



**Economic and Social
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COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Pre-sessional working group
Geneva, 26 May 2009

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS**

List of issues to be taken up in connection with the consideration of the third and fourth reports of ALGERIA concerning the rights covered by articles 1 to 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/DZA/4)

**I. GENERAL FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THE COVENANT IS
IMPLEMENTED**

1. What indicators and benchmarks has the State Party adopted to assess the achievements made with regard to the rights recognized by the Covenant?
2. Please provide information on measures taken by the State Party to increase awareness of the provisions of the Covenant among the public at large and, in particular, among judges, teachers, police officers and other public authorities.
3. Since its establishment in April 2002, please provide information on the major attainments of the Consultative Commission on the Promotion and the Protection of Human Rights, especially regarding its defined roadmap. Please indicate how many annual reports on the work of the Commission have been published, to whom they have been distributed, and additional channels for information sharing used by the Commission (e.g., web page with data on the number of visits). Please provide a diagnostic in terms of the challenges, freedoms, and awareness-raising programs carried out so far.

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4. Please provide more information on the impact of natural resource extraction on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights of the population and, in particular, how the State Party ensures that revenues gained from the exploitation of natural resources, such as oil and gas, are used to promote the realization of the rights of the population at large. What are the measures taken to ensure that the communities in which extraction takes place receive a fair share of these revenues?
5. Please indicate whether the State Party considers signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol on ICESCR.

II. ISSUES RELATING TO THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE COVENANT (ARTS. 1-5)

Article 2(1)

6. Please explain to what extent the State Party takes into account its obligations vis-à-vis the Covenant when it carries out trade, investment or economic agreements as well as negotiations with international financial institutions. Please indicate the impact of these agreements on environmental protection and on the overall enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights of the population.
7. Please indicate concrete results of the anti-corruption bill adopted in 2006 and indicate what is preventing the national anti-corruption body under the direction of the presidency from being established.
8. Please provide updated information on the results of the State Party's program of rural rehabilitation agreed in 2004 and launched in 2005 to encourage the return of internally displaced persons.

Article 2(2)

9. Please explain what concrete measures have been taken to effectively provide greater recognition of the identity and cultural pluralism of the Berber populations.
10. Please comment on allegations that certain categories of asylum seekers, including persons with refugee status do not have access to asylum procedures and risk being detained as undocumented migrants and are consequently forced to leave the country.
11. Please provide detailed and updated information on the situation of internally displaced persons and the special measures taken by the State Party to protect their economic, social and cultural rights.

Article 3

12. Please indicate how the State Party is carrying out awareness-raising campaigns aimed at the elimination of stereotypes associated with the traditional roles of men and women in the family and in society.

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13. Please indicate the specific measures adopted to increase women's participation in public and political life, including the number and percentage of women who have been appointed to the judiciary and to the public service.

14. In light of information provided by the State Party, what are the human and financial resources allocated to remedy the problem of illiteracy, especially among Algerian females living in rural areas.

15. Please provide additional information on the status of women in the State Party with regard to marriage and divorce, polygamy, and offenses related to domestic violence including marital rape.

16. In light of the advances made towards equality under the law, such as successfully establishing the equality of men and women under the Nationality Code please comment on allegations that in family matters and access to property women still face discrimination- in particular regarding inheritance, ownership and housing.

17. Please provide accurate information on how the State Party's efforts for the advancement of women have been formalized and have contributed to strengthening gender equality. Please also indicate which agencies are mandated to work towards this goal and the financial and human resources allocated to them.

Article 4 and 5

18. Please indicate which rights are still subject to derogation under the state of emergency in place since 1992 and the specific grounds for such derogation.

**III. ISSUES RELATING TO THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS
OF THE COVENANT (ARTS. 6-15)**

Article 6

19. Please provide detailed and updated information on the unemployment rate disaggregated by age group and sex, and especially, unemployment among those under 30 years old. Further, please provide additional information on the progress achieved and challenges encountered in the implementation of the national strategy against unemployment started since the early 2000, in particular to increase employment opportunities for young adults and women. Please also provide information on the technical and vocational courses offered with a view to reducing unemployment.

20. Please provide detailed statistical data on the number of persons with disabilities in fulltime and part-time employment.

21. Please provide information on work in the informal economy of the State Party, including its extent and the measures taken to enable workers to move out of the informal economy.

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Article 7

22. Please indicate how the minimum wage is determined and the basis to determine whether it is sufficient to provide workers and their families with an adequate standard of living. Please also indicate the measures taken by the State Party to periodically increase the minimum wage.

23. Please indicate the steps that have been taken in practice to implement article 341 bis of the Penal Code (Amendment of 10 November 2004) to ensure protection against sexual harassment in the work place. Please also provide information on the steps being taken to address the problem of “moral harassment” in the work place.

Article 8

24. Please provide information on the underlying reasons and outcome of the protests and strikes that have taken place since 2005 and also explain in which cases and under which circumstances the right to strike is restricted.

25. Please indicate what measures the State Party has taken to guarantee greater autonomy for trade unions and their members. Please comment on allegations that workers’ rights are respected in law but hindered in practice by administrative delays.

Article 9

26. Please provide further information on unemployment insurance and information about workers benefiting from it.

Article 10

27. Please indicate in detail the steps that the State Party has taken to incorporate specific provisions in national legislation which criminalize and punish domestic violence, including marital rape. Please provide follow-up and updated information on the national centers for girls and women shelters available for victims of domestic violence or in a situation of distress created under Executive Decree No. 04-182.

28. Please provide information on coordination among the various government departments in relation to domestic violence and the human and financial resources allocated to combating it. In this regard, please also provide further information on mandatory training of police, prosecutors and judges, and legal remedies available to victims.

29. Please supply statistical data on battered or abused women, women or children expelled from their homes as a result of domestic violence, including cases of sexual, verbal, and physical violence.

Article 11

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30. Please provide the most recent statistics on the incidence of poverty throughout the country disaggregated according to sex, age group, minorities, urban and rural areas.
31. Please indicate what measures have been taken or are envisaged to improve the housing conditions of internally displaced persons who have lost their homes due to the various natural disasters, including the earthquake of 2003 which particularly affected five Northern provinces.
32. Please provide concrete information on the number of individuals and families dwelling in slums without adequate housing and access to potable water and sanitation services. Please also provide specific information on forced evictions and homelessness in the State Party.
33. Please indicate the measures taken to address the nutrition situation of children under five years old. Please explain the initiatives to raise awareness on the importance of breastfeeding in preventing infant malnutrition.

Article 12

34. Please provide information on the measures taken to guarantee that, as stipulated in the national health policy, sub-Saharan immigrants have access to public health in practice, without fearing arrest or deportation.
35. Please provide updated information on the public programs and policies to address the lack of access to potable water and sanitation, particularly in rural areas.
36. Please provide information on the results of the reforms to address the challenges in health services in the State Party. In particular, please indicate the impact of these reforms on rural areas.
37. Please indicate the achievements of the State Party's strategy to combat HIV/AIDS and the prevention efforts targeted at young people, vulnerable groups and most-at-risk populations such as women in reproductive age. What measures are being taken to ensure coordination among relevant partners?

Articles 13 and 14

38. Please provide updated information on the results of education in the Amazigh language indicating the percentage of Berber students that benefit from it. Please indicate whether teaching of Amazigh history and civilization is also included.
39. Please indicate the effective measures in place to address the quality of education in the State Party and the different challenges including student to teacher ratios, inadequate teacher training, and infrastructure gaps.
40. Please provide further information on the measures that are being taken to address the high rates of school dropout, in particular in the most communities and regions.

Article 15

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41. Please provide information on the institutional infrastructure to promote popular participation and access to cultural life, especially at the community level throughout the State party.
42. Please provide additional information on the steps taken towards the recognition of the Amazigh language as an official language.
43. Please provide updated information on the access to print and broadcast media for the Amazigh culture. Please also provide updated information on the creation of broadcast channels in Amazigh language.
