

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Seventy-second session
18 February- 7 March 2008

QUESTIONS PUT BY THE RAPPORTEUR IN CONNECTION WITH THE
CONSIDERATION OF
THE FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH PERIODIC REPORTS OF
ITALY

(CERD/C/ITA/15)

Composition of the population

1. Please provide detailed updated statistical data, if any, regarding the ethnic characteristics of the population and the socio-economic status of members of the various national or ethnic minorities in the State party, in particular of the Roma and Sinti.

Article 1 and 2

2. Please provide information on developments, if any, with regard to the inclusion of Roma and Sinti within the scope of the law on the protection of minorities.
3. Please indicate whether the draft bill mentioned in the State party report “to regulate the presence and the situation of Roma population in Italy” has been adopted. If so, please provide detailed information on the content of this bill (State party report, para.176).
4. Please comment on reports according to which expulsions of Roma and other Romanians as well as forced evictions and police abuse against these persons have recently taken place following the adoption of the emergency decree adopted on 1 November 2007. Please indicate the measures taken, if any, to investigate and put an end to such incidents.
5. Please inform the Committee on any developments regarding the establishment of an independent national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles.

Article 3

6. It is reported that “Roma and Sinti are still considered as nomadic populations in official policy with approximately one third of them, both citizens and non-citizens, living in conditions of practical segregation from the rest of the society in camps for nomads, in many cases without access to the most basic facilities.” Please indicate whether the State party has taken any measures to put an end to such situation.
7. Please indicate what measures are being taken to ensure that no racial segregation arises in schools in particular with regard to Romani children.

Article 4

8. It is reported that the Northern League has intensified the use of racist and xenophobic discourse in the political arena using as target essentially non-EU immigrants but also other members of minority groups, such as Roma or Sinti. Please indicate what measures the State party has taken to eradicate such practices.
9. Please provide further information, as requested in the previous concluding observations (para. 313), on the policy towards the perpetrators of racially motivated violence during football matches, including the implementation of the code of justice in sports following its amendment in September 2006.

Article 5

10. Please further elaborate on “the bill submitted by the Council of Ministers to the Parliament, in which legal or illegal migrants who had been victims of abuse and exploitation in the agricultural and construction sectors would be granted a special stay permit on the same terms as victims of trafficking”. Please also provide further information on the establishment of a “commission to identify actions to fight violence and exploitation of foreign workers”.
11. Please comment on reports regarding the situation of undocumented migrant workers- in particular from African and Eastern Europe- in the province of Foggia in Apulia, drawing attention to violations of their human rights in particular of their economic and social rights (reports referring to ill treatment, low wages received with considerable delay, long working hours and

situation of "bonded" labour in which part of the wages are withheld by employers as payment for accommodation in overcrowded lodgings without electricity or running water).

12. Please indicate the measures taken to ensure political participation of Roma and Sinti, both as candidates and voters in elections.
13. Please comment on reports according to which decisions on applications for naturalisation, notably on the basis of residence, are excessively restrictive and discretionary and often characterized by a lack of transparency as for the reasons for rejection.
14. Please provide more detailed information on the "Protocol of Agreement between UNAR and national labour organizations and associations of employers in order to adopt measures against racial discrimination at work". Please also provide information on the outcome of the implementation of the pilot project referred to in the State party report (para. 327).
15. Please comment on reports according to which "unaccompanied minors from Central Africa to whom asylum was denied live in shacks or abandoned buildings in extremely unsanitary conditions".
16. Please comment on reports according to which forced evictions of Romanian Roma as well as the destruction by public authorities of a number of Romanian Roman settlements have recently taken place.
17. Please provide further information on measures taken to ensure that Romani children, whether citizens or non-citizens, enjoy the right to education in the State party on an equal basis with other children (State party report, para.177).

Article 6

18. Please indicate which remedies, including just and adequate reparation or compensation, are available for victims of racial discrimination. Please provide examples, if any.
19. Please provide statistical data on cases considered by UNAR including informal conciliatory actions as well as their outcome (State party report, para.304)

Article 7

20. Please provide detailed information on the training programmes and courses available for members of the law enforcement officials, teachers, and social workers and in particular members of the judiciary on the provisions of the Convention and their application.
21. Please provide updated information, in addition to that provided in the report, on the assessment of the activities of the National Monitoring Centre of Sports Event designed to combat racial discrimination in football matches (previous concluding observations, para. 313 and State party report, para.432).

Other issues

22. Does the State party envisage ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families?
