



United Nations

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

**Eighty-second session
(13 June–1 July 2022)**

**Eighty-third session
(10–28 October 2022)**

**Eighty-fourth session
(6–24 February 2023)**

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Supplement No. 38**



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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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Letter of transmittal

31 March 2023

I have the honour to refer to article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, according to which the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, established pursuant to the Convention, is to, through the Economic and Social Council, report annually to the General Assembly on its activities.

The Committee held its eighty-second session from 13 June to 1 July 2022, its eighty-third session from 10 to 28 October 2022 and its eighty-fourth session from 6 to 24 February 2023, at the United Nations Office at Geneva. It adopted its reports on the sessions at its 1908th meeting, on 1 July 2022, its 1938th meeting, on 28 October 2022, and its 1968th meeting, on 24 February 2023. The reports are herewith submitted for transmission to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

(Signed) Ana **Peláez Narváez**
Chair

Part One

**Report of the Committee on the Elimination of
Discrimination against Women on its eighty-second session**

13 June–1 July 2022

Chapter I

Decisions adopted by the Committee

Decision 82/I

On 30 June 2022, the Committee adopted a statement entitled “Access to safe and legal abortion: urgent call for United States to adhere to the women’s rights convention, UN committee”.¹

Decision 82/II

Recalling its decision 81/VI on the topics of its future general recommendations (“the equal participation of women in political and public decision-making” and “gender stereotypes”), the Committee decided to hold a half-day of general discussion on the equal participation of women in political and public decision-making at its eighty-fourth session, in February 2023, following the adoption of its general recommendation on the rights of Indigenous women and girls.

Decision 82/III

The Committee welcomed the conclusions of the thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies (New York, 30 May to 3 June 2022), in which the Chairs agreed on the need to operationalize the common position of the Chairs of 2019 and the recommendations of the co-facilitators of the 2020 treaty body review, based upon their wide consultations on the issues of the predictable schedule, harmonized working methods and the digital uplift. To strengthen the protection of rights holders and the treaty body system, the Committee decided to implement the conclusions with regard to its own working methods, in particular by establishing a predictable eight-year cycle for the full review of State party reports, with a follow-up review in between, and by introducing the simplified reporting procedure as the default procedure for the consideration of State party reports (with an opt-out option for States parties that wish to be reviewed under the traditional procedure). It also decided that these changes would be implemented in line with similar changes made by other treaty bodies.

Decision 82/IV

The Committee recalled its methods of work in cooperating with national bodies with a mandate to work on women’s rights and gender equality other than national human rights institutions. It noted that such bodies may include ombudspersons, gender equality commissions or national women’s commissions. It welcomed the contribution of such bodies to its work through written submissions in relation to the review of State party reports, draft general recommendations, confidential inquiries or individual communications and any other areas of work of the Committee. The Committee decided that such bodies may also provide oral briefings prior to the review of State party reports and that it would decide on the adequate time to be allocated to such briefings on a case-by-case basis.

Decision 82/V

The Committee decided to create an alumni forum to be administered by its members and former members, without Secretariat resources.

¹ Available at www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/07/access-safe-and-legal-abortion-urgent-call-united-states-adhere-womens-rights.

Decision 82/VI

The Committee confirmed the members of the pre-sessional working group for the eighty-fourth session: Rosario G. Manalo, Lia Nadaraia, Ana Peláez Narváez, Rhoda Reddock and Franceline Toé-Bouda.

Chapter II

Organizational and other matters

A. States parties to the Convention and to the Optional Protocol

1. As at 1 July 2022, the closing date of the eighty-second session of the Committee, there were 189 States parties to the Convention. In addition, 80 States parties had accepted the amendment to article 20 (1) of the Convention concerning the meeting time of the Committee. A total of 126 States parties to the Convention are currently required to accept the amendment in order to bring it into force.

2. As at the same date, there were 115 States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention.

B. Opening of the session

3. The Committee held its eighty-second session in Geneva from 13 June to 1 July 2022. The Committee held 21 plenary meetings and nine meetings to discuss agenda items 5 to 8. A list of the documents before the Committee is contained in the annex to part one of the present report.

4. At the 1879th meeting, on 13 June, the session was opened by the Chair.

C. Adoption of the agenda

5. The Committee adopted the provisional agenda ([CEDAW/C/82/1](#)) at its 1879th meeting, on 13 June.

D. Report of the pre-sessional working group

6. The pre-sessional working group for the eighty-second session did not meet, as its allotted meeting time had been converted into an additional week of plenary meeting time.

E. Organization of work

7. On 13 and 20 June 2022, the Committee held closed meetings with representatives of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, who provided country-specific information and information on the efforts of those bodies in support of the implementation of the Convention.

8. Also on 13 and 20 June, the Committee held informal public meetings with representatives of non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions, who provided information on the implementation of the Convention in the States parties whose reports were being considered by the Committee at its eighty-second session.

9. On 27 June, the regional networks of Indigenous women, the International Indigenous Women's Forum, Madre and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) co-hosted a high-level dialogue with the Committee. The event was opened by the President of the International Indigenous Women's Forum, Tarcila Rivera Zea. The Chief of the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section of

OHCHR, Paulo David, delivered introductory remarks. The Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Paul Bekkers, gave a briefing to the participants on the implementation of the rights of Indigenous women and girls at the national level. A representative of the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva spoke about ways for States parties to promote the participation of Indigenous women and girls in United Nations processes. Indigenous women representatives from across the globe and Committee members also made statements.

10. On 28 June, the Committee convened an informal briefing for States parties to the Convention on the draft general recommendation No. 39 on the rights of Indigenous women and girls. The Vice-Chair, Nahla Haidar, opened the meeting. The Chief of the Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section of OHCHR, Paulo David, delivered introductory remarks. Two Indigenous women representatives, Eleanor Dictaan-Bang-oa and Sara Mux, delivered statements. The Vice-Chair of the working group on Indigenous women and girls, Leticia Bonifaz Alfonzo, introduced the draft general recommendation. The following 15 States parties attended the informal briefing and made statements: Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Spain and Ukraine. The following 12 States parties also attended the briefing: Azerbaijan, Canada, Germany, Finland, Ireland, Japan, Lebanon, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation and South Africa.

11. On 29 June, the Committee met informally with the Human Rights Committee to exchange information on their respective jurisprudence and work in relation to the rights of Indigenous women and girls. The informal meeting was hosted by the Geneva Human Rights Platform.

12. On 1 July, the Committee held an informal closed meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, to discuss the situation of women's rights globally and bid her farewell.

F. Membership of the Committee

Attendance at the eighty-second session

13. All members attended the eighty-second session, except for Jie Xia. The following members did not attend the session on the indicated dates: Gladys Acosta Vargas from 28 June to 1 July; Tamader Al-Rammah from 13 to 15 June; Louiza Chalal on 1 July; Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen on 23 and 24 June; Rhoda Reddock from 20 to 24 June; and Genoveva Tisheva from 17 to 24 June 2022. A list of the members of the Committee, indicating the duration of their terms of office, is contained in annex II to part three of the present report.

Chapter III

Report of the Chair on intersessional activities

14. At the 1879th meeting, on 13 June 2022, the Chair presented a report on her activities since the eighty-first session.

Chapter IV

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention

15. The Committee considered the reports of eight States parties submitted under article 18 of the Convention and prepared the following concluding observations thereon:

Azerbaijan	(CEDAW/C/AZE/CO/6)
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	(CEDAW/C/BOL/CO/7)
Mongolia	(CEDAW/C/MNG/CO/10)
Morocco	(CEDAW/C/MAR/CO/5-6)
Namibia	(CEDAW/C/NAM/CO/6)
Portugal	(CEDAW/C/PRT/CO/10)
Türkiye	(CEDAW/C/TUR/CO/8)
United Arab Emirates	(CEDAW/C/ARE/CO/4)

Follow-up procedure relating to concluding observations

16. The Committee considered the follow-up reports received from the following States parties:

Bulgaria	(CEDAW/C/BGR/FCO/8)
Cambodia	(CEDAW/C/KHM/FCO/6)
Latvia	(CEDAW/C/LVA/FCO/4-7)
Seychelles	(CEDAW/C/SYC/FCO/6)

Chapter V

Activities carried out under the Optional Protocol

17. Article 12 of the Optional Protocol provides that the Committee is to include in its annual report a summary of its activities under the Optional Protocol.

A. Action taken by the Committee in respect of issues arising under article 2 of the Optional Protocol

18. The Committee discussed activities under article 2 of the Optional Protocol on 20 and 27 June 2022.

19. The Committee endorsed the report of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol on its fifty-third session.²

20. The Committee adopted final decisions with regard to two individual communications submitted under article 2 of the Optional Protocol. It adopted views finding violations in *A.F. v. Italy* (CEDAW/C/82/D/148/2019) and in *N.A.E. v. Spain* (CEDAW/C/82/D/149/2019). Both final decisions were adopted by consensus.

B. Follow-up to views of the Committee on individual communications

21. The Committee was informed that the Working Group on Communications had postponed its examination of information on follow-up to views on individual communications and the adoption of its report on follow-up to views.

C. Action taken by the Committee in respect of issues arising under article 8 of the Optional Protocol

22. The Committee discussed its activities under article 8 of the Optional Protocol on 29 June. It endorsed the report of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol on its twenty-second session.³

² Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FSED%2F82%2F34082&Lang=en.

³ Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FSED%2F82%2F34083&Lang=en.

Chapter VI

Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

23. The secretariat informed the Committee about the status of submission of overdue reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention.

Action taken by the Committee under agenda item 7

Dates of future sessions

24. In accordance with the calendar of conferences, the following dates were confirmed for the Committee's eighty-third and eighty-fourth sessions and related meetings:

Eighty-third session (Geneva)

(a) Fifty-fourth session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 5–7 October 2022;

(b) Twenty-third session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 6 and 7 October 2022;

(c) Eighty-third session: 10–28 October 2022;

(d) Pre-sessional working group for the eighty-fifth session: 31 October–4 November 2022;

Eighty-fourth session (Geneva)

(e) Fifty-fifth session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 31 January–3 February 2023;

(f) Twenty-fourth session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 2 and 3 February 2023;

(g) Eighty-fourth session: 6–24 February 2023;

(h) Pre-sessional working group for the eighty-sixth session: 27 February–3 March 2023.

Reports to be considered at future sessions

25. Subject to possible future disruptions to the holding of physical sessions owing to the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Committee confirmed that, at its eighty-third session, it would consider the reports of Armenia, Belgium (under the simplified reporting procedure), Finland, the Gambia, Honduras, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Switzerland (under the simplified reporting procedure) and Ukraine (under the simplified reporting procedure) and that, at its eighty-fourth session, it would consider those of Bahrain, Costa Rica, Georgia, Hungary, Mauritania, Norway, Slovenia and Tunisia (the last three under the simplified reporting procedure).

Chapter VII

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention

Working group on working methods

26. The working group met during the session. It discussed and submitted two draft decisions to the Committee, concerning harmonization of working methods (see decision 83/III); and engagement with national non-discrimination and gender equality bodies other than national human rights institutions (see decision 83/IV). It also discussed the follow-up to the Committee's decision to consult with the Committee on the Rights of the Child on joint back-to-back reviews of State party reports.

Working group on gender-based violence against women

27. The working group met twice during the session. It reviewed activities since the previous session and discussed the next steps to be taken until the end of 2022. It also reviewed the status of implementation of tasks in relation to the draft guidance note for States parties on the implementation of their obligations and their accountability as set out in general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19. Members of the working group informed the other members about the progress made in relation to their respective sections. The members of the working group had shared their respective contributions to the draft guidance note during the intersessional period.

Working group on Indigenous women and girls

28. The working group met during the session. It considered the comments on the draft general recommendation on the rights of Indigenous women and girls received during the regional expert meeting for the Americas and the Caribbean held in Tlaxcala, Mexico, and the virtual regional expert meetings for Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific. The working group endorsed the finalized draft of the general recommendation. On 29 June 2022, the Committee held its first reading of the draft general recommendation.

Task force on Afghanistan

29. The task force on Afghanistan met during the session. It discussed the outcome of its intersessional activities since the eighty-first session of the Committee, as well as recent developments concerning the impact of the evolving political, economic and social situation in Afghanistan on the rights of women and girls. During the session, the task force met virtually with former Afghan women parliamentarians. The Chair of the task force, Bandana Rana, and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, Reem Alsalem, met with the then United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights during the session to give her a briefing on their engagement with stakeholders on the ground, including Afghan women.

Task force on Ukraine

30. The task force on Ukraine met during the session. It discussed the outcome of its inter-sessional activities since its establishment in March 2022 and recent developments concerning the human rights situation of Ukrainian women and girls in the context of the war. The task force also planned activities to continue to monitor their situation and met virtually with relevant actors during the session.

Chapter VIII

Provisional agenda for the eighty-third session

31. At its 1908th meeting, on 1 July 2022, the Committee considered and approved the draft provisional agenda for its eighty-third session.

Chapter IX

Adoption of the report

32. At its 1908th meeting, on 1 July 2022, the Committee considered and adopted, as orally amended, the draft report on its eighty-second session.

Annex**Documents before the Committee at its eighty-second session**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
CEDAW/C/82/1	Annotated provisional agenda
Reports of States parties	
CEDAW/C/AZE/6	Sixth periodic report of Azerbaijan
CEDAW/C/BOL/7	Seventh periodic report of the Plurinational State of Bolivia
CEDAW/C/MNG/10	Tenth periodic report of Mongolia (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/MAR/5-6	Combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Morocco
CEDAW/C/NAM/6	Sixth periodic report of Namibia
CEDAW/C/PRT/10	Tenth periodic report of Portugal
CEDAW/C/TUR/8	Eighth periodic report of Türkiye
CEDAW/C/ARE/4	Fourth periodic report of the United Arab Emirates

Part Two

**Report of the Committee on the Elimination of
Discrimination against Women on its eighty-third session**

10–28 October 2022

Chapter I

Decisions adopted by the Committee

Decision 83/I

On 26 October 2022, the Committee adopted general recommendation No. 39 (2022) on the rights of Indigenous women and girls ([CEDAW/C/GC/39](#)), by consensus.

Decision 83/II

The Committee decided to establish a working group on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems, to be chaired by Nicole Ameline, with a view to preparing a draft general recommendation on the topic.

Decision 83/III

On 28 October 2022, the Committee decided to endorse the concept note on the draft general recommendation on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems, presented by Nicole Ameline.

Decision 83/IV

In the light of its decision 82/III to implement the conclusions of the thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies (New York, 30 May to 3 June 2022), particularly by establishing a predictable eight-year review cycle for the full review of State party reports and by introducing the simplified reporting procedure as the default procedure for the consideration of State party reports (with an opt-out option for States parties that wish to be reviewed under the traditional procedure), the Committee decided to replace its standard paragraph in its concluding observations on the preparation of the next report with the following paragraph: “The Committee will establish and communicate the due date of the [xx] periodic report of the State party in line with a future predictable eight-year schedule of reviews and following the adoption of a list of issues prior to reporting, if applicable, for the State party. The report should cover the entire period up to the time of its submission.”

Decision 83/V

The Committee decided to establish a joint task force on institutionalization of cooperation between the Committee and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, and designated Hilary Gbedemah and Natasha Stott Despoja to represent the Committee on the joint task force.

Decision 83/VI

Recalling its decision 82/V to create an alumni forum, the Committee decided to establish an online directory of alumni, with contact details, areas of expertise or interest and language skills of its members and former members, within a period of one year, without Secretariat resources.

Decision 83/VII

The Committee confirmed the members of its pre-sessional working group for the eighty-fifth session, Tamader Al-Rammah, Nicole Ameline, Leticia Bonifaz Alfonso, Naéla Gabr and Genoveva Tisheva.

Chapter II

Organizational and other matters

A. States parties to the Convention and to the Optional Protocol

1. As at 28 October 2022, the closing date of the eighty-third session of the Committee, the ratification status of the Convention (189 States parties) and the number of States parties having accepted the amendment to article 20 (1) of the Convention concerning the meeting time of the Committee (80) were as they had been on 1 July, the closing date of the eighty-second session.

2. The ratification status of the Optional Protocol to the Convention (115 States parties) was as it had been on 1 July, the closing date of the eighty-second session.

B. Opening of the session

3. The eighty-third session of the Committee was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 10 to 28 October 2022. The Committee held 21 plenary meetings and 9 meetings to discuss agenda items 5 to 8. A list of the documents before the Committee is contained in the annex to part two of the present report.

4. At the 1909th meeting, on 10 October, the session was opened by the Chair.

C. Adoption of the agenda

5. The Committee adopted the provisional agenda ([CEDAW/C/83/1](#)) at its 1909th meeting, on 10 October.

D. Report of the pre-sessional working group

6. The report of the pre-sessional working group ([CEDAW/C/PSWG/83/1](#)), which had met from 28 February to 4 March, was introduced by Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen at the 1909th meeting, on 10 October.

E. Organization of work

7. On 10 and 17 October, the Committee held closed meetings with representatives of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, who provided country-specific information and information on the efforts of those bodies in support of the implementation of the Convention.

8. In addition, the Committee held informal public meetings with representatives of non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions, who provided information on the implementation of the Convention in the States parties whose reports were being considered by the Committee at its eighty-third session.

9. On 10 October, the Committee held a closed meeting with the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls to discuss common priorities and future cooperation between the two bodies.

10. On 25 October, the Committee held an informal meeting with the States parties to the Convention to highlight the fortieth anniversary of the Committee and the forthcoming adoption of the general recommendation on the rights of Indigenous

women and girls. It also gave a briefing to the States parties on its work in monitoring the situation of women and girls in armed conflicts through the State party reporting procedure and specific task forces and the global pushback against women's rights. It further provided information to the States parties about the application of the simplified reporting procedure as its default procedure for the consideration of State party reports, the increased accessibility of its work for persons with disabilities and the need for additional resources in order to strengthen the treaty body system, including as a result of the introduction of a predictable eight-year schedule for the full review of State party reports. Fifty-five States parties attended the meeting. The following 10 States parties made statements: Argentina, China, Colombia, Cuba, Finland, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Mexico, Peru and Russian Federation.

11. In addition, the Committee participated in a side event to mark its fortieth anniversary, hosted by the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the ratification by Bulgaria of the Convention. The Vice-President of Bulgaria, Iliana Yotova, delivered welcoming remarks by video message. The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, Kostadin Kodzhabashev, and the Chief of the Groups in Focus Section of the Human Rights Treaties Branch of OHCHR, Andrea Ori, made opening remarks. The Vice-Chair, Aruna Devi Narain, moderated the panel discussion, in which participants, including Committee members Hiroko Akizuki, Nicole Ameline and Hilary Gbedemah took stock of achievements of the Committee over the past 40 years and considered good practices, gaps, challenges and the role of civil society in the implementation of the Convention.

12. On 26 October, the Committee held a closed meeting with the Global Coordinator of the Making Migration Safe for Women programme of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Inkeri von Hase, and the Director of the UN-Women Liaison Office in Geneva, Adriana Quiñones, who gave a briefing to the Committee on the UN-women recommendations on the protection of women human rights defenders at risk in migration contexts.

13. On 28 October, in a closed meeting, the Committee met informally with the Secretary-General of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, Fatma Samba Diouf Samoura, to discuss the role of women in football.

F. Membership of the Committee

Attendance at the eighty-third session

14. All members attended the eighty-third session. The following members did not attend the session on the indicated dates: Tamader Al-Rammah on 14 October; Louiza Chalal from 10 to 21 October; Aruna Devi Narain on 19 and 20 October; Natasha Stott Despoja from 19 to 28 October; and Jie Xia on 28 October. A list of the members of the Committee, indicating the duration of their terms of office, is contained in annex II to part three of the present report.

Chapter III

Report of the Chair on intersessional activities

15. At the 1909th meeting, on 10 October 2022, the Chair presented a report on her activities since the eighty-second session.

Chapter IV

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention

16. The Committee considered the reports of eight States parties submitted under article 18 of the Convention and prepared the following concluding observations thereon:

Armenia	(CEDAW/C/ARM/CO/7)
Belgium	(CEDAW/C/BEL/CO/8)
Finland	(CEDAW/C/FIN/CO/8)
Gambia	(CEDAW/C/GMB/CO/6)
Honduras	(CEDAW/C/HND/CO/9)
Saint Kitts and Nevis	(CEDAW/C/KNA/CO/5-9)
Switzerland	(CEDAW/C/CHE/CO/6)
Ukraine	(CEDAW/C/UKR/CO/9)

Follow-up procedure relating to concluding observations

17. The Committee had not considered any reports from States parties during its seventy-sixth session, which had been held online from 29 June to 9 July 2020 owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Therefore, no follow-up reports were received for consideration at its eighty-third session.

Chapter V

Activities carried out under the Optional Protocol

18. Article 12 of the Optional Protocol provides that the Committee is to include in its annual report a summary of its activities under the Optional Protocol.

A. Action taken by the Committee in respect of issues arising under article 2 of the Optional Protocol

19. The Committee discussed activities under article 2 of the Optional Protocol on 17 and 24 October 2022.

20. The Committee endorsed the report of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol on its fifty-fourth session.¹

21. The Committee adopted final decisions with regard to two individual communications submitted under article 2 of the Optional Protocol. It adopted a decision of inadmissibility in *B.M. v. Switzerland* (CEDAW/C/83/D/132/2018). It also adopted views finding violations in *Sandra Luz Román Jaimes v. Mexico* (CEDAW/C/83/D/153/2020). Both final decisions were adopted by consensus. The Committee further decided to postpone its consideration of communication No. 155/2020 (*Alonzo et al. v. Philippines*) to its eighty-fourth session.

B. Follow-up to views of the Committee on individual communications

22. The Committee was informed that the Working Group had postponed its examination of information on follow-up to views on individual communications and the adoption of its report on follow-up to views.

C. Action taken by the Committee in respect of issues arising under article 8 of the Optional Protocol

23. The Committee discussed its activities under article 8 of the Optional Protocol on 26 October. It endorsed the report of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol on its twenty-third session.²

24. The Committee approved the following recommendations made by the Working Group:

(a) In relation to inquiry No. 2019/1, that the member of the Committee designated to conduct the inquiry whose term as a Committee member continues after 31 December 2022 give a briefing to the Committee on the visit to the territory of the State party concerned at the eighty-fourth session of the Committee;

(b) In relation to inquiry No. 2017/3, to send the revised decision of the Committee to conduct an inquiry to the State party concerned;

(c) In relation to inquiry No. 2016/1, to request the State party concerned to finalize the dates for a visit by the designated members to its territory and to inform it that otherwise the Committee will proceed to conduct the inquiry remotely;

¹ Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FSED%2F83%2F34638&Lang=en.

² Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FSED%2F83%2F34639&Lang=en.

(d) In relation to inquiry No. 2014/3, to reiterate its request that the State party concerned give its consent for a visit to its territory by the designated members during the first half of 2023;

(e) In relation to inquiries Nos. 2014/2 and 2012/1, to designate one additional member to each of the inquiries and to send a note verbale to each of the States parties concerned to propose dates for a visit by the respective designated members to their territory;

(f) In relation to inquiry No. 2013/1 concerning South Africa, that the designated members present an assessment of the follow-up report received from the State party at the eighty-fourth session of the Committee;

(g) In relation to inquiry No. 2011/2 concerning the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and inquiry No. 2011/1 concerning Canada, to remind both States parties to inform the Committee of the measures taken in response to each of the inquiries, in accordance with article 9 (2) of the Optional Protocol;

(h) In relation to submission No. 2022/1, that having conducted a preliminary assessment of the information received under article 8 (1) of the Optional Protocol, the Committee should decide not to conduct an inquiry and inform the sources of information accordingly;

(i) In relation to submission No. 2021/1, to send a second reminder to the State party concerned to submit observations with regard to the information received by the Committee under article 8 (1) of the Optional Protocol.

Chapter VI

Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

25. The secretariat informed the Committee about the status of submission of overdue reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention.

Action taken by the Committee under agenda item 7

Dates of future sessions

26. In accordance with the calendar of conferences, the following dates were tentatively confirmed for the Committee's eighty-fourth and eighty-fifth sessions and related meetings:

Eighty-fourth session (Geneva)

- (a) As indicated in paragraph 24 of part one of the present report;

Eighty-fifth session (Geneva)

(b) Fifty-sixth session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 3–5 May 2023;

(c) Twenty-fifth session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 4 and 5 May 2023;

(d) Eighty-fifth session: 8–26 May 2023;

(e) Pre-sessional working group for the eighty-seventh session: 30 May–2 June 2023.

Reports to be considered at future sessions

27. The Committee confirmed that, at its eighty-fourth session, it would consider the reports of the States parties listed in paragraph 25 of part one of the present report and that, at its eighty-fifth session, it would consider those of China (including Hong Kong, China, and Macao, China), Germany (under the simplified reporting procedure), Iceland, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovakia (under the simplified reporting procedure), Spain (under the simplified reporting procedure), Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Chapter VII

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention

Working group on working methods

28. The working group met twice during the session. It discussed and submitted to the Committee a draft decision on the revision of the standard paragraph in its concluding observations in relation to the preparation of the next periodic report of a State party (see decision 83/IV), in the light of the Committee's decision 82/III to implement the conclusions of the thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies and to introduce the simplified reporting procedure as the default procedure for the review of State party reports (with an opt-out option for States parties that wish to be reviewed under the traditional procedure). In this regard, the working group took note that a note verbale had been sent to the States parties to the Convention on 12 August 2022, informing them about the new default procedure and inviting them to notify the Secretariat by 20 September 2022 should they wish to opt out from the simplified reporting procedure. It also took note of the updated guidance note for States parties for the preparation of reports under article 18 of the Convention in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (CEDAW/C/74/3/Rev.1), reflecting the new default procedure.

29. The working group further discussed the status of consultations between the Committee and the Committee on the Rights of the Child on joint back-to-back reviews, as well as a pilot project to revise the internal working methods of the country task forces preparing the Committee's dialogues with State party delegations. The revised internal working methods were piloted by the country task force for Switzerland during the eighty-third session and will be assessed by the Committee after two additional pilot dialogues during the eighty-fourth session.

Working group on Indigenous women and girls

30. The working group met during the session to discuss and incorporate comments made during the first reading of the draft general recommendation on the rights of Indigenous women and girls, held on 29 June 2022.

31. On 26 October 2022, the Committee adopted general recommendation No. 39 (CEDAW/C/GC/39) by consensus,³ in accordance with rule 31 of the Committee's rules of procedure.

Working group on gender-based violence against women

32. The working group met twice during the session. It approved the first two chapters of the draft guidance note for States parties on the implementation of their obligations and their accountability as set out in general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, prepared by Franceline Toé-Bouda and Aruna Devi Narain (chapter on harmful practices) as well as by Marion Bethel (chapter on conflict-related sexual violence). On 27 October, Ms. Toé-Bouda and Ms. Narain presented the chapter on harmful practices to the Committee. The guidance note is conceived as a living document that can be revised and complemented over the years.

³ The following members were present during the adoption: Gladys Acosta Vargas, Hiroko Akizuki, Tamader Al-Rammah, Nicole Ameline, Marion Bethel, Leticia Bonifaz Alfonso, Louiza Chalal, Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Naéla Gabr, Hilary Gbedemah, Nahla Haidar, Rosario G. Manalo, Lia Nadaraia, Aruna Devi Narain, Ana Peláez Narváez, Bandana Rana, Rhoda Reddock, Elgun Safarov, Genoveva Tisheva, Franceline Toé-Bouda and Jie Xia.

33. The working group also discussed the participation of the Committee in the Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on the Elimination of Discrimination and Violence against Women in 2023.

Task force on Afghanistan

34. The task force on Afghanistan met during the session. It discussed the outcome of its intersessional activities since the eighty-second session, including the participation as speaker of the Chair of the task force, Bandana Rana, in the enhanced interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan at the fifty-first session of the Human Rights Council. During the session, the Chair of the task force followed up with relevant actors in Kabul on the Committee's request for an exceptional report on the situation of women and girls in the country since 15 August 2021. The task force also discussed its upcoming activities to monitor the impact of the evolving political, economic and social situation on the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan.

Task force on Ukraine

35. The task force on Ukraine met during the session. It discussed the outcome of its intersessional engagement and planned activities to continue to monitor the human rights situation of Ukrainian women and girls in the context of the ongoing hostilities and violations of women's human rights. The task force also supported the review of the ninth periodic report of Ukraine, submitted under the simplified reporting procedure, during the session.

Chapter VIII**Provisional agenda for the eighty-fourth session**

36. At its 1938th meeting, on 28 October 2022, the Committee considered and approved the draft provisional agenda for its eighty-fourth session.

Chapter IX

Adoption of the report

37. At its 1938th meeting, on 28 October 2022, the Committee considered and adopted, as orally amended, the draft report on its eighty-third session.

Annex**Documents before the Committee at its eighty-third session**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
CEDAW/C/83/1	Annotated provisional agenda
Reports of States parties	
CEDAW/C/ARM/7	Seventh periodic report of Armenia
CEDAW/C/BEL/8	Eighth periodic report of Belgium (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/FIN/8	Eighth periodic report of Finland
CEDAW/C/GMB/6	Sixth periodic report of the Gambia
CEDAW/C/HND/9	Ninth periodic report of Honduras
CEDAW/C/KNA/5-9	Combined fifth to ninth periodic reports of Saint Kitts and Nevis
CEDAW/C/CHE/6	Sixth periodic report of Switzerland
CEDAW/C/UKR/9	Ninth periodic report of Ukraine (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)

Part Three

**Report of the Committee on the Elimination of
Discrimination against Women on its eighty-fourth session**

6–24 February 2023

Chapter I

Decisions adopted by the Committee

Decision 84/I

On 6 February 2023, the Committee elected Ana Peláez Narváez as Chair of the Committee.

Decision 84/II

On 6 February 2023, the Committee elected the following members as officers of the Committee: Hiroko Akizuki, Vice-Chair; Marion Bethel, Rapporteur; Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia, Vice-Chair; and Genoveva Tisheva, Vice-Chair.

Decision 84/III

The Committee elected the following members as members of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: Leticia Bonifaz Alfonzo, Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen (Chair), Hilary Gbedemah, Nahla Haidar (Vice-Chair) and Elgun Safarov.

Decision 84/IV

The Committee elected the following members as members of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia, Dalia Leinarte, Bandana Rana, Rhoda Reddock (Chair) and Natasha Stott Despoja.

Decision 84/V

The Committee decided to appoint Natasha Stott Despoja as Rapporteur on follow-up and Brenda Akia as alternate Rapporteur on follow-up, both for a period of two years, from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.

Decision 84/VI

The Committee decided to renew the appointment of Dalia Leinarte as Rapporteur on reprisals and of Leticia Bonifaz Alfonzo as alternate Rapporteur on reprisals, both for a period of two years, from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.

Decision 84/VII

In the light of the suspension of most travel restrictions related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Committee decided that the practice of holding an in-person dialogue with delegations of States parties whose periodic reports are being considered by the Committee shall be reinstated. However, the Committee may agree to official requests from States parties that part of their delegation participate remotely in the constructive dialogue with the Committee, under the following conditions: (a) that the official request from the State party is communicated together with the confirmation of its attendance at the session during which the dialogue is scheduled to take place; (b) that the head of delegation and several other delegates with a strong coordinating role and expertise in the different areas under the Convention participate in person in the dialogue; (c) that the members of the delegation participating remotely complete a successful technical test with the United Nations Office at Geneva several days before the dialogue to ensure sufficient sound quality and a stable Internet connection allowing for interpretation on the remote simultaneous interpretation platform during the dialogue; failing such test, the report of the State party will be considered in the presence of the delegates participating in person only; and (d) that written answers to questions asked by the

Committee that cannot be answered during the dialogue owing to the reduced length of dialogues on the remote interpretation platform (4 hours instead of 5 hours), poor sound quality, unstable Internet connection or the inability of the delegation to respond immediately are submitted in English, French or Spanish within 24 hours of the end of the dialogue.

Decision 84/VIII

The Committee decided that, for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024, Spanish shall remain its third working language and Chinese its exceptional fourth working language.

Decision 84/IX

The Committee confirmed the members of the pre-sessional working group for the eighty-sixth session: Leticia Bonifaz Alfonzo, Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Hilary Gbedemah, Bandana Rana and Elgun Safarov.

Chapter II

Organizational and other matters

A. States parties to the Convention and to the Optional Protocol

1. As at 24 February 2023, the closing date of the eighty-fourth session of the Committee, the ratification status of the Convention (189 States parties) and the number of States parties having accepted the amendment to article 20 (1) of the Convention concerning the meeting time of the Committee (80) were as they had been on 28 October 2022, the closing date of the eighty-third session.

2. The ratification status of the Optional Protocol to the Convention (115 States parties) was as it had been on 28 October, the closing date of the eighty-third session.

B. Opening of the session

3. The eighty-fourth session of the Committee was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 6 to 24 February 2023. The Committee held 21 plenary meetings and nine meetings to discuss agenda items 5 to 8. A list of the documents before the Committee is contained in annex I to part three of the present report.

4. At the 1939th meeting, on 6 February, the session was opened by the interim and newly elected Chair, Ana Peláez Narváez.

C. Adoption of the agenda

5. The Committee adopted the provisional agenda ([CEDAW/C/84/1](#)) at its 1939th meeting, on 6 February.

D. Report of the pre-sessional working group

6. The report of the pre-sessional working group ([CEDAW/C/PSWG/84/1](#)), which had met from 4 to 8 July 2022, was introduced by Rhoda Reddock at the 1939th meeting, on 6 February.

E. Organization of work

7. On 6 February 2023, the Committee elected Ana Peláez Narváez as Chair of the Committee for a term of two years, pursuant to the rules of procedure. It also elected the following members as officers of the Committee for a term of two years: Hiroko Akizuki, Vice-Chair; Marion Bethel, Rapporteur; Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia, Vice-Chair; and Genoveva Tisheva, Vice-Chair.

8. On 6 February, the following newly elected members of the Committee assumed their duties and made the solemn declaration, as provided for in rule 15 of the rules of procedure: Brenda Akia, Rangita de Silva de Alwis, Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia, Yamila González Ferrer, Daphna Hacker, Marianne Mikko and Maya Morsy.

9. On 6 and 13 February 2023, the Committee held remote closed meetings with representatives of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, who provided country-specific information and information on the efforts of those bodies in support of the implementation of the Convention.

10. In addition, the Committee held remote informal public meetings with representatives of non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions, who provided information on the implementation of the Convention in the States parties whose reports were being considered by the Committee at its eighty-fourth session.

11. On 8 February, the Committee met informally with the Committee on the Rights of the Child to exchange information on their respective jurisprudence and work in relation to access by girls to safe abortion. The informal meeting was hosted by the Geneva Human Rights Platform.

12. On 17 February, the Action Coalition on Feminist Movements and Leadership of the Generation Equality Forum gave a briefing to the Committee on the activities of the Action Coalition.

13. On 21 February, the Committee held an online closed meeting with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, Reem Alsalem, who gave a briefing to the Committee on gender identification and sex-based and gender-based safe spaces for women and girls.

14. On 24 February, the Committee held an informal closed meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk, to give him a briefing on the work priorities of the Committee and discuss the need for strengthened resources to support the work of the Committee and the treaty body system.

F. Membership of the Committee

Attendance at the eighty-fourth session

15. All members attended the eighty-fourth session. The following members did not attend on the indicated dates: Yamila González Ferrer on 6 and 7 February; Dalia Leinarte on 23 and 24 February; Rhoda Reddock on 13 February; and Jie Xia on 24 February 2023. A list of the members of the Committee, indicating the duration of their terms of office, is contained in annex II to part three of the present report.

Chapter III

Report of the Chair on intersessional activities

16. At the 1939th meeting, on 6 February 2023, the Chair, Ana Peláez Narváez, presented a report on her activities since the eighty-third session.

Chapter IV

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention

17. The Committee considered the reports of eight States parties submitted under article 18 of the Convention and prepared the following concluding observations thereon:

Bahrain	(CEDAW/C/BHR/CO/4)
Costa Rica	(CEDAW/C/CRI/CO/8)
Georgia	(CEDAW/C/GEO/CO/6)
Hungary	(CEDAW/C/HUN/CO/9)
Mauritania	(CEDAW/C/MRT/CO/4)
Norway	(CEDAW/C/NOR/CO/10)
Slovenia	(CEDAW/C/SVN/CO/7)
Tunisia	(CEDAW/C/TUN/CO/7)

Follow-up procedure relating to concluding observations

18. The Committee considered the follow-up report received from Zimbabwe (CEDAW/C/ZWE/FCO/6).

19. The Committee adopted the assessment of the follow-up procedure,¹ presented by the alternate Rapporteur on follow-up in accordance with the recommendation made in the previous assessment of the follow-up procedure adopted by the Committee at its seventy-fourth session.² The Rapporteur on follow-up recommended that the follow-up procedure under article 18 of the Convention should be continued, that consideration should be given to an evaluation of the process by the working group on working methods of the Committee and that the next evaluation process be carried out at the ninety-second session, in October 2025.

¹ See https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FFGD%2F8161&Lang=en.

² See A/75/38, part two, chapter IV.

Chapter V

Activities carried out under the Optional Protocol

20. Article 12 of the Optional Protocol provides that the Committee is to include in its annual report a summary of its activities under the Optional Protocol.

A. Action taken by the Committee in respect of issues arising under article 2 of the Optional Protocol

21. The Committee discussed activities under article 2 of the Optional Protocol on 13, 17, 21, 23 and 24 February 2023.

22. The Committee endorsed the report of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol on its fifty-fifth session.³

23. The Committee adopted final decisions with regard to five individual communications submitted under article 2 of the Optional Protocol. It adopted decisions of inadmissibility in *Juanita MacLaren v. Australia* (CEDAW/C/84/D/123/2017) and views finding violations in *O.S. v. Russian Federation* (CEDAW/C/84/D/129/2018), *M.D.C.P. v. Spain* (CEDAW/C/84/D/154/2020) and *Alonzo et al. v. Philippines* (CEDAW/C/84/D/155/2020). It discontinued its consideration of *H.S.A. v. Denmark* (CEDAW/C/84/D/151/2019). All final decisions were adopted by consensus.

B. Follow-up to views of the Committee on individual communications

24. The Committee was informed that the Working Group had postponed its examination of information on follow-up to views on individual communications and the adoption of its report on follow-up to views.

C. Action taken by the Committee in respect of issues arising under article 8 of the Optional Protocol

25. The Committee discussed its activities under article 8 of the Optional Protocol on 22 February 2023. It endorsed the report of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol on its twenty-fourth session.⁴

26. The members designated to conduct inquiry No. 2013/1 concerning South Africa presented their assessment of the follow-up report submitted by the State party.

27. The remaining member of the Committee designated to conduct inquiry No. 2019/1 gave a briefing to the Committee on the visit to the territory of the State party concerned conducted in December 2022 together with another designated member, whose term as a Committee member had ended on 31 December 2022.

28. The Committee approved the following recommendations made by the Working Group:

(a) In relation to inquiry No. 2016/1, to inform the State party concerned of the proposed dates for the visit by the designated members to its territory;

³ Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FSED%2F84%2F35168&Lang=en.

⁴ Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FSED%2F84%2F35169&Lang=en.

(b) In relation to inquiry No. 2014/3, that the members of the Committee designated to conduct the inquiry meet with the Permanent Mission of the State party concerned to ensure that a visit to its territory is conducted during 2023;

(c) In relation to inquiry No. 2014/2, that the member of the Committee designated to conduct the inquiry meet with the Permanent Mission of the State party concerned to resume the discussion on and propose dates for a possible inquiry visit, and that the regional group concerned designate an additional member to conduct the inquiry;

(d) In relation to inquiry No. 2013/1 concerning South Africa, to endorse the assessment by the designated members of the follow-up report submitted by the State party and to send a follow-up assessment letter to the State party;

(e) In relation to inquiry No. 2012/1, that the regional group concerned designate an additional member to conduct the inquiry and to inform the State party concerned of the proposed dates for the visit by the designated members to its territory;

(f) In relation to inquiry No. 2011/2 concerning the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, that a member of the Working Group present an assessment of the follow-up report submitted by the State party at the eighty-fifth session of the Committee;

(g) In relation to submission No. 2022/2, to request additional information from the sources of information and from relevant United Nations entities;

(h) In relation to submission No. 2021/1, that a member of the Working Group meet with the Permanent Mission of the State party concerned to remind it to submit observations with regard to the information received by the Committee under article 8 (1) of the Optional Protocol, and to request additional information from relevant United Nations entities.

Chapter VI

Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

29. The secretariat informed the Committee about the status of submission of overdue reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention.

Action taken by the Committee under agenda item 7

Dates of future sessions

30. In accordance with the calendar of conferences, the following dates were confirmed for the Committee's eighty-fifth and eighty-sixth sessions and related meetings:

Eighty-fifth session (Geneva)

(a) As indicated in paragraph 26 of part two of the present report;

Eighty-sixth session (Geneva)

(b) Fifty-seventh session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 4–6 October 2023;

(c) Twenty-sixth session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 5 and 6 October 2023;

(d) Eighty-sixth session: 9–27 October 2023;

(e) Pre-sessional working group for the eighty-eighth session: 30 October–3 November 2023.

Reports to be considered at future sessions

31. The Committee confirmed that, at its eighty-fifth session, it would consider the reports of China (including Hong Kong, China, and Macao, China), Germany (under the simplified reporting procedure), Iceland, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovakia (under the simplified reporting procedure), Spain (under the simplified reporting procedure), Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and that, at its eighty-sixth session, it would consider eight reports from among those of Albania, Bhutan (under the simplified reporting procedure), Brazil (under the simplified reporting procedure), Canada (under the simplified reporting procedure), France, Italy (under the simplified reporting procedure), Jamaica, Malawi, Montenegro, Nicaragua, the Niger (under the simplified reporting procedure), the Philippines and Uruguay (under the simplified reporting procedure).

Chapter VII

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention

Working group on working methods

32. The working group met twice during the session. It discussed and submitted two draft decisions to the Committee, concerning the conditions for hybrid dialogues with delegations of States parties (see decision 84/VII); and the working languages of the Committee for the period 2023–2024 (see decision 84/VIII). It also discussed the status of the consultations between the Committee and the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the joint back-to-back review of Sao Tomé and Príncipe during the simultaneous eighty-fifth session of the Committee and ninety-third session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in May 2023, as well as a pilot project to revise the internal working methods of the country task forces preparing the Committee’s dialogues with State party delegations. The revised internal working methods were piloted by the country task force for Switzerland during the eighty-third session and the country task forces for Costa Rica and Norway during the eighty-fourth session and will be assessed by the Committee at its eighty-fifth session.

Working group on gender-based violence against women

33. The working group met during the session. It identified rape, marital rape, domestic violence and other suggested topics that would be covered in the draft guidance note for States parties on the implementation of their obligations and their accountability as set out in general recommendation No. 35 (2017) on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19.

34. The working group confirmed Genoveva Tisheva as Chair and Marion Bethel as Vice-Chair of the working group and nominated Maya Morsy as focal point on cybercrimes and technology-facilitated violence against women and girls and discussed its changed composition and structure for the period 2023–2024. It also discussed planned joint activities with the Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on the Elimination of Discrimination and Violence against Women.

Working group on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems

35. The working group met during the session to introduce and discuss the topic of the general recommendation, as well as priority areas and potential cooperation partners in its preparation process.

36. On 22 February 2023, the Committee held a half-day of general discussion on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems in hybrid format (online and in-person), as part of the first phase in the development of the general recommendation. The discussion was opened by the Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR Mahamane Cissé-Gouro. Opening remarks were delivered by the Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Martin Chungong, and the Director of the Policy, Programme and Intergovernmental Division of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Sarah Hendricks. The Chair of the Global Institute for Women’s Leadership, King’s College, London, and former Prime Minister of Australia, Julia Gillard, delivered a pre-recorded video address. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the working group on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems, Nicole Ameline and Natasha Stott Despoja, introduced the general recommendation.

37. The following keynote speakers made presentations: member of the Human Rights Committee, Kobauyah Tchamdja Kpatcha; Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Mikiko Otani; Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, Reem Alsalem; representative of The Elders, Hina Jilani; youth advocate from the Women Deliver Young Leaders programme and volunteer for Girl Up Brazil, Melissa Semplicio; and President and founder of Arborus, Cristina Lunghi.

38. Statements were made by the following States parties: Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada and Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (joint statement), Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Guyana, Israel, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Spain, State of Palestine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). The following States parties also attended the discussion: Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Ecuador, Germany, India, Ireland, Libya, Maldives, Mauritius, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, and Türkiye. Statements were also made by the Human Rights Commission of Mexico City and the Women's Network of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudspersons, as well as by civil society organizations, including the Center for Reproductive Rights, Fundación CERMI Mujeres, Coordination française du lobby européen des femmes, the European Network of Migrant Women, the Forging Intersectional Feminist Futures Consortium, the International Disability Alliance, the Inclusive Generation Equality Collective, the GQUAL Campaign, International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific on behalf of Women Gaining Ground, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. The following individuals made statements: Fabian Luetz, Najat A. Saliba, Patricia Schulz and Phylomène Zangio.

Task force on Afghanistan

39. The task force met during the session. It discussed the outcome of its intersessional activities since the eighty-third session of the Committee, including the participation of the Chair of the task force, Bandana Rana, and other task force members in an online meeting held on 17 January 2023 with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, Richard Bennett, and the members of the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, who gave a briefing to the task force on their preparation of a report on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan mandated by the Human Rights Council. The Chair of the task force informed the other members that the de facto authorities in Kabul had submitted a report on 30 January 2023 in response to the Committee's request for an exceptional report on the situation of women and girls in the country since 15 August 2021 (see decision 80/I). The task force also discussed its upcoming activities to monitor the impact of the evolving political, economic and social situation on the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan.

Task force on Ukraine

40. The task force met during the session. It discussed the outcome of its intersessional engagement and planned activities to continue to monitor the human rights situation of Ukrainian women and girls in the context of the ongoing hostilities and violations of women's rights. The task force also discussed an invitation from the Government of Ukraine received on 16 December 2022 for the Committee to carry out a working visit to Ukraine in follow-up to the consideration of the ninth periodic report of Ukraine during the eighty-third session of the Committee.

Chapter VIII

Provisional agenda for the eighty-fifth session

41. At its 1968th meeting, on 24 February 2023, the Committee considered and approved the draft provisional agenda for its eighty-fifth session.

Chapter IX

Adoption of the report

42. At its 1968th meeting, on 24 February 2023, the Committee considered and adopted, as orally amended, the draft report on its eighty-fourth session.

Annex I**Documents before the Committee at its eighty-fourth session**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
CEDAW/C/84/1	Annotated provisional agenda
Reports of States parties	
CEDAW/C/BHR/4	Fourth periodic report of Bahrain
CEDAW/C/CRI/8	Eighth periodic report of Costa Rica
CEDAW/C/GEO/6	Sixth periodic report of Georgia
CEDAW/C/HUN/9	Ninth periodic report of Hungary
CEDAW/C/MRT/4	Fourth periodic report of Mauritania
CEDAW/C/NOR/10	Tenth periodic report of Norway (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/SVN/7	Seventh periodic report of Slovenia (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/TUN/7	Seventh periodic report of Tunisia (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)

Annex II

Membership of the Committee as at 24 February 2023

<i>Name of member</i>	<i>Country of nationality</i>	<i>Term of office expires on 31 December</i>
Brenda Akia	Uganda	2026
Hiroko Akizuki (Vice-Chair)	Japan	2026
Nicole Ameline	France	2024
Marion Bethel (Rapporteur)	Bahamas	2024
Leticia Bonifaz Alfonso	Mexico	2024
Rangita de Silva de Alwis	Sri Lanka	2026
Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	2024
Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia (Vice-Chair)	Nigeria	2026
Hilary Gbedemah	Ghana	2024
Yamila González Ferrer	Cuba	2026
Daphna Hacker	Israel	2026
Nahla Haidar	Lebanon	2024
Dalia Leinarte	Lithuania	2024
Rosario G. Manalo	Philippines	2024
Marianne Mikko	Estonia	2026
Maya Morsy	Egypt	2026
Ana Peláez Narváez (Chair)	Spain	2026
Bandana Rana	Nepal	2024
Rhoda Reddock	Trinidad and Tobago	2026
Elgun Safarov	Azerbaijan	2026
Natasha Stott Despoja	Australia	2024
Genoveva Tisheva (Vice-Chair)	Bulgaria	2026
Jie Xia	China	2024

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