



**COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN
34th SESSION, 16 January through 3 February 2006
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS**

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) will convene its 34th session in New York, USA, from 16 January through 3 February 2006. The Committee will examine the reports of the following eight States parties: *Australia, Cambodia, Eritrea, Mali, Thailand, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.*

CEDAW concluding comments

During its sessions the CEDAW Committee considers reports of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Following such consideration, the CEDAW Committee formulates its concluding comments that assist the State party in the further implementation of the Convention. These concluding comments outline positive aspects, principal subjects of concern and the Committee's suggestions and recommendations on how to address challenges faced by the State party. States parties' reports, concluding comments (once adopted), and other documentation is available online at:

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>

CEDAW Committee members

The CEDAW Committee consists of 23 members, serving in their personal capacity. In 2006 the members of the Committee are from Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, China, Croatia, Cuba, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Netherlands, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania and Singapore. For more information, please see:

www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/members.htm

Documentation

The reports of the eight States parties to be considered at the 34th session as well as the provisional agenda and other documents pertaining to the session are available online at: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/34sess.htm>. Sessions open to the public will be listed in the Daily Journal at:

www.un.org/Docs/journal/En/lateste.pdf.

NGO Participation:

Attending as observers

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) interested in attending the CEDAW session as observers are required to submit the names of their representatives, the full title of their NGO as well as the proposed dates of attendance to the Division for the Advancement of Women at changt@un.org no later than **7 January 2006**. The Division will facilitate obtaining United Nations grounds passes for attending representatives who do not already have grounds passes, but will not send letters of invitation to attend the CEDAW session. To receive the grounds pass, all applicants are required to appear in person at the Pass and Identification Unit, located at 801 United Nations Plaza (at the corner of 1st Avenue and East 45th Street). A valid national passport or government issued photo ID such as driver's license or state non-driver's ID bearing a photograph will be required of all applicants at the time of issuance. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mondays

through Thursdays (closed 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.) and 9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Fridays.

Presenting NGO reports

In addition to attending the CEDAW session as observers, the Committee welcomes country-specific information that may be submitted as alternative or shadow reports to the CEDAW members. Representatives from NGOs also have the option of orally presenting country-specific information during the informal meetings with CEDAW Committee members.

During the 34th session, NGOs will have the opportunity to address the CEDAW Committee on 16 January 2006 and on 23 January 2006. NGOs wishing to present information regarding *country reports being examined during the week of 16 January* will be able to address the CEDAW Committee on 16 January 2006 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Those representatives wishing to speak on *the remaining country reports* will be able to do so on 23 January 2006 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. NGO representatives interested in addressing the CEDAW Committee are requested to submit the names of their representatives, the names of the organizations they represent and on whose behalf they will speak to the Division for the Advancement of Women (changt@un.org) no later than ***10 January 2006***.

The NGOs can submit their alternative reports to the CEDAW Committee prior to or during the session. At the request of the CEDAW Committee, IWRAW Asia Pacific collects and sends alternative reports of NGOs to the CEDAW Committee members prior to the session. NGO reports could be sent to IWRAW Asia Pacific at the following address/email:

International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAW Asia Pacific)
Wisma Dicklin, 80-B, Jalan Bangsar, 5900 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Tel: (603) 2282 2255, Fax: (603) 2283 2552.

Website: www.iwraw-ap.org

Email: iwraw-ap@iwraw-ap.org

NGOs may also distribute copies of their alternative reports to the CEDAW Committee at the time of the session or provide at least 35 copies to the Secretariat for distribution.

For more information

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