



**International covenant
on civil and
political rights**

Distr.
GENERAL

CCPR/C/SWE/Q/6
25 August 2008

Original: ENGLISH

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Ninety-third session
Geneva, 7-25 July 2008

**LIST OF ISSUES TO BE TAKEN UP IN CONNECTION WITH THE
CONSIDERATION OF THE SIXTH PERIODIC REPORT OF SWEDEN
(CCPR/C/SWE/6)**

**Constitutional and legal framework within which the Covenant and
the Optional Protocol are implemented**

1. Does the State party contemplate withdrawing its reservations concerning article 10 paragraph 3, article 14, paragraph 7, and article 20, paragraph 1, of the Covenant?
2. Please provide examples of cases in which the Covenant has been applied or used as an aid to interpret domestic law by Swedish courts (see the Committee's previous concluding observations (CCPR/CO/74/SWE), para. 6; State party report (CCPR/C/SWE/6), paras. 24-26; common core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.4/Rev.1), para. 81-82).
3. Please provide updated information, supplementary to the submission of 14 March 2007, on the implementation of the Committee's Views on communication No. 1416/2005 (*Alzery v. Sweden*), in particular, the recommendations regarding remedies.
4. Does the State party intend to establish a unified national human rights institution under the Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (General Assembly resolution 48/134)?

Counter-terrorism measures and respect of guarantees contained in the Covenant

5. Please give an account of administrative or judicial cases in which the measures on counter-terrorism adopted at the national level pursuant to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) have been applied. Please also provide more detailed information on the review process of draft legislation by the Council on Legislation, in particular whether it systematically assesses the compatibility of draft legislation with all international human rights obligations of the State party, including the Covenant (previous concluding observations, para. 12(a)).

**Non-discrimination, equal rights of women and men,
rights of children, and equality before the law
(arts. 2, 3, 7, 24 and 26)**

6. What is the current status of the strategy on gender mainstreaming in the labour market and business sector? Please provide information on measures taken to increase the low percentage of women in high-ranking posts, especially in higher education institutions, the higher echelons of judicial service, and in the private sector (State party report, paras.31-33).
7. Please address the legal framework to put an end to violence against women, in particular domestic violence. Please also provide further details on the national action plan on violence against women (State party report, para. 36). How have the obstacles to effective enforcement been addressed? (previous concluding observations, para. 7; State party report, paras. 37, 41)? Has the review by an “inquiry chair” of such legislation been completed, or yielded interim results? (State party report, paras. 45-46). Does the State party intend to increase funding of shelters for victims of domestic violence run by non-governmental organizations and volunteers?
8. Please assess the steps taken and their efficacy in combating honour killings. Please also provide information on the results of the national action plan against female genital mutilation (previous concluding observations, para. 8; State party report, paras. 51-53).
9. How does the State party ensure that legal provisions to combat early marriages among girls of non-Swedish nationality resident within Sweden are enforced in practice (previous concluding observations, para. 9; State party report, paras. 155-156)?
10. Has the State party put in place awareness-raising programmes to inform persons with disabilities about their rights and how to claim them and if so, has the impact of these programmes been evaluated?
11. How does the State party intend to address the practical difficulty posed to the freedom of movement and change of residence for persons with disabilities due to the discretion exercised by municipalities in providing aid and the physical inaccessibility of many housing units?
12. Why has the employment for persons with disabilities decreased from 69 to 52 per cent?
13. What measures have been implemented by the State party to ensure the protection of persons with disabilities from assaults and other crimes within institutions and sheltered housing?
14. Has the State party considered a mandatory reporting system to monitor the use of electroshock therapy within psychiatric institutions to ensure that this technique is used only in voluntary circumstances?
15. Please indicate whether the measures adopted to prevent the disappearance of children from the special units of the Migration Board, established for asylum-seeking children without custodians, have been successful.

16. Please indicate what measures have been taken by the State party in the field of education with a view to inculcating a culture of tolerance.

**Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment,
prohibition of slavery, security of the person and the right not to be subjected
to arbitrary detention, conditions of detention, expulsion of aliens and right to a fair trial
(arts. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14)**

17. When does a person held in detention obtain access to a lawyer and an interpreter (see previous concluding observations, para. 11; State party report, paras. 119-124, 127-129)? How does the State party plan to ensure that a detainee is able to notify his immediate relatives or other responsible persons concerning his arrest?

18. How does the State party intend to assure that all persons deprived of liberty have effective access to a doctor for necessary medical treatment? What steps have been taken to improve other conditions of detention, including prevention of violence among prisoners and ensuring drug-free prisons?

19. Has the State party undertaken any measurement of the impact of its human rights training for police officers and prison officials in reducing the use of force against suspects and prisoners? What other measures have been undertaken to address the problem?

20. Please provide information on the investigation and prosecution of alleged cases of excessive use of force by police and prison officials, in particular regarding persons in custody and regarding police activities during the Gothenburg summit (previous concluding observations, para. 10; State party report, paras. 62-63). Will the State party take the remedial step of establishing an independent authority for investigations of complaints against members of the police force, regardless of the recommendation of the inquiry chair against this remedial measure? (State party report, paras. 60-61)?

21. What mechanisms are put in place to ensure that the State party's reliance on diplomatic assurances fully meets its obligations under the Covenant to avoid mistreatment of persons expelled from the State party for security reasons?

22. Are the accelerated procedures under the 2006 Aliens Act considered to be compatible with articles 13 and 14 of the Covenant (State party report, paras. 105-110)? In proceedings of the Migration Courts, how is confidential information protected? How often are applicants' requests for closed hearings in fact denied? Please address reports that information used in expulsion decisions is not always accessible to the individuals concerned, allegedly due to the involvement of the Swedish Security Service.

**Right to privacy and family, freedom of religion, freedom of thought
and expression, and prohibition of hate crimes
(arts. 17, 18, 19 and 20)**

23. Please provide information on proposed legislation on secret surveillance. In particular, what steps are being taken to protect the privacy and right to freedom of expression of all

persons, including persons of foreign origin, in relation to the counter-terrorism measures adopted by the State party (previous concluding observations, para. 12)?

24. Taking account of the activities of neo-Nazi organizations and the spread of so-called white power music, how does the State party intend to address activities that seek to intimidate minorities? Please also explain the low number of prosecutions compared with the number of reported incidents of hate speech (previous concluding observations, para. 14, State party report, paras. 21-22). If already available, please provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of the hate crime hotline established in 2007.

**Rights of persons belonging to minorities
(arts.1 and 27)**

25. Considering the fundamental role of municipal governments regarding the implementation of Sami rights, please indicate whether the State party has taken steps to ensure greater attention to Sami issues at the municipal level.

26. Please explain why only partial responsibility for the management of reindeer husbandry has been transferred to the Sami Parliament. Please indicate how this management is coordinated between the different authorities responsible (previous concluding observations, para. 15; State party report, paras. 6-8). Please explain why the Ministry of Agriculture is seen as the appropriate agency for Sami issues, including cultural or linguistic concerns, at the central level.

27. Please indicate whether the review of the reports of the Boundary Committee as well as the Committee to review hunting and fishing rights has been completed by the State party, and if so, please provide information as to whether the State party intends to adopt any follow-up measures. What is the current status of the draft Nordic Sami Convention (State party report, paras. 9-11)?

28. Please indicate how the State party plans to solve the problems concerning language rights of minorities, such as the limited legislative guarantees in relation to the use of minority languages before administrative authorities and courts, as well as the limited availability of minority language education in State schools.

**Dissemination of information relating to the Covenant and the Optional Protocol
(art.2)**

29. Please indicate what steps the State party has taken to disseminate information about the submission of its sixth periodic report, its examination by the Committee and the Committee's previous concluding observations on the fifth periodic report, including among language minorities and indigenous communities. Please also provide information about steps taken to raise public awareness of the Covenant and its Optional Protocol among judges, public officials, police and law enforcement officers, legal advisers and the public at large.
