



COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN
35th SESSION, 15 May to 2 June 2006
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) will convene its 35th session in New York, USA, *from 15 May to 2 June 2006.*

Countries reporting

The Committee will examine the reports of the following eight States parties: Bosnia & Herzegovina, Malaysia, Saint Lucia, Turkmenistan, Cyprus, Guatemala, Malawi, and Romania.

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 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 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 35th 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/35sess.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 8 **May 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 Friday (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.

A) Oral intervention

During the 35th session, NGOs will have the opportunity to address the CEDAW Committee on 15 May 2006 and on 22 May 2006. NGOs wishing to present information regarding *country reports being examined during the week of 15 May* will be able to address the CEDAW Committee on 15 May 2006 from

3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Those NGOs wishing to speak on *the remaining country reports* will be able to do so on 22 May 2006 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 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 May 2006**.

B) NGO reports

NGOs can submit their alternative reports to the CEDAW Committee prior to or during the session. At the request of the CEDAW Committee, IWRAP Asia Pacific collects and sends alternative reports of NGOs to the CEDAW Committee members prior to the session. NGO reports may be sent to IWRAP Asia Pacific at the following address/email: International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP Asia Pacific)
Wisma Dicklin, 80-B, Jalan Bangsar, 59200 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 40 copies to the Secretariat for distribution.

Information on future sessions

36th session

The CEDAW Committee will hold its 36th session from 7 to 25 August 2006, when it will consider the reports of the following 15 States parties: Cape Verde, China, Chile, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Georgia, Ghana, Jamaica, Mauritius, Mexico, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Uzbekistan.

37th and 38th sessions

The Committee's pre-session working group to prepare lists of issues and questions for States invited to present their reports at the 37th session in January 2007 (Austria, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Greece, India, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Peru, Poland, Singapore, Suriname and Tajikistan) and at the 38th session in May 2007 (Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, and Vanuatu – list to be completed) will meet from 31 July to 4 August 2006. NGOs have an opportunity to submit written information to the PSWG, and/or present oral information.

For more information

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