



United Nations

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

**Eighty-eighth session
(13–31 May 2024)**

**Eighty-ninth session
(7–25 October 2024)**

**Ninetieth session
(3–21 February 2025)**

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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

21 March 2025

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-eighth session from 13 to 31 May 2024, its eighty-ninth session from 7 to 25 October 2024 and its ninetieth session from 3 to 21 February 2025, at the United Nations Office at Geneva. It adopted its reports on the sessions at its 2088th meeting, on 31 May 2024, its 2117th meeting, on 25 October 2024, and its 2147th meeting, on 21 February 2025. The reports are herewith submitted for transmission to the General Assembly at its eightieth session.

(Signed) Nahla **Haidar El Addal**
Chair

Part One

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

13–31 May 2024

Chapter I

Decisions adopted by the Committee

Decision 88/I

The Committee adopted a statement calling for peace between the Russian Federation and Ukraine (available at www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cedaw).

Decision 88/II

The Committee adopted a statement, issued jointly with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, entitled “The Women’s (Amendment) Bill 2023 poses a serious threat to the rights and dignity of women and girls in the Gambia”, expressing concern that the Bill contained a proposal to repeal the criminalization of female genital mutilation in the Gambia (available at www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cedaw).

Decision 88/III

By reference to decisions 50/I and 86/IV, the Committee decided that, rather than covering all the articles of the Convention, the list of general themes to be raised during the dialogue, which was sent to the State Party in advance of the dialogue, would highlight 5 to 10 priority areas, to be identified by the country rapporteur. The country rapporteur would submit the proposed priority areas to the other members of the country task force, for endorsement, at the same time as the country briefing note. The Committee also decided that, during a pilot phase, the members of the country task force would limit the number of thematic issues raised at each intervention during a constructive dialogue to a maximum of five to ensure adequate time management.

Decision 88/IV

The Committee decided to amend paragraph 4 (a) of its updated methodology of the follow-up procedure to concluding observations by reducing the word limit for submissions from national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and other organizations from 3,500 to 3,300 words to harmonize it with the word limit for other submissions by national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations under the State Party reporting procedure.

Decision 88/V

The Committee decided to accept, in principle, an invitation from the Pacific Community to Suva, subject to full funding from the Pacific Community, approval by senior management of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the timely receipt of reports from five States Parties in the South Pacific region, which would be discussed in Fiji. It also decided to designate the Chair, Ms. Peláez Narváez, and Ms. Akizuki, Ms. Rana and Ms. Stott Despoja to represent the Committee on a steering committee additionally composed of the secretariat of the Committee, the Pacific Community, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the OHCHR Regional Office for the Pacific and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to clarify the modalities of such regional engagement.

Decision 88/VI

The Committee decided to explore the possibility of considering the fourth periodic report of Afghanistan, to be submitted by the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in

Geneva, following the precedent set by the consideration of Afghanistan during the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review, on 29 April 2024.

Decision 88/VII

The Committee decided to hold a half-day of general discussion on gender stereotypes at its ninetieth session as a first step in the elaboration of a draft general recommendation No. 41 on the topic.

Chapter II

Organizational and other matters

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

1. As at 31 May 2024, the closing date of the eighty-eighth session of the Committee, there were 189 States Parties to the Convention. In addition, 81 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-eighth session in Geneva from 13 to 31 May 2024. 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 one of the present report.

4. At the 2059th meeting, on 13 May, the session was opened by the Chair.

C. Adoption of the agenda

5. The Committee adopted the provisional agenda ([CEDAW/C/88/1](#)) at its 2059th meeting, on 13 May.

D. Report of the pre-sessional working group

6. The report of the pre-sessional working group ([CEDAW/C/PSWG/88/1](#)), which had met from 30 October to 3 November 2023, was introduced by Nahla Haidar El Addal at the 2059th meeting, on 13 May 2024.

E. Organization of work

7. On 13 and 20 May 2024, 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 May, the Committee held informal public meetings with representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) 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-eighth session.

9. On 13 May, the Committee held an informal closed meeting with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, Reem Alsalem, who gave a briefing to the Committee on her activities.

10. On 20 May, the Committee held an informal closed meeting with Miles Young, Director, and Ashley Bowe, Chief of Party – Project Governance, Pacific Community,

who gave a briefing to the Committee on the modalities and available funding in relation to the invitation extended by the Pacific Community for the Committee to meet in Suva in 2025 to discuss reports from States Parties in the region.

11. On 29 May, Hannah Wu, Chief, Women's Human Rights and Gender Section, OHCHR, gave a briefing to the Committee on the United Nations System-wide Gender Equality Acceleration Plan, in a closed meeting.

F. Membership of the Committee

Attendance at the eighty-eighth session

12. All members attended the eighty-eighth session. The following members did not attend the session on the indicated dates: Leticia Bonifaz Alfonzo from 28 to 31 May; Daphna Hacker on 31 May; Dalia Leinarte from 20 to 31 May; Rosario G. Manalo on 27 and 31 May; Rhoda Reddock on 31 May; Elgun Safarov on 16 and 17 May; Natasha Stott Despoja on 13, 21 and 27 May; Jie Xia from 20 to 31 May. 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

13. At the 2059th meeting, on 13 May 2024, the Chair presented a report on her activities since the eighty-seventh session.

Chapter IV

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

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

Brazil	(CEDAW/C/BRA/CO/9)
Estonia	(CEDAW/C/EST/CO/7)
Kuwait	(CEDAW/C/KWT/CO/6)
Malaysia	(CEDAW/C/MYS/CO/6)
Montenegro	(CEDAW/C/MNE/CO/3)
Republic of Korea	(CEDAW/C/ROK/CO/9)
Rwanda	(CEDAW/C/RWA/CO/10)
Singapore	(CEDAW/C/SGP/CO/6)

Follow-up procedure relating to concluding observations

15. The Committee considered the follow-up reports received from the following States Parties:

Russian Federation	(CEDAW/C/RUS/FCO/9)
Uzbekistan	(CEDAW/C/UZB/FCO/6)

Chapter V

Activities carried out under the Optional Protocol

16. 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

17. The Committee discussed activities under article 2 of the Optional Protocol on 31 May 2024.

18. The Committee heard a briefing by the Chair of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol, which had met on 27 May during the eighty-eighth session of the Committee, as the fifty-ninth session of the Working Group had been cancelled due to the liquidity crisis.

19. The Committee adopted final decisions with regard to two individual communications submitted under article 2 of the Optional Protocol. It adopted decisions on inadmissibility in *T.M. v. Denmark* ([CEDAW/C/88/D/161/2020](#)) and in *Y.S. v. Turkmenistan* ([CEDAW/C/88/D/166/2021](#)). Both final decisions were adopted by consensus.

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

20. The Committee did not discuss follow-up to views on individual communications due to its limited meeting time.

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

21. The Committee discussed its activities under article 8 of the Optional Protocol on 29 May. It heard a briefing by the Chair of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol, which had met on 27 May during the eighty-eighth session of the Committee, as the twenty-eighth session of the Working Group had been cancelled due to the liquidity crisis.

22. The Committee reviewed all pending inquiry proceedings. It decided to amend its standard operating procedures for inquiries to allow for combining separate inquiry proceedings concerning the same State Party by conducting one single country visit and covering the different subject matters in the same inquiry report. The Committee also decided to pilot a follow-up assessment table based on additional follow-up information received from Canada. It discussed possible procedural modalities for conducting country visits jointly with other United Nations human rights treaty bodies or mechanisms. It further decided to explore ways to seek funding of its work under the inquiry procedure and new tools to enhance its capacity to assess information received under article 8 of the Optional Protocol. The Committee stressed the importance of continuous cooperation with States Parties and regular information exchange.

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-ninth session and related meetings:

Eighty-ninth session

(a) Sixtieth session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 3 and 4 October 2024;

(b) Twenty-ninth session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 3 and 4 October 2024;

(c) Eighty-ninth session: 6–25 October 2024;

(d) Pre-sessional working group for the ninety-first session: 28 October–1 November 2024.

Reports to be considered at future sessions

25. The Committee confirmed that, at its eighty-ninth session, it would consider the reports of Benin, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, New Zealand and Saudi Arabia.

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 lists of priority themes and a limitation on the number of questions raised by Committee members during its dialogues with States Parties (see decision 88/III) and the maximum length of submissions from national human rights institutions, NGOs and other organizations under the follow-up procedure to concluding observations (see decision 88/IV). It also prepared inputs for a questionnaire on a Committee coordination mechanism, which the Committee submitted to the thirty-sixth annual meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies, held in New York from 24 to 28 June 2024.

Working group on gender-based violence against women

27. The working group met during the session. It discussed the preparation of a draft research paper and guidelines on online and technology-facilitated gender-based violence against women and girls. The working group also discussed the activities planned by the Committee during its term as Co-Chair of the Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on the Elimination of Discrimination and Violence against Women, including the publication of a position paper concerning gender-based violence against women prepared as part of the 30-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

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

28. The working group met during the session. It discussed the revised draft general recommendation on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems, incorporating written submissions received in response to the call for comments on the initial draft, as well as inputs gathered at five regional consultations. On 28 May 2024, the Committee convened a technical briefing for States Parties on the draft general recommendation and its elaboration process, in public meeting. On 29 May, it held its first reading of the draft general recommendation, in a closed meeting. The general recommendation is scheduled to be adopted at the eighty-ninth session of the Committee.

Task force on gender stereotyping

29. The task force took note that the concept note for a general recommendation on gender stereotypes, endorsed by the Committee at its eighty-seventh session, had been published on the website for the Committee during the intersessional period.

Task force on Afghanistan

30. The task force on Afghanistan met virtually during the session with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, Richard Bennett, to discuss the current and increasingly alarming situation of women and girls in the State Party. The Chair of the task force also held meetings with the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Nasir Ahmad Andisha.

Task force on Ukraine

31. The task force on Ukraine prepared a statement calling for peace between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, which was adopted by the Committee during the session (see decision 88/I).

Task force on sex/gender self-identification

32. The task force met during the session. The Committee endorsed a proposal by the task force to prepare a summary of relevant issues, positions and possible mediating solutions for discussion at the eighty-ninth session.

Chapter VIII

Provisional agenda for the eighty-ninth session

33. At its 2088th meeting, on 31 May 2024, the Committee considered and approved the draft provisional agenda for its eighty-ninth session.

Chapter IX

Adoption of the report

34. At its 2088th meeting, on 31 May 2024, the Committee considered and adopted, as orally amended, the draft report on its eighty-eighth session.

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

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
CEDAW/C/88/1	Annotated provisional agenda
CEDAW/C/88/2	Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Reports of States Parties	
CEDAW/C/BRA/8-9	Combined eighth and ninth periodic reports of Brazil (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/EST/7	Seventh periodic report of Estonia (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/KWT/6	Sixth periodic report of Kuwait
CEDAW/C/MYS/6	Sixth periodic report of Malaysia
CEDAW/C/MNE/3	Third periodic report of Montenegro
CEDAW/C/KOR/9	Ninth periodic report of the Republic of Korea
CEDAW/C/RWA/10	Tenth periodic report of Rwanda
CEDAW/C/SGP/6	Sixth periodic report of Singapore

Part Two

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

7–25 October 2024

Chapter I

Decisions adopted by the Committee

Decision 89/I

On 23 October 2024, the Committee adopted general recommendation No. 40 (2024) on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems ([CEDAW/C/GC/40](#)), by consensus.

Decision 89/II

On 17 October, the Committee issued, jointly with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, and the Special Rapporteur on the sale, sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, a statement entitled “Upholding women’s and girls’ rights in Iraq” (available at www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cedaw).

Decision 89/III

The Committee decided to transform its task force on gender stereotyping into a working group on gender stereotypes, to be co-chaired by Bandana Rana and Rhoda Reddock, with a view to elaborating a draft general recommendation on the topic.

Decision 89/IV

Departing from its decision 72/XII on the rationalization of working groups, the Committee decided to establish a working group on women and peace and security, absorbing its task forces on Afghanistan and Ukraine, with limited secretariat support focusing on the reviews of those two States Parties and with a mandate to prepare the reviews of States Parties in conflict or post-conflict situations and keep informed of ongoing conflicts and the evolution of the women and peace and security agenda. It also decided that members of the working group would commit to drafting their statements and only on priority situations.

Decision 89/V

Pending the operationalization of an eight-year predictable review cycle of the human rights treaty bodies, the Committee decided to apply provisionally an eight-year cycle for the adoption of lists of issues prior to reporting, based on a target of 24 lists of issues prior to reporting or lists of issues adopted per year. It also decided to announce the States Parties to be reviewed or for which lists of issues prior to reporting or lists of issues would be adopted one year in advance.

Decision 89/VI

The Committee decided to fast-track its statements on urgent situations, keeping them concise and media-oriented, and to delegate authority to the Chair to approve urgent statements between sessions. It also decided to approve statements on controversial issues at a session of the Committee or to circulate them to all members for approval between sessions. It further decided to delegate authority to the Chair to sign statements issued jointly with other human rights mechanisms if they concern topics on which the Committee has a consensual position.

Decision 89/VII

Pending the harmonization of practices on operationalizing the guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies (the Addis Ababa guidelines) by the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies at their

annual meeting, the Committee decided that any concern relating to a potential conflict of interest of a member of the Committee would be raised in a timely manner and that the respective member would be informed of such concern. It also decided that potential conflicts of interest would be addressed, to the extent possible, by the respective regional group when designating a country rapporteur or a member of a pre-sessional working group of the Committee.

Decision 89/VIII

Further to its decision 88/V, the Committee decided to conceptualize its planned regional engagement with States Parties from the Pacific region in Suva in April 2025 as a technical cooperation event. It decided to invite three States Parties from the region for country exchanges on their respective periodic reports during the one-week technical cooperation event and to adopt its concluding observations on those reports at its subsequent formal session in Geneva. It also decided to invite representatives of Niue, Palau and Tonga to attend the technical cooperation event as observers, subject to available funding, and to engage with them, with a view to promoting their ratification of or accession to the Convention, respectively.

Decision 89/IX

The Committee decided to elaborate a draft general recommendation No. 42 on the rights of women and girls with disabilities, updating general recommendation No. 18 (1991) on disabled women, following the adoption of its draft general recommendation No. 41 on gender stereotypes. It designated Ms. Peláez Narváez as focal point and Ms. Tisheva as alternate focal point to start working informally on a future draft general recommendation No. 42. It also identified the following topics for future general recommendations and updates: the digital economy, including artificial intelligence, and women's human rights and economic empowerment; women human rights defenders; the backlash against women's human rights and gender equality; the cybercrime conventions and women's human rights. The Committee further entrusted its working group on gender-based violence against women and its focal point and alternate focal point on sexual and reproductive health and rights to update, without secretariat resources, general recommendation No. 24 (1999) on women and health.

Decision 89/X

The Committee confirmed the members of its pre-sessional working group for the ninety-first session: Brenda Akia, Daphna Hacker, Dalia Leinarte, Bandana Rana and Rhoda Reddock. Ms. Hacker declined due to an urgent situation requiring her early departure.

Chapter II

Organizational and other matters

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

1. As at 25 October 2024, the closing date of the eighty-ninth 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 (81) were as they had been on 31 May, the closing date of the eighty-eighth session.

2. The ratification status of the Optional Protocol to the Convention (115 States Parties) was as it had been on 31 May, the closing date of the eighty-eighth session.

B. Opening of the session

3. The eighty-ninth session of the Committee was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 7 to 25 October 2025. The Committee held 21 plenary meetings and 8 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 2089th meeting, on 7 October, the session was opened by the Chair.

C. Adoption of the agenda

5. The Committee adopted the provisional agenda ([CEDAW/C/89/1](#)) at its 2089th meeting, on 7 October.

D. Report of the pre-sessional working group

6. The report of the pre-sessional working group ([CEDAW/C/PSWG/89/1](#)), which had met from 19 February to 23 February, was introduced by Leticia Bonifaz Alfonso at the 2089th meeting, on 7 October.

E. Organization of work

7. On 7 and 14 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 NGOs 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-ninth session.

9. On 11 October, the Committee attended a reception at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris at the invitation of the Government of France to mark the imminent adoption of general recommendation No. 40 on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems.

10. On 25 October, the Committee held an informal public meeting with States Parties to brief them on its work on individual communications and inquiries under

the Optional Protocol, gender-based violence against women, treaty body strengthening and the harmonization of working methods, and women and peace and security. The meeting was attended by representatives of 45 States Parties. The following five States Parties made statements: Chile, China, Finland, Russian Federation and Spain.

11. Also on 25 October, the Committee held the public launch of its general recommendation No. 40 (2024) on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems, attended by representatives of 75 States Parties, four United Nations entities and international organizations and seven NGOs.

F. Membership of the Committee

Filling of casual vacancies

12. Maya Morsy resigned from the Committee on 5 September 2024. On 11 September 2024, the Secretary-General requested the Government of Egypt to appoint, within a period of two months, another expert from among its nationals to serve for the remainder of Ms. Morsy's term. On 24 September 2024, the Government of Egypt informed the Committee of its decision to appoint Nada Moustafa Fathi Draz to serve as a member of the Committee for the remainder of the term of Ms. Morsy, that is, until 31 December 2026. On 17 October 2024, the Committee decided to approve the appointment of Ms. Draz, in accordance with article 17 (7) of the Convention.

Attendance at the eighty-ninth session

13. All members attended the eighty-ninth session. The following members did not attend the session on the indicated dates: Daphna Hacker from 18 to 25 October; and Natasha Stott Despoja on 25 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

14. At the 2089th meeting, on 7 October 2024, the Chair presented a report on her activities since the eighty-eighth session.

Chapter IV

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

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

Benin	(CEDAW/C/BEN/CO/5)
Canada	(CEDAW/C/CAN/CO/10)
Chile	(CEDAW/C/CHL/CO/8)
Cuba	(CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/9)
Japan	(CEDAW/C/JPN/CO/9 and comments by Japan) ¹
Lao People's Democratic Republic	(CEDAW/C/LAO/CO/10)
New Zealand	(CEDAW/C/NZL/CO/9)
Saudi Arabia	(CEDAW/C/SAU/CO/5)

Follow-up procedure relating to concluding observations

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

Azerbaijan	(CEDAW/C/AZE/FCO/6)
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	(CEDAW/C/BOL/FCO/7)
Morocco	(CEDAW/C/MAR/FCO/5-6)
Peru	(CEDAW/C/PER/FCO/9)
South Africa	(CEDAW/C/ZAF/FCO/5)
Türkiye	(CEDAW/C/TUR/FCO/8)

¹ Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FAIS%2FJPN%2F60581&Lang=en.

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 11 October 2024.

19. The Committee heard a briefing by the Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol, which had held its sixtieth session on 3 and 4 October.

20. The Committee adopted final decisions with regard to three individual communications submitted under article 2 of the Optional Protocol. It adopted views finding violations in *María Elena Carbajal Cepeda et al. v. Peru* (CEDAW/C/89/D/170/2021). It also decided to discontinue its consideration of *F.M.A. v. Denmark* (CEDAW/C/89/D/147/2019) and *Z.G. and M.M. v. Sweden* (CEDAW/C/89/D/224/2024). All final decisions were adopted by consensus.

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

21. The Committee did not discuss follow-up to views on individual communications due to its limited meeting time.

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 24 October. It endorsed the report of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol on its twenty-ninth session.²

23. On 24 October, the Committee held its first reading of the draft report on inquiry No. 2014/2.

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

(a) In relation to inquiry No. 2017/3, to designate Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia as additional member to conduct the inquiry and to request the State Party concerned to give its consent to a visit by the designated members to its territory. If no such consent is obtained, the Committee would conduct its inquiry remotely;

(b) In relation to inquiry No. 2016/1, to request the State Party concerned to give its consent to a visit by the designated members to its territory. If no such consent is obtained, the Committee would conduct its inquiry remotely;

(c) In relation to inquiry No. 2011/2 concerning the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, that the Working Group on Inquiries should present an assessment of the information received from the State in response to each of the

² Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FSED%2F89%2F37489&Lang=en.

recommendations contained in the report on the inquiry at the ninetieth session of the Committee;

(d) In relation to submission No. 2024/3, having conducted a preliminary assessment of all the information received, to invite the State Party concerned to submit its observations on that information;

(e) In relation to submission No. 2024/2, having conducted a preliminary assessment of all the information received, to discontinue the proceedings because the threshold in article 8 (1) of the Optional Protocol had not been met;

(f) In relation to submission No. 2023/3, that the secretariat would follow up on its request for additional information from the sources of information;

(g) In relation to submission No. 2021/1, that the secretariat would follow up on its request for additional information from a United Nations entity.

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 ninetieth and ninety-first sessions and related meetings, subject to the ongoing liquidity crisis of the United Nations:

Ninetieth session

- (a) Sixty-first session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 29–31 January 2025;
- (b) Thirtieth session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 30 and 31 January 2025;
- (c) Ninetieth session: 3–21 February 2025;
- (d) Pre-sessional working group for the ninety-first session: 24–28 February 2025;

Ninety-first session

- (e) Sixty-second session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 12 and 13 June 2025;
- (f) Thirty-first session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 12 and 13 June 2025;
- (g) Ninety-first session: 16 June–4 July 2025;
- (h) Pre-sessional working group for the ninety-third session: 7–11 July 2025.

Reports to be considered at future sessions

27. The Committee confirmed that, at its ninetieth session, it would consider the reports of Belize, Belarus, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (exceptional report), Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Nepal and Sri Lanka and that, at its ninety-first session, it would consider those of Afghanistan, Botswana, Chad, Fiji, Ireland, Mexico, San Marino, Solomon Islands, Thailand and Tuvalu.³

³ The Committee would adopt its concluding observations on the periodic reports of Fiji, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu only following the country exchanges to be held during the Pacific technical cooperation session in Suva from 7 to 11 April 2025 (see www.ohchr.org/en/events/events/2025/pacific-technical-cooperation-session-committee-elimination-discrimination).

Chapter VII

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention

Working group on working methods

28. The working group met during the session. It discussed and submitted to the Committee three draft decisions, concerning the provisional application of an eight-year cycle for the adoption of lists of issues prior to reporting (see decision 89/V), the procedure for the adoption of statements (see decision 89/VI), and the operationalization of the guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies (see decision 89/VII).

Working group on gender-based violence against women

29. The working group met during the session. It decided to work during the intersessional period on a position paper on the draft United Nations Convention on Cybercrime, with a focus on addressing online and technology-facilitated gender-based violence against women and girls. It also discussed the activities planned by the Committee during its term as Co-Chair of the Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on the Elimination of Discrimination and Violence against Women and considered options for its work on gender-based violence against women and girls, in particular in preparation of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence starting on 25 November 2024.

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

30. The working group met during the session to finalize the draft general recommendation on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems.

31. On 23 October, the Committee adopted general recommendation No. 40 ([CEDAW/C/GC/40](#)) by consensus,⁴ in accordance with rule 31 of the Committee's rules of procedure.

32. On 25 October, the Committee held the public launch of general recommendation No. 40. The event was opened by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk. The Chair of the working group, Nicole Ameline, presented the general recommendation, followed by statements by the Chair of the Human Rights Committee, Tania María Abdo Rocholl; the Chief of Humanitarian Action and Director of the Geneva Office of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Sofia Calltorp; and the Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Martin Chungong.

33. The following States Parties made statements: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Gambia, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Togo and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

⁴ The following members were present during the adoption: Brenda Akia, Hiroko Akizuki, Nicole Ameline, Marion Bethel, Leticia Bonifaz Alfonzo, Rangita de Silva de Alwis, Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia, Hilary Gbedemah, Yamila González Ferrer, Nahla Haidar El Addal, Dalia Leinarte, Marianne Mikko, Ana Peláez Narváez, Bandana Rana, Rhoda Reddock, Elgun Safarov, Natasha Stott Despoja, Genoveva Tisheva and Jie Xia.

34. The following States Parties also attended the event: Albania, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Brazil, Burundi, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Myanmar, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and Uruguay.

35. Interventions were also made by the GQUAL Campaign, Women@the Table, International Disability Association and Fundacion Legatum. The International Labour Organization, the Council of Europe and the following civil society organizations also attended the event: Every Women Treaty, Marielle Franco Institute and Race & Equality, Soroptimist International, Violet Coalition and Coalición Nacional de Mujeres del Ecuador.

Task force on gender stereotyping

36. The task force met during the session to discuss the future work of the newly established working group on gender stereotypes (see decision 89/III).

Task force on Afghanistan

37. The task force on Afghanistan met during the session to discuss the increasingly alarming situation of women and girls in Afghanistan. The Chair of the task force, Bandana Rana, also held meetings with the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Nasir Ahmad Andisha, during the session.

Task force on Ukraine

38. The task force on Ukraine did not meet during the session.

Task force on sex/gender self-identification

39. The task force met during the session. The Chair of the task force, Daphna Hacker, presented a report on relevant issues, positions and possible mediating solutions regarding issues related to sex/gender self-identification to the Committee. The Committee decided to transform the task force into a focal point, designated Ms. Hacker as focal point and requested her to expand her report by covering issues such as women in sports and safe spaces for female-born women.

Chapter VIII

Provisional agenda for the ninetieth session

40. At its 2117th meeting, on 25 October 2024, the Committee considered and approved the draft provisional agenda for its ninetieth session.

Chapter IX

Adoption of the report

41. At its 2117th meeting, on 25 October 2024, the Committee considered and adopted, as orally amended, the draft report on its eighty-ninth session.

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

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
CEDAW/C/89/1	Annotated provisional agenda
CEDAW/C/89/2	Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Reports of States Parties	
CEDAW/C/BEN/5	Fifth periodic report of Benin
CEDAW/C/CAN/10	Tenth periodic report of Canada (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/CHL/8	Eighth periodic report of Chile (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/CUB/9	Ninth periodic report of Cuba
CEDAW/C/JPN/9	Ninth periodic report of Japan (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/LAO/10	Tenth periodic report of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
CEDAW/C/NZL/9	Ninth periodic report of New Zealand (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/SAU/5	Fifth periodic report of Saudi Arabia

Part Three

**Report of the Committee on the Elimination of
Discrimination against Women on its ninetieth session**

3–21 February 2025

Chapter I

Decisions adopted by the Committee

Decision 90/I

On 3 February 2025, the Committee elected Nahla Haidar El Addal as Chair of the Committee.

Decision 90/II

On 3 February 2025, the Committee elected the following members as officers of the Committee: Brenda Akia, Rapporteur; Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Vice-Chair; Marianne Mikko, Vice-Chair; and Rhoda Reddock, Vice-Chair.

Decision 90/III

The Committee elected the following members as members of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: Brenda Akia, Rangita de Silva de Alwis (Chair), Yamila González Ferrer, Elgun Safarov (Vice-Chair) and Erika Schläppi.

Decision 90/IV

The Committee elected the following members as members of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia (Chair), Ana Peláez Narváez, Bandana Rana, Rhoda Reddock and Genoveva Tisheva.

Decision 90/V

The Committee decided to appoint Jelena Pia-Comella as Rapporteur on follow-up, and Nada Draz as alternate Rapporteur on follow-up, both for a period of two years from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2026.

Decision 90/VI

The Committee decided to appoint Genoveva Tisheva as Rapporteur on reprisals and Yamila González Ferrer as alternate Rapporteur on reprisals, both for a period of two years from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2026.

Decision 90/VII

The Committee decided to update its decision 72/XII on the rationalization of its working groups as follows:

“On 21 February 2025, the Committee, updating its decision 72/XII,

Noting the two working groups that carry out the mandate of the Committee under the Optional Protocol, namely, the Working Group on Communications and the Working Group on Inquiries, and the Rapporteur on follow-up that assesses the information submitted by States Parties under the follow-up procedure and the Rapporteur on reprisals, which require considerable secretariat support,

Recalling that, in addition to the above, the Committee has established, at its own initiative, the following thematic working groups, namely, the working group on working methods, the working group on gender stereotypes, the working group on gender-based violence against women and the working group on women and peace and security,

Mindful of the limited meeting time available to schedule meetings of the thematic working groups during sessions and the limited secretariat staff available to service each thematic working group,

With a view to increasing the efficiency of the Committee's work and improving the quality of the secretariat support available to assist the thematic working groups, which need to deliver concrete outputs,

Decided that:

(a) Thematic working groups would be established for the purpose of delivering a specific output, to be presented to and endorsed by the Committee in plenary, with a maximum of 12 members per thematic working group to ensure efficiency and effectiveness;

(b) Thematic working groups, with the exception of the working group on working methods, the working group on gender-based violence against women and, albeit with limited secretariat support, the working group on women and peace and security, would be time-bound and cease to exist once the output was delivered;

(c) The working group on gender stereotypes would be maintained, subject to review within two years;

(d) For other matters that were of ongoing interest to the Committee, the Committee would establish the following task forces and focal points and alternate focal points, to be appointed by the Committee for a period of two years, who could bring, at any time, any matter to the attention of the Bureau:

- (i) Task force on social media;
- (ii) Task force on business and human rights;
- (iii) Focal point and alternate focal point on sexual and reproductive health and rights;
- (iv) Focal points on treaty body strengthening;
- (v) Focal point and alternate focal point for the Inter-Parliamentary Union;
- (vi) Focal points for the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Commission on the Status of Women;
- (vii) Focal point on the treaty bodies and the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council;
- (viii) Focal points on regional human rights mechanisms;
- (ix) Focal point on national human rights institutions;
- (x) Focal point for the Sustainable Development Goals;
- (xi) Focal point and alternate focal point on climate change;
- (xii) Focal point on sex/gender self-identification;

(e) Focal points and task forces could convene informal meetings, without secretariat support, and could develop into a thematic working group in the future, should such a configuration be required to deliver a specific output, subject to the secretariat having sufficient servicing capacity."

Decision 90/VIII

The Committee decided to consistently raise discrimination against women in succession to the throne in its dialogues with States Parties that have a constitutional or absolute monarchy, where relevant, and to systematically include a corresponding concern and recommendation in its concluding observations.

Decision 90/IX

The Committee decided to revise the standard paragraph in its concluding observations concerning the preparation of the next report as follows:

“Preparation of the next report

The Committee will establish and communicate the due date of the [combined] xx [and/to xx] periodic report[s] of the State Party in line with a future clear and regularized schedule for reporting by States Parties (General Assembly resolution 79/165, para. 6) and following the adoption of a list of issues and questions prior to reporting, if applicable, for the State Party. The report[s] should cover the entire period up to the time of its submission.”

Decision 90/X

The Committee decided to entrust a subgroup of its members with the preparation of four additional lists of issues prior to reporting for each pre-session working group session, for a period of two years, without secretariat resources, to enable it to schedule its State Party reviews in a predictable manner for the two years ahead and to increase the number of State Party reports received and hence the meeting time and staff resources allocated to the Committee.

Decision 90/XI

The Committee decided to amend its decisions 65/I and 74/IV concerning the coordination meeting of country task forces by extending the duration of the meeting to 30 minutes.

Decision 90/XII

The Committee decided that, for the period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2026, Chinese would remain the exceptional fourth working language of the Committee, in addition to its working languages English, French and Spanish. It also decided to reconsider the present decision on the basis of the new composition of the Committee at its ninety-sixth session in February 2027.

Decision 90/XIII

On 21 February, the Committee endorsed its contribution to the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2025 (available at www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cedaw).

Decision 90/XIV

The Committee decided to refrain from adopting a list of issues and questions in relation to the fourth periodic report of Afghanistan, bearing in mind the exceptional circumstances of the review.

Decision 90/XV

The Committee confirmed the members of the pre-sessional working group for the ninety-second session: Brenda Akia, Hiroko Akizuki, Violet Eudine Barriteau, Daphna Hacker and Elgun Safarov.

Chapter II

Organizational and other matters

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

1. As at 21 February 2025, the closing date of the ninetieth 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 (81) were as they had been on 25 October 2024, the closing date of the eighty-ninth session.

2. The ratification status of the Optional Protocol to the Convention (115 States Parties) was as it had been on 25 October, the closing date of the eighty-ninth session.

B. Opening of the session

3. The ninetieth session of the Committee was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 3 to 21 February 2025. 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 2118th meeting, on 3 February, the session was opened by the Chair, Nahla Haidar El Addal.

C. Adoption of the agenda

5. The Committee adopted the provisional agenda ([CEDAW/C/90/1](#)) at its 2118th meeting, on 3 February.

D. Report of the pre-sessional working group

6. The pre-sessional working group, initially scheduled to be held from 3 to 7 June 2024, was cancelled due to the liquidity crisis.

E. Organization of work

7. On 3 February 2025, the Committee elected Nahla Haidar El Addal 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: Brenda Akia, Rapporteur; Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Vice-Chair; Marianne Mikko, Vice-Chair; and Rhoda Reddock, Vice-Chair.

8. On 3 February, the following newly elected members of the Committee assumed their duties and took the solemn declaration, as provided for in rule 15 of the rules of procedure: Hamida Al-Shukairi, Violet Eudine Barriteau, Nada Moustafa Fathi Draz, Mu Hong, Madina Jarbussynova, Jelena Pia-Comella, Erika Schläppi and Patsilí Toledo Vásquez.

9. On 3 and 10 February 2025, 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.

10. In addition, the Committee held informal public meetings with representatives of NGOs 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 ninetieth session.

11. On 3 February, the Committee held a public meeting with the United Nations Working Group on business and human rights, at which representatives of private companies participated as panellists to share their experiences and best practice models in digital innovation and the mitigation of gender gaps.

12. On 10 February, the Committee heard briefings on behalf of the Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases on the gender-related dimensions and risk factors of non-communicable diseases, including tobacco use, alcohol abuse, air pollution and nutrition by Alexey Kulikov, Head of Partnerships and Operations, World Health Organization (WHO), and Deputy Head of Secretariat, United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases; Ana Catalina Ramirez, Technical Specialist on Occupational Safety and Health, International Labour Organization; and Adriana Quiñones, Head, Human Rights and Development, UN-Women.

13. Also on 10 February, the Committee met with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change, Elisa Morgera, who gave a briefing to the Committee on her recent reports on human rights and climate change and on access to information on climate change and human rights.

14. On 17 February, Paro Chaujar, Policy Adviser for Social Norms, UN-Women, gave a remote briefing to the Committee on gender stereotypes and discriminatory social norms.

15. On 21 February, the Committee held an informal closed meeting with Pascale Allotey, Director, Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research, WHO, and Alia El-Yassir, Director for Gender, Equity, Diversity and Rights for Health, WHO, who briefed the Committee on current issues of concern.

F. Membership of the Committee

Attendance at the ninetieth session

16. All members attended the eighty-seventh session. The following members did not attend on the indicated dates: Ana Peláez Narváez on 10 February; and Natasha Stott Despoja from 3 to 7 and on 21 February 2025. 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

17. At the 2118th meeting, on 3 February 2025, the outgoing Chair presented a report on her activities since the eighty-ninth session.

Chapter IV

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

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

Belize	(CEDAW/C/BLZ/CO/5-9)
Belarus	(CEDAW/C/BLR/CO/9)
Congo	(CEDAW/C/COG/CO/8)
Democratic Republic of the Congo (exceptional report)	(CEDAW/C/COD/CO/EP/1)
Liechtenstein	(CEDAW/C/LIE/CO/6)
Luxembourg	(CEDAW/C/LUX/CO/8)
Nepal	(CEDAW/C/NPL/CO/7)
Sri Lanka	(CEDAW/C/LKA/CO/9)

Follow-up procedure relating to concluding observations

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

Belgium	(CEDAW/C/BEL/FCO/8)
The Gambia	(CEDAW/C/GMB/FCO/6)
Portugal	(CEDAW/C/PRT/FCO/10)
Sweden	(CEDAW/C/SWE/FCO/10)
Switzerland	(CEDAW/C/CHE/FCO/6)

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 17 and 21 February 2025.

22. The Committee was briefed by the Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol, which had held its sixty-first session from 29 to 31 January.

23. 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 *S.V. v. Kingdom of the Netherlands* (CEDAW/C/90/D/162/2020) and *C.S.F. v. Argentina* (CEDAW/C/90/D/164/2021). Both final decisions were adopted by consensus.

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

24. The Committee endorsed the report of the Working Group on Communications on follow-up to views on individual communications concerning Canada, Georgia, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation.

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 19 February 2025. It endorsed the report of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol on its thirtieth session.⁵

26. On 19 February, the Committee adopted its findings, comments and recommendations on inquiry No. 2014/2. It decided to transmit them to the State Party concerned for observations within six months and to publish the report regarding the inquiry after the aforementioned period.

27. In accordance with rules 31 (2) and 34 (1) of its rules of procedure, the Committee voted on the following recommendation of the Working Group on Inquiries: “In relation to submission No. 2024/3, that upon conducting a preliminary assessment of all information received, the Committee should designate members to conduct the inquiry.” Of the 21 members present, 19 voted in favour and 2 voted against. The Committee decided to designate Ms. Peláez Narváez to conduct the inquiry.

⁵ Available at https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FSED%2F90%20session%20confirmed%2F39867&Lang=en.

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

- (a) In relation to inquiry No. 2024/3, to designate Ms. Peláez Narváez to conduct the inquiry;
- (b) In relation to inquiry No. 2011/2 concerning the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to endorse the assessment of the follow-up information received from the State Party and to transmit the assessment to the State Party;
- (c) In relation to submission No. 2023/2, that the secretariat follow up on its request for additional information from the sources of information.

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 tentatively confirmed for the Committee's ninety-first and ninety-second sessions and related meetings, subject to the ongoing liquidity crisis:

Ninety-first session

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

Ninety-second session

- (b) Sixty-third session of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol: 2 and 3 October 2025;

- (c) Thirty-second session of the Working Group on Inquiries under the Optional Protocol: 2 and 3 October 2025;

- (d) Ninety-second session: 6–24 October 2025;

- (e) Pre-sessional working group for the ninety-fourth session: 27–31 October 2025.

Reports to be considered at future sessions

31. The Committee confirmed that, at its ninety-first session, it would consider the reports of the States Parties listed in paragraph 27 of part two of the present report and that, at its ninety-second session, it would consider those of Cabo Verde, Czechia, El Salvador, Iraq, Lesotho, Lithuania, Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (under the simplified reporting procedure) and Viet Nam.

Chapter VII

Implementation of article 21 of the Convention

Working group on working methods

32. The working group met during the session. It discussed and submitted a draft decision to the Committee, concerning the rationalization of the working groups of the Committee (see decision 90/VII), consistent references to discrimination against women in succession to the throne (see decision 90/VIII), the revision of the standard paragraph in concluding observations concerning the preparation of the next report (see decision 89/IX), the preparation by Committee members of additional lists of issues prior to reporting (see decision 90/X), and the length of the coordination meeting of country task forces (see decision 90/XI).

Working group on gender-based violence against women

33. The working group met during the session. It continued to discuss a working paper on online and technology-facilitated gender-based violence against women and girls. The working group also discussed the activities implemented by the Committee during its term as Co-Chair of the Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on the Elimination of Discrimination and Violence against Women.

Working group on gender stereotypes

34. The working group met during the session to discuss the preparation of the half-day of general discussion on gender stereotypes.

35. On 17 February 2025, the Committee held a half-day of general discussion on gender stereotypes, as part of the first phase in the development of a general recommendation on the topic. The discussion was opened by Peggy Hicks, Director, Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division, OHCHR. Opening remarks were delivered by Natalia Kanem, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, Deputy Executive Director of UN-Women, delivered a pre-recorded video address. The Co-Chairs of the Committee's working group on gender stereotypes, Bandana Rana and Rhoda Reddock, introduced the concept note for the draft general recommendation.

36. The following keynote speakers made presentations: Paola Daher, Women Deliver; Adriana Quiñones, Head, Human Rights and Development, UN-Women; Marwa Sharafeldin, Musawah; Joni van de Sand, Co-Director, MenEngage Alliance; and Alexandra Xanthaki, Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights.

37. Statements were made by the following States Parties: Andorra (video message), Austria, Azerbaijan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Israel, Japan, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Poland, Spain, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Vanuatu and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

38. The following States Parties also attended the discussion: Afghanistan, Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Iceland, Italy, Lebanon, Malaysia, Montenegro, Nauru, Norway, Oman, Peru, Russian Federation and Uruguay.

39. Statements were also made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, by one individual, Tania Sordo Ruz, and by the following NGOs: Center for Reproductive Rights, Consortium for Intersectional Justice, Dutch CEDAW Network, Observatorio Iberoamericano contra la Violencia de Género, European Network for Migrant Women, Women's International League for Peace and

Freedom, and International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Intersex Association. As they could not be screened due to a lack of time, the pre-recorded video statements submitted by one individual, Preethi Lolaksha Nagaveni, and the following NGOs have been made available on the OHCHR website for the half-day of general discussion: The Advocates for Human Rights, Amnesty International, Bundesverband Nordisches Modell, Feminist Legal Clinic Inc., Fundación Secretariado Gitano, Madres Protectoras, Outright International, Rainbow Afghanistan, Savie asbl NGO LGBTQI DRC, and Transforming Communities for Inclusion.⁶

Working group on women and peace and security

40. The working group met during the session to discuss the preparation of the review by the Committee of the fourth periodic report of Afghanistan, scheduled to be considered at the ninety-first session of the Committee. It also held an informal virtual meeting with a representative of a Ukrainian women's organization.

⁶ See www.ohchr.org/en/events/days-general-discussion-dgd/2025/half-day-general-discussion-gender-stereotypes.

Chapter VIII

Provisional agenda for the ninety-first session

41. At its 2147th meeting, on 21 February 2025, the Committee considered and approved the draft provisional agenda for its ninety-first session.

Chapter IX

Adoption of the report

42. At its 2147th meeting, on 21 February 2025, the Committee considered and adopted, as orally amended, the draft report on its ninetieth session.

Annex I**Documents before the Committee at its ninetieth session**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
CEDAW/C/90/1	Annotated provisional agenda
CEDAW/C/90/2	Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Reports of States Parties	
CEDAW/C/BLZ/5-9	Combined fifth to ninth periodic reports of Belize
CEDAW/C/BLR/9	Ninth periodic report of Belarus (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/COG/8	Eighth periodic report of the Congo
CEDAW/C/COD/EP/1	Exceptional report of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
CEDAW/C/LIE/6	Sixth periodic report of Liechtenstein (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/LUX/8	Eighth periodic report of Luxembourg (submitted under the simplified reporting procedure)
CEDAW/C/NPL/7	Seventh periodic report of Nepal
CEDAW/C/LKA/9	Ninth periodic report of Sri Lanka

Annex II

Membership of the Committee as at 21 February 2025

<i>Name of member</i>	<i>Country of nationality</i>	<i>Term of office expires on 31 December</i>
Brenda Akia (Rapporteur)	Uganda	2026
Hiroko Akizuki	Japan	2026
Hamida Al-Shukairi	Oman	2028
Violet Eugene Barriteau	Barbados	2028
Rangita de Silva de Alwis	Sri Lanka	2026
Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen (Vice-Chair)	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	2028
Nada Moustafa Fathi Draz ^a	Egypt	2026
Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia	Nigeria	2026
Yamila González Ferrer	Cuba	2026
Daphna Hacker	Israel	2026
Nahla Haidar El Addal (Chair)	Lebanon	2028
Mu Hong	China	2028
Madina Jarbussynova	Kazakhstan	2028
Marianne Mikko (Vice-Chair)	Estonia	2026
Ana Peláez Narváez	Spain	2026
Jelena Pia-Comella	Andorra	2028
Bandana Rana	Nepal	2028
Rhoda Reddock (Vice-Chair)	Trinidad and Tobago	2026
Elgun Safarov	Azerbaijan	2026
Erika Schläppi	Switzerland	2028
Natasha Stott Despoja	Australia	2028
Genoveva Tisheva	Bulgaria	2026
Patsilí Toledo Vásquez	Chile	2028

^a See paragraph 12 of part two of the present report.

