenda for the following session of the Committee is approved at the end of each session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the forty-third session of the Committee

Item 9

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session

Annex I**Proposed organization of work**

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
Monday, 20 October 2008		
851st meeting		
10-11 a.m.	1	Opening of the session
	2	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	3	Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the forty-first and forty-second sessions of the Committee
	4	Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: report of the pre-session working group
	5	Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: introductory statement
	6	Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee: introductory statement
11 a.m.-1 p.m.		Informal meeting with the United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies (<i>closed</i>)
3-4.15 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations
4.15-5.15 p.m.		Informal meeting with national human rights institutions
5.15-6 p.m.	5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Tuesday, 21 October 2008		
852nd meeting		
Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention		
Chamber A		
Belgium, combined fifth and sixth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/BEL/6)		
10-10.30 a.m.	4	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
Chamber B		
Cameroon, combined second and third periodic reports (CEDAW/C/CMR/3)		
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
853rd meeting		
Chamber A		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Belgium (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Chamber B		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Cameroon (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Wednesday, 22 October 2008		
854th meeting		
Chamber A		
		Canada, combined sixth and seventh periodic reports (CEDAW/C/CAN/7)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
Chamber B		
		Ecuador, combined sixth and seventh periodic reports (CEDAW/C/ECU/7)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
855th meeting		
Chamber A		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Canada (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Chamber B		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Ecuador (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
Thursday, 23 October 2008		
856th meeting		
Chamber A		
		Uruguay, seventh periodic report (CEDAW/C/URY/7)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
Chamber B		
		Kyrgyzstan, third periodic report (CEDAW/C/KGZ/3)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
857th meeting		
Chamber A		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Uruguay (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Chamber B		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Kyrgyzstan (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Friday, 24 October 2008		
858th meeting		
Chamber A		
		Slovenia, fourth periodic report (CEDAW/C/SVN/4)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
Chamber B		
		Mongolia, combined fifth, sixth and seventh periodic reports (CEDAW/C/MNG/7)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
859th meeting		
Chamber A		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Slovenia (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Chamber B		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Mongolia (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Monday, 27 October 2008		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	7	Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol (<i>closed</i>)
3-4.15 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations
4.15-5.15 p.m.		Informal meeting with national human rights institutions
5.15-6 p.m.	5, 6 and 7 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Tuesday, 28 October 2008		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
3-6 p.m.	5, 6 and 7 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Wednesday, 29 October 2008		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
3-6 p.m.	5, 6 and 7 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Thursday, 30 October 2008		
860th meeting		
		Bahrain, combined initial and second periodic reports (CEDAW/C/BHR/2)
10-10.30 a.m.	4	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
861st meeting		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Bahrain (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Friday, 31 October 2008		
862nd meeting		
Chamber A		El Salvador, seventh periodic report (CEDAW/C/SLV/7)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
Chamber B		Madagascar, combined second to fifth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/MDG/5)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
863rd meeting		
Chamber A		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	El Salvador (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Chamber B		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Madagascar (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Monday, 3 November 2008		
864th meeting		
Chamber A		Myanmar, combined second and third periodic reports (CEDAW/C/MMR/3)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
Chamber B		
		Portugal, combined sixth and seventh periodic reports (CEDAW/C/PRT/7)
10-10.30 a.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
865th meeting		
Chamber A		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Myanmar (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Chamber B		
3-5 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Portugal (<i>continued</i>)
5-6 p.m.	4 (<i>continued</i>)	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Tuesday, 4 November 2008		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4, 5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
3-6 p.m.	4, 5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Wednesday, 5 November 2008		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4, 5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
3-6 p.m.	4, 5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Thursday, 6 November 2008		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4, 5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
3-6 p.m.	4, 5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)
Friday, 7 November 2008		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4, 5, 6 and 7	Working Group of the Whole (<i>closed</i>)

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation/programme</i>
3-4 p.m.	4, 5, 6 and 7	Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole (closed)
866th meeting		
4-6 p.m.	8	Provisional agenda for the forty-third session
	9	Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session

Annex II

Overview of the proposed programme of work of the forty-second session and composition of chambers

<i>Date</i>	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Chamber A</i>	<i>Chamber B</i>
		Magalys Arocha Dominguez	Ferdous Ara Begum
		Siasuree Chutikul	Meriem Belmihoub-Zerdani
		Dorcas Ama Frema Coker-Appiah	Mary Shanti Dairiam
		Cornelis Flinterman	Náela Gabr Mohamed Gabre Ali
		Ruth Halperin-Kaddari	Françoise Gaspard
		Heisoo Shin	Yoko Hayashi
		Glenda Simms	Tiziana Maiolo
		Dubravka Šimonović	Violeta Neubauer
		Anamah Tan	Pramila Patten
		Maria Regina Tavares da Silva	Silvia Pimentel
		Zou Xiaoqiao	Hanna Beate Schöpp-Schilling
20 October 851st meeting	Opening; meetings with United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations		
21 October 852nd and 853rd meetings		Belgium	Cameroon
22 October 854th and 855th meetings		Canada	Ecuador
23 October 856th and 857th meetings		Uruguay	Kyrgyzstan
24 October 858th and 859th meetings		Slovenia	Mongolia

<i>Date</i>	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Chamber A</i>	<i>Chamber B</i>
27 October	Meetings under the Optional Protocol, with non-governmental organizations and other items		
28 October	Working Group of the Whole		
29 October	Working Group of the Whole		
30 October 860th and 861st meetings	Bahrain		
31 October 862nd and 863rd meetings		El Salvador	Madagascar
3 November 864th and 865th meetings		Myanmar	Portugal
4 November	Working Group of the Whole		
5 November	Working Group of the Whole		
6 November	Working Group of the Whole		
7 November 866th meeting	Closure of session (p.m.)		